IX.—A SURVEY OF THE CHURCHES OF THE ARCH-DEACONRY OF NORTHUMBERLAND, TEMP. CHARLES II. (FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF MR. W. WOODMAN, A VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY).

By J. CRAWFORD HODGSON.

[Read on the 27th day of February, 1895.]

The following survey of the churches grouped under their respective deaneries of Newcastle, Morpeth, Alnwick, Bamburgh, and Corbridge, comprised in the one archdeaconry of Northumberland, was drawn up in the period of revived ecclesiastical discipline which followed the restoration of Charles II. and the passing of the Act of Uniformity. Frequently quoted by the Rev. John Hodgson, and recently in the new county history, the copy to be read before you to-night is from the collection of Mr. Woodman; and the most valuable of the notes appended are abridged from the minute book of the visitations of the sensible and sagacious Archdeacon Singleton, for the use of which the writer is indebted to the Rev. W. Greenwell. It will be observed that some important parishes are unnoticed.

A VIEW OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL STATE WITHIN THE ARCHDEACONRY OF NORTHUMBERLAND, ANNO 1663.

Enquiries.

- 1. What churches are destitute, how long, and who are the impropriators? What the value of the impropriacon, and in whose deanry?
- 2. What churches want competent maintenance, and what their stipends are now?
- 3. What scandalous ministers?
- 4. What chief seducers to popery or sects ?
- 5. What churches are ruinous?
- 6. What gleeb concealed or confounded, and how long?
- 7. What schooles, and howe far asunder, free schooles especially, and whether any be decayed ?

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Answers.

I.-IN THE DEANRY OF NEWCASTLE.

- 1. All the parochial churches in this deanry are impropriated.
- 2. The impropriators of the rectory¹ of Newcastle are the deane and chapter of Carlile valet p' annu' 90¹¹. The vicaridge itselfe valet p'annu'...
- 3. The impropriators of the rector y^2 of Tinemouth are ye earle of Northumberland and Ralph Delevall, baron', valet p' annu' 460^{li}. The vicar hath a salary of 30^{li} p' annu' out of which is paid to the curate of Earsden³ chappell 04^{li} 13^s 04^d. Tinmouth chappell is unfinished.

4. The impropriator of ye rectory of Benton⁴ is Coll. Baliol. Oxon. valet p' annu' 60¹¹. The vicaridge 40¹¹ p' annu'.

5. The impropriator of the rectory of Ponteland⁵ is coll. Merton Oxon., valet p' annu' 126¹¹. The vicaridge 90¹¹ p' annu'.

¹ The rectory of Newcastle was given by Henry I. to the church of Carlisle. In 1193 it was in the prior and convent. Brand, vol. i. p. 238. ² The rectory was parcel of the possessions of the priory of Tynemouth. In Horsley's time the patronage was in dispute, but according to Randal the advowbelaval for two turns; it then contained besides the parish churchthe chapels of Earsdon, Blyth, Seaton-Delaval, and Dissington. The duke of Northumberland has now the sole right of presentation. 'The impropriation is half in the duke of Northumberland, and the other

half bequeathed by Sir M. Milbank for charitable uses. The church was "repaired" as the inscription over the entrance says, but in reality rebuilt in 1792 nearly on the old style; it contains two thousand persons.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1826.

Singleton's Visitation, 1826. ³ 'The minister's stipend arises from the interest at 4 per cent, of £1,200: a farm of 44 acres at Long Framlington lets for £22 per annum: 664 farms pay him at the rate of 6s. 8d. per each farm. The duke of Northumberland has been urged by his bailiff to dispute the latter payment as concerns his property as a matter of right, but gives per annum £5; this is a ruinous step to the poor curate since others dispute, without making the present as the duke does. I pre-sume that upon the whole his income may amount to £125 per annum. They have a neat little cup and cover with the date 1618, with the names of the churchwardens.' *Ibid.* See *Proc.*, vol. iii, p. 268, for description of cup and cover. ⁴ Long Benton vicarage is in the patronage of Balliol coll. Oxford, who have

⁴ Long Benton vicarage is in the patronage of Balliol coll. Oxford, who have the great tithes; their chancel is not so creditable as the body of the church. Mr. Clapp, the vicar, has been non-resident for 26 years, and his parish shews it. The college occupy their impropriation themselves, it is worth about £1,400. The vicar's income from glebe and tithes is £245.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation.

⁵ 'Ponteland vicarage which is worth $\pounds700$ is in the gift of Merton college. The impropriation is worth more than £2,000 per annum. There are 140 acres of glebe well defined, and let in three distinct farms. The vicarage house, which is an old tower, has been much improved by the good and costly additions of the present vicar. I forebore at present to press them to paint their church, but they must do it soon, saving the gallery whimsically painted or perhaps dis-tempered by Whittle "the Camboe poet," a sort of ingenious vagrant whose memory is cherished by the country people.' *Ibid.*

- 6. The impropriator of the rectory of Heddon⁶ is S^r Tho. Widdrington, valet p' annu' 60^{li}. The vicaridge 24^{li} p' annu'.
- 7. The impropriator of the rectory of Newburne⁷ is Dn'us Ep'us Carliol, rented at 140^{li} p' annu', vicaridg 80^{li}.
- 8. These places are destitute, namely, the chappell of Earsdon for 3 years. The chappells of North & South Gosforth 2 years. The ld. bpp. deane & chapter of Carlile are ye impropriators. The tithes are of a considerable value. The vicar of Newcastle of his accord contributes towards South Gosforth to his power.
- 9. Seducers are so many that they are hard to be found out. The most active and visible are for popery, viz., Thomas Riddell of ffenham, Esq., Robert Lawson of New C[astle.] merchant. John ffenwicke sometimes at Bedlington sometimes at N[ew] C[astle.]
- 10. For sects, Will. Durant⁸ & John Pringle⁹ of New C[astle,]Alexander Gordon of Tinmouth, John Ogle of Kirkely.¹⁰ Many conventicles are held in New C[astle] by papists & schismaticks. shoemakers, &c.
- 11. Cramlington (where Mr. Dickenson officiates without a licence) & Gosforth chappells¹¹ and Benton church are ruinous. The chancell of South Gosforth hath nothing remaining but sorry walls.

⁶ 'The impropriation is in the Bewick family, and produces annually about $\pounds 250$. The vicarage, which has vicarial titles de jure, and is endowed with the great titles of West Heddon, is worth about $\pounds 350$. The chancel is curious,

the great tithes of West Heddon, is worth about £350. The chancel is curious, but wanted whitewash. It appears that the Scotch army encamped on Heddon Laws the night before the passage of the Tyne into Durham.' *Ibid.* ' 'Newburn church is in a most discreditable state. Roof, pews, beams, covering—all neglected and bad. The chancel as bad as the rest, and the impropriators' pew the worst of all. The impropriation is in the bishop of Carlisle, it is worth above £1,000 per annum. The vicarage is worth £260. This is an opulent parish, and the church frequented by gentlemen.' *Ibid.* ⁸ Wm. Durant in 1645, lecturer of St. Nicholas, married a sister of Sir Jas. Clavering.—*Cf. Life of Ambrose Barnes*, and Welford, *Men of Mark.* ⁹ John Pringle, a man of learning, a physician and pastor, 'married a choice and good woman with whom he got a very great fortune.' He was ousted from the vicarage of Eglingham, and died at Newcastle, *circa* 1619. Calamy, and *Life of Ambrose Barnes*.

Life of Ambrose Barnes. ¹⁰ The son of John Ogle of Kirkley married the daughter of John Thompson, ¹⁰ The son of John Ogle of Kirkley married Elizabeth. the ejected rector of Bothal, and their son, Nathaniel Ogle, married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Jonathan Newton of Newcastle, counsellor-at-law, by his wife, Isabel Jennison, a near kinswoman of Dr. Jenison, the puritan vicar of Newcastle. Alexander Gordon, in 1663, was bound over that he should not within 20 days speak or contrive against the king or government. Life of Ambrose Barnes.

¹¹ South Gosforth. It is proposed to sever Gosforth from Newcastle, and make it an independent parish. Sir M. W. Ridley has the great tithe, the vicar's [of Newcastle] revenue from this part of his parish amounts to about £180.⁴ Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1828.

- 12. Not one ffree schoole, but in Newcastle which is kept in very good Mr. Oxley¹² is chiefe schoolemaster, and there are condition. under him two ushers.
- 13. [A private chapel belonging to ye prior of Tinmouth.]* Benwell chapell is destitute, the gleeb worth 12¹¹ or 14¹¹ which Mr. Shaftoe holdes for 40^{li} p' annu'. The vicar of Newcastle would gladly recover it to ye church if he knew how, & belongs to himselfe.
- 14. There is in Newcastle one . . . Thomson, once a schismatical preacher in Duresme, who is accused for practising clandestine marriages in divers parts of Northumberland.

II.-IN THE DEANRY OF MORPETH.

- 1. Mr. Edward Prowse¹³ parson of Bothall¹⁴ is blamed by some for scandall & negligence. Mr. John Thompson of Pyseworth 15 once a schismaticall minister, now turned farmer, a chief seducer.
- 2. Mr. Thornton of Neather-witton is a seducer & (as it is said) will let no land unless they revolt to popery.
- 3. Henry ffenwick of Elsden parish seduces some to the sect of the quakers.
- 4. The gleeb of Elsden church hath been concealed many years.

¹² Amor Oxley was vicar of Kirknewton, and was displaced from the master-ship of the Grammar school at Newcastle in 1645 as a Royalist; in 1656 the of salary, and in 1662 he was restored to his office. He lost his library of the school, and dying in 1669 was laid near his wife at the entrance to the quire of St. Nicholas.

¹³ Edw. Prowse rector of Bothal and Sheepwash, 1660-1667. Randal. ¹⁴ 'The value is £1,400 per annum. The old church at Shipwash is entirely gone down, the font is in the rector's farm yard. I begged them to look to their spouts, and to restore the heraldic blazoning on the timbers of the roof, and to repair the only six remaining folios of the long list in Dr. Sharp's book. The monument of the Bertrams, that of Ann Wilson, the Ogle pedigree on the wall, the nainted glass in the windows and the carried capitals on the north side of the painted glass in the windows, and the carved capitals on the north side of the entrance into the chancel are all curious and should be preserved. An old

the entrance into the chancel are all curious and should be preserved. An old cup and cover 1571. The glebe stretches across the water into Bedlingtonshire but is deemed to be Northumberland.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1826. See Proc. vol. iii. p. 240, for note of cup and cover. ¹⁵ John Thompson the ejected rector married circa 1650 Catherine Wilson of Pegsworth, an heiress, and with her in 1652 sold lands in Old Moor to Mr. Lawson of Longhirst. Calamy says, 'he was taken in the bishopric and im-prisoned in the common gaol at Durham for his nonconformity, the imprison-ment brought him into a dropsy of which he died. He was a man of learning, a man of neace, and an excellent neacher' man of peace, and an excellent preacher.'

* Marginal note.

- 5. A stipend of 06¹¹ 13^s 08^d p' annu' belongs to the chappell of Corsonside. Mr. Gram.¹⁶ the curate, is sordid & scandalous. The impropriator is John Hall of Otterburne, esq., valet p' annu' 18^{li}.
- 6. The impropriators in Northumberland are generally recusants.
- 7. The vicar of Midford¹⁷ hath onely a stipend of xvj^{li} p' annu' from ve impropriators of that rectory, namely, Edward Radcliffe, baronett, a papist, & Henry Rawling of Newc[astle,] a notorious sectary, valet p' annu' 80¹¹.

III.-IN THE DEANERY OF ALNWICKE.

THE VICARIDGE OR CURACY OF ALNWICKE.¹⁸

- 1. Is in the gift of the lord b'pp. of Duresme. The stipend is 12^{li} p' annu' paid by his matie. The church is destitute about a year. But till my l. b'pp. be pleased to provide otherwise 'tis for the present supply'd by a combination of neighbour ministers - appointed by the archdeacon. The church is likewise ruinous. The chancell a goodly ffabrick, ready to fall down.
- 2. The impropriator is Mr. Charles Brandling.

¹⁶ John Graham, vicar of Corsenside, 1617-1682. Randal. ¹⁷ The rectory of Mitford in 1289 was given to the priory of Lanercost. In 1648 Henry Rawling was one of those who petitioned the Parliament, demand-ing justice on the king. *Life of Ambrose Barnes.* ⁴ Mitford vicarage is in the gift of the bishop of Durham, but it has only the name, being entirely stripped of the tithes. Colonel Mitford, who resides in Hampshire, is the impropriator; his tithes may be worth £700 per annum. The church is venerable and spacious, but the chancel from which the leaden roof has been taken is now covered with a grey slate steep and decaying and is roof has been taken is now covered with a grey slate, steep and decaying, and is unceiled within, and the south porch belonging to the Mitfords of Mitford is also in a bad condition.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1826.

¹⁸ Alnwick was a chapelry of Lesbury; its tithes with the abbey at the beginning of the seventeenth century came into the hands of the Brandlings, who a hundred years later sold the abbey to the Doubledays. In 1717 Francis Brandling, as a Roman catholic, registered his estate in the corn tithes of Denwick, Bilton, Hawkhill, and 5/12 of the corn tithes of Alnwick and Lesbury [all parcel of the rectory of Lesbury]: fractions of the tithes remained until recently with his descendants or heirs the Cooksons and Ildertons.

'Alnwick is in the gift of the parishioners by a sort of compromise with the bishop for so long as they shall pay from their corporate funds a certain stipend named in the agreement to the curate.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1826.

[In 1603 Henry Strother, Matthew Kelham, and Cuthbert Mason were presented "for going about the making of matches on the Sundaie."]' Ibid.

'The duke of Northumberland has become patron.of the living by reason of endowment, part of which is the admirable glebe-house which he has built and conveyed to the benefice.' *Ibid.* 1836.

HOWICK, EMBLETON, WARKWORTH, ETC.

- 3. The value of the impropriation of the tythes of all kinds is 200^{11} p'annu' or thereabouts. If but the petty tithes were added to the stipend it would make a competency.
- 4. Many papists & schismaticks.
- 5. A free schoole & xvi^{li} salary belonging to it.

THE RECTORY OF HOWICK.19

Belonging to the arch-deaconry of Northumberland, both church and chancel were ruinous, the chancell repaired by the arch-deacon, 'tis of late destitute of a curate, but supplyed by the archdeacon's care.

THE VICARIDGE OF EMBLETON.²⁰

- 1. The impropriators are the warden & ffellowes of Merton coll. in Oxon. ye value of the impropriac'on is 300¹¹ p' annu'. Two ruinous chappells in that parish, Rock & Rennington, both destitute for 15 years or thereabouts.
- 2. The stipend now is 60¹¹ p' annu'.
- 3. The church is much out of order.
- 4. The Gleeb that did anciently belong to Rock chappell is now confounded.

THE VICARIDGE OF WARKWORTH.²¹

- 1. In the gift of the l. bp. of Carlisle valet p' annu' 66^{li} 6^s 8^d.
- 2. The impropriac'on belongs to the l. b'p of Carlisle valet p' annu' 400^{11}

¹⁹ In 1734 the church of Howick, according to Mark, was in very good order, but in 1746 it was replaced by one built by Sir Henry Grey after the style of a Greek temple. Neither drawing nor description of the old church has survived, and the only remains which exist are some two or three tombstones on the chancel floor, and in the grave yard five ancient grave covers—one of the thirteenth century, coped with a flat top. *Cf.* also new *County Hist.* vol. ii. p. 361.

²⁰ Cf. new County Hist. vol. ii. p. 73. ²¹ 'The vicarage of Warkworth in ye office of First Fruits for land in East Chivington four shillings, for the which the incumbent receiveth eight shillings per annum. By an abstract of the Court Rolls holden in that mannor the 30 Oct., 1626, it appeareth that one Robert Albone holdeth in right of glebe land these nineteen stints or grassings besides arable land and meadow. For land in West Chevington six shillings and eight pence for the which the incumbent receiveth 13^s 4^d per annum.' *Terrier*, dated 23 Oct., 1663. Warkworth parish chest.

The impropriation belongs to the bishopric of Carlisle, and is rented by Sir M. Bidley; it is worth $\pounds 3,000$ per annum. The vicarage is worth $\pounds 400$ per annum from undisputed tithes, but a suit is now pending for adjustment. The vicar, however, has no endowment. The population is 3,000, the

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- 3 Gleeb anciently belonging to the church, as appears in the office of first firuites, in Nether Buston, valued there at 6^s, for which the incumbent receives nothing. In East Chevington 4^s. In West Chevington 6^s 8^d,
- 4. One chappell in ye parish Chivington²² very much ruined & vacant.
- 5. No schooles, no papists, but many schismaticks. Mr. Humphrey Bell²³ of Whooddon, in Warkworth parish, is a notorious seducer schismatical.

THE VICARIDGE OF LESBURY.24

- 1. In ye donac'on of his ma^{tie} the value 35^{li} p' annu'.
- The impropriator is Mr. Charles Brandling, the value of the impropriac'on is 80^h p' annu', and the value of the impropriac'on of Bilton & Hacle is 50^h p' annu'.
- 3. The vicar, Mr. Cox, resides at Barwick.²⁵
- 4. The church and chancell ruinous, no schooles, no seducers.

THE VICARIDGE OF SHILBOTTLE.²⁶

1. In the donac'on of his matie the stipend 20^{li} p' annum.

church holds 600, but there are no free sittings, and the rated inhabitants of Chevington chapelry are entirely unprovided with accommodation. I pressed their case upon the notice of the parish. They have a clock repaired by the town. The clerk was appointed in 1825 by the vicar, he is paid 1^s 6^d by each farm, 3^d a house at Easter, and church fees. The four church wardens come in by rotation, the vicar appointing the town church warden. They gather their church rate by an ancient custom from the farms—one gathering produces £29 8^s at 4^s per farm. The Grey arms are on the gallery, but there are few if any memorials of the Percies.—I requested that their dilapidated pew might be repaired.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1826.

²² The chapelry of Chevington comprised the three townships, of East and West Chevington and Hadston. Tradition says its chapel was a thatched building destroyed by fire: the Sessions Records inform us that certain persons were apprehended in 1717 for stealing the chapel bell. Subsequent to the decay of the chapel the parishioners resorted to the mother church of Warkworth, where they were treated somewhat as step-children, church rates being demanded from, but no seats being appropriated to them.

²³ Humphrey Bell was the ejected vicar of Ponteland, though he was much solicited to conform, yet upon mature deliberation he refused it, and was content to turn farmer for a livelihood. . . . He was a learned man, as his MSS. testify. He died in 1671.' Calamy. At the sessions held at Alnwick in 1682, Mrs. Margaret Bell and her son, Mr. Samuel Bell of Wooden, were presented to be dissenters so reputed. She was buried at Lesbury in 1697. Their son, Samuel Bell of Wooden, married Susanna, daughter of John Grey of Howick, and left issue. Wooden is not in Warkworth, but in Lesbury parish.

²⁴ Cf. new County Hist. vol. ii. p. 443. ²⁵ Wm. Cox vicar of Lesbury 1663-1666, fellow of Brasenose, and vicar of Berwick.

²⁶ (Skilbottle vicarage worth about £220. The impropriation is in various hands, to wit, Mr. Cook of Newton Hall, Mr. Bacon, Lieut. Selby, R.N., Mr. Sanderson Ilderton. The chancel is, however, repaired by the parishioners, who WHITTINGHAM, CHILLINGHAM, ALWINTON, ETC.

- 2. The impropriators are Mr. Charles Brandling, Mr. W. Selby of Beel, Mr. Ratcliffe of Spinleston, Mr. Leonard Thorneton, & Mr. George Lislei. The impropriac'on valet 6 3^{li} p' annu'.²⁷
- 3. Gleeb anciently belonging to the church is now in ye possession of Mr. William Selby.
- 4. The church is in a reasonable condic'on.
- 5. No schooles in the parish, noe papists, noe seducers to popery nor sectaries.

THE VICARIDGE OF WHITTINGHAM.28

- 1. In the donac'on of the dean & chapter of Carlile.
- 2. The impropiators are Mr. Clavering of Callilee, Mr. Collingwood of Eslington, Baronet Ratcliffe of Dilston, all papists. The value of which impropriac'on is 200¹¹ per annum.

3. The stipend of the vicaridge is now 50^{11} p' an', but anciently the tith corne of Whittingham belonged to it, worth 26^{li} p' annu',

have a church fund arising from the rent of lands, called 'Lord's lands,' which have a church fund arising from the rent of lands, called 'Lord's lands,' which produces at present £24 15s. per annum. The population is 870, but the church contains only 188, without any free sittings. There are no catholics and very few dissenters. The church is in excellent order, but wants painting, and I called upon them to endeavour to meet their increasing population with pro-portionate church room, and at all events, not to suffer the churchyard fence to deteriorate. This fence is maintained by a variety of persons. There are 18 acres of glebe, well maintained and well fenced.' Archdeacon Singleton, Visita-tion 1926

deteriorate. This fence is maintained by a variety of persons. There are 18 acres of glebe, well maintained and well fenced.' Archdeacon Singleton, Visita-tion, 1826. "The rectory was parcel of the possessions of Alnwick abbey. The great tithes were sold by the crown trustees, Morrice and Phillips, in 1600. Certain of them were purchased in 1627 by Wm. Selby of Beal, and are yet in the possession of his descendants. In 1717 Francis Brandling of Bilton Banks registered as a Roman catholic the corn tithe of Shilbottle. "²⁶ 'The church is in excellent order but their communion plate is mean, and their walls have a sort of conventicle aspect for want of "the select sentences," "the King's Arms, etc." The population is 1,730; the church, with the addition of its recently erected gallery, contains 360. The catholics in this, their stronghold, amount to 100. The protestant dissenters are liberal, and frequent the church; they amount to 900. The Clavering family are catholics, and a priest is maintained by them. The dean and chapter of Carlisle are the impropriators, and the chancel is upheld by their lessees, Lord Ravensworth, Messrs. Clavering, Pawson, Atkinson, Tarleton, and those who are locally termed the "lairds of Glanton." There are meeting houses for catholics and protestant dissenters. The parsonage is an old but respectable tenement, and with its trim garden maintained in the decent simplicity of clerical taste. The glebe, which is all within the township of Whittingham, amounts to 50 acres, moderately fenced, but well ascertained; it is chiefly grass-land. The vicar has six stints in Eslington wood, at present let to Lord Ravensworth at £12 per annum. The pillars in the church are curious.' Archdeacon Singleton's *Visitation*, 1828. "Ales I these villars have been removed." I called for caution and delay and

Visitation, 1828. 'Alas! these pillars have been removed. I called for caution and delay and reconsideration, but the parishioners wanted room, the vicar was zealous, and I had no power to plead merely architectural curiosity against the spiritual necessities of the people.' Ibid. 1841.

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which the dean and chapter are about to deduct from the church and lease to Mr. Collingwood of Eslington a recusant.²⁹

- 4. The said Mr. Collingwood & Mr. Clavering of Callile, are seducing papists and keep priests. There are also many other papists & sectaries.
- 5. There is a petty schoole kept.
 - 6. Mr. Tallantire ye minister reported scandalous but now said to be reformed upon ye arch-deacon's publique admonic'on.

THE VICARIDGE OF CHILLINGHAM.³⁰

- 1. The stipend is 40^{li} per annum.
- 2. The Lord Grey is impropriator of ye tithe corn of Newton which is worth 2011 p' annu', and of ye tith corne of Chillingham, 1211 per annu'.
- 3. The church is in good reparac'on.
- 4. The gleeb lands found and boundred, and the terrier sent to be registered in the Consistory Court at Durham.
- 5. No seducers, papists, recusants, nor sectaries, and no free schoole.

ALLINGTON CHURCH & HOLYSTONE CHAPELL.³¹

1. Both these have been destitute of curates 4 years. Allington's stipend is at most but 13^{li} 06^s 04^d.

⁹ George Collingwood of Eslington was out in the '15, was taken, tried at Liverpool, found guilty, and lost his life and estate. Horsley says his fate was generally lamented and pitied, he himself having had the character of an inoffensive and peaceable gentleman.

³⁰ The rectory of Chillingham was parcel of the possessions of Alnwick abbey. The corn tithes of Chillingham and Newton were granted in 1605 by James I. to Lindley and Starkey, who immediately after sold them to Sir Ra. Grey of Chillingham.

'The Rev. John Sandford of Baliol college, Oxford, son of the titular bishop of Edinburgh, and what has had a more immediate influence on his appointment, the godson of the bishop of Durham, has been recently appointed vicar. He is building a new vicarage house, apparently in a sort of Gothic taste, and of considerable dimensions. Why he has placed it obliquely to the village street I know not. The earl of Tankerville proposes to pull down a row of old niserable houses to the eastward of it, which will render its position very agreeable. Mr. Sandford is at present engaged in endeavouring to make an amicable settlement with Lord Tankerville on the score of tithes. His lordan amicable settlement with Lord Tankerville on the score of tithes. His lord-ship, I apprehend, is contented to forego the gross payment mentioned in Dr. Sharp's folio for the tithes of his land. The vicar has had reference to an old and absurd endowment, which claims to have been granted by Julius Caesar ! This document is in many instances more against him than for him; and if he be well advised he will stick to prescription. The vicar has the corn tithes of Hebburn, and the benefice, I presume, may be worth £400 per annum in good years.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1828. ³¹ 'The appropriation of Allenton and Holystone, says Archdeacon Sharp (*circa* 1730), was in the Benedictine nunnery'of Holystone—after the dissolution

FELTON, LONGHOUGHTON, EDLINGHAM, ETC.

2. The impropriators (all recusants) are Sr Edward Widdrington of Cartington, Mr. Thurloe of Rothbury, Mr. Selby. The value of ye impropriac'on is at least 240^{li} p' annum.

FELTON.32

1. The church is in good repair. The impropriators are Mr. Brandling and Mr. Salkell valet p' annu' 100¹¹.

2. The vicar, Mr. Greave, is accused for intemperance and neglect.

3. The chappell of fframlington³³ is totally ruined and destitute.

THE VICARIDGE OF LONG-HOUGHTON.³⁴

1. The impropriators are Mr. Brandling & Mr. Archbold, the value is 50^{li} p' annum.

both places being granted into lay hands it became an impropriation which is now worth between £400 and £500 per annum. Mr. Selby of Biddleston has two-thirds, Mr. Talbot, Lady Sherborn (now duchess of Norfolk), and others the remaining third. The duchess's part lately sold to R. Storrer, sen., of the remaining third. The duchess's p Rothbury.' Horsley's Northumberland.

Allenton is a curious old church, and the ascent to the chancel and altar rare and imposing. In the sort of crypt beneath the chancel is the Selby burial

³² Felton was granted to Brinkburn by Wm. Bertram the second. Mark Grieve was presented to the vicarage in 1661 and deprived in 1669.

Alex. Davison, esq., of Swarland, is the impropriator; the impropriation is worth £600 per annum. The vicarage is worth £350, including the glebe, which lets for £130, besides 7 acres usually occupied with the parsonage house, which is excellent. The population is 2,000, but there are 50 catholics, and dissenters generally are increasing for want of church room. The sacramental utensils are mean. There is one plain silver cup and cocoa nut shell tipped with silver. There is a curious old stone in the pavement near the vestry door. The boundaries between Felton and Warkworth are defined by stones placed in Acklington park. Mr. Riddell repairs the south aisle.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1826. For notes of plate, see Proc. vol. iv. p. 181. ³³ 'Framlington chapel is in a very sad and disgraceful condition, the pews

ruinous within and the walls ruinous and unseemly with filth and abominations ratious when and the wars ratio and unseenly with ith and abominations without. The curate is a stipendiary curate to the vicar of Felton, but without a single farthing of stipend. He receives an ancient payment from the crown of $\pounds 6$ is, and a scanty and varying subscription of the inhabitants may produce about $\pounds 30$ per annum. For this he gives double duty on Sundays, the vicars pretending that by ancient custom they are only compelled to do, or to find duty at Framlington every third Sunday, in summer and every fourth in winter, this too with a population of 840. The late good and generous bishop of Durham crue the quester $\pounds 30$ new annum and he is reduced to teach the will be Durham gave the curate £30 per annum, and he is reduced to teach the village school, and to share the house and garden with the clerk, the parish making this disposition, to whom the house belongs. The clerk is paid by groats collected at Easter, and he has the churchyard, which is in a horrible state, inter-sected with paths, and the recepticle of all the filth of the village and of the adjoining schoolhouse. There is neither glebe nor parsonage. The earliest register in the curate's keeping begins in 1723, but at Felton there is a Framling-ton register commencing in 1654.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1826. ³⁴ Longhoughton, originally a chapelry in the parish of Lesbury, was made into a right the abbrefat thereit hereit hereit hereit a first fit.

a vicarage by the abbot of Alnwick shortly before the dissolution of that house. John Curry, M.A. of Queen's coll., Oxon., son of Edward Curry of Carmonby, Cumberland, vicar of Longhoughton, 1663-1665. Cf. new County Hist., vol. ii. p. 392.

2. The minister, Mr. Currie, is not instituted nor inducted, valet p' annum circiter 30^{li}.

THE VICARIDGE OF EDLINGHAM.³⁵

The church is ruinous and so the chappel of Bolton.

THE VICARIDGE OF ECLINGHAM.³⁶

The church is in good repaire. The chappels of Brandon and Bewick are totally ruined & destitute. The parishoners generally schismaticks, presbyterians, independants, or anabaptists.

ALNAM.37

The earl of Northumberland The church is ruinous and destitute. is patron.

THE RECTORY OF INGRAM.

The church is ruinous and destitute. Mr. Ogle is patron, valet 120^{li}

p' annum.

THE RECTORY OF ELDERTON.38

The church is ruinous.

¹⁵ The rectory of Edlingham was parcel of the possessions of the priory of Durham, and belonging to the officialty the church was not visited by Archdeacon Singleton.

³⁶ The rectory of Eglingham was parcel of the possessions of Tynemouth. Though this survey does not mention the chapel of West Lilburn, Mark states that it was in ruins in 1734.

'Eglingham.—Population, 1,750; church room, 350; dissenters about two-thirds. . . . The registers begin about the close of the usurpation, and the vicar has a tin box filled with valuable papers and muniments. The chancel is repaired under a rate raised upon the impropriators, who at present are Lord Tankerville, Messrs. Allgood, Brown, Ogle, and Baker. The £40 of Mr. Hymers's money mentioned in Dr. Sharp's folio is still secured on the Bewick Hymers's money mentioned in Dr. Sharp's folio is still secured on the Bewick Turnpike Trust. The situation already agreeable will hereafter become convenient when the neighbouring gentry shall have learned to appreciate the necessity of good roads. At present it would appear that they are leagued with their tenantry and each other for the purpose of eluding the Highway Acts. There are the remains of several dilapidated chapels in this parish, to wit-Bewick, Lilburn, Wooperton, &c. The chapel yards are still in the vicar, and as he cherishes the honourable intention of hereafter restoring them to their pristine utility, he is careful in preserving the rights of way to them in spite of some jobbing attempts to defeat him. He has built a girls' school and room for the mistress on his glebe. The late vicar built a boys' school over his coach house—a whimsical position. Glebe (*inter alia*), Bewick chapel yard, 32 perches; Wooperton chapel yard (has been ploughed out, but the vicar has reclaimed it), 3 roods.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1828.

⁵⁷ The rectory of Alnham was parcel of the possessions of Alnwick abbey. Certain of the tithes were granted by James I. in 1605 to Lindley and Starkey. 'Alnham usually, but not of necessity, united with Ilderton. The population

is about 150. There is no parsonage house but an old tower, long uninhabited and uninhabitable. Revenues £59 per annum.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1828. ³⁸ 'Ilderton rectory, for such it is, although denuded of every sort of rectorial

FORD, KIRKNEWTON, CARHAM, KYLOE, ETC.

THE RECTORY OF FFORD.

The church is ruinous, the meanes usurped.

KIRKE NEWTON.³⁹

The curate thereof is schismaticall.

. THE RECTORY OF CARRAM.⁴⁰

The church is ruinous and destitute. The impropriators Mr. fforster; valet per annu' 300^{li}, and the stipend 06^{li} 13^s 04^d p' annu'.

advantage, is dedicated to St. Michael. There is an old cup and cover; on the cover, anno 1583, a scroll pattern running round. Flagon, cup, and paten, "The gift of Ann third wife of Robt. Roddam esq. admiral of the White, to the parish church of Ilderton 1803." This inscription and the full blazon of the Roddam arms are on all the three pieces, and the motto Nec deficit alter, surely not very inappropriate for a man who had found a third wife ! Mr. Smith, the late vicar, Inappropriate for a man who had found a third wife! Mr. Smith, the late vicar, in a lawsuit, in which he was supported by the patron, caused the glebe to be ascertained and restored. It now consists of 48 acres, well fenced, and lying contiguous to the house, which is in tolerable condition, but built with a sham castellation. There is 1 acre at Rosedon.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1828. For note of communion plate, see *Proc.* vol. iii. p. 333. Pearson v. Ilderton. 7 Oct. 1787. After three weeks sitting the commission closed, respecting the glebe land of Ilderton, and sealed up. Nicholas Brown, *Diamu*

Diary.

³⁰ 'Kirknewton. This church is dedicated to St. Gregory, and is a vicarage in the gift of John Davidson of Otterburn, esq. I should have said disposal rather than gift, for I believe the family of Mr. Robinson, the present incumbent, made a purchase of it from the trustees of Mr. Davidson when that gentleman was a minor. The last incumbent was Dr. Thomas, the vicar of Chillingham, and whatever his merits may have been, he was indebted for this preferment to big are availant Mr. Baubiar the former dised so unexpectedly. his age. The excellent Mr. Bouchier, the former vicar, died so unexpectedly that the trustees had made no arrangements for appointing a successor, and were obliged to supply the vacancy with one whose numbered years would give the greatest reason to calculate on an early presentation. . . . However, it is right in this case to say that during Dr. Thomas' incumbency the curacy was respectably filled by Mr. Wood. I have heard that the original intention of the trustees was to nominate Mr. Witton of Rennington, a man at that time in extreme old age, but it was found utterly impossible to convey him to the bishop for institution, and impossible that he could ever read himself in."

There is a tradition of a parochial chapel yard at Akeld, but it seems now to be alienated, and I was told the high road to Wooler passed through it.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1828.

⁴⁰ (Carham has retained the memory of its dedication to St. Nicholas, the tutelary saint of mariners and fishermen. The patronage is in the Compton family, the impropriation belonging to the elder brother, whilst a junior has the church, being at the same time rector of St. Olave's, Exeter. There is some litigation in the parish on the score of tithes, principally between laymen, viz., Lords Tankerville and Grey on one part, and Mr. Compton on the other, but I understand the former have had a verdict. As this was only a quarrel for the spoils of the church I did not make an enquiry into the particulars. The annual value of the benefice may now, in the extreme depression of wool, be taken at £150 per annum. [Repairs needed to] the fence round the Wark chapel yard, or as it is locally called the burial ground at Gilly's Nick, I suppose St. Giles'. The population amounts to 1,300, the church will seat 200, which I fear is a number equal to the exigencies of the parish, as a very large proportion of the inhabitants are members of the Kirk of Scotland.' Ibid. 1828.

KELLOE.

The church is ruinous, ye stipend 10¹¹, the p'sent incumbent supplies

Most of ye ministers in the deanry are also Lowick. Scotchmen.

SEDUCERS.

- 1. Sr. Edward Widdrington's lady of Cartington.
- 2. W^m Clenell of Rothbury.
- 3. M^r W^m Clenell of Clenell (seduced wthin these 2 years by his Eve) Sr. Edw. Charlton's lady of Hesleside.
- 4. Sr. Cuth. Heron of Chipchase his lady (himselfe a protestant).
- 5. Mr. Clavering of Callale.

The highest seducers are the 3 ladies, especially the Lady Widdrington, who by her almes hath of late gained an 100 proselytes.

THE DEAN'RY OF BALMBROUGH UNITED TO YE DEAN'RY OF ALNWICK.

BALMBROUGH CHURCH⁴¹ AND CHAPPELL.

- 1. The names of the impropriators of all the tithes heretofore belonging to the parochial church of Balmbrough and within that parish are menc'oned in an information in writing declaring every particular place where such tithes do yearely chance and renew, and are estimated in the first page of that informac'on to amount to the yearely value of 3231 13s 4d, which full informac'on is in ye hands of ye archdeacon.
- 2. The names of the impropriators of all the tithes and places yearely chanceing and renewing within the chappelries of Belford.42 Lucker, Beadnell,⁴³ and Tughill,⁴⁴ being all chapels dependent

⁴ 'Bamburgh, a perpetual curacy endowed, however, with some portions of vicarial tithes. The church dedicated to St. Bartholomew (*sie*). The church room is ample, for many of the parishioners are of the Kirk of Scotland, and there is one family of catholics.' *Ibid.* 1828. ⁴² 'Belford chapel is comparatively a modern structure, but the builders have wisely decorated it with the carved stones of an older chapel which once stood the claiming hill Mr. Clark's one in a collear is ware handsome.' *Hild* 1826.

wisely decorated it with the carved stones of an older chapel which once stood on the adjoining hill. Mr. Clark's pew in a gallery is very handsome.' *Ibid.* 1826. ⁴³ 'This very neat little chapel was built by subscription. The population amounts to 291, and the chapel contains 170. The clerk has fees by custom, such as a groat per house and 6d. a plough, and in addition to this a collection is made for him every Sunday except those on which sacrament is administered: he computes his annual profits at about eight guineas a year. I dislike these weekly collections, they are unusual in the church of England, whose officers should not be paid in the way of alms, and moreover it, produces an uncertain and therefore an unsatisfactory round. moreover it produces an uncertain; and therefore an unsatisfactory, return.' Ibid. 1828.

" 'Tughall chapel. There is a handsome Saxon arch remaining which might,

DEANERY OF CORBRIDGE: CORBRIDGE AND OVINGHAM. 257

on the parochial church of Bamburgh, are menc'oned in the second page of the said informac'on, and doe amount to the yearely value of 573^{11} . In all 896^{11} 13^{s} 4^{d} . The minister incumbent hath out of all these onely 13^{11} 06^{s} 8^{d} per annu'. The chappells of Belford,⁴¹ Lucker, and Tughill are destitute. My lord b'pp of Edinburghe sent a complaint to the archdeacon that ministers (Borderers) do baptise and marrie those that come to them out of his diocese; upon enquirie the archdeacon is informed that one Patrick Hudson of Brankston is one of these, but he is not presented.

RECTORY OF FORD.45

The quire altogether ruinous, without any roofe. The body of the church little better, without door or windowes, faulty in the roof, that none can sitt dry in the church in time of raine, the walls not plaistered nor the flower paved, no ffont, noe communion table, no cloth nor vessells thereto belonging, no desk, noe surpless, no register, noe chest, noe vestry, no house for the parson, what was, is totally demolished, no gleeb nor tith that he can get possession of, but hath served for nothing nigh these three years past.

IIII.—THE DEANRY OF CORBRIDGE.

- 1. The parish church of Corbridge, especially the chancel (belonging to ye dean & chapter of Carlile) is very ruinous, in the late wars ye Scots did burne all the seats.
- 2. Mr. Humphrey Dacres of Haltwhistle is presented by the church wardens for a notorious drunkard being soe drunke on the first Sonday in this yeare as he would not come to doe service in the church. There are sundry other foule & scandalous informac'ons brought in publikely against him, by occasion whereof many of that parish are said to be lately fallen away to popery.

Ibid. 1828, ⁴⁵ 'Ford. The oldest registers commence in 1683. The rector keeps a book of registration for the dissenters of his parish; he found the custom, and I like him for continuing it. The rectory house is old, with small and low rooms, but the view is delightful over one of the richest and best cultivated plains in the Island.' *Ibid.* 1828.

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I should imagine, be worked with advantage into a new edifice. The burial ground is still used. The total of the Bamburgh glebe in Tughall amounts to 20a. 3r. 34p., of which 3a. 0r. 32p. are in the same enclosure with the ruin.' *Ibid.* 1828.

3. Mr. Andrew Hall, vicar of Bywell St Andrew, reported scandalous and admonished by the arch-deacon.

Inquiries.

- 1. What cures are destitute, how long and who are the impropriators, what value the impropriac'on, & in what deanry?
- 2. What churches want competent maintenance, and what theire stipends are now?

IN THE DEANRY OF CORBRIDGE.

The Answers.

CORBRIDGE.46

1. Hath alwaies been full. The impropriators are the deane & chapter The impropriac'on of the value of 160^{li} de claro of Carlile. 2 p' annu', ye stipend 60^{li} p' annu.

OVINGHAM.47

1. Vacant two yeares after his matie came in, now supplyed by Mr. John Lumlee minister there. The impropriator Mr. Ra. Anderson or Mr. ffrancis Addison (for at p'sent they are at law about it). The impropriac'on valued at 300^{li} per annum,

2. Wants competent maintenance. The stipend now being but 20 marks per annum.

⁴⁶ : Corbridge. The impropriation which was formerly rented [from the dean and chapter of Carlisle] by the late Mr. Errington is now in the hands of Sir Ed. Blackett and Mr. Donkin of Sandoe; it is worth £1,400 per annum. The vicarage, including glebe, tithes, and all dues scarcely surmounts ±400 per annum. The church is a perfect cross, but has suffered much by tasteless alterations and repairs. The fine old lancet windows are barbarised, but the buttresses and fantastic headed door of the chancel, and above all the fine old Saxon arch are worthy of much education. and above all the fine old Saxon arch are worthy of much admiration. There is a fine old tower in the church yard which was formerly the vicarage, and is of course the fortalice alluded to in the licence of King Edward IV. It and is of course the fortalice alluded to in the licence of King Edward IV. It now belongs to the duke of Northumberland, probably by exchange. The actual vicarage is at the east end of the town, and is at inconvenient distance from the church. It is low and covered by grey slates. The only curiosity is the necessary house, I may say almost entirely of Roman altars or armorial remains. One of these last consists of three most *volant* horses and three rings. It is a performance of Vicar Walton, who made an immense collection during his incumbency and sold it to the Grahams of Netherby.' *Ibid.* 1828. ⁴⁷ (Ovingham is a perpetual curacy, the impropriation being in the hands of Chas. Bigge, esq. of Linden. The church is a very large and lofty structure, being in the main in a very satisfactory state, although the grey slates unciled give it an uncomfortable aspect. Some of the pillars are very fine.' *Ibid.* 1827.

1827.

The rectory of Ovingham was parcel of the possessions of Hexham. John Lumley was vicar, 1662-1664.

STAMFORDHAM, BYWELL, SLALEY, CHOLLERTON, ETC. 259

STAMFORDHAM.48

- 1. Hath alwaies been full. The impropriator the ld. b'pp. of Durham. The value of it above 200^{li} p' annu'.
- 2. Hath good and competent maintenance. The vicaridge being worth at p'sent 90^h per annum.

BYWELL ST. ANDREW.

- 1. Hath alwaies been full. The impropriator Mr. Henry Thornton. The value of it 48^{li} per annu'.
- 2. Wants competent maintenance. The vicaridge now being but 18th per annum.

BYWELL ST. PETER.

- 1. Hath alwaies been full. The impropriators are ye deane and chapter of Durham. The value of it eight score pounds per annum.
- 2. Hath competent maintenance being lately endowed and augmented (according to his maties letter) by the said impropriators to the value of above 60¹¹ p' annum.

SLEYLEE.49

1. Hath been most supplied by Mr. Hall of Bywell St. Andrew, till of late. The impropriator Mr. Henry Thornton; the impropria'con valued and lett at 28^{li} p' annu'.

2. Wants competent maintenance. The curate there haveing at p'sent (and never had more) but twenty nobles per annu'.

⁴⁸ 'Stamfordham is in the gift of the Lord Chancellor. The impropriation belongs to the bishop of Durham, and is worth about £900 per annum. The vicarage half that sum. The population of the parish including the parochial chapelry of Ryal amounts to 1,827. Of catholics, with the worthy Mr. Riddell of Cheeseburn Grange at their head, there are 70, and protestant dissenters 100. They have a silver chalice, "the gift of J. Pearson, esq., to the parish church of Stamfordham, 1774," a plate with the same inscription, and an old unmarked silver cup.' Archdeacon Singleton's *Visitation*, 1828. For note of plate see *Proc.* vol. iv. p. 135. Proc. vol. iv. p. 135.

Stamfordham was appropriated to Hexham by Edward I. The grant is

Stamfordham was appropriated to Hexham by Edward I. The grant is printed by the Surtees Soc. vol. xlvi. p. 118. ⁴⁹ 'Slaley. I rode to it with Mr. Silvertop, lord of the great neighbouring barony of Bolbeck, and a very liberal and enlightened member of the church of Rome. The minister is an infirm old man of the name of Smith, recently appointed by Mr. Beaumont to this now perpetual curacy, which was once a member of Bywell St. Andrew's. The representatives of the Thorntons of Nether-Witton have the impropriation. The old Saxon doorway is curious, the old King's or Queen's arms grotesque, and the pewing of the church the most satisfactory part of it. They have a small footless communion cup. The poor curate received no delapidation, and his house is of course wretched. The delapidation system is a bad one in all cases, but dreadful and ruinous in these very small benefices. It is a living pauper suing a dead one.' Archdeacon Singleton's Visitation, 1828.

CHOLLERTON.⁵⁰

- 1 It is supplied at p'sent. It was vacant about half a yeare after his matie came in. The impropriator Sir William ffenwick. The impropriac'on valued at 160¹¹ p' annu'. But most of it sold to the Mercers at London, and paid to the lecturer at Hexham and
- 2. Hath hardly competent maintenance. The vicaridge worth but 40^{li} per annu'.

SIMONBURN⁵¹ [WITH] BILLINGHAM.⁵²

- 1. It is a rectory and well endowed. Billingham dependes upon Simonburne, and is supplied & provided for by the parson of Simonburne.
- 2. The rectory worth 120^h p' annu'.

NEITHER-WARDEN.53

Sir W^m ffenwick is patron. But 1. Hath been alwaies supplied. who is impropriator is not well knowne. The impropriac'on having been formerly sold by Sir John ffenwick to several persons, viz., to Sr Cuthb. Hearon, to Mrs. Anne Charleton, to the Lady Younge, to Richard Errington of Bukelee, to Nicholas

50 'Chollerton. Archdeacon Sharp congratulated himself on the introduction of venetian and sash windows. Look at these below [drawing] and tremble for the caprices of archidiaconal taste. The impropriation is held under the Mer capitors of atominaconal basic. The impropriation is held under the Mercers' Company, by the lecturers of Hexham and Berwick, their nominees. Mr. Bird values his benefice at \$400 per annum. My enquiries about the old stone in the churchyard induced Mr. Bird to dig it up, and from the annexed drawing it would appear to have been an altar.' *Ibid.* 1828. This must be the

Roman altar still in the church yard. ³¹ 'Simonburn. The old fortalice has been pulled down, but the more modern parsonage house has a great air of respectability, if not of good taste. The population is 900, usual congregation, 120. There are two or three roman catholic families, but such is the efficacy of residence and church room that there are very few presbyterians, and most of the people belong the establishment. The Allgoods have a very large parlour-like pew, and a monument, and, I fear, a vault. I saw in Simonburn village two of the finest beach trees in a close of Mr. Allgood's which have ever come under my observation.' *I bid*, 1832.

³² Bellingham church, which was formerly a chapel under the great Simonburn rectory, has now become independent and rectorial under the "Act of division." It is dedicated to St. Cuthbert, on whose day the village fair is kept under the common appellation of "Cuddy's Fair." *Ibid.* 1832. ⁵³ In 1663 the vicar of Warden would be John Shafto of Carrycoats, the

founder of Haydon Bridge school.

'The vicarage house is in decent repair, and has all that picturesque irregularity which is characteristic of an old official residence where each successive incumbent has added what suited his own convenience, without any reference to what had been erected before, or might be added afterwards. Mr. Beaumont is patron, and the value of the whole vicarage may be £500 per annum.' Ibid. 1828.

ffairelamb of B'ppside, to Alexander Stokell of White-Chappell, $S^r W^m$ ffenwick hath part of the to my lord of Newcastle. tithes in his owne hand. The whole impropriac'on valued at 193^{li} p' annu'.

2. Hath competent maintenance. The vicaridge being lett at p'sent for 50^{li} p. annu.'

HALTWESLE.54

- 1. It hath been alwaies supplied. The impropriator Mr. Nevill of Cheat. The impropriac'on valued at 300th per annu'.
- 2. Hath competent maintenance. The vicaridge being lett at p'sent at 70¹¹ p' annu'.

KIRKEHAUGH.

Is a rectory worth but 25^h p' annu'.

KNARSDAILE.55

Is a rectory worth 34^{li} p' annu'.

WHITFIELD.

Is a rectory, hath competent maintenance, worth at present per annu' 60¹¹.

ALSTON.56

1. Hath been alwaies supplied. The impropriators are Sr Edw: Ratcliffe & John Whitfield. The impropriac'on valued at 60¹¹ p' annu'.

⁵⁴ Haltwhistle. The rectory was granted by Edward VI. in 1553 to John Wright and Thos. Holmes. In 1585 it belonged to Nicholas Ridley of Willimoteswyke, by whose grandson Musgrave Ridley it was forfeited to the Commonwealth, and sold to the Nevilles of Chevet. They sold to the Blacketts. Hodgson, pt. ii. vol. iii. p. 436.

Hungson, pc. 11. vol. 11. p. 450. Humphry Dacres, vicar, 1633, was discharged from the cure by the commis-sioners for the ministry in the county. *Ibid.* p. 125. 'Haltwhistle. No canonical decoration is omitted in this church from the King's arms at the west end to the crimson velvet cover of the communion table at the east end. I was well pleased to see over the vestry door a large table on which was painted a catalogue of benefactions. There are four church-undone oppoints and catalogue of benefactions. wardens appointed conjointly by the minister and select vestry of twelve. The revenues of the benefice amount to about \$660 per annum, exclusive of 12 acres of ancient glebe in Haltwhistle, and I think 330 in Milkrich and Henshaw. The chancel is maintained by Sir E. Blackett of Matfen. Haltwhistle is full of uncouth but curious old houses which betoken the state of constant insecurity and of dubious defence, in which the inhabitants of the Border were so long accustomed to live. The very pig styes which are objects not very discernible from the dwelling house, have the crenellations and loop holes.' Archdeacon

Singleton's Visitation, 1828. ⁵⁵ 'Knarsdale is a very poor rectory in the gift of the lord chancellor, and poor as it is, it was much worse when the Rev. Mr. Bewsher was appointed to it in 1824. It appears that the sacrament was never administered for the last six years of Mr. Todhunter's incumbency' [Bewsher's immediate predecessor.] *Ibid.* 1832. ⁵⁶ The grant of the advowson of Alston to the convent of Hexham is printed

by the Surtees Soc. vol. 46. p. 119.

262 CHURCHES OF NORTHUMBERLAND ARCHDEACONRY, ¹⁶⁶³.

2. Wants competent maintenance.

1. GARRAGILL and Alston both one, and alwaies supplied by one and the same man. The impropriato^{rs} named and impropriac'on valued as under Alston appeares.

2. They both want maintenance. The stipend to them both is but $12^{11} 6^{s} 8^{d}$ p' annu' with some small gleeb.

Other Inquiries.

WHAT CHURCHES ARE RUINOUS?

Answers.

Corbridge: The chancell very ruinous.

Chollerton : The chancell is so ruinous that it is ready to drop down. Nether warden : Is quite down and continues so. And the churches

generally wthin are very rude and little decency or beautie in them.

Haltwesle : In bad repaire.

NOTE.—This Survey may be read and compared with that styled the 'Oliverian Survey.' printed in the Archaeologia Aeliana, quarto series, vol. iii, p. i-10.

