

RICHARD BOWLE'S BOOK.

INTRODUCTORY.

Little is known of Richard Bowle beyond what appears from the book here transcribed, from his will, and from a mural monument (Plate 4) in the chancel of Chesham Church, where he is commemorated in the following words:—

HEERE LYETH PART OF RICHARD
BOWLE. WHO FAITHFVLLY SERVED
DIVERS GREAT LORDS AS AVDITOR
ON EARTH. BVT ABOVE ALL HE
PREPARED HIM SELF TO GIVE VP
HIS ACCOVRT TO THE LORD OF
HEAVEN. AND NOW HATH HIS QVIETVS
EST. AND RESTS FROM HIS TORMENTS
AND LABORS. HE WAS A LOVER OF
GOD'S MINISTERS. A FATHER OF GOD'S
POORE. A HELP TO ALL GOD'S PEOPLE.
AND BELEEVES THAT HIS FLESH.
WHICH WITH THE SOVLE WAS LONG
TORMENTED. SHALL WITH THE SAME
SOVLE BE ÆTERNALLY GLORIFIED.

HE DIED THE 13TH OF DECEMBER
1626. AND OF HIS AGE 77.

The "divers great lords" referred to appear to have been successive Earls of Bedford, of whose possessions Richard Bowle describes himself in his will as auditor, and from whom he held on lease the parsonage and tithes of Chesham Woburn, with at least one other rectorial manor. He no doubt acted locally as the agent and representative of his patron; and, holding this position, and being evidently a man of parts and of considerable means, he must have taken a prominent place in the life of the town.

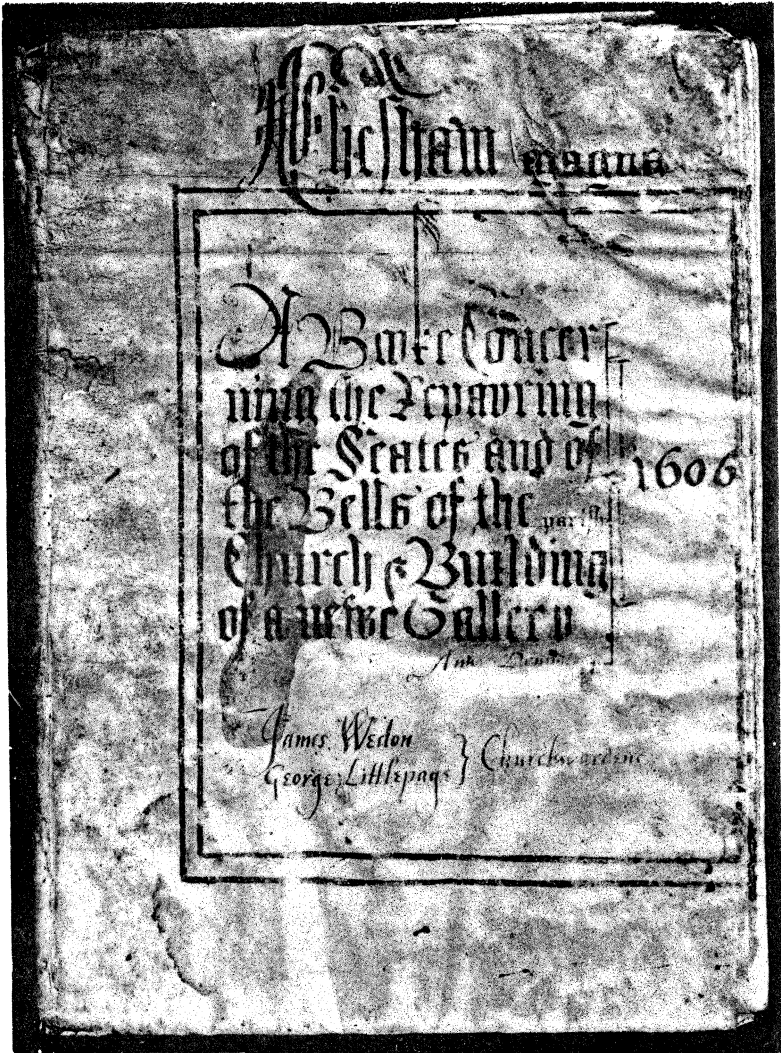
As to his family, very little need be said. I have not found any mention of it in Chesham records before the beginning of the seventeenth century, and it was presumably then that he came to the town. He was twice married, his first wife, Marie, having been buried at Chesham in November, 1607. His second

wife, Anna, appears to have survived him. Two sons and two daughters also survived him—Dr. John Bowle, Dean of Salisbury, and afterwards Bishop of Rochester; Benjamin, of whom I have found no trace; Elizabeth, wife of Mathew Chase, of Chesham, gentleman, whose family has figured in martyrology and in the annals of the United States; and Mary, wife of John Awdley, of Northolt, Middlesex, gentleman.

The subject of the book under notice is the restoration in 1606 of the interior of the Parish Church of Chesham, in which work Richard Bowle took a leading part. The church appears to have been much out of repair at the time, and the few pews that were usable had become so insufficient for the requirements of the largely-increased population that disorder often occurred at the services through the crowding of people to get seats. Sir Edmund Ashfield, as impropiator of the parsonage of Chesham Leicester, Richard Bowle, in respect of the parsonage of Chesham Woburn, William Saunders, who as vicar held both medieties of the living, and the churchwardens, took steps to remedy this state of things. Richard Bowle's Book gives a full account of what was done.

The work is in MS., and bears some internal evidence of having been written by Richard Bowle himself. The size of the volume is $11\frac{3}{8}$ in. \times $8\frac{1}{8}$ in. \times $\frac{1}{2}$ in. It consists of 65 paper leaves, stitched together in a vellum cover. Of the 130 pages, 90 are written upon, and 40, interspersed among the others, are blank. The book is in very good condition, considering its age. The writing is scholarly, and the arrangement and style are somewhat elaborate and ornate, suggesting the writer's personal interest and pleasure in the work.

The volume was no doubt originally deposited among the church books. But about 1864, when the late Mr. William Lowndes succeeded his father at The Bury, Chesham, it was found by him in one of the bookcases there. He told me that he believed it to have been taken away from the church in the time of the Commonwealth, and subsequently to have come into the hands of a second-hand bookseller in London,



RICHARD BOWLE'S BOOK: OUTSIDE OF COVER, FRONT.

from whom his father, or one of his ancestors, had acquired it. He restored it to the church chest, where it is now kept.

The number of persons named as provided with seats in the church after the alterations had been made is 370. 170 ratepaying parishioners contributed to the expenses of the restoration, and 177 did not contribute, perhaps by reason of poverty. In the reckonings of prices there are a few errors, which I have not thought it necessary to notice. The following family names occur in this book, but are absent from the parish register for the period:—Borlas, Buscall, Ewstace, Kellie (of Bovingdon), Moyses, Opley, Phetibone, and Pymble.

J. W. GARRETT-PEGGE.

Inscription on front of Cover:

Chesham magna A Booke Concerning the Repayring of the Seates and of the Bells of the parish Church & Building of a newe Gallery Anno Domini 1606 James Wedon George Littlepage Churchwardens

Inscription on back of Cover:

Richard Bowle gentleman, gave this Booke ready written to the pish of great Chesham. Mense Maij An^o Dni 1607 John Turnor Richard Biscoe Churchwardens

This Booke conteineth a true declaracion of the causes and the Manner of procureing authoritie for entering & proceeding into the charge of repayreing the pish Church of great Chessam in the county of Buck. And of the newe makeing of sundry and many seate and Repayreing the olde. And of the building

& erecting of a faire new Gallery on the South side of the saide Church. **And also** of the newe casting of twoo of the Bells, and makeing of a newe frame, and newe hanging of all the Five Bells. **And** howe every pticuler pishioner of abillitie was rated by sundry psons att speciall Assemblies for the charge hereof beside what voluntarie benevolence from sundry psons was afforded. **And howe** every contributor (and some others also) and there wives were appointed to the pewes and Seatē in the said Church, by such as had receyved authoritie in that behalf. **And** howe some opposed both the worke, the order and the paymentē: who notwthstanding did after yeld. **And Lastlye** how the Accomptē for the pforming of the Charge by money received & disbursed for the same were taken and declared to the pshioners at sundry assemblies. **All which premisses** being propounded and concluded by Sr Edmund Ashfeld knight, Mr Saunders or minister, Richard Bowle gent, George Littlepage & James weedon Churchwardens by virtue of the Comission to them in that behalf directed, and they desiering to be assisted in theis buisnesses (especiallie for the placeing of the people in there seatē) Requested willam weedon & Mathew Chase gent, willm Grover, Stephen Grover, Richard Grace, James Birch, Willm Carter, & John west to ioyne wth them therein who gave consent accordingly. And in this booke att large written as a memorable act of the pshioners and others in that behalf. **which Booke**, and the writeing thereof, was geven and bestowed vpon the pishe by the good will and guift of Richard Bowle Farmor to the right honorable Edward Erle of Bedford of the Parsonage of Chessam Wooborn. the Second Daye of Marche 1606 in the Fourth Yere of the raigne of or soſaigne Lord **James** by the grace of God of England Franncē and Ireland king defender of the Faith &c. and of his highnes raigne of Scotland the Fortith.

Memorand that vpon Mundaye the fifth daye of May 1606 the Corte of the Archdeacons Visitaçon being holden att great Missenden in the county of Buck: by mr Doctor Smith Commissarye & officiall

This Booke containeth a true declaration of the
 cause and the manner of proceedinge authorized for entering
 & returning into the charge of repairing the parish church of
 Great Wyke in the county of North. And of the manner making
 of money and raising such and determining the same. And
 of the building & repairing of a new Gallery in the Church
 of the said Church. And also of the manner raising of Taxe of
 the Poll and making of a new frame and other buildings of
 all the said Parishes. And howe every particular of the same
 abilitie was rated by sundry good and speciall Asssemblies for
 the charge thereof before what publicke contributions from sundry
 persons was offered. And howe every contribution (and sundry
 others also) and thereunto were appointed to the same and
 made in the said Church by such as had receyved authority in that
 behalf. And howe some offered both the works the same and the
 payments who were by sundry did after will. And lastly
 howe the Archaic for the repairing of the Church by money
 borrowed & lent for the same was taken and directed to the
 persons at sundry assemblies. All which premises being
 proposed and concluded by Thomas Askefeld Esquire, Mr
 Saunders a minister, Richard Bowle gent, George Pitts gent,
 Laurence Woodcock Esquire, and sundry others of the Countie to whom
 that behalf was committed and they agreeing to be assisted in things
 necessary & convenient for the repairing of the church in their
 parishes, Richard Bowle gent, William Chappell gent, William
 Stephen Esquire, Richard Esquire, James Smith Esquire, Robert
 John Esquire to agree with them therein who gave receipt accordingly.
 And in this booke all things written as a memorable act of the
 parishioners and others in that behalf, which Booke and the
 petition thereto was given and delivered upon the request by
 the said will and consent of Richard Bowle Esquire to the right
 honorable Countie of North of the Parsonage of Great
 Wyke the second day of March 1636 in the fourth
 year of the reign of Charles first King by the consent of
 the Bishop of Exeter and the Dean of Exeter, John Smith
 Esquire and of the Bishop of Exeter and the Dean of Exeter.

RICHARD BOWLE'S BOOK: FIRST PAGE.

there: informaçon was made to the Corte by Jeames weedon and George Littlepage Churchwardens of the pish Church of great Chessam in the said County by m^r Wilłm Saunders Vicar of the said pish Church & by Richard Bowle gen^t Farmor of the psonage of Chessam woborn, & by others the pishioners: That the said Church was much out of repaire and order concerning the Seatę and pewes w^{ch} were very fewe, & those decayed & broken and very vnseemly and many most vneasie & vnfitt for psons of anie good sort to sitt in being confusedlye sett vpp wth olde broken bordeę. And that the number of the people of the said pishe was growen so great as all those seatę and manie more would not be sufficient to receive the pishioners But that very manie were inforced to stand in the Iles and passages of the Church and in such corners thereof as they could presse into. And yet all would not serve. And that manie had seated themselves as they thought fitt & some of the meanest accompt had gotten the best seatę, and wold sitt wth psons of farr better reconing. Manie also challenging places in one seate & so satt in heapes w^{thout} anie respect of Decency or order. **Vppon** w^{ch} informacõ it pleased the Comissary to geve direcçon that the Corte should take knowledge thereof and that an order should be sett downe and Regestred whereby absolute authoritie was geven to Sr Edmunde Ashfeld knight Mr Wilłm Saunders the minister there, to Richard Bowle gen^t & to George Littlepage and James weedon Churchwardens there to repaire the olde seatę and to builde some newe in the said Church, And to erect a new Gallerye. And to order and Seate the people in the pewes and seatę of the same & of the Church more decentlie and convenientlie, according to there Respective dignities States and Condiçons. **The** Copy of w^{ch} Authoritie so graunted vnder the Seale of the said Court followeth verbatim

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Willmus Smithe legū Dēor in et p totū Archīnatū
 Buck Comissarius ac Offialis rite et Itime constitut.
Dilectis nobis in chřo venabili viro Dno Edmundo

Ashfeld de Chessam Archinatus Buck aŋdċi nreċ Jurċnis militi nroq, Willmo Saunders Cliċ Vicario de Chessam prċ, Richardo Bowle de Chessam prċ: gefioso necnon Georgio Littlepage et Jacobo weedon gardianis Ecclie polis ibm Saltm **Cum** vti ex fide digna relacōe dċi venlis viri ac aliorċ supscriptorċ nonnullorċq, aliorċ Dċe pochie Inhabitantiu, ac ex Allegacōibus dċorċ gardianorċ Corā Dilċo nobis in xpo nro Joċne Smith in legibus bacċh: Substitut nroq, apud act factis accepimus; Cumq, etiam nobis ptim ex ħra scieċ constiterit poplum Dċe pōe ad tantū munerū nup accrevisse quod sedilia in Ecclia de Chessam prċ modo ereċ non sint sufficientia vel idonea aut capacia satis p populo pdċo ad genua flectēd orand et Divina audiēd in eisdm. Ac quod racōe exiguitatis eorċdem Inhabitantes Dċe poe vtriusq, sexus nullo habiċ respectu vel discrimine eorċ status dignitatis vel condicōis sepissime sese in sedilibus pdċis omni remoto ordine tempore divinorċ imistuere. Ac etiam quod nihilo minus magna ps, vti asseriċr, tertia, nulla omnino sedilia vel loca convenientia ad effertum prċdm habuerunt vel habuere [habere] potuerunt, sed cogebant^r turmatim et cumulatim in remotis locis et insulis dċe Ecclie procul a ministro sese locare ita quod plurimū impediabant^r in devinis Officiis, ac precibus suis, nec facile ministrū divina dicentem aut Concionantē audire potuerunt, æquū Duximus gard: aŋdċorċ cosentieċ in hac pte maxima pte pochianorċ dċe poe de Chessam, remediū in hac pte subscript salubrċ et pro pace eorċdm pochianorċ pie providere, **Ut** igit^r sedilia vetera in dċa Ecclia modo existeċ Debite Resarciant^r et repent^r, Ac nova exstruant^r et edificent^r. Ac vt novum supius edificiū Anglice a Gallerie in Ecclia pdċa erigaċr Ac vt in eisdm sic resarcitis repatit edificatis et erectis pochiani pdċe iuxta eorċ dignitates status et condicōes Debite locent^r **Vobis** pfaċ Dno Edmundo Ashfeld militi nro Willmo Saunders cliċ vicaċ aŋdċo Richro Bowle geċ, Georgio Littlepage et Jacobo Weedon gard: aŋdċis ad infrascript nempē sedilia vetera pdċa resarciēd et repēd, nova exstruēd et edificand, Ac ad supius quoddam edificiū Anglicano sermone cōiter

vocať A Gallery in eccġia Ńđġa de novo sumptibus pochianorŹ predġorŹ p vos debite ac iuxta eorŹ iustas ratas porcōes taxatis erigendŹ, vt inhabitaŹ Dġæ poe in eisđm decentius et convenientius genua flectant orent et divina audient [audiant]. Ac ad locandŹ in eisđm pochianos pŹđġe iuxta eorŹ respective Dignitates status et condicōes vices et auctem űras quantŹ in nobis est et Jura huius Regni Anglie quovismodo patiunt^r in Dno imptimur ac Lġiam concedimus p Ńntes **In Cuius** Rei TestimoniŹ SigillŹ officij űri pŹđġi quo in hac pte vtimur Ńntibus apponi fecimus **Dat** Quinto Die mensis maij A^o Dni millimo Sexcen^{mo} sexto.

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After this Order so Regestred There was conference had privately wth divers of the pishioners att sundry times about this buisines: And then it was thought fitt to publish & make knowen vnto them, that such informaġon was geven to the Ordinarye, and that such an order was att that visitaġon directed and ordered And there vppon m^r Saunders the minister vppon the first day of June being the Sabboath day did put the people in remembrance that such a matter was intended long since and manie gentlemen of worth sollicited to bestow some tymber for the mending of the seatġ & makeing of a new Gallerye & yet was not effected: yet now againe the same was Revived wth purpose to be prosecuted to effect & to that end the Ordinarye vppon a new motion had geven order and authoritie for speedy proceeding into the buisines, whereof he desiered the pishioners gefallie to consider. And the next Saboth day Followeing: The said M^r Saunders Renued that pswasion Requesting further that the whole companie or as manie as would or could should meet att the Church vppon Tuesdaie the tenth of June to make an entrance or beginning for the co^rse of this buisines by agreem^t of some rate to be made for the charges thereof. w^{ch} was

performed accordinglie att the Church aforesaid And
vppon the said tenth day of June by all theis psons
here vnder named

viz

Mr Saunders minister	Willm Carter
Richard Bowle	James Byrche
Willm Weedon	Richard Byrch of the
Francis Spring	Barne
Willm Grover	John Byrch of waterside
Stephen Grover	Elias Portris
John Grover of whelpley- hill	Jeames Benning
Richard Grace of Ley grene	Robte Attkyns
John Gardiner of whitend	Willm Tayler at Smith
Thomas Breedon.	Hugh Smith
James weedon &	} Churchwardens and Divers
George Littlepage	
other there assembled	

And there by all theis and others or by the most pte
of them a single Rate was agreed vppon for eue
pishioner that was thought able to be rated to the
Church Repacons.

And theis and all other inhabitantē Rated also att
ij^d a peice more for bread & wyne for the Comunion
which Rates were sett downe in a booke Deliued to
the Church Wardens the Coppie whereof followeth &
the same increased as the charges necessarilie required
viz.

**Buck: The Towne and parrish of
great Chessam.**

A booke of Taxaçon or rate made the tenth day
of June 1606 in the Fourth yere of the Raigne
of or Souaigne Lord king James by those whose
names are before specified, Assembled together
that daye according to the warning and knowledge
before geuen openlye in the Church vppon the
Saboth daye the first of June and againe the
eighth of the same, For the rateing of all the
inhabitantē of the said Towne and p̄she of great

Chessam for Contribuſon and payment of money towarde the repayreing of the Church and for other occasions concerning the same.

At ye making of ye x single rates more: the charge of the Belle was ppounded and in that respect so many rates were then yelded voluntarily by the psons herevnder named — viz

Sr Ed. Ashfeld
 Ry: Bowle
 m^r wedon, m^r Chase
 Ste. Grover w^m
 Grover
 Jea: Birch Ry: Birch
 Rič Grač Robt Feld
 Tho: wedon. w^m
 Bachelor
 Rič Gate myč Birch
 John Turnor Jea:
 Bennyng
 Rič Gate Juñ. w^m
 Dell
 w^m Grover Jo: west
 w^m Carter Robt
 weedon
 w^m Rowberd Gam.
 Gardyñ
 Elias Portris. w^m
 Cock
 Rič hoggins Tho:
 Gate
 Nič Cock. John
 Gardiñ señ
 Georġ Page & others

At the Inlarging the Rate to seven single Rates more. The psons herevnder named Did voluntary yeld viz

Sr Edm. Ashfeild
 Mr Saunders
 Mr Bowle
 Mr weedon m^r Chase
 John Turnor Rič Bustall
 Steven Grover
 w^m Carter
 w^m Dell. Robt moreton
 Rič Birch Juñ
 Jeames wedon
 henry Atkins
 humfrey Greneway
 willm Tyler
 Georġ Page
 Josias Sale & others.

[In the original, the following table comprises six columns of figures. The first column gives the rate weekly to the poor of each person named; the second, the single rate charged upon each person for the proposed work; the third, the first assessment, made 15th June, for six single rates; the fourth, the second assessment, made 19th September, for ten single rates; the fifth, the third assessment, made 7th January, for seven single rates; and the sixth, the whole sum paid for all the rates. Only the last column, showing the totals, is printed here. The special rate bears no constant relation to the poor-rate, and appears to have been arbitrarily fixed. It is one-twenty-third of the total in each case, except where a small addition or deduction was for some reason made in the course of the levy. The weekly poor-rate ranges from 1s. 10d. to $\frac{1}{4}$ d., but only seven persons paid more than 4d.]

	The whole for all the rates.
St Edmund Ashfelde knight . . .	xlvijs
Thom ^{as} Ashfeld esquier	ix ^{li} iiijs
Richard Bowle gent	xlvijs
Wil ^m Weedon of Hundridge gent . .	lx ^s ix ^d
Mathew Chase of Hundridge gent . .	xlvijs
Richard Wood of whelpleyhill . . .	ii ^{li} ix ^s
John Turnor of Ashley grene	ii ^{li} js iiijd
John Grover of whelpleyhill	xxxviijs iiijd
John Tokefeld of Ashridge	xxxviijs iiijd
Mr Thom ^{as} Ashfeld of Ashridge Ju ⁿ . .	xxxiiijs vjd
Stephen Grover of the same	xxxiiijs vjd
Wil ^m Grover of Botley	xxxiiijs vjd
John Tokefeld of Ashridge	xxxiiijs vjd
Richard Grace of Leigh grene	xxxiiijs vjd
Henry Sare of whelpleyhill	xxxiiijs vjd
Michaell Byrch of Chartridge	xxxiiijs vjd
Robert Weedon of Chartridge	xxxiiijs vjd
John Byrch of Waterside	xxxijs vijd
John Baldwyn of Bellenden	xxx ^s viij ^d
Wil ^m Batcheler of the same	xxx ^s viij ^d
Richard Gate Ju ⁿ of Whelpleyhill . .	xxx ^s viij ^d
Wil ^m Dell of Leyhill Lat ^{ms}	*xxv ^s
James Benning of Ashley greene . . .	xxx ^s viij ^d

* The original figures have been struck out and those in the text substituted.

	The whole for all the rates.
Robert Feld of Bellenden	xxviijs ix ^d
Nicholas Cock señ of Ley grene	xxviijs ix ^d
John Partridge of Whelpleyhill	xxvj ^s xd
Richard Gate of the same	xxvj ^s xd
Willm Southen of the same w th ij ^d for Cornhill	xxviijs ix ^d
James Byrch of Botley	xxvj ^s xd
John Gardiner of the same	xxvj ^s xd
Robert Moreton of Waterside	*xxxijs vjd
Henry woodhouse of Chartridge	xxiijs
Richard Byrch of the Barne	xxiijs
Nicholas Welden of Bellenden	xxiijs
Willm Hawthorn of Hundridge	xxiijs
Nathaniell Reading of Ashley grene	xxiijs
Richard Franklin of Botley	xxiijs
Robte Johnson of the same	xxiijs
George Gossam of the same	xxiijs
Frauncis Spring of Ashley grene geñ	xix ^s ij ^d
Richard Harding att slowe	xix ^s ij ^d
Elizabeth Ewstace of Ashridge widd	xix ^s ij ^d
Richard Weedon of Ashley grene	xvijs iiij ^d
Thoñs Weedon of the same	xvijs iiij ^d
Richard Turnor of the same	xvijs iiij ^d
Henry Reading of the same	xv ^s iiiij ^d
Widdow Reading of the same	xv ^s iiiij ^d
Nicholas Twitchell of Bellenden for Josias twytchell	*vijs ix ^d
Willm Rowberd of Chartridge	*xiijs xd
Thoñs Byrch of the pond	xiijs vd
Thoñs Birch of Randallē	xiijs vd
John Byrch of Hundridge	xiijs vd
James Lovett of the same	xiijs vd
Richard Grace of Bellenden	xjs vjd
Widd Hawthorne of Hundridge	xjs vjd
Riç Crane of Chartridge	ix ^s vijd
Gamaliell Gardiner of Botley	ix ^s vijd

*The original figures have been struck out and those in the text substituted.

	The whole for all the rates.
Mawde Birch of the Ash wyð	ix ^s viij ^d
Willm Cock of Bellenden w th v ^d in- creased for Trachers land	xvjs xj ^d
Richard weston of Ashley grene	vijs viij ^d
James Gardiner of whelpleyhill	vijs viij ^d
James Weedon of Botley	vijs viij ^d
Henry Dell of the same	vijs viij ^d
John Gardiner the Younger of the same	vijs viij ^d
Willm Cock of the same	vijs viij ^d
Robte Gate of Leahill Latm ^{as}	vijs viij ^d
John Byrch of Sibleys	vs ix ^d
Henry Tokefeld of Chartridge	vs ix ^d
Edmund wetherhed of Ashleygreene	vs ix ^d
Thom ^{as} Benning of the same	vs ix ^d
Richard Percifall of whelpleyhill	vs ix ^d
Thom ^{as} Prince of the same	vs ix ^d
Richard Oteley of the same	vs ix ^d
Josias Sale of Chartridge	vjs viij ^d
Willm Dorsett of the same	iij ^s x ^d
John Randall of Hundridge	vjs viij ^d
John Stanley of Hundridge	vs iij ^d
Lazarus Weedon of the same	vs iij ^d
George Arnold of Ashridge	iij ^s x ^d
George Byrch of the same	iij ^s x ^d
Henry Page of Bellenden	iij ^s x ^d
Richard Cock of Leigh grene	iij ^s x ^d
Nicholas Benning of Ashley grene	iij ^s x ^d
Henry Benning of the same	iij ^s x ^d
Richard Dell of the same	iij ^s x ^d
Willm Gate of Whelpleyhill	iij ^s x ^d
James Dell of Botley	vs iij ^d
Richard Weedon of the same	iij ^s x ^d
Thom ^{as} Gate of the same	iij ^s x ^d
John Plumpton of the same	iij ^s x ^d
John Fisher of Leahill Latm ^{is}	iij ^s x ^d
Fraunce Okeley of the same	iij ^s x ^d
Thom ^{as} Martin of waterside	iij ^s x ^d
John Grover of the same	iij ^s x ^d
John Bampton of the same	vjs viij ^d
John Ford of Botley	vs ix ^d
Richard Harding of the same	vs ix ^d
Willm Gurney of the same	vs ix ^d

	The whole for all the rates.
James Dell of Leahill	vs ix ^d
Henry Franklyn of the same	vs ix ^d
Henry Gossam of waterside	vs ix ^d
Richard Butcher of Hundridge	xxiij ^d
Wilfm Oldfeld of the same	xxiij ^d
Houmfrey Greeneway of the same	xxiij ^d
Wilfm Gardiner of Bellenden	xxiij ^d
Wilfm Cock of Leigh grene	xxiij ^d
Nicholas Cocke of the same	xxiij ^d
Richard Cock of the same	xxiij ^d
Thoñs Cock of Ashley grene	xxiij ^d
John Dell of the same	xxiij ^d
John Harding of Botley	xxiij ^d
John Overstreet of the same	xxiij ^d
Richard Newton of the same	xxiij ^d
Richard Frier of the same	xxiij ^d
John Gregorie of Leyhill	xxiij ^d

The Towne

Mr Borlas	xvs iiij ^d
Thomas Breedon	xxxiijs
Richard Buscall	xvijs ijd
John West	xiiij ^s iiij ^d
Richard Hoggins	xjs vjd
Elias Portris	xjs vjd
Roñte Attkins	x ^s vjd
Wilfm Carter	vij ^s viij ^d
Edward Sale	vij ^s viij ^d
Richard Twitchell	vij ^s viij ^d
Thoms Dudsborowe	vij ^s viij ^d
John Baldwyn	vij ^s viij ^d
Thoñs Gardiner	vij ^s ijd
Wilfm Tyler	vij ^s ijd
Jeames Grover	ix ^s vij ^d
Henry Attkins	vij ^s ijd
Richard Martin	vs ix ^d
Edward Sills	vs iiij ^d
Thomas Hare	vs iiij ^d
Richard Davyson	vs iiij ^d

	The whole for all the rates.
Henry Gardiner	vs ij ^d
Hugh Smith	ix ^s vj ^d
Robert Chase	iij ^s xd
Richard Barnard	iij ^s xd
Thom̄s Norwood	iij ^s xd
Samuell Carter	iij ^s xd
John Locrymas	iij ^s xd
Hugh ware Tayler	iij ^s xd
Richard Sutton	iij ^s xd
Richard Allmond	iij ^s xd
Willm Tayler	iij ^s xd
Richard Slater	iij ^s xd
Richard Pymble	ij ^s xd
Abraham Preist	ij ^s xd
Henry Byrche	ij ^s xd
Josias Grover	ij ^s xd
Widow Twitchell	iij ^s xd
Hugh ware wever	iij ^s xd
Richard Cock tayler	iij ^s iiij ^d
Henry Bellingham	iij ^s iiij ^d
John Cock lab :	iij ^s iiij ^d
John ware Shoemaker	iij ^s iiij ^d
Antony Ashbye	xxiij ^d
Samuell Wright	xxiij ^d
Symon Phetibone	xxiij ^d
Willm Richardē	xxiij ^d
George Littlepage	xxiij ^d
Richard Norwood wheeler	xxiij ^d
James Newitt	xxiij ^d
Willm Ware shoemaker	xxiij ^d
Thomas mereden	xxiij ^d
Richard Buns	xxiij ^d
Thomas Harding shoemaker	xxiij ^d
Widdow Attkins	xxiij ^d
Widdow Rederidge	xxiij ^d

psioners of
all Rates that } 170
contribut

Sm of all the
Three and twenty
single Rates of the
towne and parysh
Inhabytante }
cxiijli.
xvijs. vjd.

[In the original, the following table comprises five columns of figures relating to the special rate. The total sums paid are given here, as before.]

Forriners	The whole for all the rates.
Willm Beston for Brudnell ^e land . . .	xxiiij ^d
Robt Lovet for mell frith & xx ac ^r of Thomas Breedons land & xx ac ^r of Hawses land	xxiiij ^s
John Antony for xx ac ^r	vs ix ^d
Richard Baldwyn for dundridge	vs ix ^d
James Grene for xl ac ^r	xjs vjd
John Batcheler for xx ac ^r	vs ix ^d
Francis Dell of Bovingden for Collsill ^e	xvs iiijd
Phillip Axtill of the same & for Colsill ^e	xvs iiijd
M ^r Humfrey & Widow Pudyfatt	vs ix ^d
Bibsworth of Flaunden	ijs x ^d ob
Prince of the same	ijs x ^d ob
Thom ^s Kellie of Bovingden	ijs x ^d ob

A note of the inhabitants wthin

the Towne & Parrish of Chessam that geve nothing to the Charges of the repaire of the Church in the rate made

[2d. is entered against each of the following names.]

Thom ^s Weedon	Willm Rederidge
Stephen weedon	w ^m washington
Willm Kyne	Richard Dell wheeler
Richard Cock	Henry west
John Owen	John Gate
Gabriell welsh	Henry Chase glover
Thom ^s Pearce	Thom ^s Dickens Clerk
Willm Cooke	Roger Hawkes
John Hewes	Thom ^s Butt
Nichus Tymberlake	Roger Gardiner
Thomas Sherman	Richard Chidwick
Adrian Goodchild	Hugh Carter
Richard Smith	Richard Ingleton
Hugh Bellgrave	Thom ^s Gate
Thom ^s Twitchell	Thom ^s Dell
Willm Lovett	John Ketch

John Axtell	Willm Phillpott
Esay Collett	Cole shoemaker
Hugh Rederidge	Andrew Smith
John Birch baker	John Parrett
James Newytt	George Ayer
Robert Dilham	Willm Hydaye
Joseph Grove	Nicholas Bowley
Richard Gardin Juf	Edward Tyrry
Richard Gossam wheeler	Willm Rudd
Henry weedon laborer	Thomas Gyfford
John Tracher	Thomas Gossam
Willm Palmer	Richard Berry
Robert Harding	Daniell Linden
Richard Harding	John Dixon
Mark Bryan	Zacharias Hawke
John Compaigne	Robte Dickenson
Ezechiell Chase	Andrew Arinott (?)
Thomas Gate	Thoms Glover
Thoms Lewes	James Grover Juf
Rowland Boorder	Bennett Peers
Richard Greene	Willm Winchester
Widd Tokefeild	Willm Axton
Thoms Cleydon	Phillip Miles
Nichus Cocke	Clem ^t Crowder
John Slater	Thoms Ryall
Willm Trump carpent	Willm Blunt
Robte Puttenham	Richard winchester Cke
Willm Allen	John winchester
Richard Birch lab:	Zacharius Austin
Willm Mallinger	John Greene
Roger Evans	Richard Ashby
Richard Gery	Henry Ringsteed

Thundridge

Fraunce Tymmes
 Willm Edwarde
 John Edwarde
 Henry Babb
 Willm Comen
 John Heath
 Widdow Saunders & hir
 sonne in lawe
 Thoms Hickman

Chartridge

Widdow Gyfford
 Richard Twitchell lab:
 John Leach
 Hugh Long
 Henry Oldfeild
 Thomas Dell
 Stephen Byrch
 John Byrch batcheler
 Widdow Penlow

Richard Butcher
 Edward Pratt
 John Hill
 Richard Lewys
 Thoms Hawke
 George Cock
 Richard ware
 Robte Hunt
 Henry ware
 Symon Eelle
 John Potter
 Richard Tyler

Bellingden

Walter Ling als Pratt
 Willm Mead
 Richard Danser
 Frauncis Tokefeld taler
 Henry Warde

Leigh green

Henry Pratt
 Richard James smith

Asbley green

Willm Clothier als downes
 Thomas Weston
 Frauncis wetherhed
 Henry Dod
 Richard Reading
 Moyses Spring

whelpleybill

Willm Opley

Botley

Raph Weedon
 John Gate
 Henry Dell
 Richard Overstreet

Richard Dell lab:
 John Fellow
 John Braunch
 Henry miles
 Henry moore
 Henry Pillgrim
 John Whitfeld

Asheridge

Gilbert Warder
 Willm Feld
 Thoms Munde
 Thoms Preston
 Humfrey wilkins

BOTLEY—Continued

Stephen Edmond
 Willm Wier
 John Johnson
 Benjamin Mores
 Thoms Harding

Leigh bill

John Weedon
 Richard Greene
 John Brackley

waterside

Arthur Plater
 James Weedon
 Thomas Gossam
 Abell Gate
 John Seabrooke
 Edward Saunders
 Richard Gate
 Thomas Mickley
 Richard Wyman
 Henry Dell
 Richard Gould
 Willm West
 George Hawke
 Nicholas Johnson

After the First six single Rates paid & most of the mens seatē in the body of the Church finished & sett vpp, There was a meeting for the respective placing of so manie of the men as the said seatē could receive wch was sett downe in writeing deliued to the Churchwardens for that p^rpose. But some were vnwilling to sytt as they were appointed, but claymed there seatē as belonging to there howses, And therevppon refused to paye there ratable porçons and to be placed though they were eftsones requested to conforme themselves, Wherevppon the minister and Church wardens & others of the parrish informed the Archbishop of Canterbury of the Originall and proceeding of this buisines and of the opposition by divers to the same. **W**herevppon his grace wth twoo others the Kingē Matē high Comissioners for causes Ecclicall sent tres Mandatory vnder there hands and vnder the seale of the high Comission Co^rt for the proceeding and ordering of the buisines and of the pishioners according to the first order from the Comissary, notwthstanding anie opposition &c the Coppie of wch tres hereafter followeth

viz

To our very loueing Frendē the Minister and Churchwardens of the pish of Chessam in Buckinghamshire

After or hartie Comendacons: whereas we are aduertized that there hath bine order lately geven by m^r Doctor Smith the Comissary for that place, wth the likeing also of the better sort of yo^r pish, for the repayreing and more orderly placeing of the seatē in yo^r Church, wch were before (as yt seemeth) very Ruinous and out of all good order: **f**orasmuch as certain froward psons of yo^r said pishioners take vppon them (as we are informed) to oppose that good co^rse, wch according to the said Direcçon of yo^r ordinarie hath bine by yo^u thought fitt to be taken for the amending of the said seatē and building of a new scaffold in the Church, for the more conveniente placeing of those wch wanted Roomes before: **w**e doe therefore require Yo^u that notwthstanding there said opposition, You doe hold on yo^r Co^rse for the reformeing of the seatē and Raiseing of the Scaffold

as afforesaid: And for the orderly placing of the pishioners in the same, as to Yor discreçon shall seeme meet. **And** yf anie pson shall either refuse to be ordered by yo^u in there seatç: or shall deny or delaye in convenient tyme to paie there duties Rateable as they haue byne or shall be assessed towardç the charge of the said Pewes and Scaffold. **That** then yo^u certiffie vs his matç Com^{rs} for causes Ecclicall of eñy such pson that we may presently call them before vs, and take some further corse wth them for the reformeing of such there willfull opposition **And** so we bid yo^u hartely Fare Well Att Lambeth the 28th of August 1606

Yor very loueing Freinde

R: Cant:

Chr: Parkins

Nicho: Kempe

Theis Ires being Read openly by the minister vppon the Saboth day the last of August, he perswaded both than and att sundry tymes after the backward psons to conforme themselves to there Rates. But some Willfullie refused and by there example other helde back there rateable paymentç. **Yet** notwthstanding the worke for the Gallery and the frame of the Bellç proceeded by the agreement of the rest, And much tymber and boordç &c was provided, And the nineteenth of September a meeting was att Sr Edmond Ashfeldç house where the Accompt of the former six single rates was declared, And then another taxaçon agreed vnto by the whole assemblie for ten single rates more. but some opposed now as before **wherevppon** certificate was made to the high Comission Cort the xxvijth of October And from thence were directed Ires of Summons vnder the Comissioners handç and vnder the seale of the Cort for seaven psons by name to appeare att Lambeth the viijth of November then followeing before the high Com^{rs}: The coppie of wch Ires of Summons enseweth.

Uppon speciall consideraçons vs moveing Theis are to will and Comaund you and eñye of you in his matç name by virtue of his highnes Comission for causes

ecclicall vnder the great Seale of England to vs and others directed, that you doe make yo^r psonall apparances before vs or others our Colleague his mate^e Comissioners in that behalf appointed in the manor howse of me the Achbishopp of Canterburye Situate att Lambehith in the county of Surrey vppon Satterday the eight of November betwixt the houres of one & twoo in the afternoone of the same daye, then and there to answeere vnto such matters as shal be obiected against you and eūye of you, And to receive such further direcōn therein as to iustice shall apptaine. **And that** after yo^r apparaunce so made, you and eūye of you doe attend from tyme to tyme, and not depart wthout our speciall Licence: **Hereof** we require you not to faile as you and eūye of you will answeere the contrarye att yo^r pills **Geoven** att Lambehith this last of October 1606

R: Cant:

Ch: Parkins

Tho: Blagur

Robertus Christian
deputat
Joh̄is Plummer et
Georgij Paull
Rēora^r Regie Mātis.

To J G: J B: N W: N T:
R L: J B & R W yeomen
of the parrish of Chessam
magna in the county of
Buckingham & to eūye of
them.

(To be continued).