

From the *Transactions* of the
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

Trinity Hospital, Bristol

by W. Leighton
1913, Vol. 36, 251-287

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TRINITY HOSPITAL..

By WILFRID LEIGHTON.

THE almshouses in Old Market Street, known as Trinity Hospital, were founded by John Barstaple, a merchant and burgess of Bristol. He was a man of wealth and distinction in the city, being bailiff in 1379, sheriff in 1389, and mayor in 1395, 1401 and 1405. By his marriage with Isabel, daughter of Walter Derby,¹ he became allied to another of the wealthy merchant families whose name is also recorded on the roll of Bristol benefactors. Of their family of three sons and two daughters, Nicholas Barstaple, "clerk," was the first master of his father's hospital.²

An interesting series of charters throw considerable light on the objects of the founder. The first of these charters is the letters patent of Richard II, which enables us to fix the date of the foundation of the hospital as December 10th, 1395. Unfortunately this early charter has perished, but it is mentioned in the confirmatory letters patent of Henry IV, given at Westminster, February 16th, 1408,³ of which the following is an abbreviated transcript:—

Calendar of Patent Rolls. 9 Hen. IV.

1408. Feb. 16. Westminster.

Licence, in consideration of another Licence, by letters patent dated 10 Dec. 19 Richard II, which have had no effect, and for 2 marks, paid by him in the hanaper, for John Barstable, burgess of Bristol, to found on the plot there specified a house of hospitality or alms, in honour of the

¹ Dallaway's *Antiquities*, p. 91.

² *Ibid.*, p. 75.

³ State Papers Series.



Photo by Mr. A. N. Colterrell.

TRINITY HOSPITAL SOUTH.

(From the drawing by H. O'Neill, 1822, in the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery.)



Photo by Mr. Charles Wills.

TRINITY HOSPITAL NORTH.

BARSTAPLE'S STATUE AND 1796-1913 BUILDINGS.



Photo by Mr. A. N. Cotterell.

TRINITY CHAPEL, 1790-1881.

(From the drawing by G. Delamotte, 1825, in the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery.)



Photo by Mr. A. N. Cotterell.

TRINITY HOSPITAL NORTH, 1672-1913.

(From the drawing by G. Delamotte, 1824, in the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery.)

Holy Trinity, of two chaplains to celebrate divine service there daily for the good estate of the said John and Isabel his wife, and for their souls after death, and 24 poor persons to dwell there and pray for the same, and also a fraternity or guild perpetual of themselves and others who may wish to be of it. The two houses shall be incorporated separately, and one of the chaplains shall be warden of the Almshouse and called warden of the Almshouse of Holy Trinity by la Fordesyate in the suburb of Bristol, and the other master or warden of the fraternity and called master or warden of the fraternity or guild of Holy Trinity by la Fordesyate in the suburb of Bristol, and each shall have power to acquire lands and other possessions and to implead and be impleaded, and have a common seal, and each of the wardens and the brethren and sisters of the fraternity shall have power to make ordinances for themselves and their successors. The warden and four of the more honest men of the fraternity may make assessments on the goods of the brethren and sisters when necessary for the maintenance of the fraternity. Licence also for the said John to grant the advowson of the Almshouse to the Mayor and Commonalty of Bristol.

The statement in this charter that the earlier licence of 1395 had been abortive is perplexing, and must refer rather to the guild or fraternity than to the almshouse, for the latter was certainly erected in that year or early in 1396. This is witnessed by the will of Peter Atte Barugh, dated September 15th, 1396,¹ leaving a legacy to the "poor of the renovated hospital at 'Laffardisyate,'" and also that of Thomas Carpynter, March 12th, 1397,² mentioning the "hospital newly made" there.

In the charter the intentions of the founder are very clearly stated; there was to be an almshouse and a fraternity or guild, separately incorporated and in separate houses. The fraternity contemplated by Barstaple was

¹ *Wadley's Wills*, p. 47.

² *Ibid.*, p. 58.

clearly a religious guild as distinct from the merchant and trade guilds common at that time in all towns. Such fraternities in the Middle Ages were spread in great numbers over all countries under the Roman authority. They were always under the patronage of the Holy Trinity or certain saints, or the Holy Cross or Sacrament, or some dedication. Their objects were many. Archbishop Hinkman, of Rheims, in his capitulary instructions relating to such guilds says, "They shall unite for every exercise of religion, that is to say, they shall unite for offerings (especially of candles) for mutual assistance, for funeral services for the dead, for alms and other deeds of piety."¹

Many of these guilds also undertook some useful social service, such as repairing roads and bridges, and one very large English fraternity—that of Corpus Christi at York—found beds for "eight poor people being strangers" in the city.²

During the period intervening between the first and second charters the founder was not idle in carrying out his good intentions. On the 30th January, 1402, he obtained licence from Henry IV to grant in mortmain to the "brothers and sisters of the hospital" a toft in the suburbs of Bristol, held of the king in burgage for the support of certain charges "according to his ordinance."³

It would appear that this licence has reference to the fraternity rather than to the almshouse, but in many cases the wording of the documents in this respect is somewhat ambiguous.

Previous to the above licence John Barstaple had obtained in 1399 a letter from Pope Boniface IX inhibiting under pain of the greater excommunication, not to be removed by other than the Pope except in hour of death, anyone from interfering with the execution of his will, by which,

¹ L. T. Smith, *English Guilds*, p. lxxxii.

² *Ibid.*, p. 143.

³ Calendar of Patent Rolls. State Papers Series, 1402.

according to the text of the letter, he proposed to endow the hospital he had founded and built for the "sick poor."¹

The intention expressed in this letter of endowing the foundation by will was not carried out. The almshouse was evidently transferred to the Corporation at an early but unrecorded date under the clause contained in the charter of 1408.

Barstaple seems to have divested himself of the greater part of his estate before death, but in his will² directs that his body be buried in the chapel of the Holy Trinity of "la Fordysate" on the left side of the high altar, and after the decease of Isabel, his wife, bequeaths to the fraternity of the Blessed Trinity of "la Fordysate" two cups of silver with their covers, which shall remain there for ever.

John Barstaple died September 15th, 1411,³ and was buried as he directed on the left side of the high altar in the chapel of his hospital. His wife died the following year, and was buried on the right side of the altar. Their burial-places were marked by memorial brasses, in which they are shown standing with their hands clasped in the attitude of prayer. He is clothed in a long gown with a hood fastened at the throat, and clasped round the waist by an ornamental girdle from which a basilarde is suspended on the left side. Beneath is his merchant's mark and the following inscription:—

Hic iacet Job'es Barstaple Burgef' ville Bursto II'
 sudator ist'i loci qui obiit ! xv^o Kal'ii Octob' l'ra d'o'cal'd
 Ho d'ni MM^o CCC^o Cmo Ʒ3^{mo} cui a'ie p'piciet' d's Amen

His wife is shown clothed in a long dress with tight sleeves and a girdle at the waist. Her head is covered by a kerchief and wimple with a cape over the shoulders. Under

¹ State Papers. Papal Letters, 1399, p. 245.

² Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Will dated 10th April, 1411.

³ M. B. Trinity Hospital and Dallaway's *Antiquities*, p. 75.

the figure is a shield with the arms: "On a fess between three roses as many bugles," and the inscription:—

hic iacet Isabella quonda' vx' Job'is Barstaple
que obiit | anno d'ni mill'o CCCC^{mo} . . . l'ra d'o'calis
. . . cui' a te p'piciet d's Ame.

The blank left in the date of this brass has misled several Bristol historians, who have assigned Isabel Barstaple's death to the year 1400. Her will, however, dated March 2nd, 1411,¹ was proved before the mayor and sheriff on the "Monday next before the feast of St. Margaret the Virgin, 1412,"² having previously been proved before the ecclesiastical authorities, and gives very detailed directions as to her burial.

She describes herself as formerly wife of John Barstaple, late a burgess of the town of Bristol, and desires to be buried in the Chapel of the Holy Trinity "iux' portam Laffard" before the image of the Holy Trinity. To the poor there she bequeaths £10, and to Sir William Rijs, chaplain, ten marks sterling, he to celebrate in the chapel the next year after her decease, for her soul, her late husband's and all Christian people, and to have a further sum of forty shillings for the celebration of a Trental of St. Gregory. Her son, Sir Nicholas, chaplain, Sir William Rijs and others to have clothing of one sort "contra dirige meu." To Sir Thomas Thorpp celebrating in the chapel twenty shillings was left, and to Sir William Hawvyle, Rector of St. Werburgh's £3 sterling, on condition that neither he nor any in his name hindered the direct conveyance of her body to Trinity Hospital Chapel. Forty pence also was left to the said rector, and the same sum to the clerk of St. Werburgh's for bell tolling,

¹ *Wadley's Wills*, p. 86.

² The Brass of Isabel Barstaple is supposed to be a copy of the original. Both the canopies are modern. See also W. A. Sampson's "The Almshouses of Bristol," *Proceedings*, vol. xxxii and xxxiv, p. 50, Bristol Meeting. Also *Monumental Brasses of Gloucester*, C. T. Davies, p. 28.

and twelve pence to every priest celebrating therein. Four tapers, each of the weight of six pounds, to be about the body "ad axequias meas" and five tapers, weighing eight pound apiece, to stand upon the hearse. Poor people to have white cloth to the value of £8, and follow the body to burial. Legacies were also left to her daughter Alice, her daughter Joan, wife of Robert Shepward and her heirs, to her sons Nicholas and Thomas and others, and the residue of her estate was to be distributed for the good of the above-mentioned souls.

After three centuries the old chapel became ruinous, and when rebuilt it was necessary to re-inter the remains of the founder and his wife. At the second burial there was none of the solemn magnificence of their first interment. But the clerk of works kept a diary,¹ and under date Saturday, August 23rd, 1794 he made an entry:—

" . . . interring the Bones of the Founder, his wife, Priest, etc., in the middle Isle of new Chapell . . . staid to see it done 'til 8 o'clock at Night. Ale for the men 1/3."

The year following the death of John Barstaple the fourth charter dealing with the hospital was granted by Henry IV, February 15th, 1412, as follows:—

Calendar of Patent Rolls. 13 Hen. IV.

1412. Feb. 15. Westminster.

Licence for 10 marks paid in the hanaper, for Nicholas Barstaple and William Rice, Clerks, to grant in mortmain the reversion of a messuage, a caracate of land, 12 acres of meadow, 20 acres of pasture, and 16 acres of wood, in Ruge-way, not held of the King, which Mark William of Bristol and Agnes his wife, hold for life of their demise, to the warden, brethren and sisters of the hospital of Holy Trinity by Laffordesyate in the suburb of Bristol, to find a chaplain to celebrate divine service daily in the Hospital for the good

¹ MSS., Public Library, Trinity Almshouse, B. 4905.

estate of Isabel Barstaple, Simon Canynges, and Margaret, his wife, and Thomas Barstaple, and their children, while they live and souls after death, John Barstaple, William Botener, and Alice his wife, and William Canynges.

This charter also appears to deal with the guild only. The original, which is in excellent preservation, lies with the Ashton Court papers, and adds the name of John Barstaple to the Patent Roll copy in the Public Record Office, as one for whom service is to be celebrated. It would be interesting to know what became of the land in Rugeway, or presumably Ridgway. The early Rent Rolls of the almshouse do not mention it, and it does not appear to have passed to the Corporation.

The fifth and last charter dealing with the hospital was granted by Henry V, February 16th, 1417.¹ It also deals with the guild only:—

Calendar of Patent Rolls. 4 Hen. V.

1417. Feb. 15. Westminster.

Whereas by virtue of letters patent of Hen. IV, John Barstaple, founded a house of hospitality or alms in Bristol, and began a fraternity or guild and Thomas Blount, John Droys, Robert Russell, David Dudbroke, Robert Shipward, and Nicholas Barstaple, were admitted brethren of it, but no warden was made or ordained, and it was not fully established, and afterwards the said John Barstaple proposed to change it into a fraternity or guild of the Holy Trinity and St. George, but commended his soul to the Most High before he could fulfil his pious and laudable purpose : the King grants licence for the said Thomas and others or four of them to transfer the said fraternity and found a fraternity or guild in honour of the Holy Trinity and St. George the Martyr of themselves and others wishing to be of it at Bristol, and for it to be incorporated and for one of the brethren yearly to be elected Master, and to have power with the guild

¹ State Papers Series.

of acquiring lands and other possessions and of impleading and being impleaded, and for the master and brethren to make ordinances and constitutions, and to assess and levy sums from the goods of the brethren and sisters.

This is the last reference we find to John Barstaple's guild or fraternity. Blount, Droys, Russell and Dudbrook were all men of substance who had held high civic office. Thomas Blount was mayor in 1416, and Robert Russell in 1417. It would be interesting to know the subsequent history of the guild. Perhaps further research may throw some light upon its end.

With reference to the last charter it may be noted that Messrs. Merewether and Stephens in their well-known work quote it as the first instance of one of the most characteristic capacities of a Corporation—that of holding lands and tenements by succession—being granted expressly and distinctly to an eleemosynary fraternity, at a time when such powers had not as yet been expressly granted to municipal bodies.¹

Clearly, however, this was not the first instance of such powers being granted, as we have already seen that similar clauses were introduced in the charter of Henry IV nine years earlier.

The original charter of Henry V is in the possession of the Trustees of Bristol Municipal Charities. The paper is very fragile, and the writing quite obliterated. We learn from the minutes entered in the Charitable Donations Book that the document has been in this state for a number of years.

On February 23rd, 1738, a Committee appointed by the Corporation to inquire into the charities under its care met and examined some of the old deeds relating to Trinity Hospital, and ordered the "charter founding the said almshouse to be copied and Englished, as far as it was possible, it being very much decayed."² The very imperfect translation,

¹ Merewether and Stephens, *History of Boroughs and Municipal Corporations*, p. 834.

² Manchec, *Bristol Charities*, p. 62.

with many blanks, which was the result of this order is printed in the appendix to Manchee's *Bristol Charities*, and what purports to be a copy in the original Latin was also printed by Barrett.

The charter has thus been readily accessible to students of the early history of the hospital, and is no doubt responsible for the statement, which appears in Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*,¹ that Barstaple's foundation dates from 1416. Although corrected by Barrett, this date is unfortunately repeated in one of our most recent county histories. Another inaccuracy for which Barrett appears to be responsible is the frequently-repeated statement that Isabel Barstaple founded that part of the hospital which lies on the north side of Old Market Street; an assumption which Mr. Latimer also considered probable because in the above charter of Henry V two hospitals were stated to be then in existence.²

The modern buildings of the hospital—an almshouse on the north side and a chapel and almshouse on the south side of Old Market Street—stand on sites which apparently have been occupied by similar buildings since the date of its foundation. We have an early reference to the south side buildings in the writings of William Worcester, who records that from the first gate of the castle, across his garden and by the Market Cross and St. Philip's Churchyard to the western wall of Trinity Chapel he paced 660 steps.³ He does not, however, mention the buildings on the north side, and the first distinct reference to that almshouse appears in the accounts of the hospital for 1512:—

“Item to III tilers a hole weke on the *Almys house over the way*, on the Chapell and the Almyshouse with the Chapell and on the belmakers house and on III houses where the wett was.”⁴

It seems certain, however, that the buildings were coeval,

¹ Page 483.

² Latimer's annotated copy of Barratt, Bristol Pub. Ref. Library.

³ Dallaway's *Antiquities*, p. 90. ⁴ MSS., Bristol Municipal Charities.

and although Isabel no doubt joined with her husband in the foundation, the true explanation of the two houses is that the erection on the south side was the almshouse, and that on the north side the home of the fraternity, which, according to the charter of Henry IV, was to be separately incorporated and separately housed.

In an old undated MS. book on vellum in the possession of the Municipal Trustees there is also the following very clear statement as to Barstaple's buildings:—

“ John Barstaple marchant and Burgess of the Town of Bristoll founded the Almshouse on the South side within Lawford's Gate together with the Hospital on the North side within the said gate, he builded the chappell therein, the honour of God and the holie Trinitie . . . He allowed competent maintenance for a Priest to serve and attend, on the said Chapell. And endowed the said Chapell and premises with certain rents towaers their maintenance for ever.”

In this and other documents of the same period the buildings on the south side are generally referred to as the “Almshouse,” and those on the north side as the “Hospital,” and at an early date the latter was used more as a place of temporary rest for poor travellers than as a permanent home for the aged poor. In particular this is set out in the Indenture, dated April 14th, 1572, between Wm. Carr, merchant, of Bristol, and the Mayor and Commonalty of the City, reciting that Francis Codrington, of Bristol, merchant, gave to William Carr the sum of £50, “ of special trust and confidence, to be bestowed and employed at his discretion to the yearly use, relief and maintenance of bedding in the Hospital, or House of Poor People, called the Hospital of John Barstaple within Lawford's Gate, in the suburbs of Bristol, on the north side.” For the purpose of accomplishing the trust, Wm. Carr purchased of Thos. Shipman, late of Bristol, merchant, and Giles Codrington (son of Francis) certain lands and tenements in Portbury and Portishead, and demised the whole to the Mayor and

Commonalty of Bristol for the term of one thousand years from the previous Michaelmas, so that the hospital might be assured of the benefits intended by the donor, and for a full declaration of the "consideration and meaning" of which the document continues:—

"Whereas in the year 1544, Thos. Pacy, then being Mayor, and Francis Codrington and Thos. Lansden, being Sheriffs, it was agreed by the Mayor and Common Council that from thence forward said Sheriffs should cease to be at the charge of any Priests or Singing men at Mass, holden in the said Chapel: and that the said Sheriffs should also be discharged of a drinking yearly made under the Mayor and his brethren. In consideration of which discharges it was agreed by the said Mayor and Common Council, that the Sheriffs of the said City should pay yearly to the Chamberlain, to be repaid unto the Proctor of the Trinity Chapel at Lafford's Gate 40/- to be employed upon the making and repairing of bedding to be provided in the Hospital for the comfort of poor people, strangers coming and going through the said City, being sore sick, or otherwise destitute of comfort and relief, there to be harboured and succoured, by the space of one, two or three nights at the most."¹

We have no record of how or when this building was first put to these uses, which appear very similar to one of the objects of the Guild of Corpus Christi at York already referred to. It seems possible that such an object may have been incorporated in the internal regulations of Barstaple's Guild, and that after its decay the good work was still carried on.

From 1572 to 1616 the rents derived from Codrington's gift were collected by the Corporation, and carried to the credit of the hospital. Subsequently, however, the Corporation acquired a large estate at Portishead, and allowed the whole of the rents to be gathered and retained by its own

¹ Hare's Report, 1871, pp. 41-2.

bailiff. In 1827 when the general inquiry into charities was made by the Commissioners this gift was not revealed, but in 1842, the management having passed into the hands of the Trustees of the Municipal Charities, a petition was presented by them in the Court of Chancery, and by the subsequent order the Corporation was directed to hand over to the Trustees all the lands comprised in the Indenture of 1572, and to account for the profits received therefrom since 1836.¹

Francis Codrington was not the hospital's only benefactor during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. In the first account book, dated 1512,² and for many subsequent years the payment is recorded in the name of Dame Elizabeth or Isabel Seymour of 13d. to each of the poor people quarterly, with an additional 4d. every Shere or Shore Thursday, which is the Thursday before Easter.³ These sums are charged against the general receipts from rents, and were probably derived from the income of some bequest or donation merged in the general funds.

Bristol wills during this period record many small legacies to the poor of the almshouse, and occasionally a larger reversionary bequest, such as the house in "Knyfesmythe strete" bequeathed by John Dunster in 1406,⁴ should his heirs fail, and an almost similar bequest by Henry Dale of St. Leonard's Parish in 1511.⁵ It is impossible to say whether the first of these bequests matured, and there is no record in the accounts of anything being received on account of the second.

A more important bequest, however, was made in 1521, by John Mathew, draper, of the Parish of St. Ewen, which is thus recorded in the Trustees' MS. book:—

" John Mathew of the Cittie of Bristoll, marchant, by his

¹ *Ibid.*, p. 43.

² MSS., Bristol Municipal Charities.

³ Brand, *Pop. Ant.*, p. 83.

⁴ Wadley, p. 75.

⁵ P. C., 1511-12. Mr. Hockaday's Transcript.

last Will . . . did give to the Almshouse of the Blessed at Lawforde Gate in Bristol . . . of the poor folk there, five tenemts lying in Bristol . . . and for as much as the gift remained (void ?) the maior and commonaltie of Bristoll did grante unto the heirs of the said John Mathew during certain termes x℥ per annum and they released their interets as appeareth by the Deed and will remaining in Mr. Maior's Closet."

Both these documents have disappeared from "Mr. Maior's" closet, but from John Mathew's will, dated September 23rd,¹ 1521, we find that after certain bequests and a life interest to his wife, Margery, the residue of his estate was left to his son John, provided that if the latter died before the age of 21, after the decease of his said wife, all the property should go to the "Almshouse of the blessed Trynyte within the Chapell at Laffardes Yate, to the mayntenynge of the poor folke of the same house for ever." £40 was also left to his daughter Joan Mathew, at the age of 21, or marriage.

This bequest eventually became of considerable value, but nothing was received until 1564. In the accounts for that year appears for the first time a statement of "ye lande late belonging to Mr. Mathews of Bristow drap":—

THE RENT ROWELL.

George Bathram for a tenement in Brodestrete rent . .	ii℥
Rich Edye for a tenement in Balan (<i>i.e.</i> Baldwin) Strete	ii℥
Mathew Nede for a tenet uppon the Keaye . .	ii. vi. viii
Nichus Ware for a tenmt in Corne Strete	i℥
William Marshall for a tennt in Grope Lane	i℥
Som Tote	viii. vi. viii.

From this amount is deducted "payments owet of ye same lands."

Item paid Jonne fylde and now Jonne barrye for	
her stepend by the yere	vi℥
It more for ye bayliff ffee	vis viiid

¹ Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Proved Oct. 3rd, 1521.

In 1587 the annuities charged on the property were 40s. to "Julyan Morgan wyfe of Nicholas Morgan alys synger," and the same amount to "Amy Cadle wyfe of Thomas Cadle, clarke." Shortly afterwards the payments ceased, and the whole of the income was then applied to the general purposes of the charity.

The name "Lambert's Gift," applied to a small annual sum received from the Corporation, is an amusing instance of a clerical error being handed down in perpetuity. The Commissioners in their report of 1827 state that nothing could be found as to origin of this gift, except a minute of the Committee of Inquiry, August 17th, 1739, that the sum of 16s., viz. 8s. on St. David's Day, and 8s. on the 17th September, had been paid to the bailiff as the gift of Mr. Lambert.

Turning to the accounts, we find the following entry relating to the first portion of this gift:—

"It was this present yere of our Lorde God 1564 at the hands of Mr. Hicks Chamburleyne the firste of Mrche for the Almes pepull for hemyng viiis wch said money is gevon contynually wtowht enny accompte gevon."

This amount was received and paid regularly until 1612, when the first entry relating to the second half of the gift appears.

"(Item your accomptant) chargeth hym selff with viiis Recaved of the Chamberlyn the 17th day of September, 1612, being Lambert's Day . . . payd the same day to vi poor women of the same Almshouse according to an old custom."

It may be mentioned that the St. Lambert's Day, 17th September, was the day on which the founder's obit was celebrated.

Fifteen years later, with a new bailiff, the first payment is noted as issuing out of the Gaunt's Lands, and the second instead of being payable on St. Lambert's Day has become the gift of Mr. Lambert. Subsequently both amounts are

recorded as the gift of Mr. Lambert, and so continue to the present time.

Richard Reynolds, the philanthropist, on the 1st September, 1809, transferred to the Mayor and Commonalty of Bristol £4,000 three per cent. annuities, costing £2,740, for the purpose of increasing the weekly pay of the inmates of the almshouse. The gift was confirmed by an indenture, dated December 5th, 1809, relating the terms of the Trust, and providing for the investment of the surplus income.

Reference must also be made to the will of Alderman Henry Bengough, April 9th, 1818, leaving a reversionary interest in certain property in the parishes of Nempnett and Blagdon for the purpose of founding an almshouse on land belonging to and adjoining Trinity Hospital South. The bequest was insufficient for the purpose, and the income accumulated until 1877, when no suitable site adjoining the hospital being available, the almshouse known as Bengough's Almshouse was erected by the trustees in Horfield Road.

To complete this list of benefactions, Mr. Fenwick Richards, the present Chairman of the Trustees of the Municipal Charities, in 1912 enlarged the buildings of Trinity Hospital South, providing accommodation for four additional inmates, and in 1913 rebuilt the whole of the almshouse on the north side of Old Market Street.

The occasional extracts which have been given hardly indicate the wealth of interesting information contained in the hospital accounts, which form an almost complete record of the receipts and payments from the year 1512. These accounts are generally contemporary copies of the yearly statements of the bailiff. They are written on paper, and those between 1512 and 1727 have been bound into seventeen foolscap volumes.

The first opens with "Th accompte of John Clerke Rent getherer of the londis and tenements perteynyng and belongyng to the Chapell of the holy trynYTE at laffordis geate made in the yere of oure Lord God mt vd xii, that

ys to sey from the ffest of Seynt Michall the Archeangell the
 iiid yere of the reign of Kyng Henry the VIIIth unto the
 said ffest then next folowyng for a hoel yere John Rowland
 then being Mair."

From the tenants of seventeen shops and tenements in
 St. Thomas Street £9 13s. 1d. is collected, the majority of
 shops being let at 8s. per annum. William Cardmaker
 pays 12s. for a shop, and Symon Wever 30s. for a
 "tenement."

On the Key six shops and tenements are recorded;
 St. Mary Street, *i.e.* Mary-le-Port Street, three; Broad Mead
 one; and The Barrs five shops and nine gardens, shops
 producing about 4s. 4d., and gardens 2s. per annum. In
 the Old Market the names of four out of a total of five of
 the shopkeepers are trade names.

1512 THE OLDE MARKET BY YERE.

Item of Edmund Warmonde for a tent	xis
Of Thomas Belletur for a shop	xxiiiis
Of Richard Baker for a shop	xvis
Of Richard Wevar for a shop	xiiis
Of John Carpynter for a shop	viiiis
Item for a garden wt a well	vis
Item of a sheppard for a cotage	iiiis
Item of John Branwode for a shop	viiiis
Item of a garden by yere	vs iiiid
Item of the Proctors of Seint Phelyppys for the hall and the sellar to sell Ale in	iiiis iiiid
Item of the Proctors of Seynt Nicholas	is
Item receyved for a Mille to grynde crabbis ..	iis
Item receyved of Mr. Chambleyn	xxxiiiis
Sum Receyvdyd £viii ii viii	
Sum the hole Rent thys yere moto £xxxiiii xv ii	
Vacacons and batements of rents	
The hole vacacons of thys yere mot £viii viii vii	

COSTIS OF THE CHAPELL.

In primis paid to the viii pore men and women yearly to evry of them wekely vid mot ..	x℥ viiis
Item in the name of Dam Elzabethe Seymor too eche of them quarterly xiiid	xxxiiis
Item in hir name to the pore people evry Shore Thursday	iiiiid
Item for wood to there Chambre	iiis
Item for wood to comyn kechyn by yere	vis
Item for wotemele and salt by yere	xxiid
Item for iiiii quarts of lampeoile	xviiid
Item for renewyng of ii Tapers	xvid
Item paid to the waxmaker for x lb of new waxe for the Sepulcre light at viid a lb mot ..	vs xd
Item for a wachyng Tapir for the Sepulcre 1 lb and quatr of new wax at viid the lb mot ..	viiid
Item for renewyng of ii taps agaynst Trynyte Sunday	vd
Item for scouryng of the standards and candil- stikks on the Awter	vid
Item for scouryng of the lamps by fore the lie Auter	iid
Item for Rushes agayn Trynyte Sondag for the Chapell	iiiiid
Item to John Clarke for his wags	xis
Allowans for expensis upon the tenntes	vs
Item to the Belmand for goyng aboute the tounce ii tymes to show the pdon	viiiis
Item paid to F Willm Wode for iii quarts wags ..	iii xviii
Sum thys syde ℥xix. vii viid	

REPARATOUS ON THE TENTS.

Item I bought a tree of Elm for	iiis
Item for squaryng of the same tree	vid
Item payd for fallyng of the said tree whiche made iiid iiiii fete	iii viid

Item to ii sawears for sawyng of studdes and other tymbre and iiid of okyn burdds for xii days at xiiid a Day mt.	xiiis
Item to a Kaypynter ii days for squaryng of Tymbre in the store house of old tymbre at vid $\frac{1}{2}$ d a day	xiiid
Item for bryng of tymbre oute of the close and the stret studds and burds and other tymbre in to the store house	iiid

THE KEY.

Item for ii lode of tile stonys wt halyng	iiis
Item for i lb lathes	vd
Item for i lb lathe naile	$1\frac{1}{2}$ d
Item for ii lbs tile pynns	xiiid
Item for here	$\frac{1}{2}$ d
Item upon Bouse's house a duple durre wt walshe burdes iii finys (? hinges) for the said Dore and wyndower	xxid
Item to the Carpynter iiid days	iiis iid
Item for ii twists ii haspis and ii stapulls	viid
Item for mendyng of the shop wyndower iiid new haspis and iiid new stapulls	iid
Item for new bolts with a grete jemell to his shop	iiis
Item to the shop dore a new lok wt a hollow key	viid
Item for ii lb lath nails and burde nails	viid
Item for vi barris of iron in a gutter wyndow weying xiiid lb at $1\frac{1}{2}$ i lb	xx $\frac{1}{2}$ d

Item for a new lok to the chamber dore and a nother to the plor dore wth a nother to the kechyn dore wth thre keys and stapulls mt	xiii $\frac{1}{2}$ d
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SAINT THOMAS STREET.

Item for iii lode of pavyn stone to pave a kechyn in one of the v voide houses at xvid a lode and the halyng iid a lode mt	iiiis vid
Item for ix lode of cley to the same	xviiiid
Item for ii Busshells of lyme stone	iiiiid
Item for a pece of led weying xxxii lbs at $\frac{1}{2}$ i a lb to ley under the joynts of the pavynge for lokyng	xxiiiid (<i>sic</i>)
Item to ii masons viii days apece at vi $\frac{1}{2}$ d a day mt	viiiis viiid
Item for cancells to the same works	iid
Item to a laborer v days at iiiid a day to helpe the said masons'	xxd
Item to a carpynter a day for to ley new swed burdes to make the loft under the kechyn under the pavynge for it was rottyd ..	vi $\frac{1}{2}$ d
Item for an ashelar stone of v fett to set a fore a chymney at iid a fote	xd

Item paid for ii heryng barell to cary water and Robbell oute of the void tenements ..	viid
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Item for vi busshells of lime stone to washe the wallis that were full of spotts.. .. .	xiid
Item paid to the laborer that washed the said houses wtm and wtente viii days atvid a day	iiiis

Item payd for a mille to grynde crabbys and appuls	vs
Item for making of this boke	iis

The whole of the rents recorded in the above accounts amount to £34 15s. 2d. (about £520 in modern coinage), from

which must be deducted the vacations £8 8s. 7d. (about £120), leaving a net rental of £26 6s. 7d. (about £400). The repairs amounted to £48 9s. 1d. (about £720), and there was thus a balance due to the rent gatherer at the end of the year of £22 2s. 6d. (about £320). This balance is not carried forward, so was evidently paid by the Treasurer out of the surplus income of previous years.

The following are extracts at random from the accounts during the sixteenth century :—

1513.

Item Ressevyd for the pardon of ye Chapell for the
passion weke in lent and for Treynte Sunday
viis good and bad to ye valewye of vis. vid.

THE OBBET OF JOHN BARSTABULL, AND ELLYZABETH
HYS WYFF.

Item paid to xii prests for Derygs and masse ..	iiis	viiid
Item for the Masse peny		id
Item for a lb & qrt of new wex and for makyng of the old wex		ixd
Item for bred ale and chese to ye same obytt ..		xiiiid
Item for makyng of thys account		xxd

1515.

Item for Russhis for the Chapell agenst trynyte Sondaye		iiiid
Item for the fowndressse obyt in bred & Ale cakes & cheese for xii prests and the people of the Chapell		xiiiid
Item to xii prests for money		iiiis

1516.

Item agenste Candillmas I renewed vi tapurs on the hye Autr i £ qtr new waxe at viiid the £ wt the makyng		x½d
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	-----

Item agenste Estr I renewyd vi standartts by fore the Autr i £ iii qtr of new waxe at ix ^d the £ wt the makyng Amot	xvid
Item pd to the Abott of Kensham for ye howse in Seynt Thoms Strete	xiiiis iiiid
[In 1546 this amount is recorded as paid to the "King ys majeste.']	
Item to Hew Yowngs for the barburs is house uppon the Key	iiiis
Item to the chambers for the Cornett house uppon the Key	iiiis
Item for v posts Att Laffordisgeate	vid

1521.

THE KEY.

Item John Savage for ye T'inte Tavern	iiiif
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1538.

THE GOODS OF THOMAS PROWTE.

Item a flocke bede wt a bolster & a pelow ..	vis
Item a covyrlet	xd
Item a shette	ixd
Item a gowne	vis
Item a cowntr borde	xiiid
Item a coffyr	iiiid
Item a shytt	vid
Item a bedstye	iiiid

[Proceeds of the sale of the goods of a deceased inmate.]

1565.

CHARGE UPON THE AWÐYTE DENR.

Item pd for a draught of woode and the halyng ..	xviid
Item pd for a Ribe of byff	xviiiid
Item pd for a joynt of biff	xiiiid
Item pd for a pestell of porke	xiiiid
Item pd for a pestell for the pore	xd
Item pd for a coste of motten	vd
Item pd for a knockell of vele	vid
Item pd for a cowpell of Rabets	viiiid
Item pd for a pige	xvid

Item pd for prewnes & Reassige & arranew ..	iiiiid
Item pd for di lb sewgr	vid
Item pd for ii lb of buttr	ii½d
Item pd for pepp. cloves and maes	iiiiid
Item pd for brede and alle	iis iiiid
Item pd for wyne	xvid
Item paid to garnes wiff for dressyng of ye denr ..	viiiid

1574.

Payed for thredde to mend ye Hospitall beddes ..	vd
Payed for lyme and heare for the Hospitall and Alms howse to make yt fayer aginst ye queenes commynge ¹	iiiis
Payed unto Symon the purter	vis
Payed unto a payntor for to pante and to write uppon the Drailles	viiiis
Payed for makinge of the skaffolde and takinge downe of the same	iis

1584.

Item unto a pore woman that Dothe macke cleane the streate betwixt the Chapell and the Hospitall	id
Item payde for candells burned in ye Chappell from v of the clocke until it be vii	vid
Item payde for a nalmes box to hange at the Chappell Dore	xiiid
Item payd for a shrowde to bury Edmond Ellwine mt of the Hospitall	iis
Item paide to Thomas Poole for ye making of the said Edmond Elwin's grave and for fetchinge and bringing of the biere from anr to St. Phillippes to carry the sayde Edmond to ye Chappell to be buried	viiiid

1 Visit of Queen Elizabeth.

Item paide for wode unto the poore mens chambers wch was the gifte of Mr. Hemens Machante	iis	xid
Item payde to Robarte Antill for lancinge Mawris Haull's sore under his arme wch he hath had this three weeks and for salffe ..		iiiiid
Item given to Mawris Hall's wife for attendinge on hym for x dayes kepinge his bedde ..		vid
Item payde to the fyve laborors for the taking and polinge owte of the wood of Avon, at Sainte Phillips slype Two greate blockes, given unto them by Collins the metheylin maker		vd

1587.

Item paid to William Thomas, pavyer, for paving the strete beinge xxxv yards being very muche broken and decayed before fyve of ye tenents in St. Thomas Strete after $1\frac{1}{2}$ d the yarde amounteth to	iiis	iii $\frac{1}{2}$ d
Item paid for a waye of lime		viiiid
Item paid for i lb of lath nayles		iid
Item paid to hughe Warren carpenter for makynge the skaffolde for ye paynter to paynte the picture of the pore for ii days and new makinge of ii stepes of hughe Smythes stayres in his chamber.. .. .		iis
Item for the lone of iiiii posts to helpe make the skaffolde for the paynter		iiiiid
Item paid to Thomas Coppye and his ii sons to helpe to sete up the postes and the laders upon the skaffolde		iiiiid
Item paid to Roger Noble for v penny corde and xii halpeny halters to make fast the poste laders and polls and ye skaffolde		xid
Item paid to Morris Hall to buy him a medycine for his legge		viiiid

Item paid to John Phipes paynter for making v mens pictures and iii womens pictures and iii skouchings of the Arms of the founders and the Citie's Arms	xxvs	iiiiid
Item paid to Thomas Copppe for pullinge downe ye skaffolde and bringinge home all ye posts and laders yt made the skaffolde		xiiiid
Item paid to John Copppe and Thomas Williams and others for the settinge up of ye poore men's syne that was fallen to the grounde for halfe a daye		iiiiid
1589.		
Imprimis geven unto Morris Haulle beinge very sicke		vid
Item payd to the offycer to strayne for rente at the Swan for that ther was a out lawrye a gaynste John Woodward		iiiiid
Item payd to iiiii laborers for to carye the goodes a waye whiche was strayed upon for rente wch was owinge		viiiid
Item geven to Morris haulle the x of october in his sykness		viiiid
Item payd to good wyffe Jacobbe for drynke that Morrrys Haulle had in his sykness		viiiid
Item given to Morrrys haulle in his extreme sykness the xxxth of November wh shortly dyed beinge xi weekes sicke in his bead and to the women wch kepte hime		xiiiid
Item payd to Copppe to make his grave in the chappell		vid
Item payd to Copie to fetche the beere for the corsse		id
Item payd to the massone to leye ye stones upon ye grave		vid
Item payd for halfe a waye of Lyme for the same grave		iiiiid
Item payd for mendinge the minister surples ..		iiid

1590

Item paid for iiii lb of candells for the seyde poore people of the seyde almes house for this wynter tyme to burne in the seyd chappell to geve them Lighte cominge to gether in the eveninge to geve god thanks for his great mercies shewed to them	is
Item paid to Hughe Smythe sexton for ringinge the bell at vii of the clocke in the morninge and eveninge that they may come to gether to give god thanks for his great benefits and mercyes shewed unto them	viid
Item paid for ii pownds of candelles to lighte the poore wayfaringe people to beade that comethe to loudge in the Hospital	vid
Item paid for the cuttinge of the water boughes of the trees in the poor peoples Orcharde	vid

To appreciate the last entry we must endeavour to picture Old Market Street as a wide, unpaved, straggling thoroughfare, dominated at one end by the old castle, and at the other leading through Lawford's Gate to the London road through the Royal Forest of Kingswood.

Turning to a somewhat earlier date indications of the storm which was threatening all religious bodies are found in the accounts for 1538 when 3d. was paid for a copy of the "writings of the chapel" to send up to London. In 1546 21d. was paid for a copy of the foundations and mortmains belonging to the chapel lands, and 16d. for two indentures and the answer to the articles of the King's Commissioners. The latter were John Carell, Rich.

Pake and Edw. Gostwyke, and their valuation was as follows :¹—

A.D. 1546.

Chantry Certificate No. 21.

City of Bristol.

Parish of St. Philip.

1. The Chapell or Hospital of the Trenytie.
2. Founded to fynd a priest for ever & 8 pore folkes & the residue to be distributed in obytes and other deeds of charytie by yere £30 10 4
3. To a parishe churche for the pore folkes & is distant a quarter of a myle from the said parishe churche.
4. Yerely value (&c.) £30 10 4 whereof

For the priest	104s.	}	£	s.	d.
For 8 pore folkes yerely ..	£12 2s. 8d.				
For an obiit & in almes yerely ..	6s.				
For salt & other charges of the hospytall yerly ..	31s. 11d.				
For a bayly fee	40s.				
For Rentse resolutes	24s. 6d.				
And so remaineth clere	£8 15d.				
5. Valew of ornamenttes Jewells Plate Gooddes and Cattalles £7 7s. 10d.

The proceedings of this commission closed with Henry VIII's death, and the next commission which followed the first act of the first Parliament of Edward VI appears to have ignored Trinity Hospital. The lands of the hospital and also those of Foster's Almshouse and the chapel of the Three Kings of Cologne, were not included in the sale of Chantry lands, though, as Latimer records, the "commissioners decided that they were the property of the Crown, and ordered the confiscation of so much of each of the hospital estates as was equivalent in yearly value to the

¹ Mr. Hockaday's MS.

stipend of each of the deposed chaplains (£6). This decision appears to have been long overlooked. But it was discovered in 1597 by two legal sharpers, who forthwith procured a grant of the two chapels and the reserved lands from Queen Elizabeth. The grantees then came down upon the Corporation, who were compelled to submit to their terms, and who paid them £66 13s. 4d. for a transfer of the Queen's conveyance."¹

Exactly what happened at this time is not, however, very clear. In the grant by Queen Elizabeth, nineteenth of her reign, to the men mentioned by Mr. Latimer—Peter Grey, of Bedford, and Edward Grey, his son and heir—the chapel and lands are included with other concealed property cattered over the country, and there is no exact descriptions of the lands and tenements transferred. A Crown rent of 20s., which was redeemed with other Crown rents by the Corporation, about 1673, was, however, reserved in the grant. The Greys parted with two-thirds of the property to George Hays and Thomas Lucas, who joined with Richard Grey, second son of Peter, to whom the remaining third had passed in the sale of the whole together with the chapel and lands attached to Foster's almshouse to Thomas Colston, mayor, Anthony Standbank and other members of the Corporation of Bristol for the consideration of 100 marks.²

This conveyance was dated June 7th, 1577, and from that date until the appointment of the Municipal Trustees the property was continued in members of the Corporation by a regular series of conveyances.

The doubtful days of the hospital's existence passed with the recovery of the chapel, and its later history is an uninterrupted record of social service, and the fulfilment, it is to be hoped, by many generations of Trustees, of the Founder's pious intentions.

During the next century many payments were made out

¹ *Annals of Bristol, Sixteenth Century.*

² MSS., Municipal Charities.

of the funds of the hospital, about the time of the Civil War, to distressed strangers, fugitives from Ireland and prisoners released from the gaols. Entries in the books relating to some of these gifts were incorporated by Mr. Sampson in his paper on "Bristol Almshouses."¹

On May 20th, 1650, it was ordered that once in every three years the inmates should have a gown of broad cloth of a violet colour "not exceeding 9s. a yard, and three yards in the gown, and if any man or woman die the gown of the parties dying shall remain and be given to him or her that should succeed in their rooms."

On May 8th, 1652, the Mayor and Aldermen ordered "that there be a book minded and kept by the Treasurer and so to or from one to another to enter all things that passeth att audit or during his year." To this order we are indebted for a record of many of those small happenings which go to make the history of the foundation. On the first page of the new book there was entered, no doubt as useful information for subsequent Treasurers, a list of "what wine the Tenants are to pay yearly at the auditt dinner;" five, including Alderman Vickiris, a feoffee, and tenant of the Star Tavern on the Quay, each providing a pot, and four a quart of sack and one each a bottle, quart, and gallon of claret. The dinner was an important part of the audit proceedings, and that year cost £4 10s. After the restoration of Charles II it must have been an orgy of feasting, for that consumed October 24th, 1666, cost £8 15s. 10d., and the average cost at this period was over £7. A spread for the Almspeople was included in these items, but in 1664 the bills were paid separately, that for the Almspeople—twenty-four in number—was 14s. 9d. The Mayor and seven of the Corporation sign the Treasurer's accounts, and the audit dinner cost £6 15s. 6d.

To balance the dinner which closed the proceedings the

¹ *Transactions*, vol. xxxii.

audit commenced with a sermon, which was ordered to be preached in the chapel of the Hospital, and started precisely by "nine of ye clock in ye morning." For the sermon ten shillings was paid, and the first was preached by Mr. Farmer on June 30th, 1659. He was no doubt that "Godly and able minister," Ralph Farmer, who had four years earlier been appointed to pray at every assembly of the City Council. The practice was continued for several years, and payments of 10s. appear at irregular intervals to Mr. Farmer, Mr. Jones, Mr. Brunt, and Mr. Pleadwell.

The audit was held in one of the Hospital rooms designated the Audit Hall, and was evidently made an occasion for a parade of civic state in which the Sword-bearer figured, for 11s., was paid in 1659 for making and painting an iron to hold the sword. At the same time 1s. was paid for cleaning the chapel and 1s. 8d. for ringing the bell and for tobacco and pipes.

The Treasurer was chosen annually, and at the same time two "clavengers" were appointed. They were, of course, all members of the Corporation. The actual management of the Hospital was performed by a paid official called the Bailiff.

The first almshouse rules were entered in the Treasurer's Book in 1653. They were prepared in consequence of an order made the previous year "that Alderman Can. Dickins and Miles Jackson with ye present Treasurer (Alderman Brown) doe fframe articles for ye better governement of ye poor people and doe bring them in agt. ye next auditt." Drafted during a period when Puritanism was much in evidence and when, as Latimer records, an unwary citizen strolling, carrying a parcel, or drawing water on Sunday was liable to a fine or imprisonment, these almshouse rules are of great interest.

Articles agreed upon by the Ffeoffees att the auditt held Thursday, the ixth day of June, 1653, to be observed by the poore almspeople.

1. First that they be carefull to pray privately every morning and eveninge in their chambers that they frequent constantly every morning and eveninge their Parish Church or some other P'ish Church where they may heare sermons and be instructed in the knowledge of God and exercise of religion and to heare Lectors sermons on the weeke daies and that for every omission that shall be proved against them fivepence of that weekes pay shall be kept back at their next pay-day, provided that they be not hindred by sickness or some urgent necessity of wch. the Maior and Aldermen are only to be judges.

2. That yf any amongst them be at any time found to be drunk he or she shall forfeit a whole week's pay for the first offence And for the second offence a month's pay and upon the third expulcion yf the Maior and Aldermen thinke it not meete upon his repentance and amendmt. to pardon it.

3. That yf any be hard to curst or swere for every such offence he shall forfeit his weeke's pay for the second offence two weeke's pay for the third a monthe's pay and for the fowerth expulcion.

4. None shall be suffred to entertaine anyone whatsoever in their roome to lodge their more than three nightes in a whole yeare except in case of sickness for their necessary healpe duringe that time And to part again upon recovery upon payne of having their week's pay restrayed for that time (being pentionrs) or be expulsed yf they have only chambers gratis.

5. They shall take their severall turnes weekly and begine each Munday morninge to make cleane their common place of the almshouse as the entry, kitchen, galery, and soe keep it cleane all that week on forfeit of sixpence for every weeke's neglect And yf sickness disenable them to hire one.

6. There shall be every first day of the month a porter chosen amongst the men to keep the key of the gate the

must antient amongst them begininge first and soe successively to the youngest untill all have gone through their severall turnes who shall constantly make it fast at eight of the clocke from 29th September to the 25th of March and open it at seaven in the morninge And from the 25th of March to the 29th September make it fast at 9 of the clocke and open it at sixe And yf any through sickness or weakness be not able to attend the duty he shall allow sixpence a month to some other who shall be his deputy And yf that porter or his deputy fayle in his duty he shall forfeit fowerpence for each time to be divided amongst the rest of them.

7. That there be noe contentions amongst them it is ordered that yf any offence doe at any time arise they shall make it knowne to the Treasurer on the next pay-day who shall here and determine it And yf he cannot compose it that then the Treasurer be made acquainted with it who shall end it And yf anyone prove so troublesome as to revenge himselfe by oprobious and revenginge speeches he shall forfeit 12d. of his pay, halfe to the pty. wronged and the other halfe into the poore boxe.

8. It is ordered that every pay-day men and women beinge caled both into one roome by the Bayliffe he shall audibly read these orders in the hearinge of them all upon payne of forfeitinge 12d. for every omission to be put into the poore boxe.

These are the earliest rules of which we have a record. In course of time rules 1, 2 and 3, with all fines and penalties were dropped. The remaining rules, much altered, were incorporated with others, and are still read four times yearly to the inmates who assemble in the chapel.

It must have been a great shock to the framers of these rules to discover that their own bailiff, "George Ball," was not beyond reproach. On June 7th, 1653, the Feoffees admonished him and ordered him "to bring back a new

bell of the same weight and goodness as that bell was hee tooke out of the almshouse and likewise an Iron Crain which was taken out of the kitchen and this to be done by the 29th September next."

In 1656 the Bailiff was dismissed, and his offence was so great that a whole page of the audit book was used to record it. It appeared that a lease had been granted, as was customary, of three tenements in Old Market Street for three lives, and that the last life died in 1645. From that date until 1656 George Ball had collected and retained the rent, £54 9s. in all. The Feoffees treated him generously. They allowed a deduction of £19 16s., the Lord's rent which he had paid, and as to the balance of £34 13s., accepted a bond for £25, and forgave him the rest "because the rents were not as high as now they are."

The following inventory was made June 13th, 1653, of all the "standing" goods belonging to the Hospital:—

In the auditt hall :

Thre table boards wth frames one side Cupboard Benches stande about the hall and for orteene joynt stooles of severall Sortes.

In the next Room to the said Hall :

One old Table borde, an old carpett and two benches.

In the Buttery :

One old chest wthout a locke Two shelves and an old stand to sett a barell or kilderkine of drinke upon.

In the chancell of the Chappell :

A chest with a locke and key. An old table. In the said chest or cofer a Pall or coveringe with the Picture of Christ wrought in it and an old Carpet to lay under the same Pall and two old cushions.

A silver chalice with a cover in the custody of the Bayliffe.

In the Vestry within the Chauncell :

One chest with three lockes and keyes wherein lyeth the small chest with the deeds and writings An Old tableboard ther.

And another old cofer and an old deske that turneth
round to lay a boake upon.

In the Chapell :

An old Pulpit and sixe old seates.

In the pavement :

A can of bel mettale to catch water in A large brasse
triffle or whell for the rope of the 2 boucketts of the
well to run in and two iron cheynes to the bouquette
a yard long And 3 iron hoopess a peece to the buckette
with a locke and key to the well.

In the old Hall by the well :

One old table boarde with benches about the in side
of it.

In the custody of the Bayliff :

A bell that did hange in the narrow galery the wch he
is to fitt up againe in his place as it was.

In the Kitchen :

A great brasse Crocke A pair of Tongues and spitt.

A barge to clothes in A dresser on
both sides of the ckitchen with & old tubbe to put
the clothes in and a . . . stocke A great iron
crane in the chimney : in ye keeping of George Ball.

In the custody of John Williams :

One of the Almshouse men ther for the use of the poore
Delivered to him the 24th day of FFebruary 1651
by me Daniell Watkins as Mr. George Ball the bayliffe
ther bid me.

One great brasse Crocke or Pot.

One great brass cettle fflower Pewter Platters two of them
of a large sorte and the other two of a lesser sorte.

One great pewter fflagon spout pott of the old fation
like an yewer.

One brasse Candle Sticke of an old fashion wth a hole
in the lower end of the sockett to thrust out cleane
the snufe of a candle at.

One payre of Irons with hookes to turn spitts on

One payre of hangers for a crocke.

One paire of iron Pothookes and a pothead of wood one great iron spitt.

A subsequent inventory, made in 1656, states that the Pall was of "wrought silke and velvet cloth," and also mentions a pulpit cloth "Imbroidered with silke silver and gowled," a great Bible (rebound with great bosses and clasps in 1659 at a cost of 14s.), and a box for the poor money of iron in the chapel. In the dining room there was also a sideboard with carved posts, and two new "strapped carpitts 10 yards hallph all." A note was made in 1654 that the Treasurer be desired to provide carpets—then equivalent to a table cloth, and rushes for the floor and chairs and andirons for the audit hall.

We must all regret the loss of the old piece of plate dated 1577, the "silver chalice with a cover" of the inventory. On May 7th, 1700, it was delivered to Mr. Wm. Jackson, then chosen Treasurer, and disappears from the records for ever.

The rooms mentioned in the inventory indicate that the buildings on the south side of Old Market Street were then fairly large. This almshouse subsequently became known as the "Dial Almshouse," a name by which it was known until comparatively recent times. The reason for the name is found in the following extracts from the accounts for 1656-8.

Paid John Lorde for an iron clock the some of	2	10	0
Paid Will Haxtwood, Smith, for making ye frame with iron rods and setting up the clock, with copy fingers to ye dyall and other work	3	2	0
Paid him for other iron work and mending the clapp of the bell and for a new payse ..		3	00
Paid for fitting up and pulling downe ye scaffold and expenses on work		5	00

Paid for two new ropes for the clock	6	00
Paid Richd. Jordan for painting the dyalls and posts in oyle coullers and gould letters, being double done	4	00 00
Paid Will. Jones, joyner, for good stufte and casing of the dyall	1	15 00
Paid for a lock and cay and new jemells to the clock house door	2	00

About this time, also, the castle was being used as a general quarry, and stone was brought from it to mend the chimneys and other places of the almshouse, twenty-two cart-loads of stone costing 5s. 10d. and fifty-eight cart-loads £1 9s., the cost of digging being 2d. a load extra.

The buildings on the north side now ceased to be used as a lodging place, and in 1651 were let to "Widdow Gammon" for £4 a year. This state of affairs was not very satisfactory, and at the audit held February 9th, 1669, it was decided that no future lease of the property be granted, and that possession be obtained and the premises employed according to the wishes of the benefactor. Nothing, however, was done until 1673, when Alderman Stephens was requested to hasten the rebuilding of the premises, which were to accomodate twelve poor people. Alderman Stephens did not bring in his account until 1676, when the several disbursements in building the new almshouse and repairing the old almshouse on the south side amounted to £236 16s. 10d. The new almshouse was for long known as the "Iron Gate" side, so called from the large double gates opening into Old Market Street.

In 1669 it was decided that no "pension be granted to any person or persons whatsoever out of the revenue of the Hospital, but only to such as shall have a chamber or dwelling." The practice of granting general gifts to poor and distressed persons which had previously been so common had by this time ceased, but in spite of the resolution recorded

the feoffees were soon granting regular pensions to non-residents.

In 1731 the feoffees were inclined to take down the old hospital and chapel and rebuild and enlarge them by taking in the tenement adjoining and next Lawford Street with the garden ; but on inspecting the buildings it was resolved to repair them only, and further to make them as light and commodious as possible, and to augment the poor people's pay. This was done the following year, and in 1739 the buildings on the north side were extended at a cost of £753 14s. 10d., including a sum of £10 paid to Daniel Millard the builder for an effigy of the founder, which was placed in a niche in the centre of the new portion. The figure has now been placed above the central porch of the rebuilt almshouse completed 1913.

The chapel was rebuilt by the Corporation in 1796 at a cost of £463 4s. 3d. The only remains of this chapel are a carved scroll which once stood above the altar, and is now preserved in the Municipal Museum and Art Gallery, and the wood panelling in the vestry of the present chapel. The latter was built in 1881-3, when the brasses of the founder and his wife were again placed before the altar.

The whole of the south side buildings were rebuilt at various times during the nineteenth century, and with the rebuilding of the north side almshouse just completed the last of the old buildings was passed away. The life of the almshouse during the last hundred years hardly comes within the scope of this paper, but it is interesting to contrast the number of inmates and rates of pay at various times :—

1395	24	Almspeople	(<i>Vide</i> charter).
1512	8	„	Paid 6d. each weekly, 1s.1d. quarterly, 4d. each yearly, with oatmeal, salt and wood.

1607	12	„	1s. each weekly.	
1716	{	20	Trinity South	2s. 2d. each (about).
		11	Trinity North	2s. „
1822	45	Almspeople	4s. „	
1831	„	„	4s. 6d. „	
1834	„	„	5s. „	
1872	„	„	6s. „	
1876	56	„	„ „	
1880	60	„	7s. „	

The last addition was made in lieu of extra payments they had received, viz. St. Thomas Day, 10d. ; Lady Day, 1s. 8d. ; June 24th, 10d. ; September 29th, 1s. 6d. ; and one ton of coal yearly and four yards of dowlas on St. Thomas Day.

The net annual income of the hospital is now about £2,600, and after the payment of the inmates—fifty-two in number—the balance is applied in weekly payments to non-resident pensioners.

In concluding this account of one of Bristol's most interesting charities, I have to express my indebtedness to the Trustees of the Bristol Municipal Charities to whom the administration of the Hospital passed in 1836, for access to their books and documents ; to Mr. F. S. Hockaday for extracts from his valuable collection of transcripts ; to Mr. Lewis J. U. Way for a transcript of the Charter of Hen. IV ; and to the Committee of the Bristol Museum and Art Gallery for their kind permission to reproduce the water colour drawings by Delamotte and O'Neill in the Braikenridge collection.