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Gloucestershire Deeds and Seals

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NOTES

HENBURY CHURCH

Our member, the Rev. G. H. Jones, refers to the description of the font at Westbury on Trym by Dr Fryer in *Transactions* XLVII, 188, and says that the font is not in the Henbury Court garden, as there stated, but is in the garden of the manor house adjacent to the church. The font seems to be in a very dilapidated condition. The Rev. Prebendary C. P. Way, a former vicar, informs Mr Jones that many alterations were made in Henbury Church early in the 19th century. In 1806 the present black marble font, made at Bridgwater, replaced the ancient font, which was then in a bad state of repair. In 1812 the gallery was built and in it was placed an organ purchased from St. Mary-le-Port church, Bristol. In 1814 came the beautiful hanging candelabra.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE DEEDS AND SEALS

The *Bulletin* of the John Rylands Library, Manchester, for October 1940 contains (pp. 353-75) an article by Dr F. Taylor on the Hatton Wood MSS deposited in the Library. The collection is particularly rich in seals and among them is the common seal of St. Peter's church, Bristol (1460), of which apparently only one other example, dating from the following century, is known. Another is the seal of the Fraternity of Kalendars of Bristol (1361). Of heraldic seals there is one of Walter Norton of Bristol (1435).

A group of 36 Deeds, dating from mid-13th century to mid-16th century, mostly relate to St. Peter's church. One, a lease 26 September 1460, is of particular interest as attached to it is an impression of the common seal

of the church. Only one other example, dating from 1525, seems to be known. The article on St. Peter's church in our *Transactions* (vol. xxxii) by Mr C. E. Boucher is quoted by Dr Taylor. Several of the other seals are referred to.

SIR MATTHEW HALE

In the *Bulletin* of the John Rylands Library for April 1940 (pp. 173-5), is an unpublished letter from Richard Baxter to Sir Matthew Hale (1609-76), one of the great men of Gloucestershire. He died on Christmas Day, 1676. The letter is dated 2 May 1676, and relates to Hale's *Contemplations, Moral and Divine*, published that year. It shows that though Baxter had seen part of the book in manuscript he was not aware of the authorship. He begins: 'The sight of yo^r *Contemplations* moveth me to send you thanks for writing them, whoever deserveth the thanks for publishing them'. The letter is one of extraordinary interest and is in the possession of Mr J. Fairhurst, who allowed the whole of it to be printed in the *Bulletin*. It was marked 'To be left at Marshfield Post paid' and addressed to Sir Matthew 'At Alderly in Gloucestershire'.

SCRATCH DIALS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The following scratch dials can be added to the list of those published in *Transactions*, 1928, L, 353-6.

AMPNEY S. PETER. West jamb of south door, 3'; style-hole and four rays stopped, 2".

ASHCHURCH. (1) West jamb of south door, 3' 8"; style-hole plugged and four rays; (2) The same jamb, about 12 inches below the above, three rays, varied lengths.

BARNWOOD. East side of south door, 8'; four rays above hole, 5".

BULLEY. South side of nave, east end, 8'; five rays, 3".