

ART. XIV.—*The parish registers of Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire North-of-the-Sands.* By the Rev. F. B. SWIFT.

Communicated at Carlisle, March 24th, 1956.

THE systematic transcribing and printing of Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers began in 1911 with the establishment of the Parish Register Section of this Society (hereafter referred to as the P.R.S.); but the possibility of such an undertaking had been under consideration for some time, the earliest reference in our *Transactions* being a report that the Society's Council had set up a sub-committee to consider the matter in 1905 (CW2 vi 325). In 1906, Major Spencer C. Ferguson, of Carlisle, agreed to act as editor of the Society's parish register work, and at the spring meeting of Council it was decided to adopt Mr W. P. W. Phillimore's scheme for printing registers (i.e. marriage registers only); it was also agreed to accept the Lancashire Parish Register Society's offer to print the registers of that part of our Society's territory which lies in Lancashire (CW2 vii 292). But it was not until the general meeting held in September 1911 that the P.R.S. was formally constituted, and a standing committee formed to control it, the original members of the committee being Chancellor Prescott, Dr Haswell, Mr Henry Brierley, Mr C. W. Ruston-Harrison and Mr C. Forster (CW2 xii 410 f., 417). At the next annual general meeting, held on 27 June 1912 (by which date Mr Ruston-Harrison had become editor and Dr Haswell secretary and treasurer of the P.R.S.), the committee presented a report on the first nine months of its work, noting that it had decided to issue a volume for each county alternately, beginning with Dacre,

Cumberland (CW2 xiii 399 f.); the Dacre register duly appeared in that year, and since then the work has gone steadily forward. The P.R.S. had produced 37 volumes up to 1955, an excellent achievement if one takes into account the difficulties occasioned by two world wars.

Before the establishment of the P.R.S. in 1911, the transcribing and printing of some Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers had already been undertaken by various individuals. The first Cumberland registers to be printed were those of the parish of Dalston, for the years 1571-1812, transcribed and edited in two volumes by Canon James Wilson (for whom see CW2 xlviii 209 ff.); the first for Westmorland were those of Ravenstone-dale, for the years 1571-1812, transcribed and edited in three volumes by the Rev. R. W. Metcalfe: both were published in 1893.

Reference has already been made to the proposal of 1905, that Mr Phillimore's scheme for printing registers should be adopted. The P.R.S. never restricted itself to that scheme, but Phillimore & Co. in due course printed the marriage registers of six Cumberland parishes in two volumes, issued in 1910 and 1912 respectively; the pre-faces state that they were published under the patronage of our Society, which undertook to subscribe for thirty copies of each.

No account of the P.R.S. would be complete without some mention of the three men who contributed most to its establishment and played a major part in the production of its long series of volumes:

Mr C. W. Ruston-Harrison, the first editor, was a member of our Society from 1905 to his death in 1927. He had intended to enter the medical profession, but ill-health made that impossible; he devoted himself instead to antiquarian research, specialising in genealogy, and he had served as co-editor of Phillimore's two Cumberland volumes before undertaking sole editorial responsibility for the P.R.S. on its formation. An obituary notice of him will be found in an earlier volume of these *Transactions* (CW2 xxvii 243).

Mr Henry Brierley was a solicitor who in 1899 became secretary of the Lancashire Parish Register Society and held that office for thirty-two years; in that period he transcribed and indexed more than 70 Lancashire registers. Thirteen out of the first twenty-one volumes issued by the P.R.S. were transcribed by him. He died in 1933, at the age of 86 (obituary notice, CW2 xxxiv 227 f.).

Colonel John Francis Haswell, the first secretary of the P.R.S., joined our Society in 1893 and at his death in 1949, at the age of 84, was its senior member. The first volume transcribed by him was published in 1925, the last in 1945: the series of nineteen volumes (one of them produced in collaboration with Henry Brierley), transcribed and edited—and in some cases also indexed—by him is a lasting memorial to his labours, though it only represents a relatively small part of his manifold activities (obituary notice, CW2 xlix 232 f.).

Parish registers are a most important part of our parochial and county records, giving a wealth of information not only to the genealogist but to students of place-names and of social history; but unless they are transcribed and printed, their value is seriously restricted. The original volumes are for the most part preserved in their respective churches, whereas printed copies can be concentrated in a single library; there is always the risk that original documents may suffer damage or deteriorate, however carefully they are preserved by incumbents; some registers are in writing which needs special skill, and great patience, to decipher, and few searchers can be expected to have sufficient leisure to extract everything of interest in a volume which lacks an index. There is therefore no need to stress the value of the P.R.S. series of printed volumes, each properly indexed. But its continuance depends upon the voluntary work of transcribers, editors and indexers—and upon the availability of funds to print the volumes. From the first, the P.R.S. has had to rely on subscriptions from individuals or from libraries, and in a period of rising costs it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain the series without a substantial increase in the number of subscribers, though in some

cases private benefactors or public bodies may be prepared to contribute towards the cost of particular volumes.

The volumes printed up till now represent only a small proportion of the total number of Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers, and it is hoped that the present survey, with its lists of registers already printed, transcribed but still unprinted, and (the longest list of all) awaiting transcription, may encourage some of our members to offer their assistance towards the completion of the project which the Society inaugurated in 1911. It is not only new subscribers who are needed. Many of our members may well have an opportunity of undertaking the transcription of particular registers, subject to the approval and consent of incumbents (who are usually willing and indeed anxious to have transcriptions made, for publication if desired); some may be prepared to undertake the laborious but essential work of indexing registers which have already been transcribed. Offers of help in either of these ways will be a great encouragement to the committee of the P.R.S., which will be glad to give any assistance in its power to suitable volunteers seeking advice on matters of method or of procedure.

The lists have been divided for convenience into six, as follows:

Sections I-III: Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers printed in the P.R.S. series, printed elsewhere, and transcribed but not yet printed (with a note where the transcriptions are deposited).

Section IV: Lancashire North-of-the-Sands parish registers, printed or transcribed.

Section V: Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers still awaiting transcription.

Section VI: Articles on individual parish registers in earlier volumes of these *Transactions*.

(Note: For convenience of reference, parishes are given in alphabetical order in each section, (C) or (W) after the place-name showing that the parish in question is in Cumberland or Westmorland as the case may be).

SECTION I: Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers which have been printed for the Parish Register Section of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archæological Society.

(The figures in brackets give the number of the volume in the parish register series and the year of publication).

Barton (W), baptisms and marriages 1666-1812, burials 1666-1830 (v, 1917).

Bolton (W), 1647-1812 (xxxii, 1944).

Bridekirk (C), 1584-1812 (xiv, 1927).

Brougham (W), 1645-1812 (xxxi, 1943).

Brough under Stainmore (W), part I: 1556-1706 (ix, 1923); part II: 1707-1812 (x, 1924).

Cliburn (W), 1565-1812 (xx, 1932).

Crosby Garrett (W), 1559-1812 (xxxiii, 1945).

Crosby Ravensworth (W), 1570-1812 (xxv, 1937).

Crosthwaite (C), part I: 1562-1600 (xvi, 1929); part II: 1600-1670 (xvii, 1930), part III: baptisms and marriages 1670-1812 (xviii, 1930); part IV: burials 1670-1812 (xix, 1931).

Crosthwaite and Lyth (W), 1569-1812 (xxiii, 1935).

Dacre (C), 1559-1716 (i, 1912).

Great Orton (C), 1568-1812 (iv, 1915).

Holm Cultram (C), part I: 1580-1597 (xxxiv, 1948).

Kendal (W), part I: christenings 1558-1587 (vii, 1921); part II: marriages and burials 1558-1587, baptisms 1591-1595 (viii, 1922); part III: baptisms 1596-1599, 1607-1631, marriages and burials 1591-1599 (xxxvi, 1952).

Lamplugh (C), 1581-1812 (xxiv, 1936).

Lowther (W), 1539-1812 (xxi, 1933).

Middleton in Lonsdale (W), 1670-1812 (xii, 1925).

Milburn (W), 1679-1812 (ii, 1913).

Millom (C), 1591-1812 (xi, 1925).

Morland (W), 1538-1742 (printing).

Newbiggin (W), 1571-1812 (xv, 1928).

Newton Reigny (C), 1571-1812 (xxii, 1934).

Penrith (C), part I: 1556-1604 (xxvi, 1938); part II: 1605-1660 (xxvii, 1939); part III: 1661-1713 (xxviii, 1940); part IV: 1714-1769 (xxix, 1941); part V: 1770-1812 (xxx, 1942).

Skelton (C), 1580-1812 (vi, 1918).

Warcop (W), 1597-1744 (iii, 1914).

Whicham (C), 1569-1812 (xiii, 1926).

Wigton (C), part I: 1604-1727 (xxxv, 1950); part II: baptisms 1728-1797, marriages 1728-1781, burials 1728-1779 (xxxvii, 1955).

SECTION II: Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers which have been printed but not for the Parish Register Section.

- Asby (W), 1657-1798 (Ed. and trans. C. R. Rivington, printed Adlard & Son, 1894).
- Askham (W), 1566-1812 (Ed. and trans. Mary E. Noble, printed Bemrose & Sons, Ltd., 1904).
- Bampton (W), 1637-1812 (Ed. and trans. Mary E. Noble, printed T. Wilson, Kendal, 1897).
- Dalston (C), 1570-1812, in 2 vols. (Ed. and trans. Rev. J. Wilson, printed W. Beck, Dalston, 1893).
- Garrigill (C), S. John's, 1699-1729 (Ed. & trans. Rev. Caesar Caine, printed R. M. Saint, Haltwhistle, 1901).
- Greystoke (C), 1559-1757 (Ed. and trans. Rev. A. M. Maclean, printed T. Wilson, Kendal, 1911).
- Kirkoswald (C), 1577-1812 (Ed. and trans. Rev. J. J. Thornley, printed G. H. Smith & Co., Workington, 1901).
- Lanercost (C), 1666-1837:
 Vol. I, 1666-1730 (Ed. and trans. T. W. Willis, printed Isaac B. Hodgson, Brampton, 1908).
 Vol. II, 1731-1837 (Ed. and trans. T. W. Willis, printed Wright & Hoggard, 1912).
- Mardale Chapel (W), 1684-1824 (Ed. and trans. F. Haswell, printed George Reed, Penrith, 1898).
- Martindale (W), baptisms 1633-1853, marriages 1636-1871, burials 1683-1904 (Ed. and trans. H. Brierley, printed Strowger & Son, Clarence Press, 1907).
- Matterdale (C), 1634-1720 (Ed. and trans. H. Brierley, printed T. Wilson, Kendal, 1908).
- Ravenstonedale, 1571-1812, in 3 vols., including registers of Ravenstonedale Presbyterian Chapel, 1775-1837, and Society of Friends (Ed. and trans. Rev. R. W. Metcalfe, printed T. Wilson, Kendal, 1893).
- Shap (W), 1559-1830 (Ed. and trans. Mary E. Noble, printed T. Wilson, Kendal, 1912).
- Watermillock (C), 1579-1812 (Ed. and trans. Rev. H. Maclean, printed in same vol. as Matterdale).

Marriage registers published and printed by Phillimore & Co. Ltd., in their parish register series:

- Vol. CXXX (Cumberland, Vol. i, edited by W. P. W. Phillimore and C. W. Ruston-Harrison, 1910).
 Workington, 1670-1837 (Trans. Miss P. Curwen).
 Moresby, 1676-1837 (Trans. Rev. H. J. Allen).

- Vol. CLXVI (Cumberland, Vol. ii, same editors, 1912).
 Stanwix, 1662-1837 (Trans. C. W. Ruston-Harrison).
 Crosby-on-Eden, 1665-1837 (Trans. T. H. Hodgson).
 Harrington, 1652-1837 (Trans. Miss P. Curwen).
 Gosforth, 1571-1837 (Trans. C. A. Parker).

The following should also be noted:

- “Bygone Penrith, A Popular Arrangement of Penrith Parish Registers” (Ed., trans. and arranged by George Watson, printed J. Atkinson Sweeten, Penrith, 1893), part I, 1556-1601. (No further parts issued.)

SECTION III: Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers transcribed but not printed.

Only transcripts are given here which are deposited in the two counties or are in the possession of the Parish Register Section. The place of deposit is shown in brackets. In this article the word “transcript” has no connection with the Bishop’s Transcripts which are the returns of parish register entries given in at the yearly visitation. They usually commence about 1660. Those for Cumberland are at the Cumberland County Record Office, Carlisle, those for Westmorland are at the County Hall, Kendal.

- Addingham (C), 1601-1631 (Vicar and Tullie House, Carlisle).
 Addingham (C), 1632-1720 (CWPRS).
 Ainstable (C), 1664-1757 (Tullie House, Carlisle).
 Alston, St. Augustine (C), 1700-1812 (Tullie House, Carlisle).
 Brigham (C), 1564-1758 (Tullie House, Carlisle).
 Clifton (W), 1676-1812 (Rector).
 Dacre (C), 1717-1812 (CWPRS).
 Dean (C), 1542-1626 (Tullie House, Carlisle).
 Ennerdale (C), 1638-1812 (CWPRS).
 Garrigill (C), 1730-1812 (Tullie House, Carlisle).
 Gosforth (C), 1571-1741 (CWPRS).
 Greystoke (C), 1759-1812 (Rector).
 Great Salkeld (C), 1677-1719 (Tullie House, Carlisle).
 Hesket-in-the-Forest (C), 1661-1812 (Vicar and CWPRS).
 Heversham (W), 1601-1812 (CWPRS).
 Holm Cultram (C), 1606-1722 (CWPRS).
 St. Bees (C) (Vicar).
 Temple Sowerby (W), 1669-1812 (CWPRS).
 Wigton (C), baptisms 1797-1812, burials 1779-1812 (CWPRS).

SECTION IV: Lancashire North of the Sands registers which have been printed by Lancashire Parish Register Society.

- Aldingham, 1599-1700 }
 Coniston, 1599-1700 } (Lancs. PRS 30).
 Blawith, baptisms and burials 1728-1837, marriages 1730-1837
 (Lancs. PRS 94).
 Broughton in Furness, 1634-1812 (Lancs. PRS 90).
 Cartmel, 1559-1661 (Lancs. PRS 28).
 Kirkby in Furness, 1631-1812 (Lancs. PRS 43).
 Pennington and Urswick in Furness, 1608-1702 (Lancs. PRS 29).
 Torver, 1599-1792
 Kirkby Ireleth, baptisms 1701-1812 }
 marriages 1728-1754 } (Lancs. PRS 43).

Parish registers which have been printed but not by
 Lancs. PRS.

- Blawith, The Early Registers of (Contains extracts from the printed registers of Colton, Kirkby Ireleth, Torver and Ulverston. Selected and ed. A. R. Brydson, printed H. Kitchen, Ulverston, 1913).
 Colton, 1623-1812 (Trans. A. A. Williams and J. Pennington, printed T. Wilson, Kendal, 1891).
 Hawkshead, The Oldest Register Book of the Parish of Hawkshead in Lancs., 1568-1704 (Ed. and trans. H. S. Cowper, printed Bemrose & Sons, Ltd., London, 1897).
 Ulverston, 1545-1837, in 2 vols. (Ed. and trans. Rev. C. W. Bardsley and Rev. L. R. Ayre, printed J. Atkinson, Ulverston, 1886).

Parish register transcribed but not printed.

- Hawkshead, 1705-1787 (Tullie House, Carlisle).

SECTION V: Cumberland and Westmorland parish registers dating from before 1730 which have not been transcribed.

(The figures in brackets denote the date at which the register commences so far as is known. Other figures indicating a period show where a portion remains untranscribed).

- Addingham (C), from 1721. Ainstable (C), from 1758.
 Aikton (C), (1694). Allhallows (C), (1666).

- Ambleside (W), (1642).
 Appleby, St. Lawrence (W),
 (1694).
 Appleby, St. Michael (W),
 (1582).
 Arthurct (C), 1610.
 Asby (W), from 1799.
 Aspatria (C), (1660).
 Bassenthwaite (C), (1573).
 Beaumont (C), (1692).
 Beckermct (C), (1675).
 Beetham (W), (1608).
 Boltens (C), (1603).
 Bootle (C), (1655).
 Bowness (C), (1642).
 Brampton (C), (1663).
 Bromfield (C), (1654).
 Burgh by Sands (C), (1653).
 Burneside (W), (1717).
 Burton in Kendal (W), (1653).
 Caldbeck (C), (1640).
 Camerton (C), (1599).
 Carlisle, St. Cuthbert (C),
 (1693).
 Carlisle, St. Mary (C), (1648).
 Castle Carrock (C), (1679).
 Castle Sowerby (C), (1711).
 Cleator (C), (1572).
 Cockermouth (C), (1632).
 Croglin (C), (1644).
 Crosby on Eden (C), (1649).
 Cross Canonby (C), (1663).
 Cumrew (C), (1667).
 Cumwhitton (C), (1694).
 Dean (C), from 1627.
 Dearham (C), (1662).
 Distington (C), (1653).
 Drigg (C), (1631).
 Dufton (W), (1570).
 Edenhall (C), (1558).
 Egremont (C), (1630).
 Embleton (C), (1625).
 Ennerdale (C), (1643).
 Eskdale (C), (1626).
 Farlam (C), (1672).
 Flimby (C), (1696).
 Garrigill (C), from 1729.
 Gilcrux (C), (1589).
 Gosforth (C), (1571).
 Grasmere (W), (1573).
 Great Salkeld (C), 1583-1676;
 1720 onwards.
 Haile (C), (1544).
 Harrington (C), baptisms and
 burials from 1653.
 Hayton (Carlisle, C), (1620).
 Helsington (W), (1728).
 Holm Cultram (C), from 1723.
 Hutton in the Forest (C),
 (1729).
 Ireby (C), (1705).
 Irthington (C), (1704).
 Irton (C), (1693).
 Isell (C), (1669).
 Kentmere (W), (1701).
 Killington (W), (1619).
 Kirkandrews on Eden (C),
 (see Beaumont).
 Kirkandrews-on-Esk (C),
 (1695).
 Kirkbampton (C), (1695).
 Kirkbride (C), (1662).
 Kirkby Lonsdale (W), (1538).
 Kirkby Stephen (W), (1647).
 Kirkby Thore (W), (1593).
 Kirkland (C), (1620).
 Kirklington (C), (1652).
 Langwathby (C), (1695).
 Lazonby (C), (1538).
 Long Marton (W), (1556).
 Long Sleddale (W), (1670).
 Lorton (C), (1538).
 Loweswater (C), (1636).
 Matteredale (C), from 1721.
 Melmerby (C), (1701).
 Moresby (C), baptisms and
 burials from 1717.
 Muncaster (C), (1580).
 Musgrave (W), (1562).
 Nether Denton (C), (1703).

- Nether Wasdale (C), (1711). Troutbeck (W), (1579).
 Ormside (W), (1560). Uldale (C), (1642).
 Orton (W), (1595). Ulpha (C), (1703).
 Ousby (C), (1663). Waberthwaite (C), (1676).
 Patterdale (W), (1613). Walton (C), (1684).
 Plumbland (C), (1677). Warcop (W), from 1745.
 Ponsonby (C), (1723). Warwick (C), (1684).
 Preston Patrick (W), (1703). Westward (C), (1605).
 Raughton Head (C), (1663). Wetheral (C), (1674).
 Renwick (C), (1649). Whitbeck (C), (1597).
 Rockliff (C), (1679). Whitehaven, St. Nicholas
 Scaleby (C), (1706). (C), (1693).
 Sebergham (C), (1694). Wigton (C), marriages from
 Stanwix (C), baptisms and 1781.
 burials from 1660. Windermere (W), (1611).
 Stapleton (C), (1725). Winster (W), (1720).
 Staveley (W), (1651). Witherslack (W), (1670).
 Threlkeld (C), (1573). Workington, St. Michael (C),
 Thursby (C), (1649). baptisms and burials from
 Thwaite (C), (1724). 1680.
 Torpenhow (C), (1656).

SECTION VI: Articles on parish registers in these
Transactions.

(a) Old Series.

General: "The transcripts of the registers in Brampton Deanery" (Rev. H. Whitehead, v 261-5).

"Westmorland parish registers" (Rev. H. Whitehead, xiii 125-41).

"Cumberland parish registers, I: Brampton deanery" (Rev. H. Whitehead, xiv 212-43).

Bridekirk (C): "Bridekirk and its registers" (W. Browne, iv 257-79).

Caldbeck (C): "Caldbeck parish registers" (Ellen K. Goodwin, ix 1-13).

Carlisle (C): "The parish registers of St Mary's and St Cuthbert's churches, Carlisle" (R. S. Ferguson, ii 347-54).

Crosby-on-Eden (C): "Notes on the parish registers of Crosby-on-Eden" (T. Hesketh Hodgson, ix 359-65).

Crosthwaite (C): "The Crosthwaite registers" (J. F. Crosthwaite, ii 225-41).

Dalston (C): "Seven volumes of Dalston parish registers" (M. E. Kuper, vii 156-220) and "The Dalston transcript of 1589-1590" (Rev. J. Wilson, xi 238-49).

Dean (C): "The registers of the parish of Dean, Cumberland" (Rev. W. Sherwen, iv 96-108).

Gosforth (C): "Gosforth registers" (C. A. Parker, viii 70-81).

Great Orton (C): "The registers of Great Orton, Carlisle, 1568-1812" (Rev. W. F. Gilbanks, viii 245-56).

Greystoke (C): "Extracts from the registers at Greystoke church, during the reigns of Elizabeth and the Stuart kings" (Rev. T. Lees, i 336-46).

Hawkshead (Lancs.): "The earlier registers and parish accounts at Hawkshead" (Rev. J. Allen, iv 33-40).

Hayton (C): "The old Hayton registers" (Rev. R. W. Dixon, iv 425-35).

Holm Cultram (C): "The oldest register book of the parish of Holm Cultram, Cumberland" (Rev. W. F. Gilbanks, x 176-85).

Kendal (W): "Kendal parish church registers" (G. E. Moser, iii 49-63).

Kirkandrews-upon-Esk (C): "The registers and account books of the parish of Kirkandrews-upon-Esk" (R. S. Ferguson, viii 280-306).

Kirkby Lonsdale (W): "Notes upon the parish church of Kirkby Lonsdale" (Canon Ware, i 189-203).

Kirkby Thore (W): "Notes on the Kirkbythore registers" (Rev. R. Bower, iv 372-86).

Millom (C): see under *Waberthwaite*, below.

Orton (W): "The parish registers of Orton, Westmorland" (J. Holme Nicholson, xi 250-65).

St Bees (C): "Extracts from the parish registers of St Bees, with comments upon the same" (William Jackson, i 287-99).

Sebergham (C): "Sebergham parish registers" (M. E. Kuper, ix 32-96).

Thursby (C): "The earliest register of the parish of Thursby" (Rev. J. Wilson, xiv 121-33).

Waberthwaite and *Millom* (C): "The earlier registers of Waberthwaite and Millom" (Canon Knowles, iii 314-20).

Westward (C): "The early registers of the parish of Westward" (Rev. J. Wilson, xiii 103-17).

(b) New Series.

Askham (W): "A sketch of the church of Askham, and some account of the early parish registers" (Miss Noble, iv 92-103).

Ings (W): "The Ings registers" (Rev. G. E. P. Reade, xiii 79-84).

Kirkby Lonsdale (W): "The Kirkby Lonsdale parish registers, 1538-1812" (E. Conder, v 213-42).

Shap (W): "Shap registers" (Miss Noble, xi 202-8).