

THE ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF BRIGHTON.

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THIS subject first comes before our notice by the alarming statement in some chronologies—"A.D. 693. Bishop Brighthelm slain on the Downs above Brighthelmston." Horsfield¹ says that the "Saxon Chronicle" recorded—"This year also Drythelm retired from the world;" and "The Family Topographer" localised him at once in the words before-mentioned, but "no authority is given for thus summarily settling the matter."

There was a Bishop Brighthelm who was "Bishop of Bath and Wells, and was in 958 translated to the Archbishopric, on the death of Elfin. He was a pious good man, [and] though a friend to the Monks, would not join in violent measures to establish them upon the ruins of the secular clergy; being therefore charged with want of a proper spirit, he was expelled, and Dunstan put in possession of the Church of Canterbury."²

The name Brighthelm naturally brings up the vexed question of the etymology of "Brighthelmston," which it may be convenient to settle here. Mr. Elliot's note³ says—"Various are the opinions touching the etymology. If British—Brit, Brist, Briz, signify divided or separated, as in former ages it most probably was, by a mere flowing along the bottom from Stanesmere and Falemere into the sea at this town by the side of the Steine. If of Saxon Etymon, the word Beorht, Briht, Berht, and Byrht, signifying Bright, and Heal, a Faros or Watch Tower; also Angulus, a corner or point of a wedge.

¹ History of Sussex, vol. i., p. 107.

(from 1 Carte 328) under "Brighthelmstone," Add. MS. 5683.

² Sir Wm. Burrell gives this note

³ *Ibid.*

Camden, in his Latin edition, 1607, says, 'Our Saxon ancestors called it Brighthealmertun,' but the mistake of a Saxon *r* for an *p* is easily made; yet if Camden be right, then Brighthealmertun, taking Heal to be a Pharos, is the Sea Town by the bright or burning Watch Tower. If by Heal is meant Hall, we find by Domesday it had a hall, and (*sic*) might from thence give name to ye Town. If Healm be ye origin, *i.e.*, Hawme or Thatch, then Healm is ye genitive case, which makes it ye bright Thatched Town. Again Brighthelme was no unusual name among the Anglo-Saxons; and the town might have had a Saxon owner of that name, whence it might be so called, which on mature consideration I conceive to be the true Etymology, as Domesday expresses it to be an allodial Tenure, and that the Saxon Thane, who had his Hall here, gave it his name."

In spite of this opinion, the writer believes that the derivation from "Bright" or "Brighthelm" should be rejected, and a list of the varied spellings is, therefore, subjoined with authorities:—

	}	ston	-	-	Award 1252. Inq. P.M., 1391, vol. ii., p. 149, and generally in 18th century.	
		stone	-	-	Inq. Non., 1340.	
	}	eston	-	-	Inq. P.M., 1415, vol. iv., p. 27.	
Brighthelm		}	estone	-	-	Ib., 1460, vol. iv., p. 316.
	iston		-	-	Pat. Rolls, 13 James I.	
	yston	-	-	Val. Eccl. Dug. Mon. v. p. 16; and x. S.A.C., Subsidy, 1411-2.		
	}	sted	-	-	Camden Brit., 4th edit. i., p. 247.	
Brighthelnisted		-	-	-	Pat. Rolls, 13 James I.	
Brighthehelmston	-	-	-	-	Subsidy, 1621. ix. S.A.C., 78.	
	}	lmeston	-	-	Inq. P.M., 1439-40, vol. iv., p. 198.	
		emiston	-	-	Patent Rolls, 13 James I.	
Brichte		}	lmyston	-	-	Ib.
			elneston	-	-	Burrell Add. MSS. 5683, citing Cott. MSS. Plut., 28 D., fol. 72.
		elniston	-	-	Pat. Rolls, 13 James I.	

Bright	-	{	hem	{	pston	-	Cal. State Papers, Hen.
					son	-	VIII., 1509-14, p. 960.
					sted	-	Ib. Car. I., 1627-8, p. 547.
					stone	-	Ib. do. 1628-9, p. 475.
						-	Petition 4 March, 1609.
		{	henstone	-	Harl. MSS., 6838, p. 216.	Cal. State Papers, Hen.	
				-	VIII., 1509-14, p. 822.	Stow's Chronicle.	
			hampstead	-		Camden Brit. 4th edit. i, p.	
			healmertun	-		247, also Saxon. See ante.	
			on	-	-	Modern.	
Brighelm	-	{	ston	-	-	Tax. Pope Nich., 1292.	
				eston	-	-	Inq. P.M., 1397, vol. iii., p.
				-	-	226.	
Brihthelmston	-	-	-	-	-	Ib., 1438, iv., p. 193.	
Brithelm	-	{	ston	-	-	vi. S.A.C., p. 134.	
				eston	-	-	Inq. P.M., 1404, vol. iii.
Brythelmston	-	-	-	-	-	Burrell Add. MSS., 5683.	
				-	-	Grant, 1397, 21 Ric. II.	
Brytthalmston	-	-	-	-	-	Inq. Non. "Huve Vill.	
				-	-	cu. Bolne," p. 358.	
Brittelmston	-	-	-	-	-	Lewes Charter, f. 14, Cott.	
				-	-	MSS. Vespas, F. xv.	
Brist	-	{	elm	{	etune	-	Domesday (1086), 2nd
					estune	-	spelling.
					eston	-	Ib., 1st do.
					estona	-	Lew. Ch., f. 119, Cott. MSS.
						-	Vesp., F. xv.
		{	alnerston	-	-	2 Dug. Mon., 908 B.	
			halmestone	-	-	Tax. Pope Nich., 1292, in	
				-	-	foot note.	
			helmstone	-	-	Cott. MSS., Vespas. E. xxiii.,	
				-	-	f. 47, 48. viii. S.A.C. 68.	
			elmstone	-	-	Lew. Ch., f. 120, as above.	
Bryst	-	{	helmstone	-	-	Subsidy, 1296, ii. S.A.C.,	
				helmeston	-	-	p. 295.
Brishelmeston	-	-	-	-	-	Lew. Ch., f. 119, as above.	
Brichelmston	-	-	-	-	-	Ib., f. 21.	
				-	-	Tax. Pope Nich., 1292, under	
				-	-	"Michelham," vi. S.A.C.,	
				-	-	p. 140.	
Brett	-	{	Hempston	-	-	Cal. State Papers, Car. I.,	
				hemptone	-	-	1637, p. 4.
Bredhemston	-	-	-	-	-	Ib., p. 205.	
				-	-	Tour through Great Britain	
				-	-	(1724). cit. from Erredge,	
				-	-	Hist. of Brighton, p. 218.	
Brogholmestune	-	-	-	-	-	Burrell Add. MSS., 5698.	

From this it will be seen that out of no less than 45 varied spellings, only 13 [qu., 7? Ed.] begin with "Brighthelm," and 22 with "Bright," but there are many, especially amongst the earlier, to support the British etymology suggested by Mr. Elliot.

The earliest reference to the Ecclesiastical History of Brighton is that in Domesday Book (1086), which, in describing the 3rd manor, that held by William de Watevile, says—"Ibi æccla," or Ibi ecclesia, There is a church. This, then, proves the existence of a church at that time, and we may remark that there is little doubt, that it stood on the site now occupied by St. Nicholas Church, and is not to be confounded with the Chapel of St. Bartholomew, which stood in the centre of the town, on the site of the present Town Hall, and was not erected until a few years later. It is very probable that the Church was built by Ralph de Cheney, who Mr. Blaauw⁴ considers was the Radulfus of the 1st manor mentioned in Domesday; because we find that on the day of the foundation of the Cluniac Priory of St. Pancras, at Lewes, between 1091 and 1097, Ralph de Cheney gave the Church to the Priory. "In illa autem die dedit Radulfus de Kaineto et obtulit super altare Sti Pancratii ecclesiam de Brittelmston."⁵ Dugdale says—"Ecclesiam villæ de Bristelmestona dedit Abbatix de Lewes Radulfus de Cheisneto pro anima Emmæ uxoris suæ & decimam omnium quæ habet in eadem villa et Willelmus Comes Junior concessit."⁶ By a charter about this date Ralph de Cheney,⁷ described as "psona ecclie de Brighthelmeston," grants "Johi de Brithelmeston in vicariam pptuam" half of all his corn & altar offerings for 10 marks a year. From this it may perhaps be inferred that Ralph was not only the owner of the Church (as founder or descendant of the founder) but parson, and the actual occupant of the benefice, and that John was his successor.

Several more grants of land were made to the Lewes

⁴ I. S.A.C., 134.

⁵ Lew. Chart., f. 14. Cott. MSS.

⁶ 2 Mon., 908 B.

⁷ Ib., f. 120

Vespas, F. xv.

Priory, and about the year 1100 they founded a small Chantry or Chapel dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and two or three monks officiated in it, living with their Prior in a small lodge adjoining.

The Chantry is first mentioned in a Charter from Seffrid II. (Bishop of Chichester, 1180 to 1204) to the Priory of St. Pancras:—"We grant and confirm to them by our episcopal authority the same Monastery of St. Pancras with its possessions and appurtenances and amongst all of them the church of Piddinghoe, and of Meechings, and of Brighthelmstone, with the chapel of St. Bartholomew." This charter was probably executed soon after Seffrid came to the see (*Horsf. Hist. Lewes, II., app. p. iv.*).

We find nothing more recorded until 1252, when there was an award made between the Bishop and the Prior, from which we learn that the Priory had not obtained much benefit from Ralph de Cheney's gift. The award is as follows:—

"ORDINATION. VICARIE DE BRIGHTHELMSTON.⁸

CUM inter virum religiosum Dnm WILLELMUM DE RUSHLOW Priorum [qu., Priorem? ED.] Sti Pancratij de Lewes ex una parte & Dnm RICARDUM Qdm Epum Cicestrensem et ejusdem loci capitulum ex altera materia questionis exorta fuisset de Brighthelmston ecclesia tandem post multas altercationes Idem Prior Lewensis cum Conventu suo & Dno Cicestrensis cum capitulo suo de Brighthelmston commiserunt. Nos DISPONIMUS et ordinamus quod Prior & Conventus Lewensis habeant ad sustentationem Eleemosynæ ac Hospitalitalis pauperum scilicet & Peregrinorum de Brighthelmston in propriis [qu., proprios? ED.] usus (quam cito eam vacare contigerit cedenti vel decedente Rectore qui nunc eam possidet) cum presentatione ad Vicariam quam Vicariam taxamus æstimationes x marcarum quas assignavimus in omnibus obventionibus altaris et minutis Decimis Piscationibus & omnibus aliis sicut [qu., sicut? ED.]

⁸ The text is from the Burrell Add. MSS., 5698, and has never yet been

printed, but appears, as the reader will observe, occasionally faulty.

specificatum ed [qu., est? ED.] in Vicariæ taxatione de Pedingho cum Manso convenienti eidem Vicariæ assignato et de predictis contentis tam ipse Vicarius de Brighthelmston qui pro tempore fuerit Episcopalia Archidiaconalia Sinodalia omnia alia debita et consueta dictam Ecclesiam tangentia sustinebunt. Hanc autem Ordinationem nostram super præmissis dictus Dno [qu., Dnus.? ED.] Cicestrensis et capitulum Cicestrense et Willelmus Prior Lewensis et ejusdem loci Conventus approbantes ratams [qu., ratam? ED.] & firmam trabentes [qu., tradentes? ED.] pariter & confirmantes ut ipsa perpetuæ firmitatis robur obtineat sigilla sua una cum sigillis nostris huic scripto apposuerunt in Testimonium Acta anno Dni 1252 sexto Kalend-Aprilis.”

It is believed from this deed that there was no Vicarage before this date, but the “Manso convenienti” was no doubt soon after erected by the Priory on some of their land adjoining the Chapel of St. Bartholomew, for Sir Wm. Burrell writes in 1778⁹—“The present Vicarage was ye Lodge of the Prior of ye Mendicant Priory of St. Bartholomew, the entrance to wch is the Old Gateway with two niches for the Statues of St. Bartholw. & the Virgin. The chapel of ye Priory stood where the present Market House stands, and on the building of which abt 1773 an old wall was pulled down and several human bones were dug up. The Mock Beggars adjoined to the sd Chapel.”

In another note Sir Wm. Burrell says :—“About May, 1871, in digging up the walls of some old buildings at Brighton, in a place called the Mock Beggars, the workmen found a small brass figure (now in the possession of Francis Warden, Esq., of Butler’s Green, who allowed me to take a drawing of it), which seems to have been a donation of some person who had escaped shipwreck. According to the traditions of the inhabitants, where this bronze was found, stood several religious houses adjoining to a churchyard, where St. Bartholomew’s Church is supposed to have formerly stood, though long since

⁹ Burrell Add. MSS., 5683, p. 109, &c.

demolished, the ground of which was granted by Bishop of Chichester to Mr. Friend, who left it to the family of Kempe, in whom the great tythes still continue; but the Mock Beggars, whereon the religious houses aforesaid stood, are now deemed freehold, and were sold by Mr. John Kempe to Frs. Warden, Esq., who has erected a house and outhouses thereon."

It seems probable that the original Vicarage was an independent building adjoining the Prior's Lodge, but on the latter becoming vested in the Constable and Churchwardens in 1584 (as hereinafter mentioned), the two buildings were together used as the Vicarage. Another writer says¹⁰—"The *Priory Lodge* was pulled down by the present incumbent in the year 1790. From the style of the timbers of that old building, there was ample room for supposing it to have been erected not later than the close of the thirteenth century." This is a very singular confirmation of what has been before suggested. The Vicarage was rebuilt by the Rev. T. Hudson, in 1790, and continued to be used until 1835, when it was vacated by the late Vicar (the Rev. H. M. Wagner), a new and handsome building in the Tudor style in Montpelier Road being substituted.

The Taxation of Pope Nicholas, in 1292, contains the following reference to the town:—

ARCHID, LEWENS.

Decanatus de Lewes.

		£	s.	d.
		non excedit		
P'or Lewens	{	Ecclia de Brighelmston - -	20.	0. 0
				h't bre
	{	Vicar. ejusdem - - - -	5.	0. 0
Bristolnerston.				

In the Inquisitiones Nonarum (made in 1340) the jurors find that "the extent of the church is taxed at xxv pounds with the vicarage And the vicar has

¹⁰ History of Lewes and Brighthelmston, p. 530, published in 1795 by Wm.

Lee, but actually written by Paul Dunvan, an usher at a school in Lewes.

there the first fruits of one dove-house value ij^s. And the same has there in offerings small tithes of geese, sucking pigs, honey, milk, cheese, calves, and eggs, and other small tithes which are worth by the year lxx^s." The mention of a Vicarage in this document proves, I think, the existence of a house between 1252 and 1340.

We find no more references to the ecclesiastical history of the town until the 16th century, which is very prolific.

Early in that century, probably about 1512 or 1513, Brighton was attacked by the French, for an interesting letter in the State Papers, from Sir Thomas Lovell to the Bishops of Winchester (Fox) and Lincoln (Wolsey),¹¹ dated "Calais 5 June 1514," says—"Heard from the Admiral that he intended a landing in those parts yesterday in revenge of the burning of Brighthelstone." It was in this attack, without doubt, that the Chapel of St. Bartholomew was destroyed.

The "Valor Ecclesiasticus"¹² (26 Hen. VIII.) contains the following reference:—

BRIGHTHELMYSTON

Firma rectoriæ ibidem cum omnibus proficuis et comodit' et di ^r [<i>sic., sed,</i> qu? Ed.] Rico Nicolle p. termino annorum et redd' inde per ann.	}	16 ^l 0 ^s 0 ^d
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In the surrender deed by Robert Croham, last Prior of St. Pancras, Lewes, in Nov., 1537, there is a surrender of (amongst others) "the rectory of Brighthelmston and the advowson of the Church of Brighthelmston."¹³

The rectory and advowson were then granted to Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, who was beheaded in July, 1540, when they again reverted to the Crown by virtue of his attainder, but were, by a grant dated 20th Jan., 1541, given by Henry VIII. to the Lady Anne of Cleves.¹⁴ On her death, in 1557, they again

¹¹ Cal. State Papers, Hen. VIII. (1509 to 1514), p. 822.

¹² Dugdale Monast. v. p., 16.

¹³ Horsf. Hist. and Antiq. Lewes, app.

¹⁴ Ib.

reverted to the Crown. The rectory and advowson were soon after separated, and the latter was, on 12th Nov., 1558, granted by Queen Mary (with others) to John, Bishop of Chichester, and his successors in the See for ever.¹⁵ The rectory was, 2 Eliz., granted to Lord Buckhurst,¹⁶ and is now (1879) vested in C. S. Dickens, Esq. There must have been some informality in the grant by Queen Mary, for we find by the Burrell MSS.¹⁷ that “Queen Eliz. a^o reg. 3^o. 12 July, by deed of exchange (for manors & lands taken from the see of Chichester during the vacancy in conformity to an Act of 1 Eliz.) inter alia granted to W^m Bp of Chichester and his successors to hold of the Queen and her successors in pure and perpetual alms the Rectory and Church of Brighthelmston with its rights and appurtenances parcel of the possession of the Lady Anne of Cleves.” The original of this deed is said to be in possession of Mr. Deere, of Chichester; there is, however, a little confusion as to the rectory, which could not have been granted to the Bishop after a grant to Lord Buckhurst, and the latter statement is therefore probably an error.

The Chapel or Chauntry of St. Bartholomew was one of the Minor Religious Houses, and was not therefore dissolved until 1547, and was, on 18th April, 3rd Edw. VI., granted by the King by Letters Patent to William Ward, “To hold the same unto the said William Ward his heirs and assigns for ever of the said Lord the King his Heirs and Successors in Free Soccage.” By Deed of 31st July, 4th Edw. VI., the Chapel was granted to John Brown, who sold it to Edward Johnson, who by deed dated 24th May, 5th Edward VI., 1551, conveyed it to “Edward Blakeborn of Brighton aforesaid Mercer.” The latter deed¹⁸ describes the property thus—“All that his ruinous Chapel vulgarly called Bartholomews Chapel situate lying and being in Brighthelmston in the county of Sussex with all and singular the rights members and appurtenances thereto belonging in as full and ample

¹⁵ IX. S.A.C., p. 329.

¹⁶ Burrell Add. MSS., 5683.
Add. 5c98, p. 26.

¹⁸ This is the first deed in the Brighton Corporation Records. There is only an abstract of the prior deeds.

manner and form as the said premises (amongst others) came to the Hands of Edward 6th by reason or means of a certain Act of Parliament of the said King at Westminster in the first year of his Reign or by whatsoever other Right or Title the same came into the Hands of the said King." By another Deed dated 27th August, 19th Eliz., 1576, made between "Roger Blackborne of the Parish of Mytten in the County of York of the one part and John Codwell Gentleman and Myles Taylor of Southover in the county of Sussex servants to the Right Honorable Lord Buckhurst of the other part," the property was conveyed to Codwell and Taylor, and is described as the "ruinous and decayed Chappel or Chantry commonly called the Bartholomewes which were late of Edward Blackborne deceased Brother of the said Roger Blackborne;" it is probable, therefore, Edward Blackborne (or Blakeborne) died intestate, and his brother succeeded as his heir-at-law. By Deed Poll, dated 7th Oct., 32nd Eliz., 1589, Myles Taylor released his interest to John Codwell, and he, by Deed dated 25th May, 1592, conveyed the Chapel to John Friend and 19 others, who, though not so described, were in reality trustees for the Parish of Brighton.

There is another Deed dated 30th March, 26th Eliz., 1584, made between "William Midwinter of Bright-helmston in the county of Sussex, Sailer, of the one parte, Thomas Brackpoll, Constable, Thomas Aldridge, Serick Lock, John Gunn, Churchwardens of Brighthelmston aforesaid of the other part" by which, in consideration of £44 paid by Brackpoll, &c., to Midwinter "*out of the Town tax,*" "All that his house or Chappell scituate standing and being in Brighthelmstone comonlye called by the name of St. Bartholomew Chappell or by what other name or names soever the same is or hath been called or known by" was conveyed to Brackpoll, Aldridge, Lock and Gunn "their Successors and Assignes Constable and Churchwardens of the said Towne of Bright-helmstone from time to time to the only use behoofe profit and comoditye of the whole body or Towneshippe of the said towne of Brighthelmstone towards the main-

tenance of certain orders therein established and of the Church and other Publique charges aboute the necessarie defence of the Town for ever."

It is difficult to reconcile these two last-mentioned Deeds. Dunvan says¹⁹ that Codwell sold the Chapel to Midwinter, but this is entirely wrong. The only explanation which can be offered is, that the one deed (Codwell's) relates to the Chapel, and the other (Midwinter's) relates to the Prior's Lodge.

In the year 1576, a very singular ecclesiastical scandal occurred at Brighton, which cannot be better described than in Strype's quaint words:—²⁰ "One of the first things our Archbishop [Grindal, Abp. of Cant., A.D., 1575] did judicially was the restoring of one *David Thickpeny* the curate of *Brighthelmstone* in *Sussex* in the Diocese of *Chichester*. His Bishop had inhibited him to perform the office there for certain causes, chiefly in compliance with the Ecclesiastical Orders, and giving just grounds of suspicion that he was of the *Family of Love*.²¹ Thickpeny appealed to the Lords of the Council against his Diocesan. The Council referred his case to the Archbishop to be by him examined and finally determined. The cause came before the Archbishop at *Lambeth*, where the Bishop of *Chichester*, being present, affirmed that he had indeed inhibited him for just and lawful causes, as he believed, and especially for that *Thickpeny* upon probable arguments was and is suspected for a favourer of the Novel Doctrine of the *Heretics* called the *Family of Love*. The said Clerk on the other hand declared before the Archbishop that he was none of that sect, and that he abhorred them, and that he was ready to purge himself of any such accusation, and lastly submitting to the Order and Reformation of the Archbishop, who hearing what the Bishop of *Chichester* could object against him, judged it nothing in effect, but only his suspicion of this man's being of that Family; and shewing no sufficient ground of his said

¹⁹ "Hist. Lewes and Brighthelmston," p. 472.

²⁰ "Life of Archbishop Grindal," 1824 edit., p. 292 et seq., cit. in "Hayley, Add. MSS.," 6344, p. 525-6.

²¹ Henry Nicholas, of Holland, was founder of this sect. He taught that the essence of religion consisted in the feelings of divine love, and all other theological tenets were of no moment.

suspicion: and the accused man on the contrary openly protested against it and offered his oath. He also considered that this man was well learned and had a very good Testimony of his parishioners. These things inclined him to move his Diocesan to restore him to his serving again of the cure by his own authority, which he refused to do. Whereupon the Archbishop, weighing the sufficiency of the man and finding that the Bishop rather upon private affection, than upon any just ground (as he asserted) had displaced him, and oftentimes admonishing this Clerk that he should use all dutiful submission to his ordinary, made his final order *Mar 29 [1576]*”

“That within 20 days following the said *Thickpeny* should submissively purge himself of the suspicion of his foresaid Error after this manner—

“That the said *Thickpeny* under his handwriting shall deliver unto the said Rev^d. Father in God, the Bishop of *Chichester*, or to his Chancellor, if he cannot come to the Bishop’s presence, his said Purgation in Form following:—

“Whereas your Lordship hath conceived an evil opinion of me, as one favouring the late lewd errors of *the Family of Love*, I do protest before God and your Lordship that I do from the bottom of my heart detest and abhor the said Sect and all their errors; and shall do so by the grace of God during my whole life And I do here promise, in the Faith of a Christian, that from henceforth I shall detect and declare to your Lordship with as convenient speed as I may, all such as I shall certainly know to be of that fond Family and Heresy, and all such their Books as shall come to my Hands touching the same doctrine. And that I shall with all mine endeavour set forth God’s true Religion and Doctrine, by publick authority established within His Realm of England and Dominions of the same agreeable to the Articles entitled ‘*Articles whereupon it was agreed by the Archbishops and Bishops of both provinces and the whole clergy in the Convocation holden at London in the year of our Lord God 1562 according to the computation of the Church of England, for the avoiding of the diversities of opinions and for the estab-*

lishing of consent touching true Religion. Put forth by the Queen's authority.'"

"And moreover the said most Reverend Father injoynd the said *Thickpeny*, that two several Sundays before he be admitted to serve the cure at *Brighthelmstone*, he publicly preach: and in each sermon openly and plainly declare his mind against the foresaid errors and confute them. All and singular which things being after the manner aforesaid faithfully performed by the said *David Thickpeny*, the said most Rev^d. Father in God yielded and granted to him to serve the cure of souls in the same church. But the sincere Archbishop was too easily imposed upon, by the protestations of this deceitful man, to revoke so soon an order of his fellow Bishop against one of his own diocese, who was thereby better acquainted with him and his doings than the Archbishop could be by testimonials or his own asseveration. For behold the sequel! The said minister came down to *Brighthelmstone* and on Sunday morning, *Apr* 1, came into the Parish Church, and interrupting the minister that was then saying Divine service, uttered these speeches: 'Brethren beloved, I am here to signify to you that by virtue of a decree taken by my Lord of Canterbury, his Grace, I am restored to this my former cure and place, and have brought down wherewithal to countervail, and, as it were, counterpeire (*sic*) all mine adversaries. God be glorified therefore. And because here are some which understand it well enough, I will publish it only in the Latin tongue.'²² Then, taking a sheet of paper written on two or three sides, he read only 5 or 6 lines, some on one side of the paper and some on the other, pretermittig the most part. And at the time of *Evening Prayer*, he took the *Book of Common Prayer*, and went into the *Pulpit*, and there in the *Pulpit* began the *Evening Prayer*, until he came to the Psalms. And then made a sermon, which finished, he came out of the *Pulpit* and baptized a child, and so omitted the rest of the *Evening Prayer*, not

²² This must, as Artemus Ward says, have been "rote ironikle," for, in 1580, out of 90 of the most respectable inha-

bitants of Brighton, only *six* could write! (Dunvan, p. 515.)

wearing the surplice. Neither kept he the Order of the *Book of Common Prayer*. Nor had he worn the surplice at any time after his coming from London.

“On the said day he brought to the Bishop a letter certifying that he favoured not those that professed the House of *the Family of Love*. Then the Bishop required him with all convenient speed to send him a copy of such authority, as he had, to serve longer at *Brighthelmstone* and to preach. But 2 or 3 weeks passed and he did it not, and still preached and inveighed against such as had troubled him, saying he would not name them or describe them, as he had done heretofore, but they knew well enough whom he meant; and so forth, plainly noting the Bishop, as divers were ready to testify.

“This account of *Thickpeny's* behaviour the Bishop of *Chichester* sent up to the Archbishop. Thereupon the Archbishop cited him up again to answer to those objections and complaints of his ill behaviour.”

There is also an interesting letter from Archbishop Grindal to Lord Burleigh on the same subject, which says:—²³

“I send to your lordship the order taken for David Thickpenny, the Bishop of Chichester then being present. I heard what my lord of Chichester could object against him; and indeed it was nothing in effect, saying only that he suspected Thickpenny to be one of the *family of love*, and yet my lord showed no sufficient ground of his suspicion, and moreover the said Thickpenny, by open protestation and offering of his oath, did utterly deny that he was of that faction, &c.

“Whereupon I moved my lord, that he would restore the said Thickpenny (being indeed well learned and having a very good testimony of his parishioners) to the serving of his cure again, by my lord's own authority, which he refused to do. Whereupon considering the sufficiency of the said Thickpenny, and finding that my lord, rather upon some private affection than any just ground, had displaced the said Thickpenny, I took

²³ “Lansdowne MSS.,” 23. No. 1 cit. in *Remains of Abp. Grindal* (Parker Soc.), p. 359.

order as is inclosed, oftentimes monishing the said Thickpenny that he should use all dutiful submission towards his ordinary, &c. I will send for the said Thickpenny hither again to answer to the objections sent by my lord of Chichester.

“From Lambeth 2^o Maii 1576

“Your lordship’s in Christ

“EDM. CANTUAR.

“To the Right Honourable my very good lord, the Lord Burleigh, Lord high Treasurer of England.”

The end of this singular affair has not yet been discovered.

Dunvan says²⁴ that, “soon after the reformation there was a *lecturer* paid by the parish; and in some of the old court rolls I have met with such a denomination, under the cliff, as the *reading-house*, which might have been a chapel of ease to the people that then resided under the cliff.” It is not improbable that Thickpenny might have been one of the lecturers referred to in this note.

Disputes having arisen between the fishermen and landsmen of Brighton, a commission was issued by the Privy Council on the 12th February, 1579,²⁵ to the Earl of Arundel, Lord Buckhurst, and others, to settle the ancient customs, and an enquiry was accordingly held at Brighton, on the 23rd July, 1580, when certain orders were drawn up settling the customs and all disputes. In this Costumal we find several references to ecclesiastical matters. “No inhabitant was to fish for herrings between Shoreham and Beachy Head on any Saturday night, or Sunday until evening prayer be done, under a penalty of twenty shillings.” The vicar was entitled to the half of a share in the profits of the fishing boats, and the town to a quarter of a share, the latter being payable to the churchwardens. There is an order that “there shall be yearly, at the time accustomed, *two* substantial fishermen, and *one* such landsman, chosen by the consent of the constable, the vicar or curate, and the chief

²⁴ p. 545.

²⁵ Dunvan, p. 501 et seq.

of the town." The churchwardens continue to be elected yearly, but one is now nominated by the vicar, and the other two are elected by the parish. This modification of the old custom has probably existed for at least 150 years, *i.e.*, since the decline of the importance of the Brighton fishermen, owing to foreign wars in the first part of the 17th century, and to incursions of the sea in the latter part of that century, and to the great storms of 1703 and 1705. The quarter share was to be employed in the reparation of the church and other necessary public charges of the town. The landsmen were ordered to contribute a sum equal to half the produce of the quarter share for the purpose before mentioned, the relative position of the fishermen and landsmen being thus two to one. One order is very amusing, "that the churchwardens shall have in readiness &c four barrells of powder and forty round shot and ten chain shot for every great piece." The proceeds of the contribution of the landsmen and the quarter share were kept in a box called the common town box; it was no doubt out of this the purchase money of the Bartholomews was paid. (See *ante*.)

Further doubts or difficulties must have arisen as to the gift of the advowson to the Bishop, for we find in the Patent Rolls, 13 James I., Part 12, a grant by the King, dated 1st March, 16¹⁵/₁₆, to Samuel Bishop of Chichester, of "the advowson, nomination, donation, free disposition, and right of patronage, and presentation, to the vicarage of the Parish Church of Brighthelmsted als Brighthel-niston als Brightelniston als Brightelmiston, in our county of Sussex." The grant goes on to direct the Bishop to institute "Thomas Richardson to the Vicarage, vacant by the death of the former incumbent."

We subjoin a copy of the original grant, kindly furnished by Archdeacon Hannah:—

REX Omnibus ad quos etc. salutem Sciatis qđ nos in consideracōe boni veri fidei 7 acceptabil. servič. nob. per Reverend in xpo p̄rem Samuel. Cicestř. Ep̄um antehac multiplici. fact. 7 impens. ac pro alijs bonis causis 7 consideracōib; nos ad p̄sens sp̄iali. moventib; de gr̄a n̄ra sp̄iali ac ex certa sciencia 7 mero motu nostris Dedim⁹

7 Concessim⁹ Ac p⁹ p⁹sentēs p⁹ nob. herēd. et successorib³ n⁹ris Dam⁹
7 Concedim⁹ p⁹fať. E⁹po Ciceťř 7 successorib³ suis advocacōem
nominacōem donacōem libam disposicōem 7 Jus patronať. 7 p⁹sentand⁹.
vicař. Ecclie parochiať. de Brighthelmsted aťs Brighthelniston aťs
Brightelniston aťs Brightelmiston in Com. n⁹ro Susseť. cum suis
Jurib³ membris 7 p⁹tin. vni⁹vsis habendum Tenendum et gaudend⁹.
p⁹dicť. advocacōem donacōem nōiacōem libam disposicōem 7 Jus
p⁹ronať. 7 p⁹sentandi dicť. vicař. Ecclie parochiať. de Brighthelnisted
aťs Brighthelniston aťs Brightelniston aťs Brightelmiston p⁹fať E⁹pō
Ciceťř. 7 Successorib³ suis imp⁹pm adeo plene libe 7 integre ac in
tam amplis modo 7 forma put nos aut aliquis Progenitor vel
Antecessoř n⁹ro. nuper Regum vel Reginař. Anglie aut aliquis E⁹p⁹s
Ciceťř. aut aliquis alius dicť. advocacōn. nōiacōn. donacōn. libam
disposicōn. 7 Jus p⁹ronať. 7 p⁹sentandi vnquam antehac h⁹ueř. tenuer⁹.
vsi vel gaviř. fueř. h⁹uit tenuit vsus vel gaviř. fuit aut h⁹ere tene⁹ vti
vel gaude⁹ debuer⁹. aut debuit aut nos eadem p⁹miss⁹. modo h⁹em⁹ seu
h⁹ere debem⁹ quocumq³ modo Jure seu titulo tenend⁹. de nob. heredib³
7 Successorib³ n⁹ris in puram 7 p⁹petuam Eleemosinam Et vlt⁹erius
de ampliori g⁹ra n⁹ra sp⁹iali ac ex c⁹ta sciencia 7 mero motu n⁹ris
volum⁹ ac p⁹. p⁹sentēs p⁹. nob heredib³ 7 successorib³ n⁹ris Concedim⁹
Et eciam statuim⁹ 7 ordinam⁹ p⁹fato E⁹po Ciceťř 7 successoř suis
Qđ ipe 7 Successores sui h⁹eant teneant 7 gaudeant p⁹dicť. advocacōn.
nōiacōn. donacōn. libam disposicōn. 7 ceter⁹. p⁹miss⁹. cum p⁹tineñ. sibi et
Successorib³ suis imp⁹pm iuxta intencōem n⁹ram in p⁹sentib³ content⁹.
Et qđ p⁹dicť. advocacio donacō nōiacō liba disposicō 7 Jus p⁹ronať.
7 p⁹sentandi p⁹dicť. vicař. Ecclie p⁹chiať. de Brighthelnisted aťs
Brighthelniston aťs Brightelniston aťs Brightelmyston p⁹dicť. p⁹dicť.
E⁹patui n⁹. Ciceťř. sit 7 erit vniť. 7 anneť. imp⁹pm Et eandem
advocacōem nōiacōem donacōem libam disposicōem 7 Jus p⁹ronať.
7 p⁹sentand⁹. p⁹dicť. vicař. Ecclie p⁹chiať. de Brighthelnisted aťs
Brighthelniston aťs Brightelniston aťs Brightelmiston p⁹dicť. E⁹patui
Ciceťř. vni⁹m 7 annectim⁹ imp⁹pm per p⁹sentēs Et vlt⁹erius de vb⁹iori
g⁹ra n⁹ra sp⁹iali ac ex c⁹ta scienc⁹. 7 mero motu n⁹ris volum⁹ ac p⁹.
p⁹sentēs Dam⁹ 7 Concedim⁹ p⁹fato Samueť. E⁹po Ciceťř. plenam
potestatem 7 auctoritatem Dite⁹m nob. Thomam Richardson C⁹icem
ad dicť. vicař. Ecclie p⁹chiať. de Brighthelnisted aťs Brighthelniston

ats Brightelniston ats Brightelmiston p̄dic̄. modo p. mortem vl̄. incumbē. ībm vacā. p̄sentare sive conferre 7 admittere Ip̄m̄que vicā. ībm institue⁹ cum suis Jurib; 7 ptineñ. vnīs̄is cetaq; expedire 7 p̄agere que suo in hac parte incumbē. officio muneriq; pastorali Et vl̄tius volum⁹ 7 p. p̄sentes p. nob. heredib; 7 Successorib; n̄ris Concedim⁹ p̄fā. Ep̄o Cicest̄r. 7 successorib; suis Qđ he tre n̄re Patentes vel Irrotulamen̄. eādem erunt in om̄ib; 7 p. oia firme valide bone sufficiē. 7 effectuā. in lege erga 7 cont̄. nos heredes 7 successores n̄ros tam in om̄ib; cū. n̄ris quam alibi infra Regnū. n̄rm Anglie absq; aliquib; confirmacōib; licen̄. vel tolleracōib; de nob. heredib; vel successorib; n̄ris quoquo modo imposum p̄curand. aut obtinēd. Non obstā. male nōiand. vel male recitand. aut non recitand. p̄miss. p. p̄sentes p̄concess. vel aliqm̄ inde parcellam Et non Obstā. male inveniēd. vel non inveniēd. Offī. sive Offī. aut inquisicōem sive Inquisicōes p̄missor̄. aut alicuius inde parcell. p. que titulus n̄r invenī. debuit ante confeccōem hā. frā. nrā. Patenciū. Et non Obstā. male nōiand vel non nōiand. male recitand. vel non recitand. vel non mencōnand. aliqm̄. dimissionem vel Concessioñ. de p̄miss. vel de aliqua inde parcell. antehac fact. existeñ. de Recordo vel non de Recordo aut stā. titū. vel in̄esse ūr. de in 7 ad p̄miss. vel aliqm̄ inde parcellam aut reddī. valō. natū. spec̄. quantitā. aut qualitā. p̄missor̄. aut alicuius inde parcell. Et non Obstā. Statū. de terr̄. 7 teñ. ad manū. mor̄. non ponēd. aut aliquo ā. Statuto actu ordinacōe p̄visione seu p̄clamacōe antehac hī. fact. edī. ordinā. seu p̄vis. aut aliqua alia re causa vel mātia quacunq; in contriū. inde in aliquo non Obstā. Eo qđ exp̄ssa mencio 7c̄ In cuius rei 7c̄ T. R. apud Westmonasterium primo die Marcij [161⁵/₈].

per bre. de privato sigillo 7c̄.

During the 17th and 18th centuries there are few events in the ecclesiastical history of the town. In the former we find, in 1658, "John Pullat a Quaker put into the Block-house for speaking to the Priest and people in the Steeple-house," *i.e.*, Church. In the latter century the livings of Brightelmston and Blatchington were united. The Burrell MSS. state²⁶ that the benefices were united in

²⁶ Add. 5698 pp. 24 and 32.

1744, but this statement can hardly be correct, for Sir Wm. Burrell mentions three vicars of Blatchington between 1750 and 1777, and it is therefore probable the union took place whilst the Rev. Hy. Michell was vicar of Brighton, about 1770. The only other event in the 18th century was the erection of a chapel by the Rev. Thos. Hudson, opened in 1795, and afterwards (by Act 43 Geo. III., c. 9), constituted a chapel of ease to the Parish Church, under the name of the Chapel Royal.

The present century has witnessed remarkable activity in ecclesiastical matters in Brighton, no less than twenty more churches or chapels of ease having been erected, making a total now (1879) of twenty-two churches in the town. The writer hopes to deal with the separate history of these churches in a future paper.

The most important changes are those effected by the present Vicar (Archdeacon Hannah),²⁷ viz., the adoption of St. Peter's Church as the Parish Church in place of St. Nicholas Church, the latter ceasing to be the parish church by virtue of an instrument dated the 29th May, 1873, and which was published and took effect on the 22nd June, 1873; and the formation of five District Chapelries—that of *St. John the Evangelist*, under Order in Council of the 9th August, 1872, published in the "London Gazette," on the 13th August; that of *St. Paul's*, under Order of the 24th March, 1873, published on the 25th March; that of *St. Nicholas*, under Order of the 30th August, 1873, published on the 2nd Sept.; that of *St. Martin's*, under Order of the 26th October, 1875, published on the 29th October; and that of *St. James*, under Order of the 24th March, 1876, published on the 28th March.

The former parish church was dedicated to St. Nicholas. The late Mr. Lower²⁸ was "of opinion that the Druids of old had a temple on the spot, as within two centuries it was surrounded by large stones placed at irregular intervals. These stones were from time to time removed to suit modern convenience, and now no

²⁷ The dates have been kindly supplied by Archdeacon Hannah.

²⁸ "Churches of Sussex:" Lower and Nibbs.

trace of them remains.²⁹ The Norman character of the font is a sufficient guarantee of a Christian temple having existed on the spot, as early at least as the 12th century. There was a chapel, which is now partly used as a vestry."

The late Vicar (the Rev. H. M. Wagner) stated³⁰ that the church was "reared originally about the year 1350 [qu., 1360? See xxviii. S.A.C., p. 47. Ed.], during the episcopate of Wm. de Lenne; as far as may be gathered from the general proportions, the late middle pointed style of architecture, and the windows tracery." A local guide says³¹—"that the window at the east end contained painted glass evidently of the time of Edward III."



ANCIENT FONT IN S. NICHOLAS CHURCH, BRIGHTON.

The chief object of interest in the church is the font, of which an engraving from a drawing by Grimm

²⁹ The writer is under the impression that it has been stated, that many of these stones were removed to, and are now to be found in, the Fountain on the Steine at Brighton.

³⁰ "Wellington Memorial. A sermon

[on 1 Chron. xxix. 14] preached on the Re-opening of the Parish Church, Brighton," (1854. London and Brighton), p. 16.

³¹ A New Picture of Brighton. J. Whittemore, Brighton, p. 49 (about 1828).

and Lambert is here given, and which is thought by many to be Saxon, but this has been a source of great dispute amongst archæologists.

The best description of it is the following, by Grose and Astle³² :—

“The font is undoubtedly of great antiquity, the figures and ship, in style, greatly resembling those on the font at the Cathedral at Winchester, universally allowed to be of Saxon workmanship.

“It is circular, encompassed by basso relievo, divided into different compartments, each representing Scripture or legendary subjects.

“The largest or principal evidently represents the Lord’s Supper. The figure of Christ, distinguished by a nimbus or glory emanating from His head, seems as if in the act of blessing the elements. Only six of the twelve Apostles are here introduced.

“The compartment to the left contains the figure of a man standing in the water up to his middle. One on the right holding his clothes, and another on the left, dressed in a ceremonial habit like that of an officiating priest, presenting two rolls of linen.

“The whole perhaps representing the baptism of some great men newly converted to Christianity. These figures are shown as if standing under arches, possibly meant for those of a baptistry.

“The next subject or compartment seemingly alludes to some mission for the propagation of the Christian faith, where the figure, with a kind of pastoral staff, means probably the Pope or Bishop by whom the mission was set on foot. The two monks in the boat represent two holy men by whom it was performed, and the figure behind the vessel, which as well as the supposed Pope, stands in the water, may exhibit some pious person active in procuring this religious embassy. The two men in the boat are dressed like monks—one holds a cup, and the other in his right hand a book, and in his left a loaf, signifying the bread and wine of the Eucharist.

³² See Antiquarian Repertory (1808), vol. iii., p. 185.

“In the compartment on the right of the Lord’s Supper are only two figures—one seemingly a priest, kneeling before a man who sits in a chair, and offering him something like a cup. This perhaps may allude to the conversion of some Pagan king. Possibly the whole may refer to some local history.”

The church of St. Nicholas was restored in 1852-54, at a cost of £5216, in memory of the Duke of Wellington, and a handsome monument was also erected to his memory. An interesting letter from the Bishop to the late Mr. Wagner, dated the 24th September, 1852, referring to the restoration, says³³—“It will be well to have somewhere an enduring record of the consistency and steadfastness in after-life of his [the Duke of Wellington’s] habit, now universally known, of public worship, and what record so appropriate as the renovation and enlargement—to be connected with his name—of that very church where the foundations of that habit, though not perhaps first laid, were, we may believe, assuredly confirmed and strengthened in the critical period of youth.” The Duke of Wellington had been a pupil of the Rev. Hy. Michell (Vicar 1744 to 1789), and in his youth had worshipped in the Vicarage pew at the Parish Church of Brighton.

In conclusion a list of the Vicars is appended, with brief biographical notices:—

VICARS OF BRIGHTON (OR BRIGHTELMESTON).

Ralph de Cheney or *Cheisneto*, parson between 1091 and 1097 (?) also Vicar.

John of Brighthelmston (?)

1402. *John Dent*, alias *Redale*, admitted: Patron, Prior and
Feb. 10. Convent of St. Pancras. (*Freeland MSS.*)³⁴

Thomas Wotton, died and succeeded in 1440 by *Thomas Maltby*. (*Freeland MSS.*)

1440. *Thomas Maltby*, admitted on the death of *Thomas*
May 2. *Wotton*: Patron, Prior, &c. (*Freeland MSS.*)

³³ Wellington Memorial (note 30), p. 24.

³⁴ The writer is indebted to the kindness of H. W. Freeland, Esq., for a copy of that part of the MS. notes of his late

father, H. Freeland, Esq., from the episcopal registers, which relates to Brighton, the notes from which are referred to here, as “*Freeland MSS.*”

1478. *John Gonwayte* admitted : resigned and succeeded in 1490 by *Thomas Warde*. (*Freeland MSS.*)
1490. *Thomas Warde, A.M.*, admitted on resignation of *John Gonwayte* : Patron, Prior, &c. (*Freeland MSS.*)
- William Browne* resigned, and succeeded in 1531 by *Peter Petersen*. (*Freeland MSS.*) *Rymer* mentions a person of this name in 1534. "Willielmus Browne Prior Domus sive Prioratus Beatæ Mariæ & Sanctæ Edburgæ de Burcester Ordinis Sancti Augustini in Com Oxon. Lincoln Dioc &c." (*Federa, Tom. xiv., p. 514.*)
1531. *Peter Petersen* admitted, on resignation of *Wm. Browne*.
Nov. 4. Patron, Prior, &c. (*Freeland MSS.*) There was a *Robert Petersen*, Chancellor of Chichester, 1549, perhaps a relation. (xxvi. *S.A.C.*, p. 82.)
- Leonard Saville*, Vicar temp., "Valor Ecclesiasticus." Signed articles of faith in 1536, as procurator for the clergy, &c., of Lewes. "Leonardus Saville pur cleric. Archi. Lewens." (*Fuller's Church Hist. vol. iii., p. 160.*)
- William Jennings* died, and succeeded in 1565 by *Francis Cox*. (*Freeland MSS.*) *Rymer* mentions the appointment of a person of this name in 1554. "Willielmus Jennyns ad Ecclesiam Parochialem de Benerston in Com. Glouc." (*Federa, Tom. xv., p. 392.*)
1565. *Francis Cox, A.B.*, admitted on death of *Wm. Jennings* ;
Nov. 30. Patron, The Bishop of Chichester.³⁵ (*Freeland MSS.*) The text of the Letters Patent presenting him, and dated 27th May, 8 Eliz. (1565), is as follows :—
- "Regina, &c. Reverendo in Christo Patri, Domino *Willielmo*, Permissione Divina, *Cicestrensi Episcopo*, ejusve *Vicario* in *Spiritualibus Generali*, aut alii cuicumque Potestatem ac Auctoritatem sufficientes in hac parte habenti, Salutem.
- "Ad *Vicariam perpetuam de Brighthelmeston* vestræ *Cicestren. Diocesis*, legitimo modo jam vacantem ; & ad nostram *Præsentationem* pleno jure spectantem, dilectum Nobis in Christo, *Franciscum Cox* ad dictam *Vicariam de Brighthelmeston* admittere, ipsumque *Vicararium (sic.)* ejusdem, ac de & in eadem instituire canonicè & investire, cum suis *Juribus & Pertinentis (sic.)* universis cæteraque peragere & perimplere quæ vestro in hac parte incumbunt *Officio*, dignemini *Charitatis intuitu* cum favore.
- "In cujus rei, &c.,
- "Teste Regina apud *Westmonasterium* xxvii. die Maii *Per Breve de Privato Sigillo.*" (*Rymer Federa, Tom. 6, P. iv., p. 130.*)

³⁵ Though the presentation, *pro hac vice*, was by the Crown. See XII. *S.A.C.*, p. 257.

Rymer also mentions the presentation by the Crown on 30th July, 1560, to the Rectory of "Hersted Caynes." (*Federa*, Tom. vii., P. ii, p. 6.) The *Burrell MSS.* (*Add.*, 5698, p. 118) record the institution on 28th Sept., 1587, of "Frs. Cox S.T.P." to the prebend of Hova Villa. The *Par. Reg.* of Brighton records the baptism of "Ann, daughter of Mr. Frs. Cox, Vicar, Oct., 1569." (*Burrell MSS.*)

1575.

John Drury, presented by the Crown 9th Sept., 1575.³⁶ "Vicar of Pulbrough in Sussex, D.C.L., and Master of the Chancery. Married Alice, daughter of John Apsley, of Pulbrough, in Sussex, and had issue 5 children. The eldest, William Drury, of Watergate, was Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, 1 March, 1625." (*Pedigree in Dall. Hist. West Div. Sussex*, vol. i., p. 161.) In the metropolitical visitation of Abp. Grindal, in 1581, a commission was issued, dated 5th July, 1581, for visiting the church at Chichester, and directed to Richard, Bishop of the Diocese, and (amongst four others) to John Drury, clerk, Bachelor of Laws. (*Strype's Life of Abp. Grindal*, p. 267.) He was of Lincoln College, Oxford, where he graduated, and "on 17th Mar., 1583, was made Doctor of Laws. In 1592 he succeeded Dr. John Kennall in the Archdeaconry of Oxford, and dying in the Cathedral close at Chichester (where he had a dignity) 9 June, 1614, was succeeded by William Bridges. He was near of kin to William Drury, D.C.L., Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, d. 1589, and to Sir Will Drury, Knt., Lord Justice, d. 1579." (*Wood's Athenæ.* p. 755.) In the "certificate of armor & furniture of Clergy, Dioces. Cicestr. Jan. 1595," we find "99. Hurst. Mr. Doctor Druery. Prebend, resident upon his parsonage of Pulbrough where he is charged—Storington Deanery. 101. Light Horse. Pulbrough. Mr. Doctor Druery, pson. a light horse furnished wth a sufficient man—Archdeaconry Lewes. 104. Brighthelmeaton. Mr. Doctor Druery. Vicar. charged at Pulbrough where he is resident." (*Burrell Add. MSS.* 5702.) Dr. Drury probably removed to Chichester, for the "Return of clergy having arms &c. 1612," says—"Brighthelmeaton. Mr. Doctor Drury Is sett nothing here, in respect he is seassed at Chichester." (*Ib.*) A commission to detect heretics, dated 3rd Feby., 1600, was addressed (amongst others) to John Drury. (*Rymer Federa*, T. 7, P. ii., p. 6.) The earlier part of the pedigree of the Drury families is given in the *Hist. and Antiq. of Havsted and Hardwick*. *The Rev. Sir John Cullum, Knt., Lond.*, 1813, p. 128." The latter part of the pedigree with the arms will be found in *Dallaway*.

³⁶ XII. S.A.C., p. 257.

1614. *John Hullwood, A.M.*, admitted on death of John Drury. July 16. Patron, the Bishop. (*Freeland MSS.*) He probably died in 1616.

1616. *Thomas Richardson, A.M.*, admitted; Patron, the Bishop. (*Freeland MSS.*) He was evidently a nominee of the Crown. See grant of 1st March 161 $\frac{1}{8}$, p. 196. The "Return of armour 4 July, 1620," gives "Brightehelmston. Mr. Thos. Richardson Vicar. a corslet furnished." (*Burrell Add. MSS.*, 5702, p. 127.) A person of this name was on 1st July, 1608, instituted to Easter Alta Vicarage. (*Newcourt's Repertory*, p. 233.)

1630. *Thomas Doe* inducted 1630. (*Burrell MSS.*) In the "contrebution of the Clergie 1634 towards the repairing of St. Paules Church in London," occurs "Thomas Doe Vicar of Brighthelmstone and parson of Newick 00£ 10s. 00d." (*Sussex Daily News*, 17th Oct., 1876.) "Dec. 23, 1631, certificate of Thomas Doe, Vicar, and other inhabitants of Brighton, that William Brapoll of that town, against whom there is a warrant for his appearance before the Council, is lame, aged, and impotent, and that if he be called in question respecting the corn taken away of late, he is no way guilty of that fact." (*Cal. Stat. Papers, Car. i.*, 1631-1633, p. 209.) The *Par. Reg.* of Brighton records in the burials—"Thos. s. of Mr. Thos. Doe, Vicar, 2 Aug. 1637," and "Mr. Thos. Doe, our Vicar (who had lived here 30 years) 25 July, 1653, came in 1630." Some little confusion arises from the fact that Sir Wm. Burrell mentions a Thomas Doe, Vicar of Newick, buried in 1628. If this be correct, then there must have been two persons of that name. The *Par. Reg.* of Newick gives the following particulars:—"Marriages. Thos. Doe, Vicar of Newick, and Margaret Hunt, of St. Margaret's, Westminster, May 6, 1613, and Thos. Doe and Elenor Miles, of Chayley, Feb. 7, 1614. *Baptisms.* John s. of Rev. Thos. Doe, Sep. 29, 1615; Thos. s. of do., Apl. 2, 1621; Mercy, d. of do., May 4, 1623. *Burials.* Margaret, wife of Thos. Doe, Sep. 27, 1614; Eleanor, wife of Thos. Doe, Nov. 6, 1615; and Rev. Thos. Doe, Rector of Newick, 1628." (*Burrell Add. MSS.* 5698, p. 110.)

Robert Everden. Ejected for nonconformity in 1662. (*The Nonconformist Memorial, Calamy and Parker*, vol. iii., p. 313.) It is very probable he was appointed on the death of Thomas Doe, in 1653, for the *Par. Reg.* records the baptism, on "8 Nov., 1657, of Joseph, s. of Mr. Robt. Everden."

John Bolt, M.A., occurs in Horsfield's list. (*Hist. and Antiq. of Lewes*, vol. ii., p. 40.) There is nothing to connect him with Brighton beyond the fact that his tombstone (now destroyed) formerly stood in the north-east

corner of the churchyard. It bore the following inscription:—
 “Here lies interred the body of Mr. *John Bolt*, Master of Arts of *Christ College*, in Cambridge, aged seventy-eight years, who was a faithful and laborious Preacher of the Gospel for the space of fifty-six years; whom God had blessed with *twenty-nine* children by two wives. He died in full assurance of a glorious resurrection, on the 2d day of November, 1669, and was buried the 7th likewise of the same month; in the pious memory of whom, his sorrowful son, *Daniel Bolt*, hath erected this monument—

“Stay passenger and lett thoughts awhile;
 Contemplate death; Sin curse, which doth beguile
 Us of our best enjoyments, and impair
 Whatever unto most men pleasant are.
 'Tis not thy learning nor thy piety
 That can secure thee from Death's tyranny.
 Witness this learned, pious Man of God,
 Who fell a victim to his conquering rod.
 Nothing but Virtue can outlive our date:
 That gives a being beyond mortal fate.

Vivit post funera virtus.—(Dunvan, p. 541.)

Edward Lowe. Name occurs as Vicar in 1674, 1678, (*Burrell Add. MSS.*, 5698.) Dunvan, who placed Edward Lowe before John Bolt, says the former was Vicar in the beginning of the 16th century (p. 540). This is entirely incorrect.

1681.
 Dec. 8. *Henry Snooke, A.B.*, admitted; Patron, the Bishop. (*Freeland MSS.*) He was “collated to the vicarage of Stoughton on Mar. 7, 1680, and to the prebend of Hampstead, in the Cathedral Church of Chichester, on March 22, 1681-2, which he resigned a few months before his death. On Dec. 11, 1690, admitted to the vicarage of Ringmer.”³⁷ *Par. Reg.* of Ringmer records “*Marriages*. Henry Snooke Vicar of Ringmer and Mary Short of St. John's Parish Lewes. July 13, 1691. *Burials*. Mary wife of Mr. Henry Snooke. May 6, 1703. Rev. Mr. Henry Snooke bur. Oct 16, 1727, aged 70.” (*Burrell Add. MSS.*, 5697, p. 563.) Inscription on monument in Ringmer Church—“*Vixi, pec-cavi, respui, cessi, resurgam*. H. Snooke, olim hujus parochiæ Vicarius, ob Oct 16. 1727, æt. 70. Filius posuit.” (*Ib.*, p. 562.)

1700.
 June 11. *George Hay*, admitted: patron, the King by lapse. (*Freeland MSS.*) A person of this name was vicar of Horsted Keynes, the *Par. Reg.* of which records his burial on Nov. 8, 1737; his predecessor, John Wood, d. Sep. 9, 1705. (*Burrell Add. MSS.*, 5697, p. 494.) As there was a fresh

³⁷ xxvi. S.A.C., p. 76.

vicar of Brighton in 1705, it is probable that George Hay resigned in 1705, and was then presented to the living of Horsted Keynes.

William Falkner. *Dunvan* says he was vicar from 1669 to 1705 (p. 541), but this must be an error. He might have been vicar between 1669 and 1674, or for a short time in 1705.

William Colbron. Name occurs as vicar, 1705, 1729, 1744. (*Burrell Add. MSS.* 5698.) *Par. Reg.* of Brighton records, "Burials. Jane wife of Rev Wm. Colbron 14 Oct 1746, and Rev Wm. Colbron 22 July 1750." (*Ib.*) *Horsfield (Hist. and Antiq. Lewes*, vol. ii., p. 40), states that Mr. Colbron was 83 years of age. He must have resigned in 1744, when Henry Michell succeeded him. He was vicar of Blatchington. (*Burrell Add. MSS.*, 5698, p. 32.)

1744.
July 10.

Henry Michell, M.A., admitted: patron, the King, "*pro hac vice.*" (*Freeland MSS.*) Born at Lewes, 1714, where he was educated. Went to Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1735, M.A. in 1739; he was also elected Fellow of Clare Hall. He was inducted to the rectory of Maresfield on 10th Oct., 1739. (*Burrell Add. MSS.*, 5698, p. 536.) *Par. Reg.* of Maresfield records, "Marriages. Henry Michell Rect. of this psh and Faith Reade of Fletching Dec 29, 1747." (*Ib.*, p. 534.) He was presented to the vicarage of Brighton in May, 1744. (*Gent. Mag.*) "From the uncommon strength of his understanding, the excellence of his social qualities, and his unrivalled superiority in literary attainments, he seemed to be formed for a higher sphere than the parochial duties of a country town. The only publications of which he acknowledged himself to have been the author were, 1. 'De Jure Colonias inter et Metropolin,' 1777. 2. 'De arte medendi apud Priscos Musices ope atque Carminum: Epistola ad Antonium Relhan, M.D.,' of which there appeared a second edition in 1783, printed by Mr. Nicholls. In these the elegance of the language and spirit of attic urbanity are very conspicuous. The latter especially has been often admired by every true judge of classical writing and exquisite irony." (*Gent. Mag.*, 1789, p. 1055.) Vicar of Blatchington in 1777. (*Burrell Add. MSS.*, 5698.) The inscription on his monument in St. Nicholas Church, Brighton, is as follows:—"Henrico Michell, A.M., aulæ Clarensis apud Cantabrigiam olim socio. Ecclesiæ apud Maresfield plus 50 annos Rectori, apud Blatchington Rectori, et hujus ecclesiæ Vicario plus 45 annos, qui obiit pridie cal. Nov. 1789, annum agens 75. Ingenio, literis, pietate, præstantissimo. Filiis etiam et filiabus suis novem, Immature adreptis, Hoc marmor amoris et desiderii ergo. P.C. Conjux (cum qua vixit 42 annos) et liberi septem superstites. 1790." (*Lower, Sussex Worthies*, p. 230.)

VICARS OF BRIGHTON CUM BLATCHINGTON.

1789. *Thomas Hudson*, admitted to the united benefice: patron,
Nov. 10. the Bishop. Resigned in 1804. (*Freeland MSS.*) Erected
the Chapel Royal, of which he was owner. See *ante*.

1804. *Robert James Carr, D.D.*, admitted to the united benefice
July 14. on the resignation of *Thomas Hudson*: patron, *Henry*
Courthope Campion, of *Danny*, co. *Sussex*, Esq., a trustee
under the will of *Henry Campion*, Esq., and by virtue of a
nomination from the Bishop of *Chichester*. (*Freeland*
MSS.) "He was born in 1774, his father the Rev. *Colston*
Carr, formerly lived at *Twickenham*, and was incumbent of
Roehampton church. From thence he was transferred to
the living of *Ealing*, having been presented by his friend
Bishop Porteus. The son entered *Worcester College*,
Oxford." (*Lower, Sussex Worthies*, p. 122.) "Marriages.
1796, April 28. *Robert James Carr*, Esq., to *Miss Anne*
Wilkinson, both of *Twickenham*." (*Gent. Mag.*, vol. 66,
p. 437.) Subsequently ordained, and in the latter part of
1798 presented to "*Axbridge Rectory*, co. *Somerset*."
(*Ib.*) On April 19, 1819, appointed to a prebend
at *Salisbury*. He was a great favourite with *King George*
IV., who appointed him *Deputy Clerk of the Closet*, and
in Aug., 1820, he was made *Dean of Hereford*, vice *Dr.*
Gretton." (*Ib.*) On the death of *Dr. Buckner*,
Bishop of Chichester, on May 1st, 1824, *Dr. Carr* was
appointed *Bishop*, and on May 16th he preached his farewell
sermon at *Brighton* (from 2 *Cor.*, xiii, 11), on June 6th he
was consecrated *Bishop* at *Lambeth Palace*, and on the 16th
was enthroned at *Chichester*. On July 28th, he conse-
crated a new burial ground at *Brighton*. *Dr. Carr*
also held a prebend at *Chichester* until he was appointed
Bishop. "Held a canonry of *St. Paul's*." (*Lower.*) He
was in attendance on *King George IV.* in his last illness,
and administered the *Communion* to the *King* on the even-
ing before his death. (*Bishop's History of the Brighton Pavilion*,
3rd edit., p. 76.) *Dr. Carr* was translated to *Worcester* in
1831; he died of *paralysis* on April 24th, 1841, and was
buried at *Hartlebury*. (*Lower, Sussex Worthies*, p. 122.)
He "left behind him a character for sincere piety and the
most amiable personal qualities." (*Times*, April 27, 1841.)
As far as appears from the *British Museum Catalogue*, *Dr.*
Carr never published any works.

1824. *Henry Michell Wagner, M.A.*, admitted, on vacancy caused
June 22. by promotion of *Dr. Carr* to the *Bishopric of Chichester*:
patron, the *King* "pro hac vice," by virtue of his prerogative
Royal. The admission or institution was to *Bright-*
helmston only. *Mr. Wagner* was therefore afterwards pre-
sented by the *King* to the *United Benefice*, and on the 3rd

Feb., 1825, instituted accordingly. (*Freeland MSS.*) Fellow of King's Coll., Cambridge—ordained Deacon 1823, Priest 1824. He was grandson of the Rev. Henry Michell (vicar 1744 to 1789), and was tutor to the sons of the Duke of Wellington, and probably obtained the living of Brighton through the influence of the Duchess of Wellington. Mr. Wagner originated and carried out the restoration of St. Nicholas Church (see ante, p. 202), and was instrumental in the erection of the National Schools, the re-erection of Swan Downer's School, and the erection of the Blind School, and the Deaf and Dumb Asylum—all in Brighton. He was appointed in 1834 Treasurer of Chichester Cathedral. He married twice, and left one son by his first wife, the Rev. Arthur Douglas Wagner, M.A., Vicar of St. Paul's, Brighton, and two sons by his second wife, Joshua Watson Wagner, and Henry Wagner, F.S.A. Mr. Wagner died on Oct. 7th, 1870, and was buried on the 15th, in the Parochial Cemetery, Brighton. His monument (a red granite cross), bears the following inscription:—" + Here lyeth, Henry Michell Wagner, 46 years Vicar of the parish of Brighton. Born Nov. 16, 1792. Deceased Oct. 7, 1870. Jesu Mercy." "The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day." "The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin." By his will he left two sums of £500 each to his executors upon trust to invest, and apply the income of one towards an annual treat for the poor in Brighton Workhouse, and the income of the other for the inmates of the Alms Houses in Brighton, founded by his sister, Miss Mary Ann Wagner. His sons have erected in his memory two churches in Brighton, St. Martin's and St. Bartholomew's.

1870.

John Hannah, D.C.L. (the present vicar, 1878), admitted: patron, the Bishop. He was born in 1818, and was the son of the Rev. John Hannah, D.D., Theological Tutor at the Wesleyan Institute, Didsbury (died Dec., 1867), who married, in 1817, Miss Jane Caparn, of Lincoln. He was educated at St. Saviour's School, Southwark, and was afterwards scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where he graduated, and was placed first class "in Literis Humanioribus." He was subsequently elected Fellow of Lincoln College, in 1863 was Bampton Lecturer, and made D.C.L. 1853. Dr. Hannah was ordained deacon in 1841, and priest in 1842, and married, in 1843, Anne Sophia, eldest daughter of the late Robert Gregory, Esq. He was engaged for some time in private tuition, and was appointed Rector of Edinburgh Academy. In 1854 he succeeded Bishop Wordsworth as Warden of Trinity College, Glenalmond, where he continued until 1870. Dr. Hannah has since been appointed Rural Dean of Brighton and Hove, Prebendary of Sidlesham in the Cathedral of Chichester, and (on the

death of Archdeacon Otter), Archdeacon of Lewes. On the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Griffith, Dr. Hannah was, on Jan. 14th, 1873, elected Chairman of the Brighton School Board, but, on the Board going out of office in Dec. of the same year, Dr. Hannah retired. The numerous and important ecclesiastical changes effected by Dr. Hannah in Brighton have already been noticed. In addition to his active work in many other directions, Dr. Hannah has distinguished himself as an author. His published works are—"Discourses on the Fall and its Results." London: 1857; "The Relation between the Divine and Human Elements in Holy Scripture." Bampton Lectures, 1863; "A Plea for Theology as the Completion of Science; Sermon on Ps. xxxiii, 6, preached in St. Paul's Church during the Meeting of the British Association." London: 1867; "Hollowness, Narrowness and Fear, warnings from the Jewish Church." Oxford and London, 1869; "Our Duty to the Present, a Sermon on S. Luke ix, 60." Brighton: 1870; "The Courtly Poets from Raleigh to Montrose," one of the series known as the Aldine Edition of the British Poets. London: 1870. Another edition of this work was published in 1875, entitled "The Poems of Sir W. Raleigh, collected and authenticated with those of Sir H. Wotton and other Courtly Poets from 1540 to 1650;" "Discourse [on Ps. iv, 6, 7] on the Divine Basis of Christianity," in "Dean Goulburn's Argumentative Discourses," published in 1871; "What Has Christianity Done for the Poorer Classes." Three Lectures. London: 1875.
