

## EXTRACTS

FROM THE

Two oldest Registers of the Parish of Syderstone,

NORFOLK,

COMMUNICATED BY

REV. H. J. DUKINFIELD ASTLEY, M.A., F.R.Hist. Soc.,

*Vicar of Ruisbam, Norfolk.*

By the kindness of my friend and neighbour (Rev. H. G. Willacy, Rector of the Parish) I have had the opportunity of examining the Registers of Syderstone, and I have found so many entries of varied interest in the two oldest books, that, with his permission, I have made copies of the most important, and prepared the following notes and extracts.

The Parish of Syderstone is rendered interesting beyond antiquarian circles by its association with Amy Robsart, the unfortunate wife of Robert Dudley, whose father (Sir John Robsart) owned the manor, and who herself resided there for several years during her early life. Around her name romance has woven its associations, and the problem of the manner in which she met with her untimely death at Cumnor Place, Oxford, is not yet settled beyond doubt;

but as to Amy herself and her romantic story,<sup>1</sup> these registers are altogether silent.<sup>2</sup>

The oldest register commences in 1585, by which time Amy Robsart (born 1532) had been dead for a quarter of a century, and extends to 1684.

Of ordinary baptisms, marriages, and burials I take no account here, though they would be, like all such entries, most interesting to students of family names.

The earlier entries are almost uniformly illegible, and indeed difficult down to 1612. The book has been so badly cared for.

The first entries are in English; from 1604—1606 they are in Latin. From 1628—1660 each page is attested by the Rector, from 1653 as Parliamentary Registrar.

I commence with the following entry:—

Anno Dom̄i 1630. “M<sup>rie</sup>. Marye Corbett, the Wyfe of Edward Corbett, Rector, was buried the XXIII<sup>th</sup> daye of August, Anno Dom̄i 1630; and also Marye the daughter of

<sup>1</sup> See *Who killed Amy Robsart?* by Philip Sidney, F.R.Hist. Soc.

<sup>2</sup> While on the subject of “Amy Robsart,” I may be allowed to refer to a paper by Dawson Turner, Esq. (published in *Norfolk Archaeology*, vol. i., p. 57), in order to correct a blunder into which that learned writer allowed himself to be betrayed. Writing on “Treasure Trove,” Mr. Turner prints *in extenso* a letter from a certain Sir William Stapleton (a priest) to Thomas Cromwell (Henry VIII.’s Lord Commissioner), “whom he, strange as it may sound to us, calls ‘Lord Legatt.’” This letter is taken from one of the Norwich City books, commencing in the second and ending in the twenty-fourth year of Henry VIII. In it the writer relates how he was “brought to a place called System in the said county” (of Norfolk), and how “the Lady Tyrry, lady of the said ground, forbade us meddling.” Mr. Turner explained “System” as “Sidestrand,” and said of “Lady Tyrry,” “I have sought in vain for any information.” A little further research might have enabled him to discover that “System” is Syderstone (or Sedistern as it was sometimes spelt), and that by “Lady Tyrry” the old writer intended to designate Lady Terry Robsart, the grandmother of Amy. This reference to Syderstone as a place in which “Treasure Trove” was sought in the reign of Henry VIII. is very interesting, and I am much indebted to the anonymous correspondent who kindly brought it to my notice.

the saide Edward Corbett and Marye his Wyfe was baptized the same daye anno p'dicto." This is in a beautiful hand.<sup>1</sup>

That the Rector soon consoled himself is shown by my next extract:—

"Barbary ye daughter of Edw. Corbett, Rector, and Maude his Wyfe was baptized ye 4th day of June, 1632."

In 1633 are Latin and English entries. From 1646—1653 all are in Latin.

Edward Corbet was appointed Rector in 1628 by the King, in the minority of Sir Miles Corbet, the patron. There was no other appointment till 1662, but before and during the Parliamentary regime, Thos. Swallow was curate; and during the Commonwealth, Saml. Smith. Thos. Swallow occurs as clerk and curate as early as 1637, and thenceforth signs at the bottom of each page till 1645, when he is succeeded by Sam. Smyth, who, however, was not "sworn" till 1653, as thus testified:—

"Samuell Smith of Sydersterne, Clerk, approved and sworne pishe Register for the sd. pishe (for the registering of Marriages, Births, and Burialls, according to the late Act, made to that purpose) this 17th day of February, 1653, by me Edm. Tvrner,

"Just. of Peace for this County of Norff."

Accordingly we find the following marriage entry:—

1653. George Coggs of Harpley, Widower, and Anne

<sup>1</sup> "On a mural monument of stone in the chancel with the arms of Corbet:—Or, a raven proper, impaling *Thornton*; Argent, a chevron between three holly branches, vert. In memoriam Mariæ spectatæ probitatis uxoris nuper Edw. Corbet, rectoris hujus ecclesie, filie Rogeri Thornton equitis aurati de Snailwell, in Com. Cantab quæ unquam post se relinquens filiulam Mariam nomine sanctissime obiit in fide cultuque Jesu Ao. Domi 1630, Aug. 27."—*Blomefield's Norf.*, vol. vii., p. 182; *Armstrong's Norf.*, vol. v.; Gallow, p. 136.

The register certainly says "buried the xxiiijth day of August."

Latford of Sydesterne, spinster, having their consent of marriage three severall Lord's dayes published in the pish Chamber of Sydesterne aforesaid, were fully marryed by John Poll, Esq., Justice of the Peace of these pishes and county, in ye presence of Nicholas Fishpoole and other witnesses the seaven and twentieth day of February, 1653.

There are many other interesting entries, *e.g.*:— 1628—George Hall, Clarke and pson of this parish was buried the xijth daye of December, anno p'dicto. George Hall was Rector, 1605—1628.

The names of "Faith" and "Audrey" occur.

Among the callings mentioned I find "labourer," "husbandman," "weaver," "sheepeheard," "blacksmith," "taylor," "shoemaker," and "yeoman." Thus:—

1654. Henry, the son of Thomas Wickam the young shoemaker and Elizabeth his wife, was born the fifth day of Aprill and baptized the ninth of the same month, 1654.

In the Latin entries:—A° Doii, 1649.—Jacobus Fische juvenis Custos oviū sepult fuit vicisimo sext die Septembris. 1652. Gulielmus filius Thomæ Hegram pastor' oviū et Aliciæ uxor' ejus bapt. fuit vicisimo octavo die Novembr. (Between now and 1660 there were eight children).

As illustrating the careful entry of illegitimate children there is the following:—Johannes Nothus et spurius filius Aliciæ Simmons bapt. fuit 8° die Sept. 1633.

The book has evidently been rebound more than once. The upper half of p. 61 is a repetition of the entries for 1649. The lower half contains the following:—

"Collected towards ye reliefe of ye distressed Protestants of Poland and Bohemia, May 16, 1658, ye sune of foure shillings and sixpence . . . . . iijs. vjd.

"Sam. Smyth."

“Collected<sup>1</sup> towards ye reliefe of ye poor inhabitants of Southwold otherwise Soulbaye in ye County of Suffolk, July ye 31, 1659, ye sume of five shillings and threepence  
“vs. iijd.”

“Collected towards ye reliefe of ye inhabitants of Fakenham, October ye seaventh, 1660, ye sume of thirty shillings and sixpence . . . . . £1. 10s. 6d.”

“Collected towardes ye reliefe of Robt. . . . . and Edward Peare of South . . . . . ye sume of foure shillings, ye third daye of Feb. 1660 . . . . . 4s.”

“Collected in ye Parish of Syderston towardes ye reliefe of ye Christian slaves in Turkey, 10s. 0d., October ye 4th, 1683.” (This last is another hand).

Page 62 contains various odd entries from 1622—1643, but it is a palimpsest, and on turning it upside down the two following most instructive entries may be read :

#### LICENSES TO EAT FLESH IN LENT.

(1) No name or date, but probably about 1630.  
“ . . . . . aged fourscore yeares and sicke and weake of body, so y<sup>t</sup> ye observance of Lent according to ye Lawes

<sup>1</sup>The receipts for this and the next collections are stitched into the cover :—

August ye 11th, 1659.

(1) Norff.      Received of ye overseers of ye poore there towardes ye  
Gallow      reliefe of ye poore inhabitants of ye towne of Southwold  
Sydesterne.      otherwise Soulbaye in Suff. ye daye and yeare abou  
written, ye sume of five shillings three pence, I say  
Received ye sume of vs. iijd. By me Nicholas Holman.

(2) Norff.      Received ye collection of ye inhabitants of Sydesterne  
Gallow      for ye reliefe of ye towne of Fakenham, to repaye their  
Sydesterne.      great loss by fire ye last daye of Aprill in ye eleaventh  
Dec. 24.      yeare of his Majestye's raigne, ye sume of thirty shillinges  
1660.      sixpence by ye inhabitants of ye sd. towne of Fakenham  
received of ye sd. collection, who do by these prts.

acknowledge the receipt of ye sd. sume and subscribe this acquittance under their hands this 24 of December, 1660. By me Willm. Haridance.

and Customes of this kingdom wold be most preiudiciall and apparently hurtfull to her old and crazy body; she is permitted ye eating of flesh for ye space of eight dayes next ensuing, according to ye statute in ye case, by me Edw. Corbett, Rector."

(2) "Item Dame Jane Peyton of this Parish ye wyfe of Sr Edward Peyton of Isleham Kt. & Baronet, being now of most infirme and sickly body and altogethcr unable for observance of Lent according to ye Lawes and customes of this Kingdom as hath beene oft found by her tryall to her great perill, and is further testified and avouched by her Physician to whom she hath been a patient for a yeare and upward ....." (The rest illegible, but evidently the same formula and of the same date as the preceding).

A similar entry occurs in the earliest Register of Campsea Ash, Suffolk, fo. 39:—"Decimo die mare xij Año Doñ 1632. Whereas ffrancys Bristowe gent. and Mrs. Colt his daughter, living in our towne of Ash, have requested of me to graunt them a license for the eatinge of *flesh upon fasting daies*, I being pson of the said towne of Ash have granted their request and given them a lyceat (quantum in me est) according to ye statute in ye case provided, divers good causes moving me hereunto ptly sett downe in the license & ptly were knowne unto myself. In wisse whereof I have subscribed my name the day and yre above written. Willm. ffarier."—The *East Anglian*, new ser., vol. ii., p. 363. Were such licenses of common occurrence in these early years of Charles I.?

Down to 1781 there was a monument in Syderstone Church, inscribed:—"Jane Peyton, daughter of Sir Edward Peyton of Isleham in Cambridgeshire, Knt. & Bart. by Dame Jane his wife, living virtuously & dying comfortably, was buried February 8, A.D. 1632." Her picture, say Armstrong and Blomefield, is on the wall, kneeling, and an angel standing at each side. This monument and the

picture have both disappeared, probably when the aisles were removed, early in the nineteenth century. The entry in the register runs:—"Mrs. Jane Peyton, ye daughter of Sir Edward Peyton & Dame Jane his wyfe, of Isleham in ye County of Cambridge, Baronett, was buried ye 8th daye of Feb. 1632."<sup>1</sup>

The Second Register of Syderstone is inscribed "from 1689—1741." Two circumstances, however, make it of special interest, viz.—first, entries of burials in woollen from 1679—1692; and second, a record of briefs received and collections made thereupon from 1707—1746.

In 1679 the curious Act enforcing the burial of all bodies in woollen was passed. It was originally enacted in 1666 with the absurd object of encouraging and protecting the woollen trade, but had been generally disregarded. The new and more strict regulation ordered, accordingly, that an affidavit was to be produced within eight days of the burial. None of these affidavits have been preserved at Syderstone, but specimens exist; and they are of great interest, as they serve to check the register and enable gaps to be filled when it is damaged or unreadable, *e.g.*, at Hawkshead in Lancashire, where the entries extend from 1680—1696, over ninety examples were rescued from the parish chest by Mr. W. S. Cooper, F.S.A., and altogether 194 still exist there.

The register begins at each end—1689, ordinary; 1679, woollen; and for 1690-2 the woollen burials are found

<sup>1</sup> How the connection of the Peyton family with Syderstone arose I have been unable to determine. They had long been an important family in Isleham, where "the Lady of Sir Robert Peyton, who died in 1518, founded a hospital for five widowers and five widows." The Peyton tombs in Isleham Church (of which there is a good illustration in Barnard's *Companion to English History*), are among the finest examples of Elizabethan monumental architecture. In Long Melford Church, Suffolk, there is a window containing the portrait of Margaret Peyton, of Isleham, in armorial costume, c. 1485.

also entered among the ordinary entries of baptisms and marriages, and among other burials apparently not woollen.

The entries of burials in woollen are made a year to a page, the only years omitted (when there apparently would be none) being 1683 and 1687. Each page is headed:—"An account of ye name and Quality of every person interred in Parish of Syderston, according to ye late Act of Parliament, entituled An Act for burying in Woollen, since ye last accounts given in by ye Overseers."

1679 ... 3    1682 ... 6    1686 ... 3    1690 ... 2

1680 ... 6    1684 ... 2    1688 ... 3    1691 ... 3

1681 ... 3    1685 ... 1    1689 ... 1    1692 ... 1

The entries from 1684 are attested by Thos. Savory, Overseer; that in 1692 is countersigned by L. Walpole.

#### BRIEFS.

Syderstone possesses a remarkably complete record of the briefs received from the year 1707 to 1746 inclusive (excepting the years 1721-31 inclusive), viz., twenty-nine years, besides the few seventeenth century entries in the oldest registry already referred to. I have, therefore, thought it of interest to prepare a few notes on the subject before proceeding to give the full extracts as they stand in the register. Detailed information is contained in Mr. Bewes' well-known book on *Church Briefs*.

When a public appeal had to be made for funds, the usual method in past ages was by means of *briefs*. Long lists of them may be found in many of the older Church books. In the Syderstone Register there are 306 such entries for the 29 years covered, or nearly one a month.

In the Book of Common Prayer, immediately after the Nicene Creed in the Communion Office, there is a rubric,



which runs—"Then also (*if occasion be*) shall . . . . .  
*Briefs, Citations, and Excommunications be read.*" This  
direction appears for the first time in the Prayer-book  
after the last revision of 1662, but we must not suppose  
that this marks the time when briefs first came into  
use, or were read in churches. As far back as 1588 we  
find in Marprelate Epist. p. 33—"Spent £37 in distributing  
briefs for the erection of a college"; while Pepys in his  
diary under date 30th June, 1661, twelve months before  
the appearing of the Prayer-book of 1662, complains  
that he had gone to church, "where we observe," he  
says, "the trade of brief is come now up to so constant  
a course every Sunday, that we resolve to give no more  
to them."

The quotations from Marprelate and Pepys' *Diary* given  
above illustrate the meaning of the word, and also these  
passages of later date:—

1781. Cowper's "Charity," vol. i., p. 469.

"The brief proclaimed, it visits every pew,  
But first the squire's, a compliment but due."

1820. Southey's *Letters* (1856), pp. 11-193. "A wooden  
thing . . . . . such as the Churchwardens carry about in  
church to collect money for a brief."

1836. Penny's *Cycl.*, vol. v., pp. 420-2. "A brief was  
issued in 1835 to increase the funds of the Society for  
the Propagation of the Gospel."

In the annotated Book of Common Prayer (first edition),  
p. 171, there is the following note on briefs:—

"These were letters patent issued by the Sovereign  
directing the collection of alms for special objects named  
in them. They were granted for building and repairing  
churches, and for many benevolent purposes (such as  
compensation for losses by fire), which are now provided  
for by societies or public subscriptions. Great abuse arose  
out of briefs, and a statute was passed to regulate them

in Queen Anne's reign. The abuses still continued, however, as will be seen by the following particulars of ninety-seven briefs for repairing or rebuilding churches or chapels, and forty-seven briefs for accidents by fire, inundations, &c., issued between Michaelmas, 1805, and Michaelmas, 1818:—

Michaelmas, 1805, to Michaelmas, 1818.	Estimate of money required.	Sums collected.	Net proceeds.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
97 briefs for churches, &c. . .	125,240 19 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	35,857 6 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	14,297 14 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
47 briefs for accidents, &c. . .	34,884 15 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	31,656 12 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	14,606 18 7
144	£160,125 14 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	£67,513 19 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	£28,904 12 11 $\frac{3}{4}$

An attempt was again made to reform the system in 1821, but so unsuccessfully that at last briefs were altogether abolished in 1828 by George IV., c. 28. King's letters were documents of a similar character, and are still occasionally issued, *e.g.*, the "Queen's letter," in January, 1900, for the sufferers by the war in South Africa, the last previous one being during the Crimean War.

Briefs were occasionally issued by the Bishop of the Diocese. We have an example at Syderstone in the entry under date October 5th, 1740; the petition of the Rev. Robert White recommended by the Bishop. Examples occur in other Dioceses as at Ryton and at St. Nicholas in Durham. The Syderstone briefs were usually received in bundles of five or six or more at a time, and read in church at varying intervals, generally of a month, but sometimes for several Sundays consecutively. This was the regular practice. Collectors were appointed to receive the money from the Churchwardens, but I only find one

mentioned here, Mr. Harwood of Norwich, who received the collection of 14s. 5*d.* for the S.P.G., on Aug. 25th, 1742.

The sums collected were usually small, 6*d.*, 1*s.*, and 1*s.* 6*d.* predominating. Occasionally, as in the above instance, they were larger, and also when, as was sometimes the case, the collection was made from house to house, as *e.g.*, that for Blandford, March 6th, 1732, which amounted to 8*s.* 1*d.*

In the Syderstone entries, those from 1707 to 1720 seem to be in one hand, a small and old-fashioned one, and the receipt of the briefs, together with the amount, or "charge," required, is entered on one page, the fact of the collection generally, and the sum collected, with the date, on the opposite page.

From 1732 to 1746 the entries are all by the Rev. George Jacomb, Rector. They are in a beautifully flowing round hand, and from the care bestowed upon them, I should judge this worthy Rector to have been a most precise and methodical person.

By far the larger number of briefs are for losses sustained by fire. Losses by hailstones and inundations also occur. The oyster dredgers, &c., of Medway, &c., in Kent, plead loss by frost as a claim for help, and receive 2*s.* on April 16th, 1742; and the fishermen of Feversham receive 2*s.* 6*d.*, June 19th, 1743. In the Ryton Register (Durham) the latter also plead loss by frost, but this is not noticed at Syderstone, and the Medway oyster dredgers were helped at Ryton in 1741, so there is no clue as to the date of the frost in each case, but the difference in date of collection illustrates the time spent in travelling through the country. The help given was not confined to our own country. Turkish slaves and captives were relieved, as were also Protestant communities on the Continent. In the oldest register of Syderstone the entries under date May

16th, 1658, of the collection of 4s. 6d. for the distressed Protestants of Poland and Bohemia, and under date October 4th, 1683, of the collection of 10s. for the "reliefe of the Christian slaves in Turkey," will have been noticed.

Under date 1709 we find two entries, one for "the poore distressed German Palatines," and the other for "the Protestant Church at Mittau in Courland," and under date 1716, "A brief for the reformed episcopal Churches of Poland and Polish Prussia, and ye University & Colledge of Enged (?) in Transilvania." Under date 1739, Bobi and Villar, in the Valley of Luzerne in Piedmont, sufferers by inundations, 2s. 6d. (This also occurs in the North Walsham and Ryton registers). In the same year 2s. 6d. was collected for "Dunbar Harbour in the shire of East Lothian, Scotland." Another Scotch harbour, "Aberbrothock in Com. Forfar," received 2s. 6d. in 1733. (Both these are entered at North Walsham).

Nor was Wales forgotten. A number of briefs ranging over the whole period covered by these entries refer to places helped in the Principality.

Then we must not forget to draw attention to the Cow-keeper's Briefe; losse £24,539 and upwards, for a distemper amongst cattle in 1715; nor to the response to the King's letter for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, in 1742, which produced 14s. 5d., showing that the needs of our Colonists were not forgotten.

The system of briefs may have become an abuse, but it certainly must have had the effect of knitting all parts of the country together in a bond of sympathy and fellow-feeling, not only with each other, but also with foreign lands, and helped the small isolated country parishes to realize that they were all units in one great whole.

In transcribing the Briefs I have only given the year, with the places, charges, and amount collected.

	1707.	s.	d.	
North Marston. Fire <sup>1</sup>	. . . . .	1	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	Church
Towcester. Fire	. . . . .	0	6	„
Shire Lane. Fire	. . . . .	1	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	„
Joseph Wakelin's Fire	. . . . .	0	6	Private
Broseley	. . . . .	0	7	Church
Spilsby, Lines. Fire	. . . . .	1	1	„
Littleport. Fire	. . . . .	0	11	„
Heavitree. Fire	. . . . .	0	6	
Orford	. . . . .	0	6	Church
Durley	. . . . .	0	6	„
Oberbarmen towards the building of a church for Protestants in the Dutchy of Berg	. . . . .	1	6	
Bewdly. Loss by fire	. . . . .	1	1	
Wincanton „	. . . . .	1	0	
Lisburn „	. . . . .	5	0	
Woodburgh „	. . . . .	1	0	
Alconbury cum Weston	. . . . .	1	0	
Brenchley	. . . . .	1	0	Church
In the Strand. Loss by fire	. . . . .	1	2	
Edinburgh „	. . . . .	1	0	
Shadwell, Charles Street, and Southam, unresponded to.				

## 1709.

Market Raysen. Fire	. . . . .	1	1	
St. Mary Redcliffe	. . . . .	1	1	Church
Llanbilling (?)	. . . . .	1	1	„
Harlow. Fire	. . . . .	1	0	
Holt Market. Fire	. . . . .	8	0	
The poor distressed German Palatines	. . . . .	8	8	
The Protestant Church at Mittau in Courland	. . . . .	2	0	

<sup>1</sup> Several of these briefs are also mentioned in *East Anglian* (new ser.), vols. i. and ii., passim, and in vol. iii., p. 271.

	1710.	s. d.
Stretton. Fire . . . . .		2 0
Ashton Parish Church . . . . .		0 11
Rotherhithe Wall . . . . .		1 3
Northfleet & Durrant (Darent)		1 0
Chalfont, St. Peter's Church . . . . .		1 2
Stockton Church . . . . .		0 11
Haughley in Suffolk . . . . .		1 0
Rotherhithe Church in Surrey . . . . .		1 6
Ensham in Oxon. Fire . . . . .		1 6
Cardigan Church . . . . .		0 8
Twyford in Norff. . . . .		0 8
Three petitions—for King's Lynn, for Walsoken, and Brandon—disregarded.		

## 1711.

Cockermouth Church . . . . .	1 0
Edinburgh . . . . .	1 0
St. Mary's Church in Colchester . . . . .	1 9
Wishaw Church . . . . .	0 10
Long Melford Church (£1,800) . . . . .	0 6
St. Helen's, alias Edington in the Isle of Wight . . . . .	0 6
Woolwich Church in Kent (£5,069) . . . . .	0 6
Padmore and Market Razen Lines. Fire (£1,169)	0 6

## 1712.

[From this time the amount of damage done, or required for restoration, &c., is usually given, but the amount collected often not.]

Tilbury Church (£1,117) . . . . .	1 8
Thames Street. Loss by fire (£1,111) . . . . .	1 6
Adderley Church (£800) . . . . .	1 0
Whitechurch (£5,497) . . . . .	0 10
Little Brickhill. Loss by fire (£1,270) . . . . .	1 0
Charles Empson. Loss by water (£2,000) . . . . .	0 11



1715.

s. d.

- Kentford, Suffolk. Losse by fire (1,057 lib.).
- New Shoreham Church, Suffolk. Damage (2,203 lib.).
- St. Giles' Church, Newcastle-under-Lyne. Damage (3,005 lib.).
- St. Peter's Church, in Chester. Damage (1,590 lib.).
- Cowkeepers' briefe. Losse (24,539 lib. 14s. and upwards) for a distemper among cattle.
- Dryneton & Slimbridge, Gloucester. Losse by fire (1,378 lib.). . . . . 1 4
- Milsham & Lythwood, Salop. Losse by fire (1,442 lib.).
- Blimhill Church, Stafford. Damage (1,485 lib.).
- Liverpool, Lancaster. Losse by fire (3,005 lib.).
- New Church at Sunderland, Durham. Charge (2,800 lib.).
- St. Mary's Church in the County of Lichfield. Damage (4,966 lib.).

1716.

- James Aron of Idsall alias Shifnal, Salop. Losse by fire (1,070 lib.). . . . . 1 4
- Spaulding, Lincoln. Losse by fire (20,560 lib. and upwards).
- Upton, Essex, and Tempsford, Bedford. Losse by fire (1,940 lib.).
- Burton in Com. Lancaster. Losse by fire (865 lib. and upwards).
- Thames Street in London. Losse by fire (7,639 lib. and upwards).
- Towards a Church and Steeple in the County of Salop.
- Ridgmont in ye County of Bedford. Losse by fire (1,578 lib.).
- Houndsditch.
- Ottery St. Mary, Devon.



A Briefe for ye Reformed Episcopal Churches  
in Great Poland and Polish Prussia and ye  
University and Colledge of Enged in Transil-  
vania.

1717.

Received these following briefs ye 14th of May :—  
Harstoft in County of Derby. Loss by fire  
(1,426 lib.).  
Benenden Church and Steeple (in ye County of  
Kent). Loss by fire (1,552 lib.).  
Great Bedwin in County of Wilts. Losse by fire  
(2,485 lib.).  
Helthwaite Hill in ye County of York and  
Whittington in ye County of Stafford. Losse  
by fire (1,287 lib.).  
Oldbury Church in Comit. Gloucester. Charge  
(1,163 lib.).

Received these five following briefs of Henry  
Savory, Churchwarden for Syderstone, the 4th day  
of October, 1717 :—

fframpton in the County of Dorset. Losse by fire  
(1,560 lib., &c.).  
Ellingham & Wisbitch (*sic*). Losse by fire  
(1,611 lib.).  
Arnold Church and Steeple in ye County of  
Nottingham. Charge (1,290 lib.).  
Wensley Church and Steeple in ye County of York.  
Charge (978 lib.).  
Putley & Jay in ye County of Gloucester.<sup>1</sup> Losse  
by fire (1,291 lib.).

1718.

Received these five following briefs of Mr. Henry  
Savory, Churchwarden of Syderstone, the 12th of  
May, 1718 :—

<sup>1</sup> Jay, in Salop (N. Walsham Register).

Newland & Chepping Wiccombe. Losse. by fire  
(1,020 lib. and upwards).

St. Mary, Newington, in Comit. Surrey. Charge  
(1,926 lib. and upwards).

Ashborne and Mappleton Church. Charge (3,016 lib.  
and upwards).

Penrith Church in Comit. Cumb. Charge (1,380 lib.  
and upwards).

Chevington in Comit. Warwicke. Losse by fire  
(1,476 and upwards).

Received these five following briefs of Mr. Henry  
Savory, Churchwarden, the 3rd of October, 1718:—

Little St. Andrew's, Barnewell, in Cambridge. Losse  
by fire (£3,842).

Ardley Church in Comit. Stafford. Charge  
(1,351 lib., &c.).

Grindon Church in Comit. Stafford. Charge  
(£1,350).

Dolgelly Church in Comit. Merioneth. Charge  
(£1,449).

Wilcot & Ensdon in Comit. Salop. Losse by fire  
(1,717 lib.).

So far the record of the receipt of the briefs since  
1713 is written on one page, and that of the fact  
of a collection being made thereupon (but usually  
without any statement of the amount) on the  
opposite page. The following simply record the fact  
of the briefs being received:—

#### 1719.

Received these six following briefs of Mr. Henry  
Savory, Churchwarden, the 20th of April, 1719:—

Deepeing, St. James' Church, in the County of  
Lincoln. Charge (1,102 lib.).

Old Radnor, & Habberley in ye County of Worcester.

Losse by fire (1,289 lib.).

Old Weston in Comit. Huntington. Losse by fire

(1,969 lib.).

Biggleswade Church and Steeple in ye County of

Bedford. Charge (1,437 lib.).

Sheriffe Hales Church in Comit. Stafford. Charge

(1,339 lib.).

Headington in Comit. Oxon. Losse by fire (1,983 lib.).

June ye 14th, 1719.

Then delivered ye aforesaid six briefs to Mr. Henry Savory, Churchwarden, after the chiefe contents of ym were published in ye Church to be collected by him for the best advantage of ye sufferers. Collected towards ye aforesaid six briefs, three shillings, by Thos. Browne, Rector.

Received these six following briefs of Mr. Savory, Sept. ye 30th, 1719 :—

Thrapston in Comit. Northampton. Losse by fire

(3,748 lib.).

Hartlepoole Church in Comit. Durham. Charge

(1,732 lib.).

Hinstocke Church in Comit. Salop. Charge

(1,295 lib.).

Cheltenham and Letchlad in Comit. Gloucester;

St. John Baptist's Church in Comit. Chester

and Thorntonhough, Bickley, and Bampton in

Comitat. Chester. Charge (3269 lib.).

Collected towards Cheltenham, Letshlad, and Thor-

tonhough, Bickley, and Bampton Bridge, the

11th of October, 1719.

October 4th. Collected towards . . . . .

October ye 18th. Collected towards Hartlepoole

Church.

October ye 25th. Collected towards St. John Baptist's Church.

Nov. 1st. Collected towards Hinstocke Church.

1720.

Received ye 13th day of May, 1720, these six following briefes, viz. :—

Kingswood Church in Comit. Wilts. Charge (1,000 lib. and upwards).

Great Grimsby Church in Comit. Lincoln. Damage (1,757 lib.).

Oxtead Church in Comit. Surrey. Losse by lightning (1,904 lib.).

Sufferers by thunder, haile, &c., in Comit. Stafford. (4,163 lib.).

St. Olave's Church, neare Yorke. Charge (1,039 lib.).

Paris Street in Exon. Losse by fire (1,067 lib.).

October the 13th, 1720.

Received then of Henry Savory these following briefes :—

Imp: Swacey in Comit. Canterbrid. Losse by fire (1,755 lib. and upwards). (Swavesey in North Walsham Register).

Burton Church in Comit. Chester. Charge (1,548 lib.).

Ingmanthorpe and Norton under Cannock in Comit. Ebor and Stafford. Losse by fire (1,133 lib.).

Shawardine (*sic*) Church and Parsonage House. Charge (1,609 lib.).

Meonstoke in Comit. Southampton. Losse by fire (5,173 lib.).

1732.

*s. d.*

Sept. 10th. Received of the Churchwarden, Henry Savory, the Brief for Ramsey in Com. Huntington. Loss by fire (11,700 pounds and upwards) and collected thereupon, Sept. 11th, 1732, from house to house the sum of nine shillings and three pence.      Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.

Received the following seven briefes of the Churchwarden of Siderstern, Henry Savory, and delivered to him again on reading of same by me, Geo. Jacomb, Rectr., *ibid.* :—

Manton, &c., in Com. Rutland, &c. Loss by fire	1   0
Received, read, and collected thereon May 8th.	
Draycott Church in Com. Stafford, June 11th . . . . .	1   6
Stowerbridge Church in Com. Worcester, June 25th	1   3
Abby Lanercoast Church in Com. Cumberland, July 9th	1   4
Newbold-upon-Avon in Com. Warwick. Loss by fire, July 23rd . . . . .	0   6
Ramsey in Com. Huntington. Loss by fire, Sept. 10th	9   3
Bishops Norton Church in Com. Lincoln, Sept. 24th	1   4
Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.	

Received ye following seven briefs of the Churchwarden of Siderstern, Henry Savory, and delivered to him again on reading the same by me Geo. Jacomb, Rectr., *ibid.* :—

Well Church in Com. Lincoln. Received, read, and collected thereon, Oct. 8th. . . . .	1   0
North Stoneham in Com. Southampton. Fire, Oct. 22nd . . . . .	1   4
Barton-upon-Humber in Com. Lincoln, &c. Loss by fire, Decr. 3rd . . . . .	0   10
Dudley Church in Com. Worcester, Dec. 17th . . . . .	1   4
Wood Plumpton in Com. Lancaster, Eagleshall in	

Com. Stafford, Cockthorpe in Com. Norfolk.	<i>s. d.</i>
Loss by fire, January 21st . . . . .	3 1
Austerfield ( <i>sic</i> : Chesterfield, <i>Bewes</i> ) in Com. York,	
Kirby Bedon in Com. Norfolk, Feckenham in	
Com. Worcester. Loss by fire, January 7th . . . . .	0 10
Blandford Forum in Com. Dorset. Loss by fire.	
Received and read March 4th, and collected	
thereon from house to house, March 6th, 1732 . . . . .	8 1
Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.	

1733.

Received the seven following briefs as above:—

Maddington, &c., in Com. Wilts. Loss by fire,	
June 3rd . . . . .	1 0
Aberbrothock Harbour in Com. Forfar in Scotland,	
June 17th . . . . .	2 6
Monmouth Church in Com. Monmouth, July 1st . . . . .	1 2
Conington Church in Com. Cambridge, July 15th . . . . .	1 4
Sremby Church in Com. Lincoln, Aug. 26th . . . . .	1 2
Whitfield in Com. Somerset. Loss by fire, Sept. 9th . . . . .	1 2
Mitchel Dean Church in Com. Gloucester, Sept. 23rd . . . . .	1 2
Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.	

Received ye six following briefs and returned them as above:—

Erehfont in Com. Wilts. Loss by fire, Nov. 18th,	
1733 . . . . .	1 5
Aylesbury in Com. Bucks. Loss by fire, Dec. 16th,	
1733 . . . . .	1 6
Rufford Chapel in Com. Lancaster, Jan. 6th, 1733 . . . . .	1 6
Redmarley and Edingale Churches in Com. Worcester	
and Stafford, Feb. 17th, 1733 . . . . .	1 2
Guilden Morden in Com. Cambridge. Loss by fire,	
March 3rd, 1733 . . . . .	1 4
Christleton Church in Com. Chester, Mar. 31st, 1734 . . . . .	1 0
Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.	

## 1734.

Received ye five following briefs and returned them as above:—

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Ealing Church in Com. Middlesex, June 2nd . . . . .	10	
Monford Church in Com. Salop, June 16th . . . . .	1	4
Gressingham Chapel in Com. Lancaster, June 30th . . . . .	1	4
Onniley in Com. Stafford. Loss by fire, July 4th . . . . .	1	0
North-meels Church in Com. Lancaster, Sept. 22nd . . . . .	1	6
Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.		

Received ye six following briefs and one petition and return ym as above:—

Cottenham in Com. Cambridge. Loss by fire, Jan. 26th . . . . .	1	4
Machynleth Church in Com. Montgomery, Feb. 9th . . . . .	1	2
Poulton, &c., in Com. Lancaster, &c. Loss by fire, Feb. 16th . . . . .	1	3
Epworth in Com. Lincoln. Loss by fire, Feb. 23rd . . . . .	1	4
All Saints' Church in ye City of Worcester, March 23rd . . . . .	1	4
Barnwell in Com. Cambridge. Loss by fire. Received June 1st, and collected June 2nd, 1735 . . . . .	5	1
Collected more on Do., June 7th, 1735 . . . . .		2
A Petition for Mellis Church in Suffolk. Collected June 29th, 1735 . . . . .		6
Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.		

## 1735.

Received the four following briefs and returned them as above:—

Preese in Com. Lancaster. Loss by fire. Collected Sept. 21st, 1735 . . . . .	1	6
South Thoresby Church in Lincoln, July 27th, 1735 . . . . .	1	4
Shaw Chapel in Com. Lancaster, Sept. 28th . . . . .	1	6

Brampton, &c., in Com. Huntington. Loss by fire, s. d.  
 Sept. 28th, 1735 . . . . . 1 6

Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.

Received the five following briefs and returned them as above:—

East Stoke Church in Com. Nottingham, Nov. 16th 1 2  
 Empsay in Com. Ebor. Loss by fire, Nov. 30th . 1 6  
 Petsworth in Com. Oxon. Loss by fire, Dec. 28th . 1 0  
 Norton Church in Com. Stafford. Jan. 11th . . 1 2  
 Milton in Com. Cambridge. Loss by fire, Jan. 25th 0 10  
 Llanarmon Church in Com. Denbigh, Mar. 7th . 1 2

Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.

1736.

Received the five following briefs and returned ym as above:—

Swafham Prior in Com. Cambridge. Loss by fire,  
 May 23rd . . . . . 0 10  
 Royston in Com. Hertford. Loss by fire, June 20th 1 4  
 Mobberley in Com. Chester. Loss by storm of hail,  
 Sept. 12th . . . . . 1 4

Walton-in-the-Woulds Church in Com. Leicester,  
 Sept. 19th . . . . . 1 6

Cobham in Com. Surrey. Loss by fire, Apr. 26th . 1 4

Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.

Received the five following briefs and returned them as above:—

St. John, Wapping, in Com. Middlesex. Loss by fire,  
 Mar. 13th . . . . . 1 2

Pendle Chapel in Com. Lancaster, Mar. 20th . . . 1 6

1737.

Houghton Church in Com. Stafford, March 27th . 1 2

Castle Hayes, &c., in Com. Stafford, &c. Loss by  
 fire, April 3rd . . . . . 1 3



Haughton Regis in Com. Bedford. Loss by fire, s. d.  
 April 10th . . . . . 1 6

Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.

Do.

Measham Church in Com. Derby, May 22nd . . . 1 6  
 Puttenham in Com. Surrey. Loss by fire, May 29th 1 6  
 Blidworth Church in Com. Nottingham, June 19th 1 2

Turn over 4 2

Brought over 4 2

Ravenstondale Church in Com. Westmoreland,  
 July 3rd . . . . . 1 3

Stony Stratford, in Com. Bucks. Loss by fire,  
 July 17th . . . . . 3 7

9 0

1737-38.

Received and collected the following briefs for  
 Sidestern, and returned to the Churchwarden, John  
 Savory:—

Upchurch, &c., in Com. Kent. Loss by inundation,  
 Dec. 18th, 1737 . . . . . 1 5

Penkrych, &c., in Com. Stafford. Loss by fire,  
 March 19th, 1737 . . . . . 1 8

Preston Church in Com. Salop, March 26th, 1738 . 1 3

Abton Church, &c., in Com. Salop, April 2nd, 1738 . 1 6

St. John Baptist Church in Civit' and Com. Coventry,  
 April 2nd, 1738 . . . . . 1 6

Geo. Jacomb, Rector.

1738.

Kelshall, &c., in Com. Chester, &c. Loss by fire,  
 Oct. 15th . . . . . 1 6

Longdon Church, &c., in Com. Salop, Oct. 29th . 1 2

Berkswich, alias Berkswick Church in Com.  
 Stafford, Nov. 26th . . . . . 1 6

1739.		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Royston in Com. Cambridge. Loss by fire, April 8th		1	6
St. Mary's Church in Gateshead in Com. Durham, March 25th . . . . .		1	6
Dunbar Harbour in the Shire of East Lothian, Scotland, April 29th. Then received and collected, May 4th . . . . .		2	6
Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.			
Dorchester Church in Com. Oxon., May 20th . . . . .		1	3
Marchington Church in Com. Stafford, June 17th . . . . .		1	2
Fennstanton in Com. Huntingdon. Loss by fire, July 1st . . . . .		1	2
Nuneaton Church in Com. Warwick, July 15th . . . . .		1	6
Bobi and Villar in the Valley of Luzerne in Piedmont. Sufferers by Inundations, July 29th. Collected ye 31st . . . . .		2	6
Standon, &c., in Com. Hertford. Loss by Hailstorm, Sept. 23rd . . . . .		2	8
Geo. Jacomb, Rector.			

Do.

Saint Chad Church in Com. Stafford, March 9th . . . . .		1	6
---	--	---	---

1740.

Macclesfield Church in Com. Chester, April 6th . . . . .		1	4
Walton, &c., in Com. Worcester, &c. Loss by fire, April 27th . . . . .		1	1
Brought over . . . . .		3	11
New Arelsford in Com. Southampton. Loss by fire, May 11th . . . . .		2	3
Twyford and Stenson Church in Com. Derby, May 18th . . . . .		1	3
Geo. Jacomb, Rectr.			

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Stirchley Church, &c., in Com. Salop, &c., July 27th	1	2
St. John's Chapel in Deritend in Com. Warwick, Aug. 10th	1	2
Burton, &c., in Com. Bucks, &c. Loss by fire, Aug. 24th	1	6
Shareshill Church in Com. Stafford, April 7th	1	2
Hinxton in Com. Cambridge. Loss by fire, Sept. 21st Geo. Jacomb, Rector.	1	3
The Petition of Rev. Robert White, Clerk, Rector of Borough St. Mary and St. Margaret in Com. Norfolk. Loss in his Rectory House and Barn by fire and winds. Recommended by the Bishop of Norwich, Oct. 5th	4	6
Geo. Jacomb, Rect.		
Heapy Chapel in Leyland in Com. Lancaster, Nov. 16th	1	2
Cromer in Com. Norfolk. Loss by fire, Dec. 28th	1	6
Bascot in Com. Warwick. Loss by fire, Jan. 11th	1	2
Brought over	3	10
The Petition for Bardswell or Bergwell Church in Norfolk, Jan. 18th	3	6
Congleton Church in Com. Chester, Jan. 25th	1	0
Prestwold Church in Com. Leicester, Feb. 8th	1	0
Foulness in Com. Essex. Loss by Inundation, Mar. 8th	1	6
Geo. Jacomb, Rector.		

## 1741.

St. Andrew's Church in the City of Worcester, Apr. 20th	1	6
Marrick, &c., in Com. Ebor. Loss by fire, Oct. 4th	1	6
Thimbleby Church in Com. Lincoln, Oct. 11th	1	2
Upton Parva alias Waters Upton Church in Com. Salop, Oct. 11th	1	3

St. George and St. John Wapping in Com. Middlesex. *s. d.*  
 Loss by fire, Oct. 11th . . . . . 1 5  
 Geo. Jacomb, Rector.

Polesworth Church in Com. Warwick, Feb. 7th . . 1 6  
 Much Wenlock Church in Com. Salop, Feb. 21st . . 1 6

1742.

Holy Trinity Church in Com. Surrey, April 16th . . 1 6  
 Marsh Gibbon in Com. Bucks. Loss by fire, April 16th . 2 0  
 Oyster Dredgers, &c., Medway, &c., in Com. Kent.  
 Loss by frost, April 16th . . . . . 2 0

Heap in Com. Salop. Loss by fire, April 18th . . 1 6  
 Geo. Jacomb, Rector.

Culcheth Chapel in Com. Lancaster, Aug. 8th . . 1 6  
 Collected on His Majesty's Letter for the Corporation  
 for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts,  
 Aug. 17th. Paid Aug. 25th to Mr. Harwood of  
 Norwich . . . . . 14 5

Peter Harrold's Petition for the Fire at Great  
 Yarmouth, Sept. 5th . . . . . 1 9

Huby and Northmarston, &c., in Com. Yorks and  
 Bucks, &c. Loss by fire, April. 19th . . . . 1 6  
 Geo. Jacomb, Rector.

Drayton in Com. Berks, &c. Loss by fire, Oct. 3rd 2 0  
 Middle Church in Com. Salop, Oct. 3rd . . . . 1 3  
 Whittington Church in Com. Salop, Oct. 10th . . 1 0  
 Geo. Jacomb, Rector.

Chilton, &c., in Com. Berks, &c. Loss by fire,  
 Jan. 23rd . . . . . 1 4

Lower Wallop in Com. Southampton. Loss by fire,  
 Feb. 20th . . . . . 1 4

Formby Chapel in Com. Lancaster, March 6th . . . 1 4  
 Stogumber in Com. Somerset. Loss by fire,  
 March 20th . . . . . 2 6

1743. s.   d.

Altcar Church in Com. Lancaster, April 3rd . . . . . 1   6

Llanhasa Church in Com. Flints. April 4th . . . . . 1   0

Geo. Jacomb, Rector.

Llangwin Church in Com. Denbigh, May 29th . . . . . 1   3

Fishermen, &amp;c., of Feversham in Com. Kent,

June 19th . . . . . 2   6

Cheam Church in Com. Surrey, June 26th . . . . . 1   5

Hensingore Church in Com. Yorks, July 2nd . . . . . 1   2

Chilsworth in Com. Oxon. &amp;c. Loss by fire, July 10th

Geo. Jacomb, Rector.

The petition of Eliza Smallwood of Nolton, Suffolk.

Loss by fire, Dec. 11th . . . . . 2   6

Pulloxhill Church in Com. Bedford, Jan. 8th . . . . . 1   0

Great Steeping Church in Com. Lincoln, March 4th . . . . . 1   0

Milverley in Com. Salop. Loss by Floods, March 18th . . . . . 1   3

1744.

Maxey and Elsworth in Com. Northampton, &amp;c.

Loss by fire, April 1st . . . . . 1   6

Sutton in the Isle of Ely. Loss by fire, April 1st . . . . . 1   6

Crofton Church in Com. Lancaster, April 8th . . . . . 1   0

Geo. Jacomb, Rector.

Do.

Stallingbrough Church in Com. Lincoln, Nov. 8th . . . . . 1   0

Barrow Church in Com. Chester, Nov. 25th . . . . . 1   0

Aswarby Church in Com. Lincoln, Dec. 9th . . . . . 1   0

Buckerell in Com. Devon. Loss by fire, Dec. 23rd . . . . . 1   3

Harthill, Woodhall, &amp;c., in Com. York. Loss by

Storm, Jan. 6th . . . . . 2   0

Eynsford in Com. Kent. Loss by fire, Feb. 3rd . . . . . 1   3

Rector, Geo. Jacomb.

Do. 1745.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Nether Knutsford Church in Com. Chester, June 9th	1	0
Saint Ives Church in Com. Huntingdon, June 23rd	1	0
Cobwall, &c., in Com. Hereford, &c. Fire, July 7th	1	0
Westborough Church in Com. Lincoln, July 14th	1	0
Blacktoft, &c., in Com. York. Floods, Sept. 29th	1	6
Geo. Jacomb, Rector.		

Do.

Stillington, Haley, &c., in Com. York and Southampton. Loss by fire, March 23rd	1	8
Willenhall Chapel in Com. Stafford, March 16th	1	0

1746.

St. Alban's in Com. Hereford. Loss by fire, March 30th	2	0
Battlefield Church in Com. Salop, April 13th	1	0
Wimbish Church in Com. Essex, April 20th	1	0
Hemingford Grey Church in Com. Huntingdon, April 20th	1	0
Geo. Jacomb, Rector.		

Do.

Wyke, Townhope, &c., in Com. York, Hereford, &c. Losses by Fire, Aug. 3rd	1	3
Hythe Church in Com. Kent, April 17th	1	0
Garstang Church in Com. Leicester, Nov. 9th	1	0
Weston Turville in Com. Bucks. Loss by fire, Dec. 7th	1	3
Rodington Church in Com. Salop, Dec. 25th	1	0
Geo. Jacomb, Rector.		

The interest of these Syderstone entries is enhanced by a comparison with the entries in the register for North Walsham in this County, hitherto the fullest known. The comparison extends over the years 1707-1720 and 1732-1740, when North Walsham ends. Most of the entries correspond, but some are found in one and not in the other. In some respects Syderstone seems to be the more complete and the amounts collected were often larger. The North Walsham entries were published in the *East Anglian* (New Series), vols. i. and ii., referred to above.

---

NOTE.—The Rector, the Rev. H. G. Willacy, has written an interesting *brochure* on the subject of Amy Robsart, entitled *To ladies of the name of Amy*, in which he mentions that, after her marriage, she resided with her husband (who became Constable of Castle Rising—then a Royal domain), for some time, at Syderstone, in a “Hall” since pulled down. This same “Hall” was also probably the residence, later on, of “L. Walpole,” who attested the “Burial in Woollen” entry in 1692.

---