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Rural Deanery of Cirencester

by C. Bowley
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[There is no doubt this is the effigy described by Atkyns as that of a female—an error he has made in several cases.—ED.]

RURAL DEANERY OF CIRENCESTER.

Reported by Mrs. C. Bowly.

CIRENCESTER, CHURCH OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST.

I.

SIR WILLIAM MASTER, KNT., DIED 1661.

1. (4) Civilian.
2. Recumbent effigy, resting on left arm.
3. Marble, white.
4. Life-size.
5. Low-necked under-garment; bare neck and one arm; long, loose over-garment. Holds book in right hand.
6. Lying on a mattress.
8. On a raised tomb with panels in front.
9. See Bigland, p. 365, and Rudder, p. 364.
11. Nose partly gone.
12. South wall, St. Mary's Chapel.
13. Bigland and Rudder as above.
14. Condition good.
15. Sir William Master was distinguished for his loyalty to Charles I., who rested at his house on two occasions.

II. and III.

HUMFRY BRIDGES AND WIFE ELIZABETH.

1. (4) and (6) Civilian and lady.
2. Recumbent effigies on slab.
3. Painted freestone.
4. Life-size.
5. Man, habit of a lawyer. Gown of striped material edged with fur; small frills round hands, and ruff round neck; full breeches, tied with bow at knee; stockings, and

low, thick shoes with bows. The wife has high hat with ribbon round; tight cap under, no hair to be seen; bows down the front of bodice; ruff.

6. Large square cushions for heads to rest on.

8. Canopy and raised tomb, with eight daughters and one son on panels below.

9. Bigland, p. 364; Rudder, p. 364.

"He dyed the 17th of April, 1598. She dyed the 6 of July, 1620."

"He gave 40/- yearly for ever to the poore of this towne. She gave 6 habitations for 6 poore widdowes with 6/- weekly for ever."

In miniature at bottom are figures of eight daughters and one son.

A young man kneels at head, "Humfrid^s Fil. fin de Medio Templo obyt 2 Decemb. 1610." Over a like figure kneeling at the feet, "Anthon Fil jun de Medio Templo. obyt 2 Aug. 1617."

10. Painted natural colour.

11. Good condition.

12. St. Mary's Chapel, north-east corner.

13. Bigland and Rudder as above.

14. Good condition.

IV. and V.

GEORGE MONOX AND WIFE MARIA, DIED 1638.

1. (4) and (6) Civilian and lady.

2. Kneeling figures, with hands joined together over altar (?). Raised-tomb with canopy.

3. Marble.

4. Life-size.

5. (iv.) Full gown with short sleeves, waistcoat and outside of sleeve embroidered; small ruffles to wrists, with plain turned-back cuffs; long waistcoat, with tags round waist; ruffs at neck. (v.) Lady's veil with lace at edge; ruff at neck and plain, full cuffs (muslin) turned back at wrist.

6. Cushions to kneel on. Two daughters kneeling over tomb below.

8. Arms of Monox and Perry: "Argent on a chevron sable between three oak-leaves vert as many bezants, on a chief gules a dove" (Sir J. Maclean, "seamew") "between two anchors erect or" (Monox), impaling "Argent on a bend sable three pears or, in sinister chief a quatrefoil . . ." (Perry). On top shield probably with Monox alone, helmet and crest.—F. W. See Bigland, p. 368; Rudder, p. 363.

12. St. John's Chapel, south-west corner; removed from opposite corner.

13. Bigland, p. 368; Rudder, p. 363.

14. Condition good.

15. "From a certain ease in the attitude and draperies, joined to somewhat of frippery and affectation, the sculptor was probably of the school of Bernini."—*History of Cirencester*, Benham, 1842.

IV.

1. (3*b*) Ecclesiastical.
2. Recumbent effigy.
3. Slate.
4. Full size.
5. Priest in eucharistic vestments.
6. Broken away.
7. Bird with curious tail, one foot in mouth.
8. On plain slab.
- 9 and 10. No inscription, painting or arms.
11. The hands only just show where they were; some object between them.
12. In window between St. Mary's and St. Catherine's Chapels.
13. Not illustrated or mentioned in County Histories.
14. Bad condition; head gone. Much worn on top.

V.

1. (4) Civilian.
2. Recumbent effigy of layman; probably top of tomb.

3. Stone.
4. Life-size (small man).
5. A long garment with large arm-holes, showing sleeves of under-gown, and entirely covering the figure, even the feet; a purse at the side. Probably a merchant.
6. Two pillows under the head.
7. The feet rest against a bracket.
11. Very much worn; effect of beard given by dark stain in stone. Probably been in the air and weathered at some time.
12. North side of the Chapel of St. Nicholas and St. Catherine.
13. Not illustrated or described.
14. Condition, worn; no nose, face rubbed down, hand gone. Evidently an old man: neck thin and skinny; head bald, with a little hair on side.
15. "The recumbent figure has always been said to be that of Richard Osmund (died 1517), being so mentioned in 1678 in Antony a'Wood's *Itinerary*."—Fuller, *Civ. Ch.*

RURAL DEANERY OF STAPLETON.

Reported by F. F. Tuckett, Esq.

ALMONDSBURY, ST. MARY THE VIRGIN.

I. and II.

1. (2) Military, (6) Lady, on one slab.
2. Recumbent effigies.
3. Stone.
4. On a slab recline the life-sized effigies (length, 5 ft. 11 ins. and 5 ft. 10 ins. respectively) of Edward Veele, Esq., *obit* 1577, and his wife Katherine, *obit* 1575.
5. The male figure is bare-headed, and wears enormous pauldrons, brassarts of several pieces, breastplate, a divided skirt of mail over trunk hose, jambs, genouillères, broad sollerets, and spurs. The lady wears the head-dress known as a Paris head, stomacher and small ruff, full padded