

SOME PARTICULARS

RELATING TO THE

Churches of Intwood and Keswick.

COMMUNICATED BY

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THE Church of Keswick, Norfolk, is in ruins, and has been generally supposed to have been allowed to fall into decay since the consolidation of the Rectories of Keswick and Intwood.

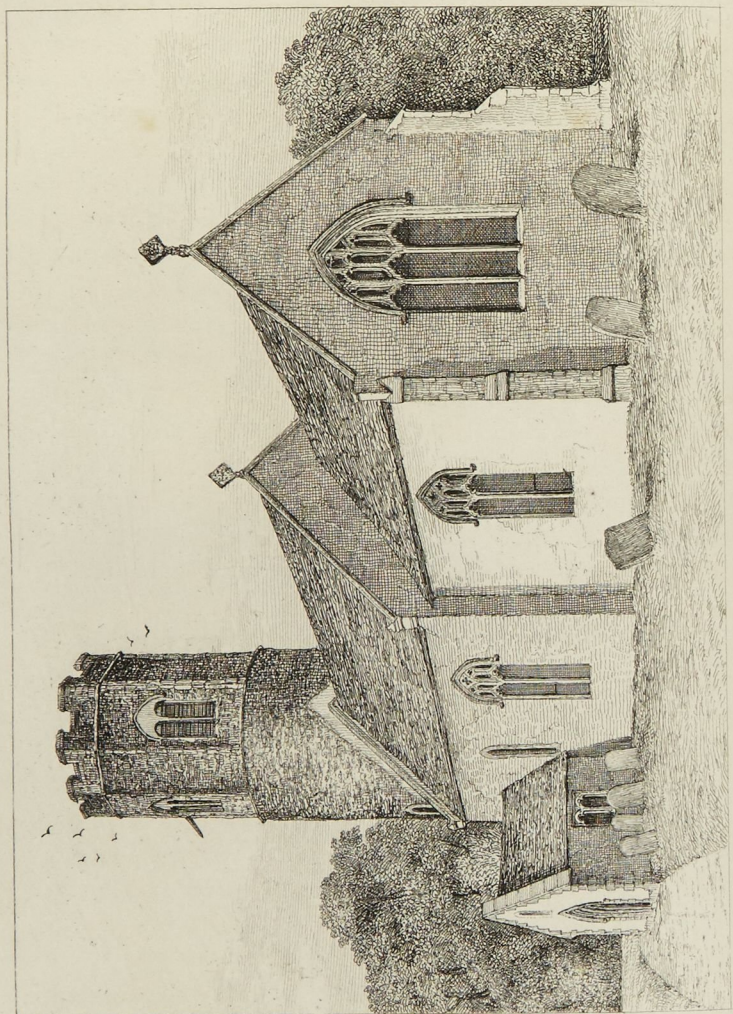
A copy of the Deed of Consolidation is in the Registry of the Bishop, and is dated the 23rd October, 40th of Elizabeth [1598]. It is signed by "Will. Norwiceñ,<sup>1</sup> William Gresham,<sup>2</sup> Edwarde Mundy."<sup>3</sup>

There are also in the Registry some Archidiaconal returns,

<sup>1</sup> William Redman, or Redmayne, consecrated 1594, d. 1602.

<sup>2</sup> The Patron. Who was this W. Gresham? In *Burgon's Life of Sir T. Gresham*, there is nothing to indicate who he was. He seems to have "run thro' his property." There are only three persons named in the pedigree in Burgon who can possibly be the person: (1) Sir W. Gresham, the second son of Sir Thomas Gresham's cousin William; (2) William, the third son of John Gresham, cousin of Sir Thomas; (3) William, the third son of Paul Gresham, of Walsingham, one of Sir Richard Gresham's executors. Was he the first of these three? His younger brother Thomas seems to have continued the line, and inherited the Titsey estate; and from him the Leveson Gowers of Titsey Park are descended. Does this point to anything in the career of his elder brother William? either that he had been otherwise provided for, or that his career had been such as to lead his father to disinherit him? It may only indicate that he died without issue. It would seem from the pedigree in Burgon that James, the eldest son of William, the cousin of Sir T. Gresham, died young; and thus William, the son of William Gresham, would be heir to Sir T. Gresham, who, however, was alive whilst William Gresham had possession of Intwood.

<sup>3</sup> The Rector.



INTWOOD CHURCH.

Drawn & Engraved by E. W. Pugh.

made in 1602, which do not seem to have come under Blomefield's notice, and which give a few interesting particulars relating to the circumstances attending the consolidation of the benefices, and the state of the two churches. At the suggestion of Mr. Hudson Gurney, to whose kindness the Society is indebted for the etchings which accompany this paper, I have made copies of the returns from Intwood and Keswick, and here add such other particulars as have come to my knowledge.

The return is entitled, "A Certificate of the ruines and decayes of the severall Churches and Chancelles wthin the Archdeaconry of Norff., of the Dioces of Norw<sup>ch</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> be now so ruinated and decayed, made the last day of July, Año Dñi 1602, accordinge to the tenor of tres addressed from the Right Worship<sup>ll</sup> Mr. Doctor Redmayne, Chancellor to the Right Reverend Father in God the Lord Bishopp of Norw<sup>ch</sup>, bearinge date the first day of July afforesayd, to the Archdeacon Comissary and Regr of the sayd Archdeaconry as followeth, viz<sup>t</sup>."

From the return relating to the "Dec<sup>tus</sup> de Humbleyard," I make the following extracts.

"INTWOOD — The Church there was about thirty<sup>4</sup> yeares synce converted to a sheepcoat, and by Mr. Billingford, Fermer to S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Gresham, ymployed to the layinge of brakes or furzes therin. And synce S<sup>t</sup>. Michael last, M<sup>r</sup>. Henry Hubberd, Esq<sup>r</sup>. hath converted yt againe to a Church, and sett upp stooles therin, for people to sytt in, paved yt, and caused Divine service to be used therin. M<sup>r</sup>. Willm Gresham, about ten yeares synce, sold two belles belonging to that Church, so that now they have none, but one w<sup>ch</sup> they have taken from Keswyck Church."

<sup>4</sup> c. 1572. Mr. W. Gresham is patron in 1571, in the lifetime of Sir Thomas Gresham, who was patron in 1568, and died in November, 1579.

“KESWYCK.—The Church there ys in very great decay, the stooles therin, the pavem<sup>t</sup>, tyle, the glasse wyndows, and the leade that covered the steeple, and a bell, are taken from thence to amend the decayes of the Church of Intwood, by the procurem<sup>t</sup> of Mr. Henry Hobart, Esq<sup>r</sup>.<sup>5</sup> So that synce Intwood Church hath been repeyred, no Divine Service hath been sayd in the Church of Keswyck, neyther ys there any bell.”

Blomefield states that William Gresham sold the manors of Intwood and Keswick, with the advowson, in about 1596, to H. Hobart, Esq. It would therefore seem, that when Mr. Hobart took up his residence at Intwood, in the mansion built about fifty years before by Sir Richard, the father of Sir Thomas Gresham, finding the church at Intwood more convenient to his residence than that at Keswick, he dismantled the latter, and used such of the materials as could be used in the restoration of the church at Intwood, having previously procured the consolidation of the benefices.<sup>6</sup>

When I first knew Intwood church, (1852) no indications remained of the state of the interior, as it was after the restoration by Mr. Hobart. From its appearance at that time, it would seem to have been refitted about fifty years ago. Nor can I call to mind any remains of “the stooles,<sup>7</sup> pavem<sup>t</sup>, and glasse wyndows,” which he brought from Keswick church. Possibly some of the “tyle” and “the leade

<sup>5</sup> The Communion Plate, consisting of a cup and paten, was also brought from Keswick, the inscription on the cup being—

“✠ THE ▽ TOWNE ▽ OF ▽ KESWIKE A<sup>o</sup> 1567.”

<sup>6</sup> W. Gresham, and not H. Hobart, signed the deed of consolidation. The reason why Keswick church was previously the one kept in repair, and Intwood suffered to become dilapidated, may be found from the fact, which appears in the old register of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, that Keswick, as now, was at that time the more populous of the two parishes.

<sup>7</sup> An old man who died two or three years since, remembered such “stooles” in his younger days. At his death he was probably about 80.



KESWICK CHURCH.

Drawn & Etched by H. Ninham.

that covered the steeple," are still to be found on the roofs of the nave, chancel, and tower of Intwood church, especially on the ridge of the chancel roof. There is still one bell, which may be the same in substance, but certainly is not in the same state as the one which was taken from Keswick church. The present bell has the following legend in relief on the upper part.

"THOMAS AND JOHN RACKHAM, 1737. THOMAS NEWMAN MADE MEE."

When the walls were scraped in 1853, whilst the church was under repair, the 1st verse of the 58th chapter of Isaiah,<sup>s</sup> was found well written in bold Old English letters, on the south jamb of the chancel arch. The characters corresponded with the date of the repair of Intwood church, by Mr. Hobart, and the selection points to a time when preaching was considered a most important portion of the ministerial work.

The dates of 1598, the union of the benefices—and 1602, the restoration of Intwood and the dismantling of Keswick churches—are illustrated by, and cast light upon, the earliest register book of these parishes, which contains indications of important changes in the affairs of the parishes.

The first page contains the following title.

"The Register Booke of the parish Church of Keswicke in the Countie of Dorsette Beginninge the firste Yeare of the Reygne of our moste gracious Souberaygne lady Queene Elizabethc."

"Anno Dñi 1599."

The first date of marriages, in the same hand writing as the title is 1557, (4th Mary) and the last 1597.

The first date of christenings is 1559, and the last, in the same hand writing, is 1597.

The first date of burials is 1558, and the last, in the same hand writing, is 1596.

<sup>s</sup> "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins."

The hand writing is that of Edward Munday, or Mundy, Rector from 21st July, 1597, to a period not later than 1602, nor earlier than 1601.<sup>9</sup> His signature occurs at the foot of six pages.

In the hand writing of William Wells, who signs himself as "Rector Ecclesiæ de Intwoode cū Keswicke," and whom Blomefield gives under date 1602, as first in the list of "Rectors of Intwood and Keswick and Gowthorpe Chapel annexed," but of whom I can find no mention in the Institution or Consignation books, there is the following memorandum.

"Mem<sup>d</sup> y<sup>t</sup> hereafter doe followe y<sup>e</sup> names of al y<sup>t</sup> were maried in y<sup>e</sup> parish Church of Intwoode after y<sup>e</sup> dissolucion of the Church of Keswicke & unitinge y<sup>e</sup> same to y<sup>e</sup> Church of Intwoode by W. Wells Rect<sup>r</sup> ecclesiæ de Intwoode cū Keswicke."

Similar memoranda occur in the lists of Christenings and Burials.

There are indications that the entries made by Mundy were copied from some other register, corrections and insertions being made in another hand; in which also are made entries of christenings, from 1538 till the first year of Mary, and of burials, in 1558 and 1559. Before the entries of christenings is the following memorandum.

"An<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup>i 1538: et Regni Henrici 8<sup>i</sup>: 30: et mensis Octob. 1<sup>o</sup>. The Register booke of Keswicke began."

The inference I draw is, that when the new state of things began under Mr. H. Hobart, a new register was begun for the two parishes, into which were copied the entries from an older register belonging to Keswick, which seems to have commenced in 1538.

<sup>9</sup> The second entry by W. Wells, among the christenings, is the following. "Elisabeth daugh<sup>r</sup> of M<sup>r</sup>. Edward Mundaye, late Parson of Intwoode with Keswicke, was baptized Mar. 7, 1602."