

THE APPROPRIATED CHURCHES OF THE ENGLISH WHITE CANONS

(Continued)

HALES OWEN

The abbey of Hales Owen, in the county and diocese of Worcester, was founded from Welbeck in 1215 by Peter des Roches bishop of Winchester. It was dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and to St. John the Evangelist. It had a cell at *Dodford* in the same county and diocese which came into its possession in 1464 or 1465 having formerly been a small priory of Black Canons. At the dissolution it held four churches; two of them, Hales and Clent, in the diocese of Worcester, the other two Walsall and Wednesbury, in the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield.

Hales. This church was appropriated to the abbey not later than 11 October 1270, on which day the bishop Godfrey Giffard, ordained the vicarage ¹⁰⁶). The appropriation was confirmed by Pope Martin IV on 20 September 1281 ¹⁰⁷.

Clent. The advowson of this church was granted by John Botetort in 1341; and in that same year the bishop, Wulstan Bransford, appropriated the church to Hales Owen and ordained the vicarage ¹⁰⁸). The licence in mortmain for the appropriation had been granted in 1340 ¹⁰⁹).

Walsall in Staffordshire. The advowson of this church was granted by King Henry III, and the church itself appropriated to the abbey in 1248 by Roger Weseham, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. The appropriation was confirmed by the secular chapter of Lichfield in the same year, and by the Benedictine chapter of Coventry in

¹⁰⁶) *Monast. Angl.*, vi 917.

¹⁰⁷) *Reg. Godf. Giffard* (Worcestershire Historical Society) ii 139.

¹⁰⁸) *Monast. Angl.* vi 917.

¹⁰⁹) Pat. 14 Edw. III, p. 1, m. 27.

the following ¹¹⁰). In 1281 the appropriation was approved by Pope Martin IV ¹¹¹). And twice, in 1323 ¹¹²) and in 1362 ¹¹³), the abbot of Hales Owen proved his right to the church of Walsall with its chapels of Rushall & Wednesbury to the satisfaction of the ordinary

Wednesbury. The chapel of Wednesbury was appropriated to Hales Owen by the bishop, Roger Weseham, probably with the mother church in 1248. Half a century later, King Edward I (1272-1307) claimed the advowson and recovered judgement in his court. Thereupon he presented a secular clerk, William Langton, to the bishop, Walter Langton (1296-1321), for institution. Then in 1301 he restored the advowson to the abbey; in due course William Langton resigned; and in 1305 the bishop reappropriated the chapel to the abbey ¹¹⁴). This chapel would appear from the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* to have been a parish church at the dissolution: but in 1478 Redman noted that Hales Owen held three churches.

Though not an appropriated church, one can hardly pass over without notice the *Chapel of S. Kenelm*, some three miles from Hales Owen, which belonged to the abbey. It was a place of pilgrimage, reputed to be on the spot where the body of the ninth century boy king of Mercia, who, having been barbarously murdered, was held to be a martyr. His name appears in a number of ancient calendars and martyrologies. At Clent there is a well which bears his name.

HEPP or HEPPE

See Shap.

HORNSBY

See Croxton, of which it was a cell.

LANGLEY

Langley abbey, founded from Alnwick in 1195, was situated in the county of Norfolk and the diocese of Norwich, and, like the

¹¹⁰) *Magnum Registrum Album* (Salt Society) documents n^{os} 595-597.

¹¹¹) *Reg. Godf. Giffard* as above. The papal document entered in Giffard's register (Worcester) was later also entered in that of Robert Stretton bishop of Coventry and Lichfield on account of the inclusion of Walsall.

¹¹²) *Norbury's Register* (Salt Soc., vol. I), p. 258.

¹¹³) *Reg. Stretton* (Salt Soc. N. S. viii) p. 122.

¹¹⁴) *Magn. Reg. Album*, documents 596-599.

¹¹⁵) Cf. *Valor Eccles* (Record Commission) iii 206.

other three abbeys in that diocese, was dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It possessed nine churches, all in the same county and diocese as itself.

Langley, Heckingham, Loddon, Thrigby ¹¹⁶⁾. These four churches are noted in the Norwich valuation ¹¹⁷⁾ as belonging to this abbey, and were therefore appropriated not later than 1154.

Linipinhoe, Birby Bedon, Ranworth, Rushall. These four, together with those above, were mentioned in a letter of Abbot Richard, written in 1275 ¹¹⁸⁾: he says that Roger (Skerring) bishop of Norwich had *confirmed* their appropriation, reserving to him the collation of Ranworth ¹¹⁹⁾.

Thurton. The royal licence for the appropriation of this church was granted in 1338 ¹²⁰⁾; and in 1343 the abbot and convent petitioned Clement VI for permission to appropriate ¹²¹⁾ which was granted them ¹²²⁾ Blomefield gives a list of vicars from 1347 ¹²³⁾.

Another church must be mentioned, that of *Bodiam*. The royal licence for appropriation was obtained in 1332 ¹²⁴⁾, and on 2 May 1339 Anthony Bek, bishop of Norwich, with the consent of his Benedictine chapter, made the appropriation and ordained the vicarage ¹²⁵⁾. Blomefield notes that vicars were appointed from 1339-1440; that in 1460 one was appointed by the bishop by lapse; and that from 1498 onwards rectors were presented by a layman, Sir Henry Heydon. He said that it did not appear how Langley abbey parted with the appropriation and advowson.

LAVENDON

The abbey of St. John Baptist at Lavendon, situated in the county of Buckingham and diocese of Lincoln, was founded from Sulby c. 1180. For a time it had a cell et Blakeslowe in Kent, but this was eventually united with the abbey of S. Radegund at the instance of the leading men of Hythe, who asked the abbot of

116) Lunt *op. cit.* pp. 376 and 403.

117) In old documents "Trickley".

118) *Calender of Chartes in the Bodleian* (Turner and Coxe), p. 192.

119) This church is well known for its magnificent rood screen, remarkable in a district famous for its screens, and perhaps unsurpassed in England.

120) Pat. 12 Edw. III p. 2, m. 23.

121) *Col. Pet.*, i. 29.

122) *C. P. L.* iii, 138.

123) *Op. cit.* x, 181.

124) Pat. 6 Edw. III, p. 1, m. 3.

125) *Calendar of Charters in the Bodleian*, 171, and Blomefield, *op. cit.* ix, 368.

Prémontré to allow this on account of the poverty and ruinous state of the cell ¹²⁶). At the dissolution it held four churches, three of them in the diocese of Lincoln — Lavendon, Lathbury, and Aston — two of them, Lavendon and Lathbury, being in the county of Buckingham, and Aston in that of Northampton. The fourth church, Shotwell, was in the county of Warwick and diocese of Coventry and Lichfield.

Lavendon. The founder of the abbey granted this church and his grant was confirmed by the Carthusian St. Hugh of Avalon, bishop of Lincoln (1186-1200) ¹²⁷) : which presumably means that the founder gave the advowson and St. Hugh appropriated the church. It was certainly appropriated not later than 1218 as the vicarage is entered in the *Liber Antiquus* ¹²⁸) of Hugh of Wells, St. Hugh's second successor.

Lathbury. In 1306, Clement V gave permission for the appropriation of this church ¹²⁹) ; and in 1310 the licence in mortmain was granted ¹³⁰).

Aston. This church was appropriated to Lavendon by John Bokingham, bishop of Lincoln, in 1391, whose act was confirmed by Boniface IX in 1397 ¹³¹).

Shotwell. This church was originally appropriated to Lavendon by Clement VI in 1347, to take effect upon the death or cession of the then rector ¹³²) ; and the licence in mortmain was granted in 1348 ¹³³). Gregory XI (1370-1376) revoked all appropriations to monasteries which had not already taken effect ; but in the case of this church ordered the bishop of London to enquire into the circumstances and report thereon to him. Gregory died before receiving the report and his successor, Urban VI, in turn ordered the archbishop of Canterbury, Simon Sudbury, to make the appropriation should the circumstances justify it. After enquiry, on 23 November 1380 the archbishop decreed that the church should be appropriated to the abbey and that the appropriation should take effect on the

126) *Mon. Angl.* vi, 940.

127) See charter of confirmation granted by King Henry III, printed in *Mon. Angl.* vi, 888.

128) *Lit. Ant.* (Lincoln 1888), p. 12.

129) *C. P. L.* ii, 16.

130) *Pat.* 3 Edw. II, m. 3.

131) *C. P. L.* v, 73, The bishop's charter is exemplified in the papal indult.

132) *C. P. L.* iii, 264.

133) *Pat.* 22 Edw. III, p. 3, m. 22.

coath of the then rector ¹³⁴). In fact the rector resigned, and in 1381 a vicarage was ordained ^{134a}).

LEISTON

Leiston abbey, dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was founded from Welbeck in 1183. It was in the diocese of Norwich and the county of Suffolk. It was originally founded on a spot which was not altogether desirable from the point of view of health. So a hundred and sixty years later, in 1343, a papal indult was obtained for the removal of the abbey from the swampy site in then occupied to within the town, with the enjoyment of their ancient privileges, without prejudice to the rights of the parish church, subject to provision being made for the service, by a fitting priest, of the church or chapel of the old monastery ¹³⁵). This was done and the old church became known as «the old abbey».

At the dissolution Leiston held five churches, all of them, like the abbey itself, in Suffolk and the diocese of Norwich. The first four of these churches are mentioned in a bull of protection of Honorius III dated 22 June 1224 ¹³⁶: the appropriation of them was also confirmed in 1281 by John Peckham O. F. M. archbishop of Canterbury ¹³⁷.

Leiston. This church was appropriated to the abbey in 1185 by John of Oxford, bishop of Norwich (1175-1200): and the appropriation was confirmed by his successor John de Gray (1200-1214) ¹³⁸).

Middleton. The appropriation of this church was confirmed by the two bishops of Norwich just mentioned ¹³⁹).

Aldringham. There is no evidence to hand of the actual date of appropriation.

Culpho. Of the actual date of the appropriation of this church too, there is no evidence. The notices in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* relating to this church are both confusing and contradictory. It is

¹³⁴) The facts are set out in *Stretton's Register* (Salt. Soc. N. S. x (2)) p.138, 139.

^{134a}) *Ibid.*, p. 63.

¹³⁵) *C. P. L.*, iv, 50.

¹³⁶) *Leiston Cartulary*: British Museum Cott. MS. Vesp. E xlv. f. 9.

¹³⁷) *Cal. Charters in the Bodleian*, p. 488.

¹³⁸) *Leiston Cartulary*, f. 41d.

¹³⁹) *Ibid.* ff. 43 and 43d.

not included among the « spiritualia » of Leiston ¹⁴⁰⁾, but in another place it is said to be appropriated to that abbey ¹⁴¹⁾ but at the same time one John Hobson is entered as *rector*.

Corton. A licence in mortmain for the appropriation of this church was obtained in 1362 ¹⁴²⁾. When the appropriation was actually made does not appear, but it was not later than 1367 as in that year the abbot and convent entered into a covenant to indemnify the bishop and chapter therefor ¹⁴³⁾. In 1389 a notarial instrument relating to the appropriation was drawn up ¹⁴⁴⁾.

MALDON

See Beleigh.

NEWBO

St. Mary's abbey at Newbo, in the county and diocese of Lincoln, was formed from Newhouse in 1198. At the dissolution it possessed three churches, one, North Thoresby, in the same county and diocese as itself ; the other two in the diocese of York, one of them, Acaster Malbis, being in the West Riding of Yorkshire, the other, Kneeton, in Nottinghamshire. Very little can be said at present of the history of these churches.

Acaster Malbis. The advowson of this church was so late as 1296 in the hands of a layman. Newbo then received a pension from it ¹⁴⁵⁾.

Kneeton. A licence in mortmain for the appropriation of this church was granted in 1307 ¹⁴⁶⁾.

North Thoresby. The advowson of this church was granted in 1397 by John de Warcop, canon of the cathedral church of Lincoln ; and a licence in mortmain for appropriation was granted in the same year ¹⁴⁷⁾.

140) Vol. III, p. 438.

141) *Ibid.*, p. 427.

142) *Pat.* 36 Edw. III, p. 2, m. 16.

143) *Calendar of Charters in the Bondleian*, p. 463.

144) *Ibid.* p. 665.

145) *Reg. Romaine (Surtees)*, i, 147.

146) *Pat.* 20 Edw. III, p. 1, m. 25.

147) *Pat.* 3 Rich. II, p. 1, m. 10.

NEWHOUSE

The abbey of St. Martial at Newhouse, in the county and diocese of Lincoln, the first house of White Canons in Great Britain, was founded from the abbey of Lisques in Picardy in 1143, and in due course became the mother house of eleven English abbeys. At the time of its suppression it possessed six churches, all in the same county and diocese as itself.

East Haddon, Glentworth, Harborough, Killingholme, Kirmington, Saxilby. All of these churches must have been appropriated before 1219, as their vicarages are noted in the «*Liber Antiquus*»¹⁴⁸).

In addition of these six churches, Newhouse held a portion of the church of Broclesby. Originally it possessed one sixth of the church, and the abbey of Topholme another sixth : but in 1348 Topholme obtained a licence to alienate its portion to Newhouse¹⁴⁹).

NEWSHAM

See Newhouse.

OTHAM

See Bayham.

OXNEY

See Barlings.

ST. RADEGUNDE

The abbey of St. Radegunde, in the county of Kent and diocese of Canterbury, was founded in 1193 from Prémontré. It possessed six churches : five in the same county and diocese as itself ; one, Portslade, in Sussex and the diocese of Chichester. Probably we know all that ever will be known regarding the appropriation of the Kentish churches, as copies of the documents concerning them were entered in his register by the last archbishop of Canterbury before the schism under Henry VIII, William Warham. The charters and other documents relating to St. Radegunde are collected together and begin on folio 130.

Postling. The possession of this church was confirmed by Hubert Walter, archbishop of Canterbury (1193-1205).

¹⁴⁸) At pp. 62 and 68. See Note 128.

¹⁴⁹) See *Liber Antiquus*, p. 62 and p. 111 (note), and *Pat.* 22 Edw. III, p. 2, m. 41.

River. This church was appropriated to the abbey in 1215 by Cardinal Stephen Langton, then archbishop of Canterbury. The chapel of Polton or Poulton, belonging to River, had already been appropriated to St. Radegunde by Langton's predecessor, Hubert Walter, in 1205.

Lesdon, in the Isle of Sheppey. This church was also appropriated to St. Radegunde by Stephen Langton. He was already a cardinal, therefore the appropriation must have been made between 1212, the date of his creation as cardinal priest of St. Cecelia's, and 1228, the date of his death.

Alkham. This church was appropriated to the abbey in 1258 by Boniface of Savoy, then archbishop of Canterbury.

Shepherdswell. The advowson of this church was given in 1257 by Henry de Wengham, dean of the collegiate church of St. Martin in the city of London, and the appropriation was made in the following year by Boniface of Savoy.

The above facts are all taken from Warham's register and are complete. But there is an entry in the register of Simon Islip who was archbishop of Canterbury in the middle of the fourteenth century which is perhaps worth reproducing. In 1351 he called upon the abbot and convent to show by what right they held their churches. That this was done to his satisfaction is evident from the following entry in his register which is copied in Ducarel's Index : *Dimissio abbatis et conventus S. Radegunde super ecclesias parochiales de Alkham, Lesdon, Postling, Ríperia (sc. River) cum capella de Polton, Siberteswold (sc. Shepherdswell) (praedictas ecclesias tamquam eis appropriatas tenent) per decretum domini archiepiscopi apud Mayfield.*

Portslade in Sussex. The advowson of this church was granted in 1221 but nothing apparently is known as to the date of appropriation. The earliest entry in the existing Chichester diocesan registers, which begin very late, is under date 1444¹⁵⁰).

SHAP

The abbey of St. Mary Magdalene at Shap, in the county of Westmoreland and diocese of Carlisle, was founded from Blanchland in 1200, though Cockersand was regarded as its mother house. It held three churches at the dissolution.

Bampton, Shap. In 1287 Ralph Ireton, bishop of Carlisle, a black

150) *Reg. Praty* (Sussex Record Society), p. 130.

canon, confirmed the appropriation of these churches made by his predecessors ¹⁵¹).

Warcop. This was appropriated to Shap in 1307 by Ireton's successor, John Halton, also a black canon ¹⁵²).

SHEPP

See Shap.

STANLEY PARK

See Dale.

SULBY

St. Mary's abbey at Sulby, in the county of Northampton and diocese of Lincoln, was founded in 1155 from Newhouse. At the dissolution it held eight churches : five of them (East Haddon, Great Harrowden, Little Addington, Siberstoft,, and Welford) in Northamptonshire ; two (Lubbenham and Wistowe) in Leicestershire ; and one (Wappenbury) in Warwickshire.

Little Addington. A presentation to the vicarage was made by the abbot and convent in the ninth year of Hugh of Wells, bishop of Lincoln, which ended 19 Dec. 1218 ¹⁵³). The vicarage is noted in the *Liber Antiquus* ¹⁵⁴), and in the Norwich valuation ¹⁵⁵).

Sibertoft. Sulby held the advowson in the twelfth year of Hugh of Wells as it then presented to the rectory ¹⁵⁶) ; but the licence in mortmain for appropriation was only granted in 1326 ¹⁵⁷). There is no evidence to hand as to when the appropriation was actually made.

Welford. Sully presented a clerk to the vicarage in the sixteenth year of Hugh of Wells ¹⁵⁸) : consequently the *Great Harrowden*. In the eighteenth year of Hugh of Wells, Sulby presented to the rectory ¹⁵⁹) ; again in his twenty fifth year ¹⁶⁰) ; again in his twenty

151) *Reg. Joan. de Halton Epi Karliol.* (6 & y) ip 39.

152) *Ibid.*, p. 292.

153) *Rot. H. de W.* (C & Y), i, 130.

154) Page 22. See note 128.

155) Lunt, *op. cit.*, p. 273.

156) *Rot. H. de W.* ii, 104.

157) *Pat.* 19 Edw. II, p. 2, m. 20.

158) *Rot. H. de W.* ii, 120.

159) *Rot. H. de W.* ii, 135.

160) *Ibid.* ii, 181.

'sixth' ¹⁶¹) ; and again in the tenth year of Hugh's successor, Richard Grosseteste ¹⁶²), which ended 17 June 1245. But at some previous time the abbey held the church to its uses and lost it by negligence, as appears from the following entry ¹⁶³) in the Rotuli of Richard Gravesend bishop of Lincoln (1258-1279) : ... Cum vos ecclesiam de Harrewdon nostre diocesis per bone memorie quondam sancte sedis apostolice summos pontifices ac per quosdam predecessores nostros in ecclesia Lincolniensi vobis in usus proprios concessum habueritis ab antiquo sicut dictorum patrum authentica scripta declarant evidenter quam etiam ecclesiam in aliquibus temporibus quiete et pacifice possidetis et a cujus possessione per incuriam quorundam domi vestri presidentium deinde cecidisti nos... dictam ecclesiam vobis in usus proprios auctoritate pontificali concedimus et assicuramus perpetuo possidendam in intuitu caritatis... This entry was made between 17 February & 19 March 1278.

East Haddon. Henry earl of Lancaster petitioned Clement VI for the appropriation of this church to Sulby ¹⁶⁴), and in 1349 that pontiff ordered the bishop of Lincoln to make the appropriation ¹⁶⁵). The royal licence was granted in 1351 ¹⁶⁶).

Wappenbury. A licence in mortmain for the alienation of this church to Sulby was granted to the Carthusians of Axholm in 1399 ¹⁶⁷).

Lubbenham, Wistow. In 1481 Sir William Hastings was granted a licence ¹⁶⁸) for the alienation of the advowson of these churches to Sulby : the abbot and convent receiving at the same time licence to appropriate.

SWAINBY

See Coverham. That abbey was originally founded at Swainby, and was removed in the fourteenth year of King John (1212-1213).

TITCHFIELD

Titchfield abbey, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Jonh the Evangelist, was founded in 1231 by Peter des Roches,

¹⁶¹) *Ibid.* ii 271.

¹⁶²) *Rot. Ric. Grosseteste* (C & Y), p. 219.

¹⁶³) *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (C & Y), pp. 133, 134.

¹⁶⁴) *Cal. Pet.* i, 166.

¹⁶⁵) *C. P. L.*, iii 337.

¹⁶⁶) *Pat.* 25 Edw. II, p. 1, m. 11.

¹⁶⁷) *Pat.* 22 Rich. II, p. 3, m. 3.

¹⁶⁸) *Pat.* 21 Edw. IV, p. 2, m. 12.

bishop of Winchester, founder of the abbey of Hales Owen of which this was a filiation. Titchfield abbey was situated in Hampshire and the diocese of Winchester. At the dissolution it possessed three churches.

Titchfield, Lomer. In 1279, John of Pontoise, bishop of Winchester summoned the abbot and convent to shew by what right they held these churches and their vicarages and was satisfied by the production of apostolic privileges ¹⁶⁹).

Cornhampton. The advowson of this church was obtained in the thirteenth century ¹⁷⁰). There is no evidence to hand as to when it was appropriated : but in a taxation of the diocese in the register of William of Wykeham, bishop of Winchester, (1367-1404), Cornhampton appears with the note «r. (sc. rector) abb. of Titchfield ¹⁷¹)

TORRE

The abbey of the Holy Trinity at Torre, in the county of Devon and diocese of Exeter, was founded from Welbeck in 1196. It was the richest of the Englis Premanstratensian abbeys. At the dissolution it held eight churches, with five dependent chapels. Seven of these churches were in the same county and diocese as itself ; one, Skidbrooke, in the county and diocese of Lincoln. The following details are taken from the abstract of the cartulary printed by Oliver in his *Monasticon Exoniense*, with the exception of those relating to Skidbrooke for which the *Liber Antiquus* of Hugh of Wells has also been used.

Torre Mohun, the parish church of the abbey. This church was appropriated to the abbey by Henry Marshall, bishop of Exeter (1194-1206), and the appropriation was confirmed by his second successor, William Briwere (1224-1244). At the time of the dissolution this church had a chapel in the neighbouring village of Cockington.

Woolborough. This church was also appropriated to the abbey by Henry Marshall.

Heenock. Simon of Apulia, bishop of Exeter (1214-1223), appropriated this church to Torre.

Buckland Brewer. The possession of both church and vicarage was confirmed by the bishop William Briwere (1224-1244).

169) *Reg. Joan. de Pontissara* (C & Y), p. 543.

170) British Museum, *Add. MS.* 33284, f. 165.

171) *Wykeham's Register* (Hampshire Record Society), ii 371.

Shebbeare. Simon of Apulia 1214-1223) confirmed the possession of this church, and his successor, William Briwere, that of the vicarage. At the dissolution there was a dependent chapel at Sheepwash.

Bradworthy. There appears to be nothing in the cartulary fixing the date of the appropriation of this church; but there is an entry noting that William Briwere taxed the vicarage, whence the church must have been appropriated before 24 October 1244, the date of his death. At the dissolution it had one chapel.

Tounstall. The possession of this church was confirmed by Simon of Apulia (1214-1233); and, in 1247, that of the vicarage by William Blandy, Simon's second successor. This church had a chapel at Dartmouth from 1372, in which year the abbot bound himself to provide a priest to officiate in this new chapel of Holy Trinity ¹⁷²).

Skidbrooke. This Lincolnshire church, far removed from Torre, was granted by St. Hugh of Avalon, the Carthusian bishop of Lincoln, who died 17 November 1200. Before his elevation to the episcopate St. Hugh was prior of Witham in the neighbouring county of Somerset which may explain the grant. Fourteen years after the death of St. Hugh, his second successor Hugh of Wells ratified the "rationabilem concessionem sanctae recordationis Hugonis praedecessoris nostri" ¹⁷³).

TUPHOLME

Tupholme abbey, dedicated to the Annunciation of Our Lady was founded from Newhouse before 1190. It was in the county and diocese of Lincoln as were the five churches it held at the dissolution.

Market Stainton, Bureth ¹⁷⁴), *Ranby, Middle Rasen.* The vicarages of these churches are noted in the *Liber Antiquus* ¹⁷⁵): therefore the churches were appropriated before 1219.

Sturton. A licence in mortmain for the appropriation of this church was granted 1343 ¹⁷⁶). In 1347, Clement VI made the appropriation at the instance of Isabelle of France, widow of Edward II of England ¹⁷⁷).

172) *Brantyngham's register*, apud Oliver *op. cit.* 171.

173) *Liber Antiquus* (Ed. Gibbons), p. 73.

174) *Ibid.*, p. 63.

175) Now, Tupholme.

176) *Pat.* 16 Edw. III, p. 2, m. 3.

177) *Cal. Pet.* i, 107.

WELBECK

The abbey of St. James at Welbeck, in the county of Nottingham and diocese of York, was founded from Newhouse in 1153, and became the mothe rhouse of eight English abbeys. At the dissolution it held ten churches : five (Cuckney, Whatton, Littleborough, Elkesley, and Flintham) in the same county and diocese as itself ; one (Owston) in both the county and the diocese of York ; two (Cotes and Whitton) in the county and diocese of Lincoln ; and two (Etwall and Duckmanton)¹⁷⁸) in the county of Derby and diocese of Coventry and Lichfield.

Cuckney. The abbey was situated in the parish of Cuckney and the church was certainly appropriated to it before 1289¹⁷⁹) as appears from the York registers.

Whatton. Thoroton¹⁸⁰) citing the Welbeck register¹⁶¹), (in the possession of the duke of Portland) says that this church was appropriated to the abbey by Geoffrey Plantagenet, archbishop of York (1191-1212). This church had a chapel at Aslocton which was also appropriated to the abbey¹⁸²).

Littleborough. King John gave the advowson and Geoffrey Plantagenet made the appropriation¹⁸³).

Elkesley. This church must have been appropriated after 23 June 1342, as on that date it had a rector¹⁸⁴). The chapel of Bothamswell, also owned by Welbeck, belonged to this church¹⁸⁵).

Flintham. In 1382 a licence in mortmain was granted for the appropriatin of this church¹⁸⁶), which, according to Thoroton was made by the archbishop of York c. 1389¹⁸⁷). It was certainly made not later than A. D. 1400 as in that year an indult was granted by Boniface IX to the then abbot allowing him (should he resign his office for a reasonable cause) to apply to his own uses for life the funds of this church and of that of Owston ; the appropriation of

178) Sometimes found at "Duckmanworth".

179) *Reg. Romeyne* (Surtees), i, 286.

180) *History of Nottinghamshire* (London 1677), p. 43.

181) *Doct no.* 143.

182) *Ibid.* 137, 140.

183) *Ibid.* p. 414. Thoroton there cites the Walbyck register no. 231.

184) *Pat.* 16 Edw. III, p. 2, m. 30.

185) Thoroton *op. cit.* 444.

186) *Pat.* II, Rich. II, p. 2, m. 14.

187) Thoroton, *op. cit.*, p. 135.

both of which, it was stated in the indult he had procured for the abbey¹⁸⁸).

Owston. In 1399 a licence in mortmain was granted to John duke of Lancaster and Henry earl of Derby for the alienation of the abbey to appropriate it¹⁸⁹). It was actually appropriated between 21 April 1399, when a papal indult was granted to the then rector of the church¹⁹⁰), and 22 April 1400 when the indult mentioned above under "Flintham" was granted to the abbot of Welbeck.

Cotes. This church must have been appropriated not later than the eleventh year of the pontificate of Hugh of Wells bishop of Lincoln as during that year, which ended 19 December 1220, Welbeck presented to the vicarage¹⁹¹).

Whitton. The abbey is known to have presented to the vicarage during the sixth year of the pontificate of Richard Gravesend, bishop of Lincoln, which ended 3 November 1265¹⁹²).

Etwall. The earliest notice of this church is the appointment of a vicar in 1361¹⁹³).

Duckmanton. Welbeck presented to the vicarage in 1372¹⁹⁴).

WELFORD

See Sulby.

WENDLING

The small abbey of Wendling, dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, was founded from Langley in the thirteenth century. It was in the county of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich, as were the three churches it held at the dissolution of which at present very little is known.

Wendling. Blomefield gives no particulars of this church.

Wessenham. Blomefield gives two vicars without date, and then a regular series from 1309 onwards¹⁹⁵).

Lougham. A licence in mortmain was granted in 1329, for the

188) *C. P. L.* v, 334.

189) *Pat.* 20, Rich. II, p. 2, m. 5.

190) *C. P. L.*, v., 242.

191) *Rot. H. de W.* (C & Y I, 214.

192) *Rot. Ric. Gravesend* (C & Y), p. 92.

193) *Reg. Stretton* (Salt Soc. N. S. x (2)), p. 72

194) *Ibid.*, p. 89.

195) *Op. cit.* x, 79.

appropriation of this church ¹⁹⁶) : when the appropriation was made cannot be said at present.

WEST DEREHAM

The abbey of West Dereham, dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, was founded from Welbeck in 1188 ; the founder being Hubert Walter, then dean of York, later bishop of Salisbury, and later still archbishop of Canterbury. It was situated in the county of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich. At the dissolution it possessed seven churches ; five of them (West Dereham, Holkham, Wrotton, Ringland, and Stradsett) ; one (Holy Trinity Cambridge), in the diocese of Ely ; and one (Kirby in Malhamdale) in the county and diocese of York.

West Dereham. There were two churches here, one dedicated to St. Peter, the other to St. Andrew. There is no evidence to hand as to when they were appropriated to the abbey ; but in 1401, when the churches were united, it was stated in a papal induit that they had for long been held to the uses of the abbot and convent, who were then relieved from the obligation of keeping St. Peter's in repair ¹⁹⁷).

Holkham. From the Norwich valuation we learn that in 1254 the White Canons of West Dereham held one moiety of this church and the Black Canons of Walsingham the other ¹⁹⁸) : and Blomefield says that this moiety was appropriated to the abbey by John de Gray bishop of Norwich (1200-1214) ¹⁹⁹). In 1341 the abbot of Viterbo brought an action against the abbot of West Dereham for the possession of this church ; but could not make good his claim ²⁰⁰). In 1347 the abbey became possessed of the second moiety, and then William Bateman, made a further appropriation ²⁰¹).

Wrotton. Blomefield says ²⁰²) that this church was appropriated to the abbey in 1263 by Simon de Wauton, bishop of Norwich.

Ringland. In 27 Edward I, which ended 19 November 1299, an action was brought in the Court of King's Bench to recover the advowson of this church from the abbot & convent. The action failed

196) *Pat.* 3 Edw. 3 p. 1, m. 2.

197) *C. P. L.*, v, 415.

198) *Lunt op. cit.* p. 373.

199) *Op. cit.* vii, 334.

200) *Cf. Pat.* 25 Edw. III, p. 3, m. 19d.

201) Blomefield, *op. cit.* ix, 242, 243.

202) *Ibid.*, vii 510.

for not only was the charter granting it produced but also proof that the appropriation of the church had been made by the bishop of Norwich and his chapter ²⁰³). Blomefield gives a vicar under date 1288, and others from 1318.

Stradsett. Blomefield says that this church was appropriated early in the reign of Henry III (1216-1272) ²⁰⁴). His list of vicars begins in 1311.

Cambridge (Holy Trinity). The copy of the Norwich valuation in the possession of the dean and chapter of St. Paul's London, which Mr. Lunt says is a contemporary document, the scribe noted against the name of this church «Ab. de Dereham» ²⁰⁵); and the vicarage is noted in the thirteenth century. *Liber Memorandum Ecclesie de Bernewelle*, a house of Black Canons on the outskirts of Cambridge ²⁰⁶). In 1401 Boniface IX appropriated the vicarage to the uses of the abbot and convent ²⁰⁷); but this appropriation came within the scope of subsequent general cancellations.

Kirby in Malhamdale. The church must have been appropriated not later than 1276, as in that year the archbishop of York, Walter Giffard, admitted to the vicarage a presentee of the abbot and convent ²⁰⁸). Ten years later, the then archbishop, John Romeyn, cited the abbot & convent to show why the church had been appropriated to them ²⁰⁹). Their reply is not given.

West Langdon. The abbey of St. Thomas, bishop and martyr, at West Langdon in the county of Kent and diocese of Canterbury, was founded from Leiston between 1185 and 1190. It possessed six churches all in the same county and diocese as itself.

Lydden, Oxney, Walmer, West Langdon. The advowsons of these churches were granted by the foundation charter and the grant was confirmed by Baldwin archbishop of Canterbury (1185-1190) ²¹⁰). Nothing more is known of them till towards the middle of the fourteenth century when the right of the abbey to them was challenged. There was a formal judicial inquiry at which the proctor of the abbey, being apparently unable to produce documentary evidence, based its claim upon long use. In the end, the archbishop,

203) *Ibid.*, viii, 253.

204) *Ibid.*, vii 453.

205) *Op. cit.*, p. 219.

206) Edited by J. W. Clark, Cambridge 1907.

207) *C. P. L.*, v. 415.

208) *Reg. Giffard (Surtees)*, f. 251.

209) *Reg. Romeyne (Surtees)*, i 59.

210) *Warham's Register* f. 137a.

John Stratford, confirmed the right of the abbot and convent. This was in 1340 ²¹¹).

Waldeshare. The royal licence for appropriation was granted in 1322 ²¹²) ; and in the same year a vicar was instituted by the archbishop, Walter Reynolds, on the presentation of the abbot and convent ²¹³).

Tonge. The appropriation was made by Walter Reynolds in 1325 ²¹⁴), after the advowson, when licence to appropriate had been granted by King Edward II ²¹⁵).

(to be continued).

Egerton BECK

211) *Ibid.*

212) See Ducarel's Index to Reynold's register.

213) *Ibid.*

214) *Ibid.*

215) *Pat.* 19 Edw. II, p. 1, m. 28.