

**STANTON-BY-BRIDGE : SOME EARLY INCUMBENTS,
1314-1682.**

Edited by DOROTHEA HILLYARD.

SHORTLY before his death Mr. Grimwood Taylor sent me his MSS. concerning Stanton-by Bridge. Those who knew his generous help will realise how much he might have added to our knowledge of the whole series.

Stanton-by-Bridge is in the hundred of Repton and Gresley. The church stands on a little hill with low-lying ground, easily flooded, between it and the ancient Swarkeston Bridge. Our documents constantly speak of the village as "juxta pontem cordi," and the term still puzzles local historians. Is it possible that a boat, fastened and hand worked on two ropes, served the villagers in early days? This method is still used in the easily flooded valley of the Buckinghamshire Ouse, and may have been the forerunner of Swarkeston Bridge. Another possible origin of the name comes to light in the Darley Cartulary. In the Miscellaneous Charters, A.1, there is a Fragment of an inquest relating to the Abbots suit to the court of Melbourne and here we find "Hec sunt nomina predictorum XII juratorum, Robertus filius Ade de Melbourne, Willelmus filius Rogeri de Neuton, Johannes faber eiusdem ville, Willelmus filius Rogeri de Swerkeston, Willelmus filius Willelmi de ponte eiusdem ville, Henricus Cordy, Robertus filius Herberti, et Robertus filius Aluene, et Willelmus Longus

de Osmundeston, Phillipus, et Thomas de Normanton, Willelmus de Wyueleton.”

The question now arises, is our bridge simply called after a family of the name of Cordy, possibly owners, and workers at a local rope walk? The earliest mention of the “pons de Cordy” seems to be king John’s charter of 1204 to the borough of Derby (Rot. Chart., p. 138), and the name persists down to the 16th century in our documents.

Cox, *Derbyshire Churches*, explains that the Francis family divided the gift of the advowson of Stanton-by-Bridge, which they inherited from the de Stantons, between their two branches of Foremark and Ticknall, and this worked satisfactorily until the minority of William Francis of Ticknall in 1545, when the case was tried before Doctor David Pole then Chancellor of Lichfield. It is possible that the king’s officers were glad to seize the opportunity for trouble which arose at the time of the Reformation. We print the case in full and the “Scrutiny,” as the latter gives a very full list of priests and shows no change at the time of Black Death, when so many Derbyshire livings became vacant. Lysons declares the arms of the Francis or Frances of Foremark as Argent a chevron between three eagles displayed gules. Crest a falcon rising or; in its beak a vine branch fructed proper.

Simon
de
Staunton

Robertus
de
Staunto

Thys Geferey and Robert son of Willm. did agrey to psent by turne to the vovsion of Stonistaunton as by this dede beryng date A° DMA MCCC°XXVJ° VJ by force whereof the sayd Geferey did psent Geferey hys son and that Robert did Staunton had the first turne.

A

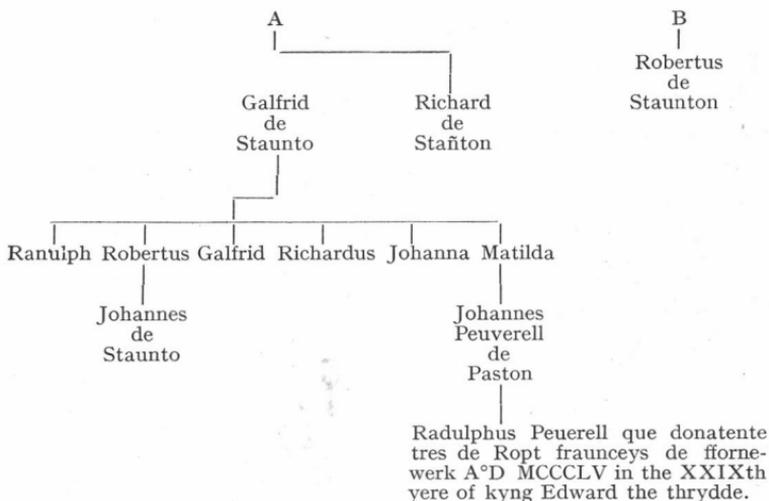
Willm.
de
Stanton

Robertus
de
Stanto

Robertus
de
Stanto

B

STANTON-BY-BRIDGE:



Agd that the iijth day of auguste A° DMXLV° et regni regis henrici octavi XXXVIj° a pntation was brought to the chaunler of lichfelde. In the kynges maiesties name for the vovsion of the Churche of Stonistanton next to Swerkeston brydge for the minorite of Willm fraunceys of Tikenalle of the on ptie and John fraunceys of fornwarke esquier the w pntation was tried by a juris patronatus byfore doctor David pole then beyng chauncelor: at Stonistanton betwyxt the kyng and the sayd John fraunceys of fornwarke esquier the foresayd iijth day of august A° supra dicte in maner and forme so ensuyn. That is to say that Willm. fraunceys of Tikenalle and John fraunceys of fornwarke be the very true patrons of the sayd Churche of Stonistanton and that the heres of fraunceys of Tikenalle shulde gyve the sayd benyfyce twyes and John fraunceys and the heres of fornwarke shulde gyve the foresayd benefice everi thride tyme for the whiche cause this pedigre was made.

SCRUTINIUM REGISTRORUM EPISCOPORUM COVEN' ET
 LICH' PRO PATRONATU ECCLESIE PAROCHIALIS
 DE STAUNTO ALIAS DICTA STONISTAUNTON
 IN COMITATU DERBYE.

*In registro bone memorie domini Walteri Langton olim
 Coven' et Lich' episcopi habetur ut sequitur:—*

In primus tercio Kalendarum Octobris anno Domini millesimo CCC.XIIIj. Thomas de Staunton accolitus admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Staunton vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentacionem domini Roberti de Staunton militis veri ejusdem ecclesie patroni etc.

Item Idibus Marcii anno Domini millesimo CCC.XV Ricardus de Staunton admissus fuit et institutus in ecclesia de Stonistaunton vacantem ad presentationem Ranulphi de Stonistaunton veri ejusdem ecclesie patroni ista vice etc.

In registro bone memorie domini Rogeri Northbrugh' olim Coven' et Lich' episcopi:—

Tercio Idus Junii anno Domini millesimo CCC.XXIIj. Ricardus de Ingwarbye clericus admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Staunton per dimissionem¹ domini Ricardi ultimi rectoris ibidem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentationem Roberti de Staunton militis veri ejusdem ecclesie patroni etc.

Item nono Kalendarum Julii anno Domini millesimo CCC.XLIX. Thomas Fraunceis clericus admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Stonistaunton' per mortem domini Ricardi ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentationem Thome fratris et heredis Johannis de Folkesworthe veri ejusdem ecclesie hac vice patroni racione turni sui etc.

Item in registro bone memorie domini Roberti Stretton olim Coven' et Lich' episcopi.

Tercio Nonas Octobris anno Domini millesimo CCC sexagesimo primo Thomas Skyll presbiter admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Staunton per dimissionem domini Thome Fraunceis ultimo rectoris ibidem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentationem Roberti de Staunt[on] veri ejusdem ecclesie hac vice patroni etc.

Item octavo die mensis Novembris anno Domini millesimo CCC.LXXXj. Ricardus Shopenhall' presbiter admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Stonystaunton per liberam resignacionem domini Thome Skyll ultimo rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentationem Johannis Fraunceis de Ticknall veri ipsius ecclesie patroni etc.

¹ See footnote on page 48.

Item in registro domini Ricardi le Scrope olim Coven' et Lich' episcopi:—

Nono Kalendarum Junii anno Domini millesimo CCC. LXXXVIj. [Willelmus] Sutt presbiter admissus fuit ad ecclesiam parochialem de Stonystanton per resignacionem domini Ricardi ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus canonicè in eadem ad presentacionem Johannis Fraunceis de Tickenall veri dicte ecclesie patroni et.

Item penultimo die mensis Octobris anno Domini millesimo CCC nonagesimo quarto Willelmus Burgh' presbiter admissus fuit ad ecclesiam parochialem de Stonystanton per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentacionem Johannis Fraunceis domicelli veri dicte ecclesie patroni.

Item in registro bone memorie domini Johannis Burghull olim Coven' et Lich' episcopi:—

Vicesimo septimo die mensis Septembris anno Domini millesimo CCCC. secundo Johanneis (*sic*) Pery presbiter admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Stonystanton per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Burgh' ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentacionem Johannis Fraunceis de Tickenall veri ipsius ecclesie patroni etc.

Item XXVIj. die mensis Julii anno Domini millesimo CCCC octavo dominus Willelmus Ridware capellanus admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Stonystanton per liberam resignacionem domini Johannis Pery ultimo rectoris ejusdem [vacantem] et rector institutus in eadem ad presentacionem Ingilrami Fraunceis scutiferi veri ipsius ecclesie patroni etc.

Item XXIIj. die mensis Septembris anno Domini millesimo CCCC.XIj. admissus fuit dominus Robertus Fylke capellanus ad ecclesiam parochialem de Stonystanton per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Ridware ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentacionem Ingilrami Fraunceis veri dicte ecclesie patroni.

Item in Registro domini Willelmi Heyworth olim Coven' et Lich' episcopi.

Decimo tercio die mensis Novembris anno Domini millesimo CCCC.XXXj. magister Johannes Torolde in legibus baccalarius admissus fuit ad ecclesiam parochialem de Stonistanton per resignationem domini Roberti Filke ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentationem domine Isabelle Fraunceis de Fornewarke vere dicte ecclesie patroni etc.

Item vicesimo die mensis Februarii anno Domini millesimo CCCC. quadragesimo primo admissus fuit Ambroisius Fysher presbiter ad ecclesiam parochialem de Stonystanton per liberam resignationem magistri Johannis Torold ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentationem Ricardi Vernon militis Henrici Felyngley et Willelmi Assewell de Tickenall verorum dicte ecclesie hac vice patronorum ratione feoffamenti de [et] in manerio de Stonystanton una cum advocatione ecclesie predicte eisdem Ricardo Henrico et Willelmo per Johannem Fraunceis de Tickenall facti etc.

Item in registro bone memorie domini Willelmi Bothe olim Coven' et Lich' episcopi:—

Decimo septimo die mensis Maii anno Domini millesimo CCCC.XLVIIj. reverendus pater dominus Willelmus Coven' et Lich' contulit domino Johanni Crecy alias Smyth ecclesiam parochialem de Stoni Stanton vacantem et ad suam collacionem per lapsum semestris temporis hac vice pleno jure spectantem etc.

Item XXVIIj. die mensis Octobris anno Domini millesimo CCCC. quinquagesimo dominus Johannes Tonge presbiter admissus fuit ad ecclesiam parochialem de Stoniestanton per liberam resignationem domini Johannis Crecy alias Smythe ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentationem Johannis Fraunceis de Ticknall veri ipsius ecclesie patroni etc.

Item in registro bone memorie domini Johannes Hals olim Coven' et Lich' episcopi:—

Vicesimo primo die mensis Novembris anno Domini millesimo CCCC.LXXXVj. admissus fuit dominus Johannes Harryson presbiter ad ecclesiam parochialem de Stonystanton juxta Swarkeston per mortem domini Johannis Tonge ultimi rectoris ibidem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentacionem Radulfi Fraunces de Formewarke veri dicte ecclesie hac vice patroni etc.

Item in registro bone memorie domini Galfridi Blythe nuper Coven' et Lich' episcopi:—

Ultimo die mensis Februarii anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo XV admissus fuit dominus Ricardus Rolleston capellanus ad ecclesiam parochialem de Stonystanton per mortem domini Thome Bawys ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentacionem Radulphi Bonington armigeri veri ipsius ecclesie patroni etc.

Item in registro magistrorum Ricardi Strete archidiaconi Salop' David Pole et Ricardi Gwente legum doctorum custodum spiritualilatum episcopatus Coven' et Lich' sede episcopali ibidem per mortem domini Galfridi Blythe nuper episcopi ibidem vacante ac vicariorum in spiritualibus conjunctim et divisim depuatorum etc.:—

Quinto die mensis Februarii anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo XXXij. admissus fuit magister Radulphus Fraunces presbiter ad ecclesiam parochialem de Staunton juxta ponti (sic) † Cordi † vulgariter nuncupatum Swerkeston Bridge per mortem domini Ricardi Rolleston' ultimo rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentacionem Johannis Fraunces de Formewarke armigeri veri ejusdem ecclesie hac vice patroni etc.

Item in registro reverendi patris domini Ricardi Sampson Coven' et Lich' episcopi:—

Vicesimo die mensis Junii anno Domino millesimo

quingentesimo quadragesimo quinto admissus fuit dominus Johannes Scolys presbiter ad ecclesiam parochialem de Staunton prope pontem (Cordi) juxta Swarkeston' per mortem domini Radulphi Fraunces ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem et institutus in eadem ad presentacionem Radulphi Lago de Tamworthe nuper de Atherston' veri dicte ecclesie hac vice patroni racione prime et proximo advocationis ejusdem dicto Radulpho Lago et aliis conjunctim et divisim per Radulphum Fraunces de Ticknall armigerum verum dicte ecclesie illa vice patronum pro winca vice tantum legitime donate et concessa etc.

[Endorsed] to Mr. Meent.

Facta collatione	}	Ricardus Martyn registrarius
concordat cum		
registris predictis		

Ne admittatur aliquis ad ecclesiam parochialem de Staunton Coven' et Lich' diocesis nisi primo vocetur Mr. Johannes Frauncys de Formark ejusdem diocesis vell Franciscus Clerke procuratore (*sic*) ejusdem Johannis Frauncys.

Fran: Clerk.

Memoraundum that the fourthe daie of August anno Domini M.545 et beati † regis Henrici Octavi tricesimo septimo a presentation was brought to the Chauncellor of Lichefield in the kinges majestys name for the advowson of the church of Stonyestaunton next to Swarkeston Bridge by reason of the minoritye of Wm. Fraunces of Tyckenall of the one partie and John Fraunces of Formewarke of thothere partie betwixt whiche Wm. and John varyaunce was then for the presentation to the said parsonage and was tryed by a jurye *patronatus* before David Pole then Chauncellor, the kinge then clayminge the same in the right of the said Wm., and Mr. Beamont afterward Mr. off the Roles and Mr. Weston afterward Doctor were then of counsell withe the said John Frauncis.

TRANSLATION.

SCRUTINY OF THE REGISTERS OF THE BISHOPS OF
 COVENTRY AND LICHFIELD CONCERNING THE
 ADVOWSON OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF
 STAUNTON OTHERWISE CALLED STONY-
 STAUNTON IN THE COUNTY OF
 DERBY.

In the register of the lord Walter Langton of blessed memory at one time Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield is contained as follows [1296-1322]:—

Firstly on the 29th September 1314 Thomas of Staunton acolyte was admitted to the church of Staunton, being vacant, and was instituted in the same at the presentation of sir Robert of Staunton knight the true patron of the same church.

Item on the 15th March 1315 A.D. Richard of Staunton was admitted to and instituted in the church of Stony-staunton, being vacant, at the presentation of Ralph of Stonystaunton, true patron of the same church that turn.

In the register of the lord Roger Northbrugh of blessed memory at one time Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. [1322-1360].

On 11th June 1328 Richard of Ingwarbye [Ingarsby, co. Leic.] clerk was admitted to the church of Staunton, being vacant owing to the resignation¹ of sir Richard the last rector there, and was instituted in the same at the presentation of Robert of Staunton knight true patron of the same church.

Item on the 23rd June 1349 A.D. Thomas Frances clerk was admitted to the church of Stonistaunton being vacant owing to the death of sir Richard the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of Thomas brother and heir of John of

¹ Dimissionem=death? The meaning of this word is uncertain.

Compare the French "démision," the English "demission" or "dimission" in the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary. Dismissal or degradation is possible, but unlikely. Compare the classical Latin "dimissio" and English demission. We find no authority for transfer.

Folkesworthe the true patron of the same church this time by reason of his turn.

Item in the register of the lord Robert Stretton of blessed memory at one time Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. [1360-1386].

On the 5th October 1361 Thomas Skylle priest was admitted to the church of Staunton being vacant owing to the resignation of sir Thomas Frances the last rector there in the same at the presentation of Robert of Staunton true patron of the same church this turn.

Item on 8th November 1383 Richard Shopenhall [Shobnall, co. Staff.] priest was admitted to the church of Stonystaunton, being vacant owing to the voluntary resignation of Sir Thomas Skylle the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of John Frances of Ticknall true patron of the same church.

Item in the register of the lord Richard le Scrope at one time Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. [1386-1398].

On the 24th May 1387 [William] Sutt (? Sutton) priest was admitted to the parish church of Stonystaunton being vacant owing to the resignation of sir Richard the last rector of the same and was instituted canonically in the same at the presentation of John Frances of Ticknall true patron of the said church.

Item on 30th October 1394 William Burgh priest was admitted to the parish church of Stonystaunton, being vacant owing to the voluntary resignation of sir William the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of John Frances a servant of the monastery true patron of the said church.

Item in the register of the lord John Burghill of blessed memory at one time Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. [1398-1414].

On 27th September 1402 John Pery priest was admitted to the church of Stonystaunton, being vacant

owing to the voluntary resignation of Sir William Burgh the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of John Frances of Ticknall true patron of the same church etc.

Item 27th July 1408 sir William Ridware chaplain was admitted to the church of Stonystaunton, being vacant owing to the voluntary resignation of sir John Pery the last rector of the same and was instituted as rector in the same at the presentation of Ingilram Frances, esquire, true patron of the same church.

Item on 23rd September 1412 sir Robert Fylke chaplain was admitted to the parish church of Stonystaunton, being vacant owing to the voluntary resignation of sir John Perry the last rector of the same and was instituted as rector in the same at the presentation of Ingilram Frances true patron of the said church.

Item in the register of the lord William Heyworth at one time Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield.
[1420-1447].

On 13th November 1431 master John Torolde was admitted to the parish church of Stonystaunton, being vacant owing to the resignation of sir Richard Fylke the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of the lady Isabella Frances of Foremark true patroness of the said church etc.

Item—20th February 1441 A.D. Ambrose Fysher priest was admitted to the parish church of Stonystaunton, being vacant owing to the voluntary resignation of master John Torolde the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of Richard Vernon knight, Henry Felyngley and William Assewell of Ticknall true patrons of the said church this turn by reason of a feoffment [i.e. grant of possession] of and in the manor of Stonystaunton together with the advowson of the church aforesaid made to the same Richard, Henry and William by John Frances of Ticknall.

Item in the register of the lord William Bothe (Booth)

of blessed memory at one time Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. [1447-1452].

On 17th May 1448 the lord William Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield conferred upon John Crecy otherwise called Smyth the parish church of Stonystaunton being vacant and pertaining of full rights this time to his collation owing to a lapse of six months time.

Item on 28 October 1450 sir John Tonge priest was admitted to the parish church of Stonystaunton being vacant owing to the voluntary resignation of sir John Crecy otherwise called Smyth the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of John Frances of Ticknall true patron of the same church etc.

Item in the register of the lord John Hals (Hales) of blessed memory at one time Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. [1459-1490].

On 21st November 1486 sir John Harryson priest was admitted to the parish church of Stonystaunton by Swarkeston being vacant owing to the death of sir John Tonge the last rector there and was instituted in the same at the presentation of Ralph Frances of Foremark true patron of the church this turn.

Item in the register of the lord Galfrid Blythe (Geoffrey Blyth) of blessed memory lately Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. [1503-1531].

On 28th February 1515 sir Richard Rolleston chaplain was admitted to the parish church of Stonystaunton being vacant owing to the death of sir Thomas Bawys the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of Ralph Bonington esquire true patron of the same church etc.

Item in the register of Master Richard Strete, Archdeacon of Salop, Master David Pole and Master Richard Gwente, Doctor of Laws, deputed jointly and severally guardians of the spiritualties of the bishopric of Coventry and Lichfield, the episcopal

see there being vacant owing to the death of the lord Galfrid Blythe lately bishop there, and vicars in spiritual matters etc.

On 5th February 1532 Master Ralph Frances priest was admitted to the parish church of Staunton by Cordy Bridge commonly called Swarkeston Bridge being vacant owing to the death of sir Richard Rolleston the last rector of the same and was instituted in the same at the presentation of John Frances of Foremark esquire true patron of the same church this turn.

Item in the register of the Richard Sampson Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. [1536-1554].

On 20th June 1545 sir John Scoles priest was admitted to the parish church of Staunton near the Cordy Bridge by Swarkeston being vacant owing to the death of sir Ralph Frances the last rector of the same and was instituted at the presentation of Ralph Laye de Tamworthe lately of Atherston the true patron of the said church this turn by reason of the first and next advowson of the same having been lawfully given and granted for the turn only to the said Ralph Laye and others jointly and severally by Ralph Frances of Ticknall esquire true patron of the said church at that turn.

This has been compared and agrees } Richard Martyn
with the aforesaid registers } registrar
[Endorsed] To Mr. Meent.

Let none be admitted to the parish church of Staunton in the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield unless Mr. John Frances of Foremark of the same diocese or Francis Clerke procurator of the same John Frances be first called (i.e. summoned).

Fran. Clerke.

The list of incumbents (Cox, III, p. 468) gives John Scoles 1545, Richard Ryvett 1545, and Richard Sacheverell 1602.

In Bassano's Church notes there is a description of the

tomb of William Sacheverell and his wife Mary, daughter and heiress of Clement Lowe of Denby, who were buried at Stanton-by-Bridge in 1558 (see Cox, III, 470).

We have the presentation to the living of a Richard Sacheverell in 1580, also his Certificate of fitness in the same year, when he appeared before "Willelmo Clarke legum doctore" of Canterbury and William Aubrey of Coventry and Lichfield. He was soon involved in a lengthy lawsuit of which Miss Redstone, secretary of the British Records Association, has made a summary:—

William Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, Richard Sacheverell clerk and John Fraunces Esq. were summoned to answer William Fraunces Esq. in a plea that they allow him to present to the church of *Stony Stanton iuxta pontem Cordi*. William, by his attorney says that Ralph Fraunces of Ticknall in said County Esq. and John Fraunces and all their antecessors presented from time without mind to the said church alternately in turn, and John presented in his turn Ralph Fraunces clerk who was inducted to Hen. VIII. Ralph Fraunces Esq. 6 May 36 Hen. VIII at Stony Stanton granted the advowson to Ralph Laye for the next turn, the church then became void by death of Ralph Fraunces clerk and Laye presented John Scoles clerk, who was inducted to Hen. VIII. After the death of said John Scoles, Henry VIII presented Robert Ryvett clerk, in the turn of said John Fraunces, and Ryvett was inducted. Afterwards Ralph Fraunces Esq. died at Stony Stanton seised of the next turn which descended to his son and heir William, and upon the death of Robert Ryvett the church became, and still is, void and in the presentation of said William F. And the Bishop, Richard and John unjustly prevent his presenting to his damage in £100.

Defendants answer, they do not prevent him from

presenting, and Richard says he is parson of the church by presentation of John Bradshawe gent. who presented on the death of Ryvett. Bradshawe is living at Stony Stanton and should have been named in the writ.

Whereupon Wm. Frances did not prosecute his writ and the Bishop, Richard Sacheverell and John go without day.

Both these documents are undated but are in the same Elizabethan hand.

From 1580 we have no data until the arrival of the second Richard Sacheverell in 1602.

In 1636 Theophilus Hawford was presented to the living by William Ward, Mercer of Derby, and Robert Bishop of Lichfield signs this document, which has a remarkably fine red seal showing the Bishop with his crozier.

Hawford had been ordained by Thomas Bishop of Peterborough, and this deed has a seal but it is in poor condition.

A later document dated 1662 says he should have been inducted by Samuel Clarke Archdeacon of Derby, but the ceremony was actually performed by Henry Brandreth. Samuel Martin, deputy registrar, and Reginald Prynder, notary public, are the witnesses to this document. Hawford survived the Commonwealth period in this way, and in 1676 we have his Certificate of fitness at the Ordinary Visitation signed by no less a person than Thomas Hacket, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and witnessed by Richard Baddeley notary public. Thomas Hacket is said to have "loved plain paths, and not precipices such as goats use" and to satisfy his conscientious, hard working churchmanship, we feel Theophilus Hawford must have done his duty both in his Church and parish during the difficult years of the Commonwealth. He held the living until 1682, when Augustine Jackson, that virulent new

broom arrived. In Bassano's Church notes he mentions a shield commemorating his restoration of the Church which bears his initials and the date 1682 with the words "When thro' the ffanaticall profhanerness ye part of ye house of God was inhabited by Oroles and spiders it was thus rebuilt and beautified for ye use of Christians by Augustine Jackson Rector of ye Church." It is believed that he refused to administer the Communion except to those kneeling, a reform which Archbishop Laud had so often fought for.

Besides his documents relating to the life of the Church, Mr. Grimwood Taylor possessed a Release and Quitclaim from the de Stanton family dated 1322. This is here reproduced with a transcription for its glimpse of village life, and all those customs of mediæval law which make these early documents such a fascinating study. If these notes bring any other documents to light concerning this small village I shall be greatly interested to hear of them.

"Pateat universis per presentes quod ego Johanna soror et una heredum Ranulphi de Stonystanton remisi relaxavi et omnino de me et heredibus meis quietum clamavi Johanni Peurel de Paston participi meo heredibus nomine hereditatis in Sonystanton Tykenhale Swerkeston Barwe cum edificiis redditibus pascuis pasturis boscis villanis wardis releuiis sectis Curiarum Catallis et sequelis villanorum et quiequid habui in predictis villis vel extra tam in dominico quam in servicio sine aliquid michi vel heredibus meis retinendo.

"Ita videlicet quod nec ego predicta Johanna nec heredes mei in predictis tenementes cum pertinenciis aliquid juris vel clamii decetero exigere poterimus in futurum, set ab omni actione in perpetuum simus exclusi per presentes et preterea concessi pro me heredibus et assignatis meis predicta tenementa cum pertinenciis sicut predictum est ut in partem meam contingentem [*sic*]

contra omnes homines warantigare et acquietare in perpetuum. In eujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigilum meum opposui Hiis testibus Ricardo de Croyland Johanne Puttock Simone Brown Johanne le Spencer et Aliis. Datum apud Paston die Sancti Barnabe apostoli Anno regni regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi quinto decimo (1322).

Oval brown seal fleur de lys JONE-N DE STONISTANTON Endorsed Stanton Tikenall Barrow et Swarkeston Johan seur her Ranulph Staunton relez tout son droit [de] John Peverel de Pason.

TRANSLATION.

“ Be it known to all by these presents that I Joan sister and one of the heirs of Ranulph of Stony Stanton have remised released and quitclaimed entirely for myself and my heirs to John Peveril of Paston my partner his heirs and assigns for ever all right and claim which I had in the name of inheritance in Stony Stanton Tykenhale Swerkeston Barrue with the buildings rents feedings pastures woods villeins wards reliefs suits of court chattels and issue of villeins and whatever I had within the aforesaid vills or without as well in demesne as in service without retaining anything for myself or my heirs so that is to say that neither I the aforesaid Joan nor my heirs shall be able in future to exact any right or claim henceforth in the aforesaid tenements with their appurtenances but shall be barred from all action forever by these presents And moreover I have granted for myself and my heirs and assigns to warrant and acquit the aforesaid tenements with appurtenances as is aforesaid as touching my property against all men for ever. In witness whereof I have set my seal to the present writing. Witnesses: Richard of Croyland John Puttok Simon Brown John Taylor John Spences and others. Given at Paston on the day of Barnabus the apostle in the fifteenth year of the reign of king Edward son of King Edward.” [11 June, 15 Edw. II, 1322].

NOTE ON CORDY BRIDGE.

By F. WILLIAMSON, F.R.Hist.S.

There is no doubt Cordy Bridge was the original name of Swarkeston Bridge, and it persisted for more than three centuries. It is not clear whether it is a descriptive word or not, and the fact that a man called John Cordy lived near the bridge does not help. According to the N.E.D. "cordy" is rare as an adjective and the earliest quotation is no earlier than 1611 Cotgrave, *Enflecheures* "the ratlings; the cordie steps whereby mariners climb up to the top of a mast." From this it seems possible that it could be used of a form of suspension bridge. Unfortunately the noun "cord" is of French origin, and itself is not evidenced in English before 1300 (*Cursor mundi*). It is best to leave the word unexplained at the moment, but in any case its connection with Swarkeston Bridge carries "cordy" back four hundred years earlier than any other record.

LIST OF RECTORS OF STANTON-BY-BRIDGE

COMPILED FROM FOREGOING RECORDS.

[**Geoffrey de Stanton**, Cox, III, 468].

- 1314, 29 Sept. **Thomas of Stanton**, acolyte: patron, Sir Robert of Stanton, kt.
- 1315, 15 Mar. **Richard of Stanton**: patron, Ralph of Stanton.
- 1328, 11 June. **Richard of Ingwarby** [Ingarsby, co. Leic.]; patron, Robert of Stanton. On resignation of Richard of Stanton.
- 1349, 23 June. **Thomas Frances**: patron Thomas, brother and heir of John of Folkesworth, on death of Richard of Ingwarby.
- 1361, 5 Oct. **Thomas Skylle**: patron Robert of Stanton. On resignation of Thomas Frances.
- 1383, 8 Nov. **Richard Shopenhall** [Shobnall]: patron John Frances, of Ticknall. On resignation of Thomas Skylle.
- 1387, 24 May. **William Sutt[on]**: patron John Frances, of Ticknall. On resignation of Richard Shopenhall.
- 1394, 30 Oct. **William Burgh**: patron John Frances. On resignation of William Sutt[on].
- 1402, 27 Sep. **John Pery**: patron John Frances, of Ticknall. On resignation of William Burgh.
- 1408, 27 July. **William Ridware**: patron Ingilram Frances, esq. On resignation of John Pery.
- 1412, 23 Sept. **Robert Fylke**: patron Ingilram Frances. On resignation of William Ridware.

- 1431, 13 Nov. **John Torolde**: patron Lady Isabella Frances, of Foremark. On resignation of Robert Fylke.
- 1441, 20 Feb. **Ambrose Fysher**: patrons Richard Vernon, kt., Henry Felyngley, and William Assewell, of Ticknall, by feoffment from John Frances, of Ticknall. On resignation of John Torolde.
- 1448, 17 May. **John Crecy** *als.* **Smyth**: instituted by William Booth, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield.
- 1450, 28 Oct. **John Tonge**: patron John Frances, of Ticknall. On resignation of John Crecy *als.* Smyth. [John Tonge was rector of Swarkeston, 1445, Cox III, 495].
- 1486, 21 Nov. **John Harrison**: patron Ralph Frances, of Foremark. On death of John Tonge.
- Thomas Bawys.**
- 1515, 28 Feb. **Richard Rolleston**: patron Ralph Bonington, esq. On death of Thomas Bawys. [Richard R. was rector of Weston-on-Trent, 1496-1504. Cox IV, 425].
- 1532, 5 Feb. **Ralph Frances**: patron John Frances, of Foremark, esq. On death of Richard Rolleston.
- 1545, 20 June. **John Scoles**: patron Ralph Lago [Lugo, or Laye], of Tamworth lately of Atherston, by grant of Ralph Frances, of Ticknall, esq. On death of Ralph Frances.
- [1545, 20 Aug.]. **Robert Ryvett**: patron Hen. VIII during minority of William Frances. On death of John Scoles.
1580. **Richard Sacheverell**: patron John Frances, esq. On the death of Robert Ryvett.
- 1636 [1638, 18 Jan. Cox]. **Theophilus Hawford**: patron William Ward, of Derby, mercer.
1682. **Augustine Jackson.**