

THE VICARS CHORAL OF CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

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VIEWED as one of the 'Quires and places where they sing', Chichester Cathedral has passed through three phases. The Choir Offices were originally sung by the Canons themselves; now the more important part of the service is rendered by lay singers; it is with the intervening phase, with the rise and decline of the Vicars Choral, that I propose to deal.

When I speak of 'the more important part of the service' I am, of course, adopting the musical, not the liturgical, point of view, just as a Cathedral organist means by a 'Service' the musical setting of certain parts of Mattins or Evensong. With the Cathedral as a mass-house (to use a term formerly applied in scorn) or as a preaching-house I am not concerned; nor shall I attempt a history of Cathedral music, a task for which I have no qualification (a Cathedral organist knows about as much about Arabic as I do about music); I am simply concerned here with the history of the personnel of the Vicars, though in a later paper I hope to deal also with that of the buildings which they inhabited.

The word *Vicarius* originally means a substitute. It is to be presumed that there once was a time when all the Canons performed in person the duties for which they were paid; but this is an inference like those by which a zoologist sees former habits and structure in vestigial survivals. The age of the Vicars Choral takes its beginning from the unknown, but early, date when a Canon first performed his Choir duties by deputy. *Qui facit per alium facit per se* was a maxim of very wide application in the medieval church, and as soon as it was possible to find a man who would do a Canon's

work for less than a Canon's pay there was a temptation to employ him.¹

The primitive relations between a Canon and his Vicar were, to speak plainly, those of master and servant; the labour was often sweated and was not such as to attract a good class of man; hence the standard of conduct of a Cathedral Vicar was, if anything, below, not above, that of the average cleric; the latter, to our notions, was not high, the former sometimes scandalous.² As will be seen, the conduct of the Chichester Vicars, as late as the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, left much to be desired.

Bishops and Deans did what they could; the root of the evil, the non-residence of Canons, was too firmly established an abuse to be touched; but something could be, and was, done. Already, by 1247, it was established that the Dean enforced discipline on Vicars directly;³ there was no need (if there ever had been) to refer to an absent Canon at York, maybe, or Dublin or Rome before dealing with the enormities of his Vicar. Also, at a date which I have been unable to discover, the appointment of the Vicars had ceased to be (if it ever was) a matter between Canon and Vicar only. In 1478 the custom, doubtless already immemorial, was that each Prebendary,⁴ when his (vicar's) stall was vacant, should present a Vicar to the Dean and Chapter within a month, the Vicar was to be on probation for a fitting

¹ For the explanation of terms such as Dignitary, Canon, Prebendary, Residentiary, for the history of the attempts of the authorities first to encourage residence and later to limit the number of Residentiaries, and, generally, for the whole history of the Cathedral body, see the last chapter of *Memorials of the South Saxon See and Cathedral Church of Chichester*, W. R. W. Stephens, 1876. Stephens reproduces the error of the older antiquaries about the date of the incorporation of the Vicars (*post*, p. 135), but otherwise gives an excellent survey. It should, however, be remembered that it was written half a century ago.

² For conditions at Exeter in the fourteenth century see G. G. Coulton, *Life in the Middle Ages* (2nd ed.), vol. I, pp. 96-100 (quoting *Reg. Grandisson*, ed. Hingeston-Randolph, pp. 586, 723, 1213). The men in the back row of stalls used to drip hot wax from their tapers on the heads of the men in front.

³ *Statutes and Constitutions of the Cathedral Church of Chichester*, ed. F. G. Bennett, R. H. Codrington, and C. Deedes, 1904, p. 13. I shall in future refer to this as *Stat. BCD*.

⁴ Presumably whether in residence or no. But by the primitive system a Canon who performed his duties in person had no need to furnish a deputy.

time, and then was to be presented to the Dean and Chapter by the Succentor and one or two of the graver Vicars, who should depose as to his fitness, morals, and knowledge.¹ This custom continued till the Reformation changes; the first record of the appointment of a Vicar that I have found in the Chapter Act Books is that of William Style in 1550;² and this speaks of his admission, a term equally used when the Bishop accepted the presentation by any patron, clerical or lay, of a clerk to a benefice. In practice, perhaps about the same time, the appointments began to be made corporately by the Dean and Chapter. When the number of Vicars was so reduced that each represented four or five Canons it might become difficult, or even impracticable, to trace with whom a presentation properly lay.

The standard of Cathedral services was, and is, largely a matter of finance;³ and from the Black Death onwards the financial question was an important one. The stipends of the Prebendaries were derived from land and tithes, but the stall wages which they paid to their Vicars were fixed by custom in money, the purchasing power of which was surely, if slowly, decreasing. Stalls were classed as priest's, deacon's, and subdeacon's, and paid, from 1197 or earlier to 1840, stall wages to their Vicars of 13s. 4d., 6s. 8d., and 3s. 4d. a year respectively.⁴ Besides this, each Vicar received payment from the common Chapter fund; in 1197 this was 3d. a week,⁵ and the inadequacy, in later times, of the stall wages was compensated, in part, by increases in it. According to

¹ Reg. Story, I, f. 6 r. It would seem that a Vicar so presented did not vacate his place because the Canon who presented him vacated his Prebend, another departure from primitive conditions.

² Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 12 r. I have searched the White Act Book (hereafter referred to as WAB), where the Acts begin c. 1475, without success.

³ I suppose that membership of a Cathedral choir gave relatively less prestige in the Middle Ages than to-day.

⁴ *Early Statutes of Chichester Cathedral*, Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, 1877, pp. 5, 68. I shall in future refer to this as *Stat.* Walcott. A Canon who was a priest could, of course, hold a deacon's or subdeacon's stall (as the cardinal priests and deacons at Rome can be bishops). Men did not always take deacon's or priest's orders as soon as they canonically could; and there is evidence that William de Bracklesham, when Chancellor of the Cathedral in 1265, was not in priest's orders (*Liber Y*, f. 218 v).

⁵ *Stat.* Walcott, p. 68.

a pay-roll for Lady Day term 1474,¹ each of eighteen Vicars was receiving 6s. 8d. a quarter, in 1535 each of twelve was receiving £1 16s. a year,² and in 1670 each of four was receiving £14 13s. 4d.³

It is characteristic of the Middle Ages that payment was also received in kind. It must have been usual for a Vicar to have had free lodging, either in the house of the Prebendary he represented,⁴ or, later, in the Vicars' Close. He also had, or should have had, a certain amount of free board from the Prebendary,⁵ as late, at least, as 1534.⁶ There was, besides, a distribution of bread among the Canons, from which Vicars may have profited, in 1232;⁷ in 1580, and again in 1604, each Vicar received a ration of fourteen loaves a week.⁸ This was still distributed in kind in 1663;⁹ by 1760, as we shall see, it had been replaced by a money payment.

There were also, in the later Middle Ages, endowments, perhaps as early as 1402-3;¹⁰ the loss of any Cartulary which may have existed makes it impossible to say how and when these were acquired; but general probability makes it likely that it was principally by the benefactions and legacies of pre-Reformation ecclesiastics;¹¹ the same men who, living, sweated their substitutes, were generous to them after death. Post-Reformation benefactions are not likely to have been large; and in the early nineteenth century 'of similar establishments in England, Chichester is considered among the best endowed'.¹²

In 1760 some one (probably William Waring, the incumbent) noted in the Sidlesham Parish Register the

¹ WAB, f. 101 v.

² *Valor Ecclesiasticus* (Record Commission). My references to conditions in 1535 are all drawn from this.

³ *Stat. Walcott*, p. 90.

⁴ Were there once some thirty separate Prebendal houses in the Close?

⁵ *Stat. BCD*, p. 6; *Reg. Praty*, f. 76 r.

⁶ *Stat. BCD*, p. 88.

⁷ *Stat. BCD*, p. 6.

⁸ *Stat. Walcott*, p. 38.

⁹ J. Dallaway, *Western Sussex*, i. *addenda* 13.

¹⁰ *S.R.S.* viii. 115.

¹¹ But if this is so, the Vicars' places in the *Valor* of 1535 must be undervalued. Each of the twelve Vicars there is worth £2 12s. 8d.; stall wages and payment from Chapter fund account for £2 11s. 6d. of this; probably the leasehold system was already in use, and the quit-rents only, and not the fines, were taken into account.

¹² Dallaway, i. 115.

incomes of certain benefices; either he, or a successor, has tried to obliterate the money figures, with varying success; one section reads:

Profits of the Vicar's Place

	£	s.	d.
Quit Rents	8	6	0
Bread money, paid 1st of August	9	9	0
Quarterage
Fines <i>Com[munibus] Annis</i> ¹
Stall wages, paid at Michaelmas
House Rent

Of these items, Stall wages represents the original payments of the Canons to their deputies, Quarterage is evidently the payment from the common Chapter fund, Bread money is in lieu of the fourteen loaves a week, Quit rents and Fines (i.e. premiums on renewal of a lease) are the receipts from the Vicars' endowments, and House rent is the value of a house in the Vicars' Close.

There were also windfalls. I have found provision, in charters establishing anniversaries, that distribution shall be made, *inter alios*, to each Vicar Choral of a loaf and one or two gallons of ale,² and every little helped. Such of these endowments as had not already been embezzled were swept away, as superstitious, at the Reformation. Dignitaries and Canons sometimes left money to the existing staff. Thus John Champion, Canon Residentiary, by will dated 15 October, proved 29 October, 1537, made bequests of 10*d.* to 'every mynyster of the saide churchē wering a grey amys', of 8*d.* and 6*d.* respectively to wearers of calaber and black amices, and of 4*d.* to every secular clerk besides.³

Possibly in pre-Reformation times, certainly in the seventeenth century, there was something like a modern

¹ i.e. average annual amount.

² Liber Y, f. 180 r., 181 r.

³ P.C.C. 10 Dyngely. The amice (I adopt the spelling of the *Oxford English Dictionary*; the older antiquaries spelled *almuce*) was a cape or scarf of fur worn over the surplice for Choir Offices; the Canon's amice was of grey fur, the Vicar's of calaber (said to take its name from Calabria, not necessarily identical with the calaber of the modern furrier); the late Canon Bennett, a mine of information on Cathedral antiquities, had never heard of the black amice; by exhaustion its wearers were the lay singing-men; the secular clerks besides would be vergers, sacristans, &c. This amice (Latin *habitus*) is a distinct Ornament from the amice (Latin *amictus*) worn with the alb.

Choir Treat, called the King's Feast. The first reference to it that I have found is in 1616, when the Chapter ordered that money payments of 16*d.* each should be made to each of the four Priest Vicars and each of the eight singing-men, besides smaller payments to the verger, the six choristers, the two sextons, the clerk of the Subdeanery,¹ and the cook of the Common Hall.² This looks like a money commutation in lieu of a Choir dinner; and in some leases of the seventeenth century the Vicars require payment from their lessees of a small yearly sum (1*s.* or 2*s.*) for the King's Feast. The Chapter were still making similar payments in about 1760.³

On what day the King's Feast was held I do not know; if it dated from before the Reformation one would logically expect it to be on the feast of the Patron Saint of the Corporation. While there is no positive evidence for him, there is, I think, a distinct probability that it was St. Richard. But the Feast takes its name from a King, not a Bishop; and there is no evidence of its having taken place on either of the feasts of St. Richard (3 April and 16 June); in the one case which I have found, where the date of a leaseholder's payment to it is specified, it is Michaelmas, a normal quarter-day; the Chapter order of 1616 is dated 11 October, which is probably not relevant. But in 1760 the payment is to be made on St. James's Day (25 July), which suggests that the feast may be post-Reformation and take its name from King James I.

In pre-Reformation times the senior Vicars, if priests, had other chances of augmenting their incomes. There were some fifteen chantries in the Cathedral; and the incumbents of these (except the two King's Chaplains) were usually Vicars; the same men often held cure of

¹ In 1604-5 the Subdeanery Parish Clerk was also Bishop Sherburne's Precular (Chapter Act Bk. i, f. 129 v); perhaps the two offices continued to be held in plurality and the clerk really shared *qua* Precular. Was the Precular identical with that rather mysterious 'old man of the vestry', to whom, by the Statutes of 1616, 'the ungracious boys with their tops' were to be presented, as a lesser punishment than being scourged? (*Stat. BCD*, p. 31.)

² Chapter Act Bk. i, f. 166 r.

³ This is on the authority of a volume of Chapter accounts now in the Cathedral Library.

souls in the little benefices in Chichester City. There seems no objection to a Vicar, whose duty was to sing the Choir Offices, also being chantrist or parish priest, whose main duty was to say Mass; but a chantrist who was also parish priest must either have said two Masses a day (both fasting) or neglected the duty he was paid to perform; often, I suspect, it was the latter which happened.¹

In the earlier nineteenth century one Vicar's place was augmented by appointing its holder to the Mastership of St. James's Hospital, by then a sinecure. In 1792 the Master was Henry Peckham, not a Priest Vicar,² who probably held office till his death in 1795;³ William Walker, a Vicar, was at one time master,⁴ and his successor in his Vicar's place, William Miller, was master in 1815,⁵ and presumably continued so till 1855.⁶

Apart from financial measures, another way to raise the general standard of the Vicars was to provide them with a corporate organization of their own. The advantage of increased self-respect from being members of an organized Cathedral choir, rather than mere Canons' deputies, is obvious. Bishops and Deans may also have cherished the hope of improving discipline, particularly in the matter of the vow of chastity. If common report is to be believed, the morals of some Vicars were not above reproach. At Salisbury, in the fourteenth century, a Vicar charged with concubinage asserted that every Vicar there kept a mistress, either in the Close or out of it.⁷ I have found no such wholesale accusation at Chichester, and, from lack of documents, no information at all before the fifteenth century; but in the Visitation of 1402-3 charges of this nature are brought against six Vicars and one clerk who had recently been one;⁸ while in 1441-2 one of the Vicars is charged with conducting

¹ Cf. Reg. Story, I, f. 6 v.

² *Gentleman's Magazine Library, Sussex*, p. 201.

³ M. I. Chichester Cathedral, North Choir aisle.

⁴ Dallaway, I, 201.

⁵ *Ibid.* 117.

⁶ *V.C.H. Sussex*, III, 167.

⁷ I saw this in the earliest volume of the Salisbury Chapter Acts, but noted neither date nor reference, not then foreseeing that I should have occasion to quote it.

⁸ *S.R.S.* VIII, 113, 114, 124-6.

three simultaneous *liaisons*.¹ It is not necessary to believe the truth of all, or any, of these charges (the Salisbury case is, of course, extremely suspect) to appreciate that the authorities would prefer the Vicars to be living, not in scattered houses in, or perhaps outside, the Close, but in one building where control of their actions, by espionage or otherwise, would be easier.

The form of organization was collegiate. We are apt to look on this as almost confined to, and universal at, Oxford and Cambridge. But at the time we are considering, the end of the fourteenth century, members of a College must have been in a small minority, both at Oxford, where the seventh—and much the largest—College was in process of establishment, and at Cambridge, where there were eight, all very small;² and the most common form that new religious establishments outside the Universities was then taking was an organization of seculars in which some form of ‘the rule of Merton’ was followed.

It is impossible to say who originated the idea at Chichester (at Wells Bishop Ralph of Shrewsbury made Statutes for the Vicars in 1347); our first hint that something was preparing dates from the episcopate of Richard Mitford (1390–5); and this, evidence of acquisition of real property, only happens to be preserved owing to a legal technicality. I find no evidence of either Mitford, or his predecessor, Rushoke, having been a member of a secular College; and I would suggest, tentatively, that the first steps may have been taken by that ex-Fellow of Merton, William Rede, the loss of whose Register is one of our misfortunes. By the time of Robert Rede’s Visitation of 1402–3, not only were the buildings of the Vicars’ Close going up, and the Hall already in use, but we get a reference to the Principal as a disciplinary officer and to the common fund, sure signs that the corporate organization was already in existence.³

The transformation of this into a legally existing body,

¹ Reg. Praty, f. 75 v. One of his women had the pleasing name of Joan atte Kechene.

² I include King’s Hall and Michaelhouse, both now extinct.

³ *S.R.S.* VIII. 118.

capable of suing and being sued, dates from 30 December 1465; while a second instrument of incorporation, in almost identical terms, bears date 15 June 1467.¹ Collation of the two original enrolments shows that the second, after providing that the Vicars may hold real property,² adds 'though held of the Crown, and that the Vicars may sue and be sued', which are not in the first. I surmise the explanation of the two separate grants to be that the original instrument was drafted by the man of law who acted as the Vicars' solicitor; not long after he, or perhaps his successor, detected a legal flaw, and advised that it was simpler (and cheaper) to procure an entirely new act of incorporation rather than to amend the first.

Previous antiquaries have assigned to these documents a historical importance far greater than they possess. We have seen that there is evidence that the Vicars were an organized community over half a century earlier, and the principal effect of incorporation was the legal one that they could henceforth hold property in their own name, and not in that of trustees.³

Not only has the importance of these documents been exaggerated, but serious blunders have been made about their dating.

The first mistaken date is 1277. Walcott gives this on the authority of Dean Hayley's Book.⁴ But reference to it shows that both Walcott and Hayley had much to learn in the art of dating documents; for the instrument there given is that of 1465; against the dating clause, which gives the regnal year only, is written the Dominical year 1277. It is easy to reconstruct the process by which this was arrived at. Hayley (who, I think, copied, not from the original, but from an older note-book

¹ Pat R. 5 Edward IV, pt. i, m. 35, *Cal.*, p. 422; 7 Edward IV, pt. ii, m. 19, *Cal.*, p. 35. Text and translation of the second in *Stat. BCD*, p. 80, where the instrument is erroneously called a charter.

² A licence in mortmain for property up to forty marks yearly value was issued 28 May 1468 (*Cal. Pat. R.*, p. 111).

³ I cite a modern parallel. The two leading dates in the early history of Marlborough College, for any one but a lawyer, are 1843, when it opened its doors, and 1852, when George E. L. Cotton was appointed Master. The formal incorporation dates from 1845. Rugby, a far older school, has never, I believe, been legally incorporated.

⁴ *Stat.*, p. 86, quoting Dean Hayley's Book 167.

marked *Variae Observationes*) found the text of Letters Patent of a King who described himself as Edward, without any number, and jumped to the conclusion that this must be Edward I. He clearly did not know that no English sovereign before Tudor times numbered himself in his diplomatic titles; but he should have known that Edward I never styled himself King of France, as this Edward does. He then arrived at the Dominical year by the, often unsafe, process of adding the regnal year to the accession date.

Dean Stephens¹ reproduces this date, and suggests, plausibly, that the Vicars moved the pity of the King on one of his visits to Chichester, perhaps at the translation of St. Richard in 1276.²

Walcott then quotes a second incorporation by Edward III in 1334, his authority being Sir William Burrell.³ Burrell, on examination, seems to have made much the same mistake as Hayley. He copied the Letters Patent of 1467; when it came to assigning a Dominical year, he knew that the title 'King of France' excluded Edward I and Edward II, but did not recollect his history well enough to know that it also excluded Edward III for any date before his twelfth regnal year. It is surprising that the arms of 'France modern' on the Great Seal did not save him from the blunder.

There are three further facts which clinch the matter. In 1394 the Guildhall was conveyed to trustees,⁴ a quite unnecessary complication if the Vicars themselves had been legally capable of holding real property; the Letters Patent of 1465 and 1467 contain no mention, by way of confirmation or *inspeximus*, of any earlier incorporation; and there is no instrument of earlier date among the records of the King's Chancery.

¹ *South Saxon See*, p. 332.

² Had Dean Stephens had Civil Service experience he would have known that a great many things are done in the names of men in high office of which they personally know nothing; I have myself thus used the names of an Ambassador and of a Secretary of State. If all official documents are to be taken literally, my commission as Vice-Consul implied that I was an intimate friend and confidential adviser of King George V.

³ Add. 5706, f. 333. Cf. C. A. Swainson, *History and Constitution of a Cathedral of the Old Foundation*, No. 111.

⁴ *Cal. Pat. R.* 1394, p. 465.

The Statutes of the corporation date only from 1534, having been made by Bishop Sherburne;¹ in most respects they probably do no more than codify existing custom. The officers of the corporation are a Principal, elected yearly, a Steward who acted as Home Bursar, a Surveyor, or Estates Bursar,² a cook (I find no trace of a manciple), and a butler, who seems to have had charge of both buttery and pantry;³ the duties of a Dean at Oxford or Cambridge were discharged by the Principal. The statutes are, of course, largely concerned with discipline (the penalty for keeping a concubine in the Close was a fine of 3*s.* 4*d.*⁴); it is interesting to note that they contemplate commoners (i.e. persons not members of the corporation boarding and lodging in the Close).

The organization was hardly complete before it began to fall to pieces. When originally organized the Vicars were a body of some thirty celibates, when the Statutes were made they numbered twelve, before the end of the sixteenth century there were only four, all of whom could, and most did, marry. Instead of recognizing the material difference that these changes had made, and altering the Statutes, the Chapter persisted in attempts to enforce them, invariably, I should judge, without lasting success. Thus, in 1568 they enjoined on three of the Vicars that they should keep their statutes concerning commons (i.e. should eat together in Hall);⁵ in 1583 they had so far reduced their demands that the Vicars were to dine and sup in Hall one day a month only;⁶ a repetition of the order in 1598 proves that the first had been disobeyed, and was probably no more effectual;⁷

¹ *Stat. BCD*, pp. 82-91.

² In post-Reformation times the property was managed by a Receiver (a Priest Vicar) and a lawyer, styled the Clerk of the Priest Vicars.

³ I think that this was the arrangement at Winchester College; the pantry as a separate office did not exist in secular Colleges at Oxford.

⁴ In 1481 the penalty had been expulsion (*Stat. BCD*, p. 22); but perhaps even then this was a dead letter.

⁵ Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 50 r. Bishop Barlow had sanctioned their eating at home with their families (Stephens, *South Saxon See*, p. 336). For the inventory of the contents of the Hall at this date see *Gentleman's Magazine Library, Sussex*, p. 210.

⁶ Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 91 r.

⁷ *Ibid.*, f. 118 v.

if, in 1616, there is a mention of the cook of the (Vicars') Common Hall,¹ his post may have already become a sinecure; in 1634 the Vicars went so far as to grant a lease of the kitchen and offices, only stipulating that, if compelled by superior authority to diet in Hall, they might revoke it;² in 1720 they leased the Hall itself.

The effect of the permission to marry was as disastrous to corporate life as it was good for individual morals; it calls for no further comment; the reduction of numbers is another thing.

In principle, each Canon should be represented by a separate Vicar; and in 1291 there were thirty stalls; Heathfield (s), Hova Villa (p), Oving (p), Somerley (s), Sutton (s), Thorney (d), Woodhorne *alias* Arlington (p); Colworth (p), Eartham (d), Fittleworth (s), Highleigh (p), Ipthorne (s), Seaford (s), Westgate (p); Bracklesham (p), Ferring (d), Marden (d), Selsey (d), Waltham (p), Wisborough (s), Wittering (d); Bishopshurst (d), Firle (s), Gates (d), Hampstead (s), Hova Ecclesia (p), Middleton (s), Sidlesham (d); Henfield (d), Wilmington (p).³ Besides these, there were the four Dignities of the Dean, Precentor, Chancellor, Treasurer; but the total number of stalls was thirty-two, not thirty-four, because the Prebend of Westgate was annexed to the Deanery, and that of Oving to the Precentorship.⁴

The first change in the Prebends took place when Henry V confiscated the Prebend of Wilmington, held *ex officio* by the Abbot of Grestein, as alien property.⁵ With its revenues he founded the Mortimer chantries, of which more anon. Bishop Sherburne, at a date unknown, annexed the Prebend of Henfield to the Bishop-

¹ *Ibid.*, f. 166 r.

² The lease is mentioned in the survey of Vicars' property in the Admission Book; I infer the existence of the covenant from its repetition in a lease of 1664.

³ The letters p, d, s, indicate that the stall was that of a priest, deacon, or subdeacon; for the first twenty-eight the authority is the stall wages paid in 1688 (E.C. 103421), for Wilmington, Liber Y, f. 98 v.; by exhaustion Henfield must have been the tenth deacon's stall, though Bury, which replaced it, was a priest's.

⁴ The Chancellor and Treasurer had their endowments, which were not technically Prebends, and sometimes held Prebends as well, as did the Archdeacons, who were Diocesan rather than Cathedral officials.

⁵ *Stat. Walcott*, p. 7.

ric,¹ and, probably in 1513–14, founded the Prebend of Bury.² Save for the establishment of the four Wiccamic Prebends, whose incumbents were bound to reside in person, not by deputy, no further changes have taken place.

Logically, therefore, the establishment³ of Vicars before the fifteenth century should be either thirty or thirty-two, the latter figure on the assumption that the Chancellor and Treasurer should be represented.⁴

In 1232 a dole of bread and ale is to be made to Vicars not exceeding thirty in number;⁵ and in 1478 it is said that by ancient foundation there are thirty Vicars.⁶ But in 1441–2, when twenty-four Vicars appeared at Bishop Praty's Visitation, it was stated that three deacon and five subdeacon stalls were void, implying an establishment of thirty-two.⁷

To pass from theory to practice, from establishment to strength, in 1397 there were twenty-eight (one being apparently a lunatic),⁸ in 1402–3 there were twenty-seven, and the Canons said that the rents were not sufficient for more,⁹ in 1409 there were twenty-five or

¹ There was a collation to the Prebend in 1507–8 (Lambeth Reg. Warham, f. 251 r.); a Crown presentation to 'Hemsfield' in 1516 (*L. and P. Henry VIII.*, ii, 2491) may refer either to Henfield or to Heathfield; the Prebend was void in 1519, but not formally annexed to the Bishopric, as the Bishop collated to Cowfold Vicarage (in the gift of the Prebendary) *jure devoluto* (Reg. Sherburne, i, f. 30 r.). I can identify no Prebendary in the roll-call of the Chapter mentioned in the next note.

² William Norbury was collated to the Rectory of Bury (presumably with cure of souls) 30 March 1510 (Reg. Sherburne, i, f. 23 r.); a clerk was collated to the Vicarage of Bury (how void not stated) 18 Jan. 1513–14 (*ibid.*, f. 26 r.); Norbury appears as Canon (in a document which gives the roll-call of the Chapter but not their Prebends) 24 Nov. 1518 (*ibid.*, f. 36 r.); and a clerk was collated to the Prebend of Bury, void by his resignation, 4 Dec. 1521 (*ibid.*, f. 32 v.). I infer that Bishop Sherburne by the same instrument (which was not copied into his Register, as it should have been) established the Prebend, endowing it with the great tithes of Bury, continued Norbury in possession of them under a new title, and ordained the Vicarage.

³ I use the terms 'establishment' and 'strength' to denote the number of Vicars there ought to have been, and actually were, at any date.

⁴ One of the Vicars was usually Subtreasurer, which implies that the Treasurer should have a Vicar; indeed, if he was not resident it was essential that some one should discharge his duties, which included the care of all the Ornaments of the Cathedral. The primitive duties of the Chancellor were afterwards discharged, partly by the Chapter Clerk, partly by the schoolmaster.

⁵ Liber Y, f. 181 r.

⁷ Reg. Praty, f. 75 v.

⁹ *Ibid.* 104, 109.

⁶ Reg. Story, i, f. 8 v.

⁸ *S.R.S.* VIII. 104.

twenty-six,¹ at the Metropolitan Visitation in 1415 thirty.² In 1441–2 there were, besides the King's Chaplains who first appear here, twenty-four,³ in 1477 nineteen,⁴ in 1478 sixteen.⁵ By Bishop Sherburne's time the practice of employing lay clerks was fully established; at the Visitation of 1521 there were fourteen Priest Vicars,⁶ at that of 1524 twelve,⁷ which was also the number in 1535.

For the Reformation period it is most convenient to give the figures in tabular form:

1551	10	Add. 39443, f. 22 v.
5 Ed. VI (1551/2)	8	<i>Stat.</i> Walcott, p. 11
6 Ed. VI (1552/3)	6	<i>Stat.</i> Walcott, p. 11
1553, May	8	<i>S.A.C.</i> LXXVII. 97

(King Edward died 6 July 1553)

1554, Sept.	5 or 6	Add. 39443, f. 22 r.
2 & 3 Ph. and M. (1555/6)	9	<i>Stat.</i> Walcott, p. 11
3 & 4 Ph. and M. (1556/7)	8	<i>Stat.</i> Walcott, p. 11
4 & 5 Ph. and M. (1557/8)	6	<i>Stat.</i> Walcott, p. 11
1558, April	5	Add. 39443, f. 21 v.

(Queen Mary died 17 Nov. 1558)

1560–1	5	Add. 39443, f. 21 v.
1564	5	Add. 39443, f. 21 v.
1570	4	Add. 39443, f. 21 v.
1572–3	4	Add. 39443, f. 21 v.
1578	5	Add. 39459, f. 28 r.

For any estimate of the effect of the religious changes on the Cathedral services these figures should be used with caution. Dunkin's (Add. 39443) are from Visitation lists and may not fully represent the strength; Walcott gives no authority for his (he probably got them from documents which had no press-mark), but the dating by regnal years suggests that they are from pay rolls; the rise, and subsequent decline, in the figures in

¹ *S.R.S.* xi. 365.

² Reg. Praty, f. 75 r.

³ Lambeth Reg. Chichele, f. 194 v.

⁴ WAB, f. 102 r. There are several lists of Vicars of about this date in the White Act Book; I have chosen this as pretty certainly complete, but the strength in all is fairly constant.

⁵ Reg. Story, i, f. 5 r.

⁶ Reg. Sherburne, i, f. 87 r. I use the term Priest Vicar, sanctioned by usage, for all Vicars in Major Orders.

⁷ Reg. Sherburne, ii, f. 92 v.

Mary's reign is notable. Four new appointments were made in 1550; it is tempting to infer that these were to replace men who had got preferment owing to the refusal of parish priests to use the Prayer Book of 1549; but in the one case (Sir John Hungerford) where I have traced the reason, the ultimate cause of preferment is one that has operated throughout the ages—death.

The strength was finally reduced to four in 1596,¹ and remained at this figure for three centuries. From at least 1688 each Vicar represented a definite group of seven or eight Prebendaries, from each of whom he received stall wages. It will be noticed that the extant Prebends in the list on p. 137 are divided into four groups of seven each; these are the groups for representation by Vicars, to the last of which Bury should be added.²

In 1861, two places being void, the Dean and Chapter proposed to fill one only, the new Vicar to take double emoluments, do double duty, and be debarred from holding any other benefice; the two existing Vicars agreed,³ but the scheme was not carried out, perhaps from legal difficulties, perhaps because no one was found to accept the place under the new conditions. The number was reduced to three in 1929, and to two in 1934, at which it remained till the Corporation was dissolved by Order in Council of 4 May 1935.

Besides the Vicars, certain other persons were members of the Choir, if not of the Corporation.

The name of the Subdean appears in Visitation lists of the Cathedral staff. In 1478 his name follows those of the King's Chaplains, and precedes those of the Vicars, in 1481–2, under the heading 'Vicars', the Subdean comes first, then the two King's Chaplains, then the Vicars themselves. He was somewhat difficult to classify, his title implies membership of the Cathedral staff, but his principal duty was cure of souls in a City parish.⁴ I doubt whether he was ever a member of the Vicars' Corporation; if so, he presumably ceased to be one when

¹ *Post*, p. 152, n. 2.

³ Vicars' Act Bk. B.

² E.C. 103421.

⁴ *S.A.C.* LXXIV. 72.

Bishop Sherburne, in about 1521, granted him the right to wear the grey amice and gave him a stall of his own in the Choir—in modern language, made him an Honorary Canon.¹

With the revenues of the suppressed Prebend of Wilmington Henry V founded, in 1413, the two Mortimer's Chantries, the chantrists to be called the King's Chaplains, to have the first stalls among the Vicars, and to wear amices of calaber.² Here, again, it is doubtful whether they ever formed part of the *Collegium* of Vicars Choral; they certainly did not lodge in the Vicars' Close, having their own house in the Great Cloister. Their foundation shared the fate of the other chantries in the reign of Edward VI.

When Bishop Sherburne first established the Bursal Prebend he intended that the Prebendary should be incorporated in the community of the Vicars; and when he established his other three Prebends he provided that the Prebendaries should board with them; but the paragraph on the subject in each of the four foundation instruments is marked 'void'.³ Lodging in the Vicars' Close cannot have been contemplated, as the four Prebendaries had their own house; probably social differences told against close association; the Wiccamicall Prebendaries were graduates, the Vicars usually not; and differences of educational standard are often reflected in social differences.⁴ When the scheme for incorporation was given up I do not know, probably before 1534, as there is no reference to the Wiccamicall Prebendaries in the Statutes of the Vicars Choral. But the question cropped up once again after the Reformation. Like the Vicars, the Bursal Prebendary was un-

¹ WAB, f. 7 (second foliation).

² *Cal. Close Roll 1 Henry V*, p. 89.

³ *Stat. BCD*, pp. 57, 68, 72, 75. The instruments are undated, but presumably are of 1521, when the first collations were made.

⁴ The same consideration applies to the King's Chaplains, who were usually graduates; one of them, John Croucher, vacated the Chantry to become Dean (*Cal. Pat. R.* 1426, p. 383). Snobbery was not unknown in the medieval Church; on monumental brasses the parish priest is usually in Mass vestments, the Canon prefers the vesture of the Choir offices, a vesture commoner in Cathedrals than in parish churches, but logically less honourable than that of the highest duty of the priest—the Sacrament of the Altar.

fortunate in that his stipend was fixed in cash and not in land or tithe;¹ the rise in prices during the later sixteenth century must have affected him very considerably. In 1572 Bishop Curteys consented to the union of the Prebend and the Vicarage of Donnington; but this seems never to have been carried out, though the instrument was still considered of importance twenty-five years later.² In about 1606, Ambrose Sacheverell, Bursal Prebendary, claimed a share of the Vicars' revenues, but, it is to be presumed, without success.³

Last, but by no means least, I have to deal with those lay singing-men who ultimately replaced the Vicars in taking the principal part in Cathedral music.⁴ In 1397 all the Vicars are in Major Orders;⁵ in 1402-3 two are distinctly described as not in Holy Orders, but may have been on probation, deferring taking the vow of celibacy till sure of their admission; in 1409 two men are described as 'not subdeacons as their stalls require', and the list closes with one ambiguous name, perhaps that of a sacristan or 'other minister'. In 1415 all the thirty Vicars are Sir, except the last, who is untitled; in 1441 all are in Major Orders; in 1478 three names

¹ In 1535 the fattest Prebends (not Dignities) were Wittering and Woodhorne, each valued at £20. Highleigh, Bury, and the Bursal Prebend were each valued at £13 16s. 8d., and stood seventh in order of value. To-day the Bursal Prebend is still worth £13 16s. 8d., while the revenues of Highleigh are locally believed to be about £1,500. (I should add that, owing to the existence of leaseholds for lives, this figure, even if correct, gives a very misleading idea of the income received by the Prebendary.)

² Reg. Curteys, f. 38. The instrument is not in the handwriting of the usual Register scribe, but in a hand I have cause to know well, that of the scribe who made, in about 1600, the parchment copies of the Parish Registers of Subdeanery and St. Martin, Chichester. He also copied the Birdham Parish Register; his handwriting first appears in the Chapter Act Book in October 1598 and continues there for a couple of years.

³ Chapter Act Bk. i, f. 172 v. This is a copy (undated) of a document on the file of *exhibita* of Bishop Andrewes's Visitation of 1606; the persons mentioned in it date it between 1606 and 1609.

⁴ Dean Duncan Jones (*The Story of Chichester Cathedral*, p. 42) states that 'at some time in the nineteenth century the lay vicars ceased to be members of the community of Vicars'. I have found no shred of evidence that the lay Vicars were ever members of the Vicars' Corporation (as they were at Wells), and much to prove that they were not.

⁵ The clerk in Major Orders (which alone were accounted Holy) was entitled Sir unless he held at least the University degree of Master of Arts; the clerk in Minor Orders (which disappeared at the Reformation) had no title before his name. To describe these men, before the Reformation, as laymen is convenient, but, strictly speaking, incorrect.

have no title, and these are clearly those of members of the Choir, as they follow immediately after those of the Priest Vicars and before a cross-heading 'Other officials'. The same three names, again without prefix, but described as clerks (which implies no more than Minor Orders), appear in 1481-2; and from the rather rough lists of the White Act Book of about this date it seems to have become the use (perhaps Bishop Story would have called it 'the incorrigible abuse') that three adult members of the choir should not be in Major Orders. The number falls to two in 1521 and 1524, the *Valor* of 1535 disregards laymen; in 1548 there were three 'conductes';¹ as the same three names occur in Scory's Visitation² between the names of the four Sherburne clerks and that of Henry Somerlande, a lay clerk at his death in 1560, they are clearly those of lay singing-men. The establishment, and usually the strength, remained at four till the nineteenth century.³

But this is an understatement. Besides providing for his four Prebendaries, chosen for qualifications other than musical, Bishop Sherburne augmented the choir by endowing places for four more lay singing-men, prescribing with equal care the quality of their voices and the cut of their surplices; their offices were founded in 1526, but the first appointments were only made in 1529.⁴ Their presence was useful in two ways: not only were they a direct reinforcement of the choir, but the prospect of future preferment to the place of a Sherburne clerk with considerably better pay⁵ may have attracted good men to the lay clerks' places. In 1587-8 the Chapter undertook to give the lay clerks preference in appointments to the Sherburne clerkships;⁶ but in the case of the appointment of at least one organist they

¹ *S.R.S.* xxxvi. 48. Mr. J. E. Ray (*ibid.*, p. xxx), not having the collateral evidence I have, naturally, but incorrectly, supposes them to have been priests.

² *S.A.C.* lxxvii. 97.

³ *Stat. Walcott*, p. 12. Cf. A. Hay, *History of Chichester*, p. 397.

⁴ *Stat. Walcott*, p. 89; *WAB*, f. 14.

⁵ In 1535 the Chapter were paying £43 6s. 8d. to the four Sherburne clerks (who also received bread); the same payment was still being made in 1670, when the four lay clerks were getting £16 among them (*Stat. Walcott*, p. 90).

⁶ Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 99 r.

evaded this by making him a supernumerary lay clerk to qualify. In 1685 a Sherburne clerkship was definitely annexed to the organist's place, and the revenues of another divided between the remaining two;¹ these two places were, in effect, abolished in 1767,² when the total number of singing-men was reduced from six to four.

The importance of the organist's place has risen with the development of the organ as a musical instrument. In 1575 a Priest Vicar was granted a salary of 13s. 4d. a year as organist;³ later it became the practice to appoint to one of the Sherburne clerkships a man who combined the duties of singing-man and organist; the great Elizabethan composer, Thomas Weelkes, thus held a Sherburne clerkship. The increased importance of the post was recognized, not by augmenting the emoluments, which remained at 13s. 4d., but by annexing a clerkship, and by adding a further grant 'out of the goodwill of the Dean and Chapter'. This grant was of £8 10s. in 1670,⁴ some ninety years later it had increased to £26.⁵

Boys already formed part of the choir in the thirteenth century, being ten in number in 1232.⁶ By 1481 the number had risen to twelve; thenceforth four of these were to be employed as thurifers.⁷ There were still eight in 1559,⁸ in 1661,⁹ and in 1670;¹⁰ by 1710 the number had fallen to six,¹¹ at which it still stood in 1804.¹²

A question perhaps more important than that of mere numbers is whether the members of the choir were appointed because they could sing, or for other reasons,

¹ *Stat.* Walcott, pp. 89, 91.

² *Stat.* BCD, p. 49.

⁴ *Stat.* Walcott, p. 90.

⁶ *Stat.* BCD, p. 7. In thirteenth-century documents in Liber Y there are references to *pueri de choro* and to *pueri ebdomadarii*; the latter appear *prima facie* to be Mass servers rather than choir boys; but in 1616 two boys served in the Quire by weeks, apparently to issue and collect books, perhaps also to deal with the untidiness in keeping music which has characterized choir boys through the centuries; and this 'old laudable custom' may date from the thirteenth century (*Stat.* BCD, p. 31).

⁷ *Stat.* Walcott, p. 41.

⁹ The choral service must have been re-established in Sept. 1661; two Sherburne clerks, three lay clerks, and eight choristers were admitted on the same day. (Chapter Act Bk. II, f. 15 r.)

¹⁰ *Stat.* Walcott, p. 90.

¹² A. Hay, *History of Chichester*, p. 397.

³ Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 78 v.

⁵ See note 3, p. 131.

⁸ Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 32.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 11.

such as nepotism.¹ I have found no pre-Reformation evidence other than general provisions about the 'fitness' of new Vicars; even after the Reformation the evidence is scanty; but what there is points to a policy of maintaining as high a musical standard as finance permitted. A glance at the academical record of the Priest Vicars will show how high a proportion were graduates of New College, Magdalen, and Christ Church, the three Oxford foundations with a strong musical tradition. One Vicar, Gregory, left to become Minor Canon of Durham; another, Hunt, to become Priest Vicar at Salisbury; the record of another, Lawes, suggests that he had previously been Priest Vicar at Salisbury and Minor Canon of Winchester. Musical ability often runs in families; and it may be relevant that two of Lawes's sons were musicians of sufficient note to have places in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. Thomas Kelway, himself a graduate of King's College, Cambridge, may have been the son of a namesake who was Minor Canon of St. George's, Windsor, and was pretty clearly father of the namesake who was organist at Chichester and of that Joseph Kelway whose organ-playing Handel thought worth listening to, both sons figuring in the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

I have already mentioned Weelkes among the laymen; the recurrence in the sixteenth century of the surname Base, or Base *alias* Martin, is notable; the *eponymus*, perhaps the Richard Base of 1548, may have transmitted to his descendants his vocal powers as well as the name they earned for him.

If I have sought to disclose the merits of the Vicars, it is with some hesitation that I draw their frailties from their dread abode—usually the Chapter Act Books. The Reformation put an end to the worst scandal of the medieval period; but both before and after the Reformation complaints of absence from Divine Service are common. In 1441–2 there were sometimes only one or two Vicars on one side of the Choir at Mattins;² in

¹ At Oxford, Dean Gaisford considered a singing-man's place a suitable post for a superannuated scout.

² Reg. Praty, f. 74 v.

1594-5 eleven out of a choir of thirteen are admonished not to absent themselves from service,¹ a twelfth is probably not mentioned because he was considered incorrigible and useless (he was dismissed next year); while in 1742 'the Vicars Choral and Lay Vicars have of late frequently absented themselves from the service of the choir without leave'.² In the case of the Priest Vicars the abuse ultimately became the use; evidently by 1861, and probably far earlier, they served in course, one at a time.³

The Visitation of 1402-3 has its record of brawling among the Priest Vicars; in 1571 there was a drunken midnight affray in Canon Lane between two lay singing-men, at which a knife was drawn;⁴ this was perhaps the occasion of Bishop Curteys's Statute of 1573 'that none of the Vicars Choral, Lay Vicars, singing-men or Sherburne clerks should be a fighter, common brawler, quarreler or drunkard';⁵ similar enactments of 1611 and 1616, and the Chapter records, show how ineffective this was. Occasionally the Chapter took more drastic action; in 1569 they ordered the imprisonment of a Vicar Choral 'till next session', but the reason for this is not stated.⁶

Soon after the Restoration the Chapter enjoined on each of three of the four Priest Vicars 'that hereafter he forbear all evil and slanderous words and his scandalous life'; but the entry regarding one of them has since been obliterated.⁷ In 1699 another Priest Vicar committed a more specific, and fantastic, offence, 'being guilty of a most horrid and abominable Impiety, in putting up at Evening Prayers a mock Thanksgiving (written with his owne hand) to the great dishonour of God and scandal of the Congregation'.⁸

In the eighteenth century drunkenness was the besetting sin of at least one Priest Vicar; he was admonished for drunkenness, even in Divine Service, later suspended for coming to Church 'extreamely disordered with exces-

¹ Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 112 r.

³ They had the example of the four 'Residentiaries', only one of whom was necessarily in residence at a time.

⁵ *Stat. BCD*, p. 24.

⁷ *Ibid.* II, f. 35 r.

² *Stat. BCD*, p. 47.

⁴ Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 63 v.

⁶ Chapter Act Bk. I, f. 53 r.

⁸ *Ibid.*, f. 157.

sive drinking', and finally deprived (on one occasion he seems to have primed himself for his appearance before the Chapter with a little Dutch courage). Another was admonished six times, for offences not stated, but held his place till his death; another is said to have died from a fall from his horse riding home from his country parish; I have often wondered whether he was sober at the time, but find no charge against him in the Chapter Act Books.

It would be unfair to judge these men by the standards of to-day; in comparing them with their contemporaries we should remember that their sins, or some of them, are on record, while the sins of the ordinary beneficed clerk usually are not;¹ and it is to the credit of the Dean and Chapter that they tried to enforce a higher standard than the choir had inherited from their medieval predecessors.

I have seen various books containing the records of the Corporation of Priest Vicars. The oldest is in a (probably contemporary) parchment binding; it contains 'The Coppy of the Oath to be administred to a Vicar to be admitted', and the signatures of some, not all, of the Vicars from that of Ro[ger] Collins, 20 January 1662[-3] to that of Donald Manners, 12 August 1930. The book also contains extents of corporate property. There are two volumes of Act Books; the first (rebound in modern times) contains Acts from 25 April 1741 to 26 September 1844; the second Acts from 3 January 1845 to the Dissolution. There is also a Minute Book of meetings from August 1825 to November 1848. These four books are still at Chichester. There are besides two volumes now in the possession of the Ecclesiastical Commission. Each of these contains notes of official acts, mainly the annual election of Principal and Receiver, and accounts. The extreme dates

¹ Within my father's lifetime the incumbent of a parish within five miles of the Bishop's palace had several bastards by a woman of the parish; the matter was notorious, so that the churchwardens regularly left blank the answer spaces of certain questions in the Visitation Articles of Inquiry; yet this man held his benefice till his death.

of the first volume are 1682 and 1734, those of the second 1735 and 1810. They are numbered 103421 and 103422 respectively.

I have myself seen neither the Letters Patent of 1467, nor the Statutes of 1534, which Dr. Codrington copied about thirty years ago.¹

The Corporation has had two common Seals. The



SEAL OF THE VICARS CHORAL.

first was doubtless made in about 1465, and was lost in the Civil War. Dallaway mentions an impression of it on a deed of 1542 in the archives of the 'corporation', by which he presumably means the Chichester City archives;² I have failed to trace it. The second seal, which was in use till the dissolution of the Vicars' Corporation, is a pointed oval, measuring 3 in. by 2 in., bears the inscription SIGILLVM VICARIORVM ECCLLESIE CICESTRENS 1660, and represents a bishop in

pontificals under a canopy, evidently copied from an impression of the former seal. The engraver copied, in intaglio, the wax impression (except the inscription) without reversing; hence, on an impression, the bishop appears to be giving the blessing with the left hand. I surmise that the figure is intended for St. Richard; but, if so, the engraver has failed to reproduce either the nimbus or the chalice on the ground which identifies the Saint. My photograph is taken direct from the silver matrix, but reversed, and with lighting so disposed as to give a relief effect.

I have aimed at compiling a complete list of Priest Vicars from 1550, with indifferent success. I chose the

¹ *Stat. BCD*, pp. 80, 82.

² *Op. cit.* i. 116.

date for two reasons; it is that of the first admission recorded in the Chapter Act Books, and it is just after the suppression of the Chantries. It was so common for Vicars also to be Chantrists that lists of Chantry incumbents throw light on Vicars lists (and vice versa); I hope to deal with both in a later paper. For each Vicar I give the name, the date of admission if known, failing that the date of first occurrence, and the name of his predecessor (in square brackets if inferred). There follows any further information about his University, College, and degree, not recorded in his admission; here I have contented myself with a very summary reference unless his academical career was also a musical one. The problem of identity sometimes arises; I had no hesitation in assigning an academical career to Moses Toghill, but neither my industry, nor the greater industry of a lineal descendant, has yet identified John Smith. The information has usually been taken from Foster or Venn; I have added references to local records where I have found evidence identifying the Priest Vicar and the graduate;¹ for the last eighty years or so I have had much information from old issues of Crockford. Then follows date of last occurrence, or date, actual or constructive, of avoidance.

The same remarks apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to my lists of lay members of the choir, where S.C. stands for Sherburne Clerk, and L.C. for Lay Clerk. I have included laymen down to the Civil War for two reasons. In one or two sixteenth-century cases it is not quite clear whether the admission is to the place of a Priest Vicar or a lay singing-man; and even laymen, strange as it may seem, are important for Clergy Lists. In the later sixteenth century the shortage of clergy was such that some churches were served, save for infrequent communions, by lay readers only; I have found a case where such a layman is described in a Visitation as curate.² Many of these lay readers in and about

¹ In subscribing Articles on ordination or institution men often furnish information as to University and College; it is thus, for instance, that I have identified James Allen.

² Add. 39338, f. 134; cf. Add. 39349, f. 9.

Chichester were singing-men of the Cathedral (though I have not discovered whether the 'sorry reader' at Boxgrove in 1569¹ was one of them). In 1616 the Chapter thought it necessary to point out to the Sherburne clerks that they 'are reputed mere laymen and consequently may serve no cure'.² The identification of an alleged curate with a lay singing-man is a scrap of parish history not to be despised.

To avoid a multiplicity of footnotes, my references to authorities are very summary. Unless the contrary is evident, the authority for any statement is the Chapter Act Book of that date (for Chapter Acts 1618-40 see *S.N.Q.* VI, p. 132). But 'swears' means subscription to the oath in the Vicars' Admission Book, 'subs. bk.' implies reference to the Diocesan Subscription Books, 'E.C.' refers to the two volumes of Vicars' archives in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commission, 'D' to Dunkin's clergy lists in Add. 39327-39350, and references to burials are made on the authority of the relevant Parish Register.

PRIEST VICARS

Sir Christopher Lancaster resigned 27 June 1550.

Sir William Style admitted 8 July 1550, occurs 12 June 1564.³ He was Rector of St. Pancras, Chichester; on his death Thomas Leame was presented there 9 Oct. 1568.

Sir Thomas Thorppe admitted 26 July 1550; died in office, his will proved 7 Dec. 1562.⁴

Sir William Langborowe admitted 26 July 1550. He does not occur in Visitation lists of 1551, 1553, and 1554, but does in Visitations of 28 April 1558³ and 13 Jan. 1560-1.³

Sir John Stot admitted, *vice* Sir John Hungerford, resigned, 8 July 1550. Occurs 29 May 1553.⁵

Thomas Sprat makes his will 12 July 1551.⁶

Sir Richard Bowstreet occurs 9 Dec. 1551⁷ and 18 Sept. 1554.³ He was instituted to Litlington 14 March 1554-5 (D).

Sir John Mekynges occurs 24 July 1551 and 29 May 1553.⁵

Roger Gough occurs 9 Dec. 1551⁷; makes his will 4 Aug. 1552.⁶

Sir Richard Pashe occurs 9 Dec. 1551.⁷

Sir Nicholas Hyckett occurs 9 Dec. 1551⁷ and 29 May 1553;⁵ he was instituted to Subdeanery 9 April 1555 (D).

¹ *S.P. Dom. Eliz.* LX. 71.

³ Add. 39443, f. 21 v.

⁵ *S.A.C.* LXX VII. 97.

² *Stat.* BCD, p. 32.

⁴ Add. 39350, f. 210.

⁶ *S.R.S.* XLI. 307.

⁷ Add. 39443, f. 22.

- Sir John Bucke occurs 9 Dec. 1551¹ and 29 May 1553.²
 Sir Geoffrey Iden occurs 9 Dec. 1551¹ and 28 April 1558,³ administration of his goods granted 3 Nov. 1559.⁴
 Sir John Lloyde admitted 31 May 1553, he seems to have been deprived of the Vicarage of Subdeanery c. 1554, but to have been reinstated c. 1558 and resigned c. 1559 (D).
 Thomas Hawkyns occurs 18 Sept. 1554,³ but his name has been struck out of the list.
 Richard Palmer occurs 18 Sept. 1554.³
 Thomas Blakewoode occurs 28 April 1558³; makes his will 18 Sept. 1559.⁵
 John Richardson admitted 11 Jan. 1559–60, occurs 13 Jan. 1560(–1),³ instituted to Subdeanery 10 April 1568 (D).
 Sir George Foster admitted 10 Aug. 1560, occurs 13 Jan. 1560–1.³
 Mr. Nicholas Brette admitted (?) 5 Jan. 1562–3, resigned from 29 Sept. 1569. He was granted next vacancy but one on 3 Aug. 1575, but evidently was never reappointed.
 Mr. Thomas Blewet admitted 5 Jan. 1562–3, occurs 12 June 1564;³ admitted Prebendary of Gates 22 April 1570.
 Sir John Weale admitted, *vice* Sir Thomas Thorppe, deceased, 6 July 1563, occurs 7 Oct. 1568, dead by 13 Sept. 1569, when the Chapter presented to Rumboldswyke.
 William Saxton admitted 23 Nov. 1565, perhaps a readmission, as he occurs 12 June 1564.³
 Thomas Leame admitted 31 July 1568, buried, Subdeanery 19 May 1606.
 John Hodson admitted 7 Oct. 1568; on 5 May 1596 he was ordered to find himself a new place by Michaelmas, as his voice was decayed and he neglected his duty.
 Anthony Buttrie admitted 16 March 1569–70, occurs 3 March 1585–6.
 John Taylor, sen., admitted 19 July 1571, perhaps deprived about June 1578, as he was of St. Pancras, Chichester (D).
 John Taylor, jun., admitted 19 July 1571, buried, Subdeanery 26 July 1589.
 Clement Wodcock admitted 1 April 1574, buried, Subdeanery 9 Feb. 1589–90.
 Edward Tyckeridge admitted 2 May 1588, buried, Subdeanery 2 May 1596.
 Francis Heyden admitted 2 May 1590; instituted to Racton 29 July 1590 (D).
 John Lilliott admitted 2 May 1591, buried, Subdeanery 14 Nov. 1629.
 Godfrey Blaxton, M.A.⁶ admitted 1 Aug. 1594 (Trinity and Clare, Cambridge). Resigned 22 Jan. 1633–4.

¹ Add. 39443, f. 22.² S.A.C. LXXVII. 97.³ Add. 39443, f. 21 v.⁴ Chichester Cons. Ct. Diary A, f. 18 v.⁵ S.R.S. XLI. 307.⁶ Born at Higham Ferrers, Northants, c. 1570, resident in Chichester since

William Lawes¹ admitted 1 Aug. 1596,² buried, Subdeanery 20 Oct. 1624.

John Meade admitted [*vice* Thomas Leame] 1 Aug. 1606, resigned about 10 Oct. 1634.

John Taylor admitted [*vice* William Lawes] 20 Jan. 1624–5. On 5 Aug. 1608 he had been granted the next avoidance, being then described as of Winchester. Buried, Subdeanery 18 May 1636.

William Chandler admitted, *vice* John Lillyett, 2 Aug. 1630, occurs as a resident in the Close, Feb. 1641–2.³

William Alridge admitted [*vice* Godfrey Blaxton] 6 Feb. 1633–4, petitions Parliament 1643,⁴ buried, Subdeanery 5 March 1651–2.

Durant Hunt admitted, *vice* John Mead, 10 Oct. 1634, petitions Parliament 1643,⁴ survived the Interregnum and signs a lease 20 Jan. 1661–2, shortly after which he was appointed Vicar Choral at Salisbury.⁵

Thomas Young admitted, *vice* John Taylor, 1 Aug. 1636, occurs as resident in the Close, Feb. 1641–2.³

Edward Cotton admitted 18 Aug. 1660, buried, Subdeanery 4 Nov. 1669.

Francis Gardener⁶ admitted 18 Aug. 1660, signs lease 27 Nov. 1669.

William Miles admitted [*vice* William Alridge] 1 Dec. 1660, perhaps vacated on institution to West Dean 13 May 1661 (D).

Abraham Haslock occurs 2 Aug. 1666; an order that a chorister's surplice should be returned to Mr. Haselock implies that he had been admitted before 13 March 1663–4. He was already in Chichester on 30 Dec. 1662, when he subscribed on admission to St. Andrew, in which benefice, as in his Vicar's place, he evidently succeeded Durant Hunt. He was buried at St. Andrew's, Chichester, 18 Nov. 1686.

Roger Collins admitted [*vice* William Miles]⁷ 20 Jan. 1662–3. He died 21 Nov. 1707, aged 83.⁸

John Cocks, M.A., admitted, *vice* Edward Cotton, 2 Aug. 1670, buried, Subdeanery 24 May 1676.

c. 1576 (Add. 39433, f. 57 v). Admitted chorister 10 Oct. 1580; perhaps son of Henry Blaxton, Residentiary.

¹ Born at Pomfrett, Yorks., c. 1553, resident at Winchester 1586–90, at New Sarum 1590–96: Chich. Dean's Deposition Bk. I, f. 38.

² He was admitted, in a sense, *vice* both Tickeridge, deceased, and Hudson, dismissed; this reduces the number of Priest Vicars to four.

³ *S.R.S.* v.

⁴ For this petition see *V.C.H. Sussex*, II. 50 and *Hist. MSS. Comm. Rep.* v, 119; I have examined the original.

⁵ *Ex inf.* Mr. C. R. Everett.

⁶ Born c. 1592, lived almost all his life in the Close (Add. 39433, f. 84 v). Perhaps identical with the lay singing-man admitted in 1625.

⁷ In the Act Book the admission is said to be on the death of William Alridge. This seems a slip; on 1 Dec. 1660 the four places were held by Hunt, Cotton, Gardener, and Miles; probably the Chapter Clerk forgot Miles's incumbency (this would have been the easier if it was quite short) and named Miles's predecessor.

⁸ M.I. St. Olave, Chichester.

John Harrow admitted 10 July 1675 (on ordination as deacon, same day, subscribes as B.A. Queens' College, Cambridge; perhaps the John Harrow of King's in Venn). Buried in the Cathedral, 16 Sept. 1698.

Thomas Griffith (or Griffin) admitted, *vice* John Cock, 1 Aug. 1676 (Ch. Ch., Oxford, cf. subs. bk. 1675), occurs 3 Oct. 1684 (E.C).

Richard Abram¹ admitted [*vice* Thomas Griffith] 8 May 1685. He had previously been a lay singing-man, and was granted the profits of a Vicar's place (presumably pending ordination) 23 April 1684. Deprived for absence from duty 9 May 1686.

Charles Leaver [*vice* Abraham Haslock] swears 2 Feb. 1686-7, signs a lease 16 Nov. 1713.

Gregory Penford occurs 7 Nov. 1688 (B.A., Jesus, Cambridge), occurs 25 June 1691, died in the same year.

John Savage admitted, *vice* Gregory Penford, deceased, 15 Oct. 1692, had vacated before 28 June 1693 (E.C).

Thomas Kellway swears 16 Feb. 1693-4, perhaps appointed the year before, as he was ordained priest at Chichester 24 Sept. 1693 (B.A., King's, Cambridge, cf. Bishop Bowers' Visitation under Apuldrum). Buried, Subdeanery 30 Aug. 1736.

John Marshall [*vice* John Harrow] swears 20 July 1699 (Catherine Hall, Cambridge, cf. *S.A.C.* LXXIV. 91). Buried, Subdeanery 25 Feb. 1727-8.

Thomas Evans admitted, *vice* Roger Collins, 20 Jan. 1707-8 (M.A., Ch. Ch., Oxford, cf. Index to Archbishop's Act Books). Died 3 Aug. 1727.²

Robert Hulbert admitted 20 Jan. 1717-18, resigned 10 Oct. 1732.

John Smith, B.A.,³ admitted [*vice* Thomas Evans] 10 Oct. 1727. Died 29 Oct., buried at Rumboldswyke 3 Nov. 1774.

Edward Gregory elected [*vice* John Marshall] 1 Aug. 1728, to be admitted as soon as he has been ordained deacon. Admitted (described as B.A.) 22 Sept. 1728. Occurs in a lease 28 Jan. 1730-1; had vacated before 29 Aug. 1732. Appointed Minor Canon of Durham 3 July 1731.⁴

¹ The example of the patriarch soon expanded his name (which originates, I believe, in Lancashire, not Chaldea) to Abraham; he occurs as such in October 1685.

² M.I. Mundham church, nave.

³ Distinguish this John Smith from a contemporary namesake who was in practice in Chichester as a surgeon from about 1715 to his death. The Vicar Choral married, in 1728, Ann Woodhouse; for his will see *Chchr. Dean's Ct. Wills*, VI. 64. The surgeon was baptized at Steyning in 1688, and buried there in 1749; for his will see *Dean's Ct. Wills*, VII. 127, and P.C.C. 657 Herschell. He married, first, c. 1715, Sarah Buckenham, buried at Steyning 1732; second, Ann Saywell, who died 1764; for her will see P.C.C. 201 Simpson. He had issue William, 1721-1803, Elizabeth (Alcock), born c. 1723, Hannah, 1725-c. 1759, John Buckenham, 1727-(?)46, Charles, 1729-1803, Ann (Webber), 1730/1-1806.

⁴ *Ex inf.* Assistant Librarian, Durham Cathedral, quoting Chapter Minute. There is danger of confusion between two contemporary namesakes. Edward Gregory of C.C.C., Cambridge, whose record is in Venn, was ordained priest in York diocese 16 Aug. 1730. Foster has no entry which tallies with Edward

- Edward Herne, B.A., admitted [*vice* Edward Gregory] 3 May 1731. (Ch. Ch., Oxford.) Occurs 31 July 1732, vacated before 5 June 1733.¹
- Philip Thorne admitted 20 Jan. 1732–3 (clerk, Magdalen, Oxford, 1728–30, B.A.). Resigned 25 March 1734.
- James Allen, B.A., elected 2 May 1733, to be admitted as soon as he has been ordained; admitted absolutely 2 May 1734 (Merton College, Oxford, cf. subs. bk. 1734). Deprived for drunkenness 23 Feb. 1746–7.
- George Wilks, B.A., admitted probationer, *vice* Philip Thorne, 2 May 1734, admitted absolutely 1 Aug. 1735 (Peterhouse, Cambridge). Buried, Subdeanery 3 Oct. 1752.
- William Waring admitted probationer, *vice* Thomas Kelway, 20 Jan. 1736–7 (Pembroke, Cambridge). Buried at Aldingbourne 18 Aug. 1779.
- Michael Dorset, B.A., admitted [*vice* James Allen] 23 Feb. 1746–7 (Pembroke, Cambridge). Resigned 10 Oct. 1755.
- Richard Shenton, B.A., admitted [*vice* George Wilks] 10 Oct. 1752; again admitted, described as M.A., 20 Jan. 1753, because he had not taken the oaths the first time. (Chorister, Magdalen, Oxford, 1740–5, clerk 1745–52, B.A. from New College 1749–50, M.A. 1752; cf. subs. bk. 1754.) Buried in the Cathedral 2 Nov. 1785.
- Thomas Carter admitted, *vice* Michael Dorset, 11 Oct. 1756, occurs 24 Dec. 1759 (E.C).
- Richard Duppa Littleton [*vice* Thomas Carter] swears 4 Aug. 1760 (Jesus College, Oxford). Died 1763.
- Richard Tireman, M.A., admitted, *vice* R. D. Littleton, 10 Oct. 1763 (St. John's, Oxford). Preferred to the Prebend of Highleigh 1768.
- Moses Toghill [*vice* Richard Tireman] swears 15 Oct. 1768 (New College, Oxford, M.A. from Emmanuel, Cambridge, 1795). Resigned 19 Oct. 1790.²
- William Walker, M.A., admitted, *vice* John Smith, 6 Dec. 1774 (New College, Oxford, clerk, Magdalen 1768–72, chaplain 1772–5). Resigned 29 Aug. 1807.

Gregory, B.A., of Ch. Ch., Oxford, who describes himself thus in subscribing Articles on ordination as priest at Chichester 14 Feb. 1729–30. Evidently it was Gregory of Ch. Ch. who became Minor Canon of Durham and P.C. St. Margaret Crosgate there in 1732; and it is possible that some of the later ecclesiastical preferment attributed by Venn to his Cambridge namesake belongs rightly to him.

¹ Cathedral Visitation Book.

² The subsequent preferments of Moses Toghill were many and fat; at his death in 1825 he was Precentor and Residentiary of the Cathedral, Custos of St. Mary's Hospital, Rector of Eastergate, and Vicar of Birdham. His portrait, one of a series of pastels of members of the Charlton Hunt, is in Goodwood House; in his later days, at least, his zeal for fox-hunting affected his attendance at Divine Service. Occupying, as he did, the returned stall of the Precentor, he used to take the opportunity of the Choir turning to the east in the Creed to slip away unobserved for the meet. (I have this story from the late Canon Bennett, who may possibly have had it from an eyewitness.)

- John Moore, M.A., admitted, *vice* William Waring, 11 Oct. 1779 (Chorister, Magdalen, Oxford, 1770-5, clerk 1774 [*sic*]-79, chaplain 1779-80, chaplain, New College, 1776). Buried, Subdeanary 30 July 1817, aged 60.
- Bartholomew Middleton, B.A., admitted, *vice* Richard Shenton, 20 Jan. 1786 (Chorister, Magdalen, Oxford, 1774-9, clerk 1779-86).¹ Buried, Subdeanery 17 June 1831, aged 69.
- Thomas Newman, B.A., admitted, *vice* Moses Toghill, 12 Nov. 1790 (New College, Oxford, chaplain 1781, cf. obituary notice). Buried, Subdeanery 23 March 1809.²
- William Miller, M.A., admitted, *vice* William Walker, 29 Aug. 1807 (Chorister, Magdalen, Oxford, 1789-98, clerk, New College, 1798-1807). Buried, Subdeanery 5 March 1861, aged 79.
- William Woolams Holland, M.A., admitted, *vice* Thomas Newman, 2 May 1809 (New College, B.A. from Hertford 1806). Buried, Subdeanery 23 Jan. 1855, aged 69.
- William Watkins, M.A.,³ admitted, *vice* John Moore, 10 Oct. 1817 (New College, chaplain 1812-14). Died 21 March 1865.
- John Phillips Roberts, B.A., chaplain of New College, Oxford, admitted, *vice* Bartholomew Middleton, 1 Aug. 1831 (clerk, New College, 1817-20, chaplain 1820-6, chaplain, Ch. Ch. 1824-8). Died 12 Dec. 1882.
- William Reynor Cosens admitted, *vice* W. W. Holland, 20 Jan. 1855 (Magdalen Hall, Oxford). Resigned 1857.
- James Webber Miller admitted, *vice* W. R. Cosens, 2 May 1857 (Exeter College, Oxford). Resigned about 1861.
- George Frederic Pearson admitted, *vice* William Miller, 20 Jan. 1862 (Worcester College, Oxford, Vicar Choral, York, 1857-62). Resigned 1871.
- Charles Baker admitted, *vice* J. W. Miller, 20 Jan. 1862 (Exeter College, Oxford). Resigned 1864.
- Walter Hook admitted, *vice* Charles Baker, 1 Aug. 1864 (M.A., Ch. Ch., Oxford). Resigned 1868.
- Stenning Johnson admitted, *vice* William Watkins, 2 May 1865 (B.A., Merton College). Resigned 1883.
- Alfred Henry Glennie admitted, *vice* Walter Hook, 1 Aug. 1868 (B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge). Died 9 Feb. 1926.
- William Parry Crawley admitted, *vice* G. F. Pearson, 2 May 1871 (M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge). Resigned about 1878.
- Thomas Peele Brandram admitted, *vice* W. P. Crawley, 2 May 1878 (M.A., Oriel College, Oxford). Resigned about 1885.
- John Brown (subsequently Cavis-Brown) admitted, *vice* J. P.

¹ Dallaway (i. 117) says he was of New College; there is no reference to this in Foster.

² *The Gentleman's Magazine*, 1809, says that he died at Chichester April 1809, aged 51 (*ex inf.* Rev. W. Budgen).

³ The Vicars' Act Book records a meeting of the Corporation on 17 Jan. 1862, present, Mr. Wickes and Mr. Roberts. 'Wickes' seems to be a scribal error for Watkins.

- ³ Roberts, 20 Jan. 1883 (M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge). Resigned 3 Aug. 1897.
- Cyril Walker, M.A., Keble College, Oxford, admitted, *vice* Stenning Johnson, 2 May 1883, died 22 June 1924.
- Edward Hugh Moberley, M.A., admitted, *vice* T. P. Brandram, 22 Jan. 1885 (C.C.C., Oxford). Resigned as from 9 July 1885.
- John George Elstob admitted, *vice* E. H. Moberley, 12 Nov. 1885 (M.A., Hatfield Hall, Durham). Resigned about 1889.
- John Nicholetts admitted, *vice* J. G. Elstob, 21 Jan. 1889 (M.A., Pembroke College, Oxford). Still Vicar at Dissolution.
- Frank Rowland Lees admitted, *vice* John Cavis-Brown, 5 Aug. 1897 (M.A., C.C.C., Cambridge). Presented to Rectory of Felpham 19 Sept. 1910.
- Edward Howard Parker Muncey admitted [*vice* F. R. Lees] as from 24 June 1911 (St. John's College, Cambridge, choral student, B.A.). Vacated 1913.
- Edward Dawson Bewley admitted, *vice* E. H. Muncey, 6 Aug. 1913 (B.A., New College, Oxford). Resigned about 1916.
- Ronald George Trehane Gillman admitted, *vice* E. D. Bewley, 20 Jan. 1916 (M.A., St. John's College, Oxford). Resigned about 1 Jan. 1929.
- Richard Stafford Tyndale Haslehurst admitted, *vice* Cyril Walker, 14 July 1924 (B.D., Trinity College, Cambridge). Still Vicar at Dissolution.
- Percy Richard Barrington-Brown admitted, *vice* A. H. Glennie, 1 March 1926 (M.A., Pembroke College, Cambridge). Resigned 1930.
- Donald Manners admitted, *vice* P. R. Barrington-Brown, 2 May 1930 (B.A., St. Chad's College, Durham). Vacated 29 Sept. 1934, on institution to Felpham Rectory.

LAYMEN

- William Campyon, L.C., occurs 17 June 1524.¹
- William Samford, L.C., occurs 17 June 1524.¹
- Henry Somer admitted S.C., on establishment, 29 Oct. 1529, occurs 1557.²
- Robert Redknappe admitted S.C., on establishment, 29 Oct. 1529.
- John Hamper admitted S.C., on establishment, 29 Oct. 1529, died about 1563.
- John Russell admitted S.C., on establishment, 29 Oct. 1529, occurs 1557.²
- Richard Base, L.C., occurs 1548;³ admitted S.C. 19 Jan. 1558-9, buried, Subdeanery 15 April 1570.
- Thomas Brodenham or Brodhorne, L.C., occurs 1548³ and 1553.⁴

¹ *Reg. Sherburne*, II, f. 92 v.³ *S.R.S.* XXXVI. 48.² *S.R.S.* XLI. 307.⁴ *S.A.C.* LXXVII. 97.

Henry Farnefeilde or Farnfold, L.C., occurs 1548¹ and 1553;² admitted S.C., *vice* John Rose, 20 Dec. 1559, buried, Subdeanery 28 April 1587.

John Hampton, S.C., occurs 1553.²

Henry Somerlande, L.C., occurs 1553;² his will dated 20 Nov. 1559, proved 1560.³

William Best, L.C., his will dated 8 March 1558-9, proved 7 April 1559.⁴

William Payne admitted S.C. 28 Dec. 1558, expelled for neglect of duty and abusive language 8 May 1571, reinstated 27 Jan. 1571-2, buried, Subdeanery 13 March 1584-5.

John Rose admitted [S.C.] 28 Dec. 1558, vacated about 1559.

Owin Base admitted [L.C.] 19 Jan. 1558-9; again admitted, *vice* Gilbert Adlington, 20 Dec. 1559, occurs 8 May 1571.

Roger Mylles admitted [L.C.] 2 Jan. 1558-9.

Gilbert Adlington admitted L.C. 19 Jan. 1558-9; again admitted *vice* Henry Somerlayne, 20 Dec. 1559.

John Base admitted [L.C.] 19 May 1559; again admitted 30 Jan. 1560-1, to begin on Lady Day next; perhaps the John Basse *alias* Martyn admitted S.C., *vice* William Payne, 2 May 1585, buried, Subdeanery 23 Sept. 1601.

Edward Pyper [*alias* Jackson] admitted L.C. 20 Dec. 1559.

Edward Chaleton admitted S.C., *vice* John Hamper deceased, 30 April 1563, died *c.* 1564.

William Waye admitted S.C., *vice* Edward Chaleton, deceased, 5 Nov. 1564. (He resigned and Richard Willys was admitted 26 Aug. 1566, but the proceeding was declared null by the Bishop at his Visitation 29 April 1567.) Deprived for Popery 13 Oct. 1569.

Edmund Medicrafte admitted L.C., *vice* Edward Pyper *alias* Jaeson, 24 July 1568; admitted S.C., *vice* Richard Base, deceased, 15 April 1570, resigned 24 Jan. 1574-5.⁵

Michael Woodes admitted [L.C.] 13 Sept. 1569, as from Michaelmas next.

Thomas Andrewes admitted S.C., *vice* William Waye, 19 Oct. 1569.

John Martes (*signs* Martesse) admitted [L.C.] 19 Sept. 1569, resigned 8 May 1571.

William Legat occurs 10 Oct. 1569.

James Williams admitted [L.C.] 6 March 1569-70; expelled for brawling 8 May 1571, reinstated 27 Jan. 1571-2, dismissed for incontinency and divers other things 2 May 1587.

Henry Base admitted L.C. [*vice* Edmund Medowcraft] 15 Oct. 1570, buried, Subdeanery 5 July 1588.

¹ *S.R.S.* xxxvi. 48.

² *S.A.C.* lxxvii. 97.

³ *S.R.S.* xli. 307; Add. 39436, f. 62.

⁴ *S.R.S.* xli. 262; Chichester Cons. Ct. Diary A, f. 27.

⁵ For further information about him see Add. 39433, f. 60 r, Add. 39338, f. 134, Add. 39349, f. 9.

- William Fovell admitted [L.C.], *vice* William Payne, 9 May 1571 (on Payne's reinstatement perhaps retained as supernumerary); again admitted, *vice* Owen Base, 2 May 1578; admitted S.C., *vice* Thomas Ware, deceased, 28 Nov. 1580, on presentation of Ranulph Barlow, buried, Subdeanery about 17 Dec. 1605.
- Thomas Ware admitted S.C., *vice* Edmund Medowcraft, 24 April 1574, buried, Subdeanery 21 Nov. 1580.
- Christopher Payne admitted L.C. [*vice* William Fovell] 28 Nov. 1580, buried, Subdeanery 26 April 1589.
- William Clerke admitted L.C. 2 May 1585; admitted S.C. [*vice* Henry Farnfold] 3 May 1587. On 21 Jan. 1591-2 he had recently taken Holy Orders, and was ordered to vacate his place, which, by its statutes, was that of a layman, at Lady Day next.
- Thomas Clarek [S.C.] occurs 3 March 1585-6.
- John Todd admitted L.C. [*vice* William Clerke] 3 May 1587; resigned 21 Jan. 1588-9.
- John Cowper admitted L.C., *vice* Henry Farnfold,¹ 3 May 1587, occurs 20 Jan. 1594-5, his widow buried, Subdeanery 30 June 1606.
- Valentine Austyn admitted L.C., *vice* Henry Base *alias* Martyn, deceased, 1 Aug. 1568, occurs as S.C. 3 May 1617, perhaps also 20 Jan. 1594-5, buried, Subdeanery 24 May 1626.
- Nicholas Woods admitted L.C., *vice* John Tod, 21 Jan. 1588-9, buried, Subdeanery 6 Oct. 1625.
- John Foster admitted L.C., *vice* Christopher Payne, 2 May 1589.
- Jacob Hillarie admitted L.C., *vice* John Foster, 2 May 1590; admitted S.C., *vice* William Clerke, 21 Jan. 1591-2; admitted choir-master and organist 20 Jan. 1599-1600, buried, Subdeanery 18 Aug. 1632, but perhaps resigned shortly before his death.
- John Gregory admitted supernumerary L.C. 20 Jan. 1591-2, admitted L.C., *vice* Jacob Hilary, next day, occurs 9 Oct. 1596.
- Thomas Lambert admitted L.C. 10 Oct. 1598.
- Thomas Weelkes, the most notable name on the list, has been neglected by the Chapter Clerk; his admission, neither (presumably) as supernumerary L.C., nor as S.C., nor as organist, is on record. The (modern) M.I. in Chichester Cathedral says that he was organist from 1602 to his death, 30 Nov. 1623; he was resident in Chichester in Feb. 1602-3,² and probably succeeded John Base *alias* Martyn in his Sherburne clerkship. Where his name occurs in the Chapter Act Books (e.g. 6 May 1616) it is spelt Weekes.
- Anthony Buttery occurs as L.C., probably junior to John Gregory, 20 Jan. 1594-5, admitted S.C., *vice* William Fovell, 22 Jan. 1605-6, buried, Subdeanery 11 April 1617.
- William Cooper (perhaps L.C., *vice* Anthony Buttery) occurs 18 Nov. 1605, buried, Subdeanery 22 Jan. 1609-10.

¹ *Rectius vice* William Clark, preferred to be Sherburne's clerk *vice* Henry Farnfold.

² *S.R.S.* XII. 181.

John Clifford admitted L.C. from Michaelmas last, 3 Oct. 1608; admitted S.C., *vice* Anthony Buttery, 3 May 1617, resident in Chichester 1641-2;¹ his successor appointed 1661.

Philip Bowles [L.C.] occurs 5 May 1609, when granted next avoidance of a Priest Vicar's place after John Taylor.

Christopher Hillarye granted next avoidance of L.C. place 5 May 1609.

Christopher Thecker granted next avoidance but one of L.C. place 5 May 1609; evidently never admitted, buried, Subdeanery 20 Feb. 1609-10.

Thomas Clerke admitted L.C. [*vice* William Cooper] 23 Jan. 1609-10.

Thomas Leame granted next avoidance of L.C. place 23 Jan. 1609-10, occurs as L.C. 11 Oct. 1616, buried, Subdeanery 17 March 1617-18.

John Lyttle admitted L.C. [*vice* John Clifford] 3 May 1617; admitted S.C. [*vice* Valentine Austen, deceased] 10 Oct. 1626. Petitions Parliament 1643.²

Thomas Young [L.C.] occurs 11 Oct. 1616 and 9 Jan. 1628-9, when his daughter was buried, Subdeanery. Perhaps preferred to be Priest Vicar 1636.

John Fidge admitted choir-master and granted next avoidance of L.C. place 3 May 1617, admitted L.C. 2 May 1618, resigned 14 Oct. 1624; granted next avoidance of L.C. place 5 May 1629, admitted S.C. 26 June 1632, petitions Parliament 1643,² successor appointed 14 Sept. 1661.

William Eames elected organist [*vice* Thomas Weelkes] 20 Jan., admitted [supernumerary] L.C. 23 Jan., admitted organist and S.C. 1 March, 1623-4; expelled 19 Dec. 1635.

Richard Brooker admitted L.C. [*vice* John Fidge] 14 Oct. 1624,³ admitted S.C. 1661.

Francis Gardener admitted L.C. 13 Oct. 1625, petitions Parliament 1643,² perhaps the Priest Vicar of 1660.⁴

George Hush admitted L.C. 4 Aug. 1628, resident in Chichester 1641-2,¹ perhaps preferred to be S.C. in 1662-3.

Thomas Leues (*signs* Lewes) admitted S.C., *vice* William Eames 2 May 1636; petitions Parliament 1643;² in the entry of his burial, Subdeanery 22 July 1674, he is described as organist.

John Floyd admitted L.C. [*vice* Thomas Young] 1 Aug. 1636, resident in Chichester 1641-2,¹ admitted S.C. (as Floud) 1661.

I wish to acknowledge my obligations, for the facilities for access to the documents from which so much of this paper has been compiled, to the Bishop's Registrar, the Chapter Clerk, and the late Clerk of the late dissolved Corporation of Vicars Choral.

¹ *S.R.S.* v.

³ *John* Brooker petitions Parliament 1643.

² See note 4, p. 152.

⁴ In 1641-2 he describes himself as Rector of St. Martin's Chichester, but may have been lay reader only (*S.R.S.* v. 44).