

**Notes on an old Churchwardens' Account Book  
(1598-1718) concerning the Church and  
Parish of St. Werburgh in Derby.**

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PART II.

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By THOMAS L. TUDOR.

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SEATS IN THE CHURCH, AND THE CLAIMS OF PARISHIONERS.

WE have no means of telling what was the capacity of the old church of St. Werburgh, before the rebuilding of 1700. But the following record shows that about 60 people had regular sittings in early Stuart times, and that a proportion of these paid a recognised sum annually. Fourpence per annum seems a small figure, but it was, evidently, only regarded as an assistance toward the general expenses of repair.

It is scarcely likely, however, that these seats filled the church. There must have been also a number of free seats for the poorer classes, and probably a certain amount of space not occupied by fixed seats at all.

Some of the pews or seats had doors, while matting and "bassocks" helped to make them comfortable. No doubt they were of the usual "box pew" type, and from earlier quotations from the Account Book under review, some of them had stoves for heating. The following extracts also show certain leading families of the parish in possession of seats or pews by special agreement. About this time there was a general movement throughout England towards the regular allotment of seats.

16 + 21.

A Remembrance of ane ansientt custom for the Inhabitants of the parysh of St Warbuge to pay for their churche seates towards the reparacyones of the church, as follows:—

Mr. Bayly Potter p. ann <i>iiijd</i>	Wm. Stomfett
Mr. Wm. Potter, the lyke <i>iiijd</i> .	Wm. Bryttane
Mr. Gervase Sleigh p. ann. <i>iiijd</i> .	Robt. Pecock
Mr. Deyvde Potter p. ann <i>iiijd</i> .	Anthone Domeloe
Mr. Henry Wardell p. ann. <i>iiijd</i> .	Edward Jackson
Mr. Robert Walker p. ann. <i>iiijd</i> .	Wm. Leper <sup>1</sup>
Mr. Wm. Potter junior <i>iiijd</i> .	Thomas Pete(r)s
Mr. Nathanyell Hallose <i>iiijd</i> .	Jno. Normane
Mr. Jno. Brookhouse <i>iiijd</i> .	Thomas Harryman
Robert Brookhouse <i>iiijd</i> .	Jno. Atkyns
Thomas Houghton <i>iiijd</i> .	Rondall Baratt
Thomas Fowler	Gylbert Oks
Robert Sleighe	Francis Moryse
Lawrance Draper p. ann.	— Stanfeld
Jno. Spateman p. ann.	Thomas Bassett
Jno. Houghton	Robt. Brokhose
Danyell Deane	Thomas Ward
Jno. Yates p. ann.	Jno. Wright
Thomas Bakewell	Roger Walker
Wm. Taberer baker	Roger Walker (Tyler)
Wm. Taberer malser	Jno. Dyase
— Ludlame	Thomas Dyase
Wm. Brookhouse	Harry Whyttiker
Wydow Nele	Wm. Winfeld
Wydow Stere	Wm. Sleighe
Thomas Smedley	Rondal Vycarres
Adam Devinge	Harry Brokhose
Jno. Fysher	Thomas Bale

(Several names illegible).

The reference to Mr. Gisborne <sup>2</sup> (Part I, page 194, vol. xxxix) as paying regular seat rent, is further explained by the following entry. But inasmuch as the accounts show that £1 per annum was received for many years

<sup>1</sup> See page 236.

<sup>2</sup> The Gisborne family lived for several generations in the house in the Wardwick, now known as the "Jacobean House," which was built by a Gisborne at the date over the door. See page 237.

after the date named, it is evident that the agreement was not fully ratified.

In 1686 by a resolution at a parish meeting it was " Ordered that Mr. John Gisborne junr. shall, for the use of himself and family, have and enjoy a certaine seate or pew adjoining or being part of the Parson's Pew, paying yearly to the churchwardens . . . . the sum of twentie shillings from Easter last past, and immediately after such time as he shall procure an order or license from the Bishop settling himself and family in the said seate, that he shall pay to the then churchwardens of the parrish the sume of Twenty Pounds, and from thenceforth the said rent to cease. The said seate to be set forth by the parson and churchwardens."<sup>1</sup>

The 5th day of Decemb. 1692.

Att a parish meeting then held for the parish of St. Warburgh, whereas a contest hath arison betwixt this parish and Samuel Dalton Esq, one of the parishoners thereof, touchinge the right of ffoure several seats (or pews) within the church of this parish now claimed by the said Mr Dalton, as belonginge to his house called the ffryars, and whereas for the settling the question touching the right of the said seats, the said Mr Dalton hath agreed to referre himselfe to and to abide the judgment of Mr William Osborne Viccar of St Peters church in Derby and M . . . Ward Rector of Mickleover touching the same, in consideration that this parish will undertake to do the same—It is therefore ordered and agreed by this parish that they will stand to and abide the judgment that shall be made . . . . so as the said p'sons give their judgment before Lady Day next.

Failing delivery of judgment as aforesaid, the above referees were to appoint an " Umpire " to determine the question within a month after the prescribed Lady Day. Evidently legal proceedings had already begun at the time of this meeting, as the record closes with the words : " It is agreed that all proceedings at law shall stay in the meantime."

1693. The above mentioned referees failed to give judgment and Mr. Walter Burdett was asked to adjudicate. He gave decision in favour of Samuel Dalton. But it

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<sup>1</sup> See page 237.

appears this did not settle the case, which was afterwards carried to the Consistory Court of Lichfield.

During the progress of the suit, a general parish meeting was held at which it was agreed that " Samuel Dalton and his heirs and successors, inhabitants of the said messuage called the ffryars, should have, hold, occupy, use and enjoy, the uppermost seate or pew of the four seats or pews before mentioned, in consideration of the said Samuel Dalton, his heirs and successors, relinquishing all claim for ever, to the other three seats or pews."

[The pews in question were at the east end of the south aisle].

The making of a seat in which Mr. Charles Benskin was interested is thus described :—

July 20, 1708. Ordered that the p'sent officers have power to agree with some workmen to sett up a seate from east side of ye ffont to the North and South Doors of the church and likewise to put up some wainscote pannell at ye back of ye said seate so high as the bottom of the windows and that it be overseen by Mr Charles Benskin and done to his satisfaction.

And on 2nd April, 1711 :—

Unanimously Ordered that the new seate at the back of the Majers seate be and is hereby (as far as is in our power) appropriated to ye use of ye present Viccar Mr Bradbury, for the use of his ffamily.

The following is dated " Wednesday morning the 17th of August, Anō Dom 1720 " :—

Ordered that Dr. Richard Wilmot be accomodated with the two seates in ye church, in the North Corner of the same, at the yearly rent of twenty shillings per Ann. w<sup>ch</sup> seates are to be made into one at ye expense of the said Dr. Wilmott for the use of himself and ffamily during the pleasure of ye said parrish.

Many particulars are given concerning repairs to seats and sundry upholstery. We select the following<sup>1</sup> :—

<sup>1</sup> The dates given are usually those stated at the head of the statements of accounts, but as the Church's year goes from Easter to Easter, it is often impossible to be exact. Items not precisely dated may occur during nine months of one year or three months of the next.



1663-4 In the fifteenth year of King Charles the Second—					
	pd Thomas Jerram for ironwork about the church & steeple & Robert Gray for the matting of seats	.. .. .	o	7	10
1666	pd for two matts & a bassock	.. .. .	o	1	4
	pd for 2 peices of matting & nailes	.. .. .	o	3	7
1669	pd for 2 Bassocks <sup>1</sup> for ye church	.. .. .	o	0	9
	pd for 6 matts & laying them downe	.. .. .	o	8	4
1669	pd for matting & bassocks & mending ye seates	.. .. .	o	3	4
1670	for Matting the seats	.. .. .	o	18	8
1674	Mending seats in the church	.. .. .	o	4	10
—	Hinge for a seat & doore	.. .. .	o	0	6
—	2 Matts for 2 seates	.. .. .	o	3	0
1693	for matting for ye midwives seate (otherwise the churching seat).	.. .. .	o	2	0
1710	pd. for brass naills & tape in ye Mayors seate..	.. .. .	o	1	6
1686	pd. for matting at the (Communion) rails	.. .. .	o	4	6

### BOOKS.

In this section, and also among the bell-ringing records, will be found much that bears on the general history of the country. We notice especially, a strong outburst of Royalist sentiment after the Commonwealth period. Numerous plots and rebellions are recalled, while the various wars of the time are reflected in the incessant bell-ringing, specially during the campaigns of Marlborough. The names of many of these battles in Flanders have a new and more serious significance for us to-day.

1663 (among disbursements for the year) "Pd. Robert Bingham, paritor (apparitor), for 2 proclamations, one against debauchedness, the other for the observance of the Lord's Day, 1s. od."

This entry arose out of contemporary legislation on the subject of public conduct and Sunday practices. A "Lord's Day Observance Bill" was passed during the Commonwealth to check rowdyism and sport on Sundays and was made known in every parish by officially printed

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<sup>1</sup> Bassocks—now shortened to "Basses."

proclamation, obtainable from the apparitor of the local court. We may remark that this Act is still on the Statute Book, unrepealed, though seldom referred to.

	pd. for binding the Church booke, cover & clasps	0	2	0
	pd. the paritor for an order about marriage ..	0	0	10
	for a board & frame to itt .. .. .	0	0	4
1664	pd. for binding ye booke of Hommelies ..	0	0	10
1666	pd. for a book for ye fast for London ..	0	1	6
	[The great Fire of London occurred this year. It followed close upon the Great Plague].			
1666	pd. Robert Bingham, Aparitor, for a Booke upon the Day of Thanksgivings agast ye Dutch	0	2	0
	[After a reverse earlier in the year, the English gained a decisive victory off the North Foreland].			
1667	pd. for repaire of the church bible .. ..	0	5	6
	pd. for a Tyding Table .. .. .	0	0	8
1670	pd. feathro for binding Erasmus .. ..	0	4	6
1676	pd. for laying the church book straight & presing it .. .. .	0	1	0
1676	for parchmt & writeing out the cobby of the Regester .. .. .	0	2	6
	pd. for a fframe & writeing the benefactors of the parrish .. .. .	0	3	6
1681	pd. to Robert Bingham ffor the Artickells ..	0	0	6
1682-3	pd. for a Book of Articles .. .. .	0	1	6
	pd. for a Book of prayers appointed for a day of Thanksgiving for the Discovery of the fanatticke Plott .. .. .	0	1	6
	[This was the conspiracy against Charles II, called the Rye House Plot].			
1685	pd. paritor for 2 papers for a day Thanksgiv ..	0	1	0
	[The Rebellion of the Dukes of Argyle and Monmouth was crushed at Sedgmoor, July 6].			
1686 <sup>1</sup>	pd. the paritor for a book to be read 29th May	0	1	0
<sup>2</sup>	do. 30th Jany	0	1	6
<sup>3</sup>	do. ye 6th day of ffebruary	0	1	6
1685	pd. ffor a Book of Canons .. .. .	0	1	2

<sup>1</sup> Restoration Day.

<sup>2</sup> Anniversary of death of Charles I.

<sup>3</sup> Charles II died February 6th, 1685.

1687	pd. for a Book of praiers for the Queen being with child .. .. .	0 1 6
1688	pd. Butler for Bookes for altering the Common Prayer .. .. .	0 2 6
	[This was the year of the Revolution].	
1690	pd. for a book for ye fast .. .. .	0 2 0
1691	pd. Butler ye Apparitor for ye book & procla- mation for the Kings ffast .. .. .	0 1 6
	[Refers to a form of Prayer and Thanksgiving after the Treaty of Limerick].	
	pd. Bingham ye Appartor for a Sumons & Book of Artickles for ye next churchw'ns ..	0 1 6
	pd. for a prayer book & p'clamacon for th' ensuing monthly ffast .. .. .	0 1 6
1702	A Book against Swearing .. .. .	0 1 0
	[Refers to a Royal Proclamation against Im- morality and Profaneness—1699].	
1673	Parchment & making copy of regester ..	0 2 0
1676	do. .. .. .	0 2 6
	[By an order of 1597 copies of parish registers were to be sent annually to the Diocesan Registrar].	
1713	Parchment & lopeing (sewing) the Regester ..	0 11 0
1714	pd. for a book of Pray'rs for ye Kings coming..	0 1 0
	[Accession of George I to a " Peaceful and quiet Possession of the Throne." General Thanks- giving].	
1678	pd. for a regester booke for buriing in woollen	0 3 8
	[An Act of Parliament of 1666 ordered " Bury- ing in Woollen only, for the encouragement of the Woollen Manufacturers of the King- dom and preventing of the exportation of money for the buying and importing of linen." See under " Burials."]	

## BELL-RINGING, REPAIRS, ETC.

1663	for Ringing the 29th May .. .. .	0 5 0
1664	pd. to Will Fowler, one bell rope & peseing the grate bell rope .. .. .	0 3 8
	pd. November the 5th for Ringing .. .. .	1 9 6
1665	pd. for Ringing in the Bishop.. .. .	0 3 0

	pd. the Ringers for ye Thanksgiving day for ye victory at sea .. .. .	o	5	o
	[Great naval victory over the Dutch off Lowestoft].			
1666	pd. for Ringing ye 29th of May .. ..	o	3	6
1667	pd. the Ringers at ye Proclamation of the Pease .. .. .	o	3	6
	[Treaty of Breda signed this year].			
1672	for Ringing for Peace with Duch .. ..	o	2	6
1685	Given the Ringers at the Proclaming the King, for Ringing .. .. .	o	5	o
	[Accession of James II].			
	for Ringing at taking Argile, & Monmouth's defeat.. .. .	o	6	o
1685	1 April. pd. for ale for Ringers on ye Kings Birth Day. Hen-Yates house .. ..	o	o	6
1685	pd. to Ring's for a Day of Thanksgiving ..	o	5	o
1688	for Ringing at the Proclamation of the King & Queene .. .. .	o	6	o
1690	pd. for drink at ye chiping ye bell <sup>1</sup> .. ..	o	o	10
	pd. ffor Ringing for ye Prince Denmark ..	o	1	6
	pd. for Ringing on ye Kings return from Ireland	o	4	o
	pd. for Ringing when the King came from holland .. .. .	o	1	o
1691	April 11 pd. for Ringing at ye Coronation ..	o	5	o
	July 20 pd. them for Ringing for ye Victory in Ireland ..	o	2	6
	Oct. 12 do. for ye taking of Limerick	o	2	6
	Oct 22 do. for ye Ks return out of Holland	o	2	o
1692	for Ringing for beating ye French at sea ..	o	4	o
	[English and Dutch victory off La Hogue, May 19].			
	for Ringing at ye Ks coming into England ..	o	1	o
1696	for Ringing upon ye Thanksgiving Day for Discovery of ye Plott .. .. .	o	2	6
	[Plot for assassinating the King—Sir John Fenwick executed 1697].			
	Ringing upon ye Kings Return from fflanders	o	1	o
1702	March 14. pd. the Ringers when Queene Anne was pcd .. .. .	o	3	o
1702	Ringing for Prince Eugins victory .. ..	o	2	6

<sup>1</sup> To chip the rim of a bell was one means of bringing it into tune.

	Ringing for News from Vigo .. .. .	0 2 6
1704	Ringing for the news of the Duke of Marlborough's beating the french at Douamont	0 2 6
	do. beating ye french att Hocstell & takeing Marshall Tallard prisoner .. .. .	0 3 6
	[Battle of Blenheim, August 13th].	
	do. for S <sup>r</sup> George Rooke taking Gibraltar ..	0 1 6
	do. for the news of S <sup>r</sup> George Rooke beating the french upon the Coast of Mallaga ..	0 2 6

The following entry also occurs during this year of victories :—

	Spent upon the Corones inquest that sat upon the Boy kill(d) with the Bell .. .. .	0 5 0
	..... pd. for Ringing ye Queenes Crounation ..	0 2 6
1706	pd. for Ringing 2 days for ye Duke of Malboroos Victore .. .. .	0 5 0
	[Battle of Ramilies, May 23rd].	
	for Ringing at takeing Barsaloma .. .. .	0 2 0
1708	June 10. pd. for Ringing for ye Victory at the Battle of Audenard .. .. .	0 3 6
—	Oct. 18. pd. for Ringing for ye takeing of Lile	0 2 6
—	Dec. 14. pd. for Ringing for ye Relieving of Brussels and ye surrender of ye citidell of Lile .. .. .	0 2 6
—	pd. for Ringing on St Georges Day .. .. .	0 2 6
1709	pd. Ringing at Taking Mons .. .. .	—
1709	pd. Ringing at take of turnay .. .. .	0 3 0
	do. at the Battle in Wood .. .. .	0 5 0
1711	do. ffor ye taking of Boucheine .. .. .	0 2 6
—	do. for Ringing taking Dunkerk .. .. .	0 2 6
1713	pd. for Ringing 3 times att the Proclamation of the peace .. .. .	0 7 0
	[Treaty of Utrecht].	
1714	pd. for Ringing to proclaim King George ..	0 3 0
	do. 3 times for ye Queenes Interment	0 6 0
	[Queen Anne died August 1, 1714].	
	pd. for Ringing at ye Kings Landing .. .. .	0 5 0
1715	do. After ye rebels run away .. .. .	0 5 0
	[Oxford, Bolingbroke, and Ormond impeached for negociating the Treaty of Utrecht. The first committed to the Tower, the other two escaped to the Continent].	

	pd. for Ringing for good news	.. ..	0 5 0
	[Concerning Rebellion in Scotland].		
1716	Ringing at ye Kings returne from Hanover	.. ..	0 2 6
1717	March 27. Mm : That the great charge of Ringing in the parish be taken into consideration at the next parrish meeting.		
1717	April 22. Ordered that the officers p'sent & to come doe not exceed two shillings & sixpence for Ringing on any days of Rejoycinge & that the days following be only paid for, viz—		
	At Easter	.. ..	two shillings.
	The Kings Birthday	.. ..	two shillings & sixpence.
	29th May .. ..	.. ..	do.
	The Coronation Day	.. ..	do.
	The 5 November	.. ..	do.
	Christmas Day	.. ..	do.
	The Birthday of the Prince of Wales	.. ..	do.

On page 218 of the previous volume (Part I of this article), there is reference to "A bell called A Snts Bell," in an inventory of 1669. No explanation of the meaning of this expression is there offered, but on further consideration we believe the abbreviation is meant for "Sanctus Bell."

Frequent items for repairs to bells are scattered about the Accounts. The following are selected as types:—

1666	2 Nogges for the Bells 6d. & planks in the Bellchamber	.. ..	0 3 0
	Mending clocke and bells	.. ..	0 5 4
	pd. for a door in the Bell house, boards & hookes		—
1669	pd. for mending ye Bellwheel frames & turngate		0 3 6
1670	pd. for 34 Bellropes	.. ..	0 10 0
1676	pd. for Leather and 2 Leggestikes for the Bells		0 1 0
	— pd. for shooting two old belropes	.. ..	0 2 4
1707	cloges & Legstickes for 3 Bells	.. ..	0 0 10
1714	pd. Job Taylor for repeering the big bell-clapper & other plates about the frame	.. ..	0 3 6
	etc.		

SUNDIAL—

166-	pd. for a dyall post	.. ..	0 2 8
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Numerous entries, of which this is a specimen, show

that even after the church possessed a clock, the sundial (perhaps there were several) was kept in repair.

### THE CLOCK.

Selected from numerous entries :—

1663	pd. for oyle for ye clock	..	..	..	0	1	0
1664	pd. Roger Wheeldon for mending ye clock	..			0	6	5
1669	pd. to Edw. Robinson for a wheele & mending ye clocke & a Key for the Bellhouse doore	..			0	11	3
1679	pd. for wire for the clocke	..	..	..	0	0	3
1702	pd. for carryeing the clock to Kirke Ireton & back again <sup>1</sup>	..	..	..	0	4	6
	pd. John Blackwell for ye clock	..	..	..	4	10	0
1703	do. for mending clock	..			4	0	0
1685	pd. for oyle & dressing the clocke	..	..	..	0	1	0
	— a rope for the clocke	..	..	..	0	2	6
1703	pd. for copper for fingers for the Dial and making				2	9	0
	— spent at setting up ye Dial board	..	..	..	0	1	0

### PARISH OFFICIALS.

In the constitution of the parish at this time, the churchwardens were also collectors and overseers for the poor. At the vestry meeting which appointed them, other persons were sometimes selected to co-operate as assessors. The number of the latter officials varied considerably. The churchwardens were the really responsible officials and the somewhat casual nature of the other appointments is well illustrated in the report of proceedings for April 10th, 1710 :—“ The Churchwardens together with Capt. Barnes, Thos. Carter, Thos. Gisborne, Thos. Roberts, Gilbert Cheshire,<sup>2</sup> and Robt. Albyne, *and any other inhabitants of the said parish that will give themselves the trouble, whether noiated (nominated) or not, are hereby declared assessors.*”

Occasionally the churchwardens also acted as overseers of the highways, but the general rule was to appoint

<sup>1</sup> Why to Kirk Ireton? Was there no clock maker in Derby?—EDITOR.

<sup>2</sup> See page 236.

additional persons for this office. In the year 1685-6 the churchwardens alone fulfilled all these duties, and rendered separate statements of accounts for each department.

The following is the record for 1653 :—

Aprill 11

This day the minister & parishoners assembled, have made choyce off Samuell Spateman & William Tabberer to be churchwardens and collectors for the poore for the year now ffolowing.

John Johnson & William Dawson to be overseers for the highwayes.

And Mr Sleigh, Mr Hammond, Robt Wardell and William Tabberer, and the churchwardens, to be overseers for the poore, and assessors.

Aprill 11th 1664

The parishoners this day assembled w<sup>th</sup> the vicar have made choice of Solomon Roberts & James Bacon churchwardens & overseers for the poore for this yeare now next insuing.

Also the same day they have made choice of Mr Tho. Benskin, Peter Yates, Francis Agard & John Milward assessors.

Lower down, on the same page, there is a reference to the churchwardens—" who are appointed overseers for the highwayes."

In 1667 Daniel Jackson & Frances Brookhouse were chosen churchwardens & collectors. Four others were appointed assessors, to be also "seers" for the poore with the wardens, and two other persons were made "seers" of the Highwayes.

1614 Memoradū. Itt is granted & geve to Richard Moore Clarke by the sessors for this yeare 1614 w<sup>th</sup> the pish consent to laye the grave stones, amend ye bellrops & find grease for ye bells every weeke 4d.

April 19 1636

Memorandum—it is this day Ordered by the parishoners Wm Huberd now Sexton is contemned, that if the said Wm still frequent alehouses or be Drunk that then he shall be put out of his place.

1 Ap<sup>r</sup> 1700. It is agreed that George Pycroft have ffifteene shills every three months pd him out of the Sextons place for his officiating in singing psalms.

1702 Whereas Thomas Brookhouse, now clerke & sexton of the said pish Church of St Warburgs, is by a generallity of pishon<sup>es</sup> thought incapable of performing ye dutys enjoynde him by his said office, it is this day agreed that George Pycroft doe succeed



him in the Sextons place and that it be wholly left to Mr Walker Minister to make such allowance to the said Thomas Brookhouse and his wife during their lives as he shall think most fitt and convenient.

[Over the entrance to the tower steps may be seen the following, cut in the stone—" George Pycroft, Clark, 1705."]

1705 pd. for ye clarkes gowne	.. .. .	1 17 6
1714 pd. for Thomas Brookhouse in illness 9d,		
coffin 7/-	.. .. .	0 7 9

The earliest reference to the curious old office of Bangbegg<sup>1</sup> occurs in 1670, when 10d. per week is entered as wages. Also 2/10 for a coat. The following record suggests that the office fell into disuse for a time :—

1705 It is by the said pish thought requisit to have a Bangbegger & we have made choice of ffrancis Kitchen of this said p'ish and doe consent to allow him twelve pence a weeke for Tending the said office & do hereby further ordr that ye said churchwardens doe pay the same weekly to him the said ffrancis Kitchen, or any other p'son yt they shall think fitt if he refuse to take upon him the said office.

It seems probable that this place was offered to Frances Kitchin to keep him off the rates. But later he gave the overseers a good deal of trouble.

1717 pd. to ye Constable and Cryer for their service		
in finding Kitchen	.. .. .	0 1 0

There are numerous entries for clothes, rent, lodgings, etc. Also charges for Kitchen's boy.

1705 pd. for making Bangbeger coate	.. .. .	0 3 6
pd. for Bangbegers staf	.. .. .	0 1 0
1710 Ordered that old Ed Peters be made Bangbegger for the said parrish his pay to be eighteenpence by weeke & a coat against Christmas.		
1710 Making ye Bangbegers coat & A new hatt	..	0 5 2½
1714 pd. for old Peters coffin 7/-, buns & ale 3/-	..	0 10 0

<sup>1</sup> Bang-beggar = a beadle or verger—one who drives trespassers from church doors during Divine Service or beggars from the town.

1714	ye Bangbeggars coat	..	..	..	..	0	15	9
1720	do.	..	..	..	..	1	6	4

An occasional entry refers to the constable of the parish.

1670	pd. the Constable for burying the townes child					0	4	0
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The only entries that seem to refer to a quire in the church are the following :—

1715	pd. ye singers by Mr Bradbury's order	..	..	..	..	0	5	0
—	pd. ye Singing Master by Pish order	..	..	..	..	1	0	0
—	pd. at 2 several times for Singing	..	..	..	..	0	11	0

#### SPECIMEN OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES.

From many similar statements the following is given as a type :—

1663-4. The Accompts of Mr James Ward & John Litchford as churchwardens & overseers collectors for the poore in the five-teenth year of King Charles the Second & in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred sixty & three.

Received of Mr John Brookhouse for a grave for his son	0	3	4
Received of John Burros for two graves, one for his wife and one for a child .. .. .	0	6	8
Received of Humphry Burrow <sup>1</sup> & Robert fletcher for a piece of ground called the Stewards peice lying in the old Meadow beyond Darwin for a yeares rent due at Midsummer the sume of ..	1	13	4
Received of Mr Thomas Hariman for a yeares rent for a house in St Michils pish due at Mihilmas the sume of .. .. .	1	0	0
Received of Mr John Brookhouse for a acker of Land due at Mihilmas the sume of .. .. .	0	5	0
Received of John Wagstaff for a grave for his wife ..	0	3	4
Received of John Burros for a grave for his child ..	0	3	4
Received the first quarters pay .. .. .	9	11	2½
Received the second quarters pay .. .. .	9	7	11½
Received An Assesment towards the repaire of the church .. .. .	9	10	2

<sup>1</sup> Father of John Borrow, of Hulland Hall, grandfather of Isaac who rebuilt the Town Hall in 1730, during his year of office as Mayor, and great grandfather of Thomas Borrow, of Castlefields—40 years Recorder for Derby. He was the first to settle in Derby from Gotham, co. Notts.

Received at the third quarters pay .. .. .	9	9	1
Received at the fourth quarter a double quarters pay	18	18	2
Received money besides .. .. .	4	10	0
Received for a joyce yt was by the church window att the north door .. .. .	0	1	0
	<hr/>		
	65	2	7
Received as from the prish .. .. .	65	2	7
paid for the prish .. .. .	67	0	4
	<hr/>		
Remaines due from the prish to us, the sume of ..	1	17	9
	<hr/>		
sd James Ward			
John Litchford			
pd. for two warrands .. .. .	0	0	8
pd. according to a pish order to John Breward & Thomas Jerram yt the pish was in debted to them for the yeare, the sume of .. ..	1	6	6
pd. to Humphry Burros & John Milward according to a p'ish order, money laid out for the high- wayes, the sume of .. .. .	1	7	2
pd. according to a p'ish order for the Caridge of Mr Meehams goods, the sume of .. .. .	2	7	4
pd. the poore the 23 of April two weeks pay ..	1	16	6
pd. the poore the 7th May .. .. .	1	12	4
pd. for bread & beare & ringing att the p'sesion ..	0	6	6
pd. for Ringing the 29 of May .. .. .	0	5	0
pd. the poore the 4 June .. .. .	1	12	4
pd. att the Arch Deakons visitation 5 June ..	0	2	8
pd. the poore the 17 June .. .. .	1	12	4
pd. John Norman the 24 June for a qts rent for Turkey & Stronge .. .. .	0	6	6
pd. to 3 poore people being sick .. .. .	0	1	6
pd. the poor 2 July .. .. .	1	12	2
pd. Widdow Barker for Rc. Smalleys rent by ye Sesions order .. .. .	0	2	2
pd. the poor 16 July .. .. .	1	12	2
pd. Widdow Shelton by A p'ish order for Joane Quareners rent 24 July.. .. .	0	2	6
pd. the poore the 30 July .. .. .	1	12	2
pd. Edward Sligh being sick .. .. .	0	0	4
pd. for oyle for clock .. .. .	0	1	0
pd. for laying down 3 graves .. .. .	0	1	0

pd. the poore 13 August .. .. .	I 12 2
pd. towards a pare of showes for Barkers girle ..	0 1 0
pd. the poore the 27 August .. .. .	I 12 2
pd. for Linen Cloth for Bodyes for Dyas child ..	0 1 0
pd. the poor 13 Sept .. .. .	I 12 2
pd. for washing the surplis .. .. .	0 1 0
pd. Widdow Locker in her sickness .. .. .	0 0 6
pd. the paritor for an order about Mariage ..	0 0 10
pd. for a board & frame to itt .. .. .	0 0 4
pd. the poore the 24 Sept. .. .. .	I 12 2
pd. for 2 sheets for Bilchcrafts Boy .. .. .	0 3 9
pd. Robert Bingham paritor for 2 proclamations one against debauchedness & the other for the observation of the Lords Day .. .. .	0 1 0
pd. for cloth for a smock for Elizabeth poxon ..	0 1 10
pd. the poor the 7 October .. .. .	I 12 2
pd. John Newman for a qtr rent for John Turkey & John Strong the 9 October .. .. .	0 6 6
pd. 14 October for a pare of showes for Thomas Dyas	0 3 8
pd. for aprons & other things for Dyas children 16 of October .. .. .	0 4 2
pd. for laying down two graves .. .. .	0 0 8
pd. the 4 of October for bread & wine for the Sacrament	0 7 6
pd. the poor the 22 October .. .. .	I 12 2
pd. at the Visitation the 30 October .. .. .	0 2 8
pd. John Keene the 2 November for work, timber, nayles & other things as appears by his bill ..	6 2 5
pd. Thomas Jerrom for Iron work about the church & steeple & Robertt Gray for the matting of seats	0 7 10
pd. Elias . . . . . for the pinicle & Battlemt ..	I 15 0
pd. Edward Kirkeby for four hundredweight & six pounds of lead & 22 pound of sawder at 10d. a pound & boards & quarters to go about the steeple & 13 dayes work of himself & man & 2 dozen & a half of quarries .. .. .	5 1 0
pd. for almost 400 weight of coales .. .. .	0 1 4
pd. Mihill Emes for helping of Kirkeby .. .. .	0 4 0
pd. Robertt Gray for 2 strike of lime & fillitting the boards of the church & steeple .. .. .	0 1 8
pd. the poore the 5 of November .. .. .	I 12 10
pd. for Ringing the 5 of November .. .. .	0 5 0
pd. the poore the 19 November .. .. .	I 12 10
pd. the poore the 3 December .. .. .	I 12 10

pd. the 8th of December for linen cloth iiiii clasps thread & makeing of a coat for Mary Barker, called Mr. Taberer's gift .. .. .	0 2 8
pd. to the poor 19 December .. .. .	1 12 10
pd. Mr John Newman for a qtes rent for Jo. Turkey & Jo: Stronge .. .. .	0 6 6
pd. Henry Dyas for making 2 petticoats, 2 pare of Bodies, a pare of Breetches & doblett for Dyas childeren .. .. .	0 2 4
pd. Edward Robeson for mending the clock .. .. .	0 1 0
pd. for Ringing upon Christmas Day .. .. .	0 2 0
pd. the poore last of December .. .. .	1 12 10
pd. the poore 14 January .. .. .	1 12 10
pd. Widdow Robeson being sicke .. .. .	0 0 6
pd. the poore 28 January .. .. .	1 12 10
pd. the poore 11 feb. .. .. .	1 12 10
pd. the poore 25 feb. .. .. .	1 12 2
pd. the poore 10 March .. .. .	1 12 2
pd. the poore 24 March .. .. .	1 12 2
pd. John Newman 25 March for a qtes rent for Turkey & Strong .. .. .	0 6 6
pd. Widdow Sheldon for Widdow Wardlows rent .. .. .	0 1 4
pd. for Bread & wine att the Sacrament Aprill 1664 .. .. .	0 3 5
pd. for washing the surplis .. .. .	0 1 0
pd. for a Bellrope & nayles .. .. .	0 3 11
pd. for binding the church book, cover & clasps .. .. .	0 2 0
pd. the poore the 7th Aprill 1664 .. .. .	1 12 2
pd. Ann Barker 11 May by A Sesions order .. .. .	0 10 0
pd. for washing the surplis .. .. .	0 1 0
pd. for a sheete & — of Dyas girle 18 May .. .. .	0 4 0
pd. the poore 22 of May .. .. .	1 12 4
	<hr/>
	67 0 4

## CHURCH FABRIC AND CHURCHYARD.

On pages 212 and 213 of the previous *Journal* of the Society, particulars are given of various charges for re-building the church, 1698 to 1705. Further research discovers the following, in addition:—1702. Thomas Trimmer £13, G. Mottram £10, G. Braishy £5. 1704. Richard Hodgkinson £7 10s., Jonathan Reading £8 6s.,

Thomas Trimmer £38 3s. 2d., Solomon Roberts £14 12s. 4d.

Other subscriptions are also as follows :—

1701	Recd. of Wm Pegg, his subscription to ye church	1	1	6
	Wm Hall for the like .. .. .	0	10	0
	Henry Richardson Gen: for ye like .. ..	2	0	0

At the foot of page 212, concerning George Howorobin's promised donation, the 40<sup>li</sup> (£) should be 40<sup>s</sup>. (shillings).

The following entry shows that only a few years before the old church fell down, considerable building expenditure had been incurred :—

1690	pd. Wm Hall for building the church end ..	£25	0	0
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When the rebuilding was taken in hand in 1698 it seems that the nave was first undertaken and that the chancel was not finished until some years after. The year 1708 has been given as the time of completion of the east end. This may account for the following entries concerning some trouble with the Lichfield court over the chancel, which was evidently covered with a thatched roof. This may have been a temporary makeshift. It would be quite in keeping with the spirit of the times that the parishioners should think first of the comfort of the congregation in the nave, and defer the building of a new chancel until later.

1704-5

	Spent at Meeting Mr Mayor about ye chancell ..	0	1	6
	pd. for ye cort order for ye chancell .. ..	2	2	6
	pd. for one hundred of thake for ye chancell ..	0	7	0
	pd. for leading and laying on the thake .. ..	0	2	4
	Att treating Mr Sorocold about ye chancell ..	0	8	8

A Mr. George Sorocold figures in the Chronicles of All Saints Church, Derby, in connection with the rehangng of bells. He is there referred to as " of Derby, gentleman." yet it seems evident that he was a practical man, for he improved the clock and chimes. This was before 1712.

Probably he was a kinsman of the famous Sorocold who made the marvellous water works on St. Michael's Church in 1692. We have no particulars of the work done by him at St. Werburgh's chancel.

### THE CHURCHYARD.

This, in the early eighteenth century, was surrounded by a wall and pales. It had two entrances at least—a gate and a stile. It is difficult to say whether there were three entrances as now. There is a curious interest in the records of large supplies of gravel about this time. It is probable that many centuries of interments had caused the earth over them to become thin, and that the new gravel was brought in to raise the level. In many ancient churchyards evidence of this effect of long continued interments is to be seen.

1665	pd. John Granger for 2 daies work at the church stile .. .. .	0	1	10
	pd. Thos. Allsopp for 4 ditto .. .. .	0	4	0
1665	pd. Richard Porter of Breadsall for bringing 9 loads of stone to repaireye churchyard wall .. .. .	1	14	6
	pd. Thomas Haywood for bringing 3 loads of stone for the same use .. .. .	0	11	6
1677	pd. Joseph Gilbert for bringing rammell <sup>1</sup> in the church yard .. .. .	0	4	0
1700	pd. for finding the church gate .. .. .	0	0	8
	pd. for thornes & laying down to preserve the pales .. .. .	0	1	9
	pd. for making ye causey in the churchyard	0	1	0
	pd. for mending the pales in the churchyard	0	1	1
	pd. 2 loads of gravel .. .. .	0	0	8
	for spreading the rubbish in the churchyard	0	2	0
	for levelling a hole in ye C'yd .. .. .	0	0	8
	for 6 loads of gravil to the churchyard ..	0	2	0
	for mending ye churchyard wall & stone to it	0	4	6
1714	pd. for pruning ye trees in ye churchyard ..	0	0	6
	pd. for 15 loads of gravel & spreading it ..	0	5	0

<sup>1</sup> Ramel=rubbish. [Ed.]

1700 pd. Geo Alleyne for securing an Elmtree blown downe in the churchyard .. .. .	0	1	4
1713 for mending the Bands & hookes of the church gates .. .. .	0	1	0
for hanging ye church yard gate .. ..	0	2	2
1716 for mending ye church yard gate .. ..	0	1	0
for workmanship & time & stoone for ye church yard wall .. .. .	0	4	8
etc.			

## BURIALS.

From numerous entries the following are selected:—

1670 pd. for a cofin for Palmers wife .. ..	0	7	0
1678 pd. Thos Brookhouse for Ringing & making ye grave for Widdow Mansfield .. ..	0	1	0
pd. for a blanket to bury her in .. ..	0	1	4
1678 pd. for a certificate yt Wid Mansfield was buried in Woollon .. .. .	0	0	2
pd. for a warrant to distraine of Nick Okers goods for not certifiing in time that his child was buried in woollon <sup>1</sup> .. ..	0	1	0
1681 pd. ffor flanell to bury her in .. ..	0	2	6
1696 pd. for the Kings Duty for buryall of John Smith .. .. .	0	4	0
1699 pd. for burying Widd. Norman to the Kings Tax	0	4	0
1699 Jan 24. Ordered then att a parish meeting that all persons from ye date above written shall pay into ye churchwardens hands six shillings & eightpence before the ground be broken up for every grave so broken up within the church. <sup>2</sup>			

The following expenses are probably due to burials within the church, although an entry quoted under "Floods" may suggest a different reason:—

1669 pd. for levelling the church alley .. ..	0	0	8
1717 pd. for levelling the church floor .. ..	0	2	0

An old Derbyshire custom is referred to in the following :

1710 pd. for a coffin for Wid Sleights child .. ..	0	1	6
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<sup>1</sup> For note on burying in woollen see foot of page 220 under date 1678.

<sup>2</sup> This was the usual charge throughout England for burials in churches.



pd. Edward Ault for buns at Wid Sleigh's childs buriall .. .. .	0 1 0
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The "Burial Buns" were three-cornered in shape, and although the custom of eating these at funerals has now fallen into decay, the triangular buns are still to be seen occasionally. A certain field near Matlock Bath railway station, being three-cornered in shape, is described in old documents as "Burying Bun Field."

1713 pd. Thomas Trimmer for 4 coffins .. ..	1 6 4
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This represents about the usual price of coffins at this time. See entry for 7/- quoted above. But the poor were buried at much less cost, often being merely wrapped in a shroud.

1720 Expenses about burying a traveller .. ..	0 1 6
— pd. at burying old Pratt .. ..	0 2 6
— pd. at burying Natt the Raggman .. ..	0 1 6
16— A sheet to wind her in .. .. .	....

#### HIGHWAY REPAIRS.

From numerous entries the following are selected for their local colour:—

1663 pd. according to the pish order, money laid out for the highways .. .. .	0 7 2
pd. Samll horibin for drink to the highwaies	0 2 4
1669 Recd of the Chamberlaines of Derby for the repayering the end of the Bridge joyneing to the churchyard .. .. .	0 5 0
1682-3 pd. for piles & trouse (truss) for waterworke	0 8 10
1686 ffor ale ye day we carried Gravel w <sup>th</sup> 7 Draughts from Nunns Mill .. .. .	0 5 6
carrying gravel several days wth Draughts ..	5 12 0
geting, filling & spreading gravel, hacking in ye wayes & labourers wages .. ..	2 19 0
1687 for mending in the Green Lane .. ..	1 9 6
1687 pd. to James Jordan for leading gravell ..	3 15 6
pd. for hacking in the Rutts & filling gravell, to diverse labourers .. .. .	1 14 4
pd. to Mr John Gisborne for 24 loads of stones	0 12 0

1688 pd. for Gravell at end of the stone bridg ..	o	1	0
1690 pd. francis Kitchin for 4 days scouring ye ditches in the Water Lane & mending ye Casey .. .. .	o	3	4
pd. for mending ye cas(h)ey at Winde Mill Pitt. & for 7 steps .. .. .	o	11	0
for shifting ye steps in ye frear gate .. ..	o	1	6
for getting thornes & laying ym in ye quick sands & making up the bank on ye Nun Green .. .. .	o	1	2
pd. Rich Sleigh by bill for ye bridge on Nun Green .. .. .	o	15	0
pd. Will Brownhill for carrying 3 loads of sods to ye casey in ye Watterey lane .. ..	o	1	0
for 11 piles to ye casey at ye Mill .. ..	o	2	0
ffor making new steps and laying ym down	o	4	10
ffor gravel to Stone Bridge .. .. .	o	1	0
pd. one duffeild for a dich on Nun Green ..	o	1	2
1690 given ye labourers to Drink att Highwayes at twice .. .. .	o	2	0
1691 for 11 day days work at Ruditch .. ..	o	9	2
,, 14 days & $\frac{1}{2}$ Ruditch lane .. ..	o	12	1
,, 18 days work .. .. .	o	15	0
,, 11 ,, .. .. .	o	11	0
,, getting gravell & spreading Ruditch hill..	o	8	0
,, francis Atkin for 4 load gravill .. ..	o	1	4
,, Mr Hopkins for piles for ye casey ..	o	4	0
1692 Jan 24 Mr James Mottram be solicit <sup>d</sup> for this parish to cause appearances & all necessary defence to be made for the inhabitants of this parish upon all such informasons Indictmts & pre'sses & p'secusons as are now had & de- pending against them touching the highwayes within this parish.			

## FLOODS, ETC.

July 19 1673

Being Sabbath Day at night theare was a great ffloud the water was two ffoot high in the middle alley it weare mesured so that it came into cheasts & wett all the writings such a ffloud were not known in our agge before.

Cloves to sweeten the church after ye flood .. o o 3

[For disinfecting purposes, many kinds of spices and aromatic plants were burnt in churches in ancient times—juniper, cinnamon, frank-

incense, and also charcoal. In 1741 tobacco and frankincense were burnt in St. Peter's church, Barnstaple.]<sup>1</sup>

1687	Nov. 17.	pd. Thomas Brookhouse for washing the church at the ffood .. ..	0	1	4
		given Ellen Ems when the ffood had been in her house .. ..	0	1	0
1691	July 15.	for stopping ye North door of ye church to keep out ye ffood .. ..	0	0	2
		given to men to drink who cleans <sup>d</sup> the Brook from ye Ise.. ..	0	1	6
1696		given to a man who had lost by inundation of water .. ..	0	1	6
		for 2 loads of gravell laid in the church yard <sup>2</sup> ..	0	0	10
1715		for levelling ye North Alley after ye flood ..	0	0	9

## FIRE.

1685	pd. Mr Thos Goodwin Mayor to give to those poore p'sons that labored extraordinary at the ffire in the willows .. ..	0	15	0
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In these days of timber framework and thatched roofs, fires were a terrible scourge. The mere fear of an outbreak spreading, often caused panic over a large area.

Mr. John Borough, who has very kindly read the proofs for me, adds the following interesting notes:—

“ Mr. Cheshyre's house is the Queen Anne house (with stone quoins) in Friargate, nearly opposite the opening of Stafford Street, and now divided into two (Nos. 25 and 25½). It was the last house on that side of Friargate before the enclosure of Nuns Green, which included the present Ford Street. The latter was a cart and foot track, and led to the bridge, demolished a few years ago, at the lower end of ' Brook Walk.' ”

Mr. Wm. Leper, an ancestor, no doubt, of the Leaper family of modern times, merged in the last century in the Newton family of Mickleover manor.

<sup>1</sup>Dr. J. C. Cox “ Churchwardens' Accounts,” p. 40.

<sup>2</sup>This seems to have been rendered necessary by floods. Certain entries referred to above, may also point to aggravated trouble from the same cause. See under “ Churchyard.”

Gisborne pew—a large high square pew at the end of the south aisle of the church lately destroyed, was occupied by the owners and tenants of the Jacobean house until the re-seating of the church in the incumbency of the Rev. T. Berry. It was found then to be attached to the house by faculty, and one bench was taken by the owners, in lieu thereof."

*(To be concluded.)*

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