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Brimpsfield Church History

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Brimpsfield Church History

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PART I

THE CHURCH AND ITS PATRONS

THE intermingling of local with national history is nowhere more visible than in the small Cotswold village of Brimpsfield. Even now it is remote geographically, though kept in touch with the outer world by two side roads to the Ermine Street, which from Roman times has linked it with Cirencester and Gloucester. But between 1066 and 1322 its bold and somewhat turbulent lords, the Giffards, drew it into the full vortex of national affairs, built two castles in succession, founded a Benedictine College in Oxford (Gloucester College), and took part in the baronial wars against Henry III and Edward II.¹ In 1322, when the last baron, John Giffard the Second, was executed at Gloucester, this heroic period comes to a catastrophic end, and the lay history of Brimpsfield is henceforth uneventful.

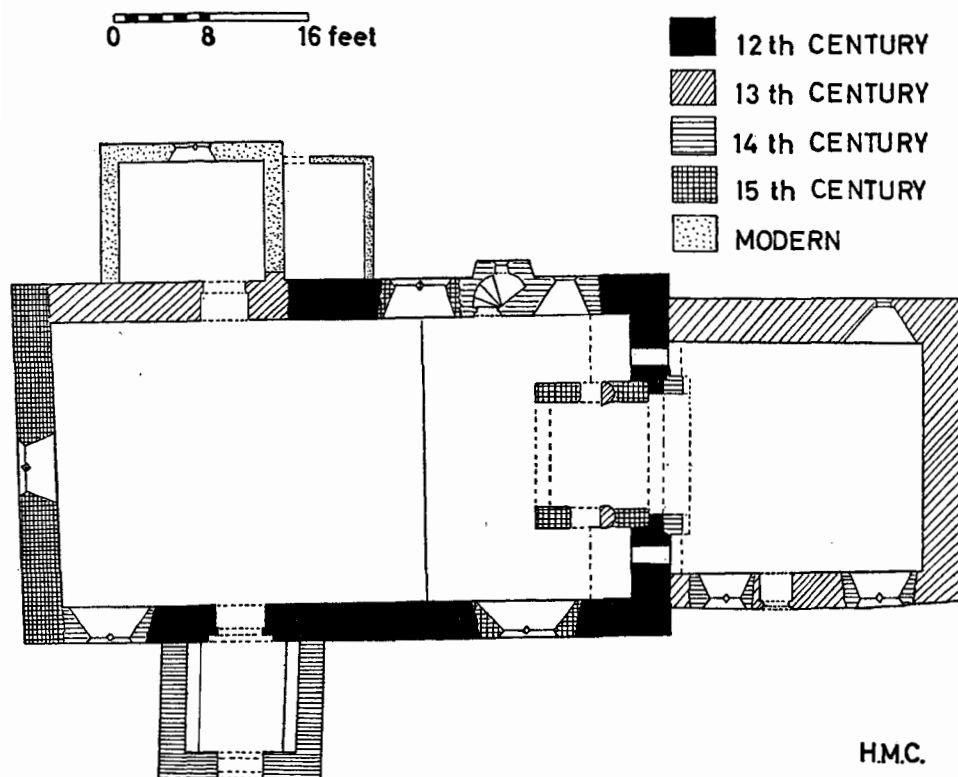
But its church history continues to be involved, through its patrons, in the changes and chances of English history, and provides some interesting problems, not all of which can be solved in this paper, which originated in a project to draw up a full and complete list of incumbents of Brimpsfield. This work has entailed a search into a large number of sources, which are indicated in the footnotes and bibliography.

The main results are given in the form of tables, showing the descent (as far as possible) not only of the incumbents but also of the patrons of the living and of the lords of the Manor. The reason for this triple arrangement will be seen as the story is told.

Preceding the tables are notes on the various incumbents, where such information is available. For the 14th century the relevant passages from the Registers of the Bishops of Worcester, which have not hitherto been printed, are transcribed in the original Latin, for the benefit of future scholars (see Appendices). Gloucestershire, it should be remembered lay in the diocese of Worcester till 1541.

¹ *Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club Proceedings*, 1959, and *BGAS*, LXXVI, p. 75.

It may be well to apologize here to the reader for the bewildering variety in the spellings of Brimpsfield, which is derived by Ekwall (*Dictionary of Place Names*) from the 'field of Breme'—a personal name. (The *field* would be the land cleared and cultivated next to the great beechwoods which here clothe the edge of the Cotswolds. One large tract of woodland, Bucholte or Buckholt, actually formed



The masonry inserted between the two 13th-century columns and the west side of the chancel arch has been marked on the plan as 15th century, but the architectural evidence might equally suggest a 14th-century date. In either case there appears to have been some sort of belfry over the chancel arch in the 14th century, before the present tower was built.—H. M. Colvin.

part of the Giffards' manor). In Domesday Book it is spelt Brimesfelde; in medieval sources it is spelt Bremesfelde, Brumesfelde or Brumesfeud (rare), and Brymmsfeld (commonest). In the first Parish Registers—beginning 1587—the name is Brymsfyelde; from 1684 the modern 'p' begins to appear—being possibly due to a confused connexion

with 'brimps', an old Gloucestershire word for corn. In all quotations I have endeavoured to copy the spelling of the original.

The church building itself must be briefly studied, in order to elucidate and vitalize the long record of dates and events which follow.

Parts of the building are clearly Norman—the nave, the south door, and a heavy, round arch (embedded now in the south wall), which must have led into a small sanctuary. There remain also the ancient *mensa*, or stone altar, with its four consecration crosses, (now fixed upright inside the church, having been rescued from use as a churchyard stile, about 1937), and a 12th- or 13th-century tombstone, or coffin lid, bearing in carved relief a very long, faintly curved sword. This was unearthed on the far side of the churchyard, near the Castle moat. (Both these great slabs are of very hard oolitic stone,¹ *not* the same as the church material, but not unlike some large stones, believed to have come from the castle ruins and now occurring in some of the field boundary walls.)

These hard facts suggest strongly that the Giffard family founded and built the church; but written evidence of this is *not* forthcoming. Domesday Book mentions a priest, but no church. Domesday, of course, was not much concerned with churches; and it is possible that the priest of 1086 officiated at the Churchyard cross, which is marked on old maps, but of which no trace nor memory survives. (It is interesting to reflect that this priest—probably an Englishman—would have shared with the reeve and six villagers the duty of making the famous 'Domesday' returns demanded by the Conqueror—the basis of so much local and national history to this day.)

Whoever owned the land on which a church was built, held also the advowson—that is, 'the right to present a clerk to the bishop for institution as parson of some vacant church; the bishop is bound to institute this . . . clerk or show one of some few good causes for refusal. But advowsons are detached from their manor by being given to religious houses.'²

Did this occur at Brimpsfield? We know that by the 13th century it contained a small priory, a cell of the Benedictine Abbey of Fontenay in Normandy; from 1289 the names of the priors of Brimpsfield may be found in the registers of the Bishops of Worcester. It has constantly been assumed that this cell was founded by the Giffards, but documentary proof for this is not forthcoming. (The origin and later

¹ Similar—one cannot venture to say identical—stone may be seen in the great Haresfield Quarry, near Pitchcombe. Elias Giffard's brother, Osbern Giffard, p. 279 was granted land in Pitchcombe by Henry III, *Cal. Cl. R.* (1227-31).

² P. & M. II. 136.

history of the priory will be discussed fully in a later issue.) There is no clear proof of a link between the priory and the Church before 1303; but there is one rather obscure claim on the part of the Giffards to present to the vicarage in 1230. This is given in full in Appendix 1. Unfortunately the MS. is not wholly decipherable, and the sequel to the enquiry has not been found, so that it is impossible to decide whether the point in dispute between the Bishop of Worcester and Elias Giffard is the ownership of the advowson or the fitness of the candidate. If, as the rejected candidate, Andrew, made claim, there was no canonical obstacle to his institution, the question at issue would seem to be the advowson. This, however, should have been decided not by the Church, but in the King's Court, by an 'assize of darrein presentment' (Clause i of the Constitutions of Clarendon, 1164). The prior is not mentioned in the dispute, yet the presentation is to a *vicarage*, which suggests a religious house in the background. The case is too obscure to help us in deciding the problem of the relation of the Giffards either to the benefice or to the priory.

By 1303 the priory of Brimpsfield seems to be the accepted patron—and during the next century shares the ups and downs which were endured by all 'alien priories'. When England and France were at war, the Kings of England invariably seized on their revenues, and in 1414 they were finally suppressed. They were a welcome windfall to the Crown, and, characteristically, were used by the Lancastrian dynasty mainly for educational and religious endowments, by the Yorkists and Tudors as additions to the jointures of their Queens.

Brimpsfield Priory has so obscure and complicated a history that it must—as already said—be discussed in a separate paper; but the patronage of the living continued to be attached to the tenure of the priory lands, until they were united with the manor towards the close of the 15th century. (See Appendix 2.) The patronal history must therefore be followed carefully, before we can understand the important development of the benefice during this period.

Reference to the Tables will show two presentations of Vicars, 1444 and 1459, by the Provost and Fellows of Eton College—as the result of the bestowal by Henry VI upon his new foundation at Eton of a large number of alien priories, including that of Brimpsfield (1441). When Henry was ejected from the throne by Edward IV (1461), all grants of land made by the three Lancastrian Kings were declared null and void. Edward played fast and loose with the Eton endowments, including the Brimpsfield lands, which were alternately confirmed and taken away.¹ In 1474 they were bestowed by patent

¹ Maxwell Lyte, *History of Eton College* (1875).

upon S. George's Chapel, Windsor, which, however, never enjoyed them.¹ The mystery surrounding their fate has been dispelled by evidence from the Episcopal Registers of Worcester, which show presentations to the Church and living of Brimpsfield, in 1465 and again in 1490, by Cicely, Dowager Duchess of York. Her son, King Edward, had already (June 1461) granted her the Manor of Brimpsfield, which had belonged to her husband, Duke Richard;² it would appear that about the same time, he quietly conveyed to her also the priory lands, which nicely rounded off the property, and were worth about £7 os. od. annually. (See Appendix 2).

The Duchess's exercise of the patronage—hitherto embedded in the priory estate—seems to justify this inference. No record of the grant has been found, nor was probably made, as it would have run counter to others made by the capricious monarch; but he could not have made a better decision for Brimpsfield. His mother was a great lady, brought up in great traditions. Her mother had been Joan, daughter of John of Gaunt; her father, Ralf Neville, first Earl of Westmorland—a man of immense property and importance. Her long life was one of tumult and tragedy. Her husband, Richard, Duke of York, her brother, Richard, Earl of Salisbury, her brother-in-law, the Duke of Buckingham, and her nephew, Warwick 'the Kingmaker', all fell in the Wars of the Roses. One son—George, Duke of Clarence—was put to death by his brother, King Edward; another son, Richard III, imprisoned Edward's sons in the Tower, and was generally believed to be guilty of their death.

Shakespeare is only exercising a mildly poetic licence when he makes her say (in *Richard III*, Act IV) . . .

'Eighty long years of sorrow have I seen,

And each hour's joy wrecked with a week of teen'.

In her old age she is described as a signal example of piety and religious devotion.³

At Brimpsfield she showed her religious character, by converting the vicarage into a rectory, presumably at some monetary loss to herself. There is no record of a formal transaction or of any episcopal authorization of the change, but the institution of her two presentees as *rectors* is clearly shown in the Registers of Bishops Carpenter & Morton. (See Table 2.) Duchess Cicely is thus one of the most important characters in the drama of Brimpsfield church history. It is not known if she ever resided on her estate; it probably contained no official

¹ The custodian of the Muniments, Windsor Castle, has no record as to Brimpsfield.

² *Cal. P.R.*, Ed. IV, p. 134.

³ *Ordinances and Regulations for the Government of the Royal Household* (Society of Antiquaries, 1790).

residence but a hunting-lodge, to which 'Parkers' were appointed both by her predecessors and herself.¹

But her long 'reign' of some 30 years coincided with important developments in the fabric of Brimpsfield church. The inserted tower may be due to her munificence; it is, probably, late 15th century in date, and so is one of the bells, still surviving. The exact date of the rood-screen—of which only a stairway, a cross-beam and a corbel, survive—is hard to fix. To judge by the style and position of the stairway, the screen may have been set up first in the 14th century, against what now forms the eastern block of the tower, and its re-erection against the west wall may be late 15th century, as are two windows in the nave and the font, decorated with carved quatre-foils, each with a rose centre. A connexion between these features and the Yorkist Lady of the Manor can only be conjectural. (The *D.Nat.Biog.* describes her father, Ralf, Earl of Westmorland, as 'no inconsiderable builder'.)

This was a period of building in the Cotswolds—generally attributed to the growth of the wool trade, but I have found no evidence of wool production at Brimpsfield in the 15th century, although its manorial records of the end of the previous century have much to tell of sheep-farming and the sale of wool.² We have no basis for connecting Brimpsfield church with wool.

After the death of the Duchess in 1495 the Manor was bestowed by Henry VII on his wife Elizabeth, and after her upon one after another of his consorts by Henry VIII. The grants in jointure to these unfortunate ladies which, following each other in rapid sequence through the 'Letters and Papers of Henry VIII', throw a side-light from Brimpsfield upon one of the best known facets of this reign, make no direct mention of the advowson. It may, however, be assumed, in the absence of contrary evidence, that the priory lands remained united to the manor, to which the right of patronage would thus adhere. The three Italian bishops, who, probably for some diplomatic reason, occupied the See of Worcester between 1497 and 1535, have left fairly well-kept registers, but these contain no institution to Brimpsfield. Thus we do not know who presented to the Rectory the 'Master William Pedder' who appeared at the Archdeacon's visitations of 1498, 1532 and '34, nor 'Sir Thomas Lane'. (See Table 2).

But we get an important date in the history of the patronage when Sir John Bridges receives a grant of the reversion, after the

¹ *Cal. P.R.*, Hen. VI and Ed. IV.

² P.R.O. Ptf. ⁶⁵⁰/_{21 & 22}. Min. Accounts, Brimpsfield. 3-4 Rich II. S.C. 6 and ⁶⁵⁰/₃₂, 7-8 Ed. IV.

death of Queen Katharine (Parr), of 'the Manor and Park of Brymesfield and the advowson of the rectory, all of the clear yearly value of £23 4s. 0½d'. (See Appendix 11).

This grant is again referred to in an Augmentations Office MS., which substitutes for 'advowson' the words 'the parsonage and vicarage'.¹ Bridges must have entered on his reversion on the marriage of the dowager Queen in 1547 or at her death in 1548. He became Lord Chandos of Sudeley in 1554 for his services to Queen Mary, but had no opportunity to exercise his patronage at Brimpsfield church, owing to the very long incumbency of Lane. (See Table 2.) Not till 1591 do we get a presentation by one of the Bridges family—Giles, Lord Chandos, grandson of John.

Giles, who died in 1594, was succeeded by two co-heiresses who (as Rudder says) 'transferred the manor to Miles Sandys, from whom it descended (1641) to Sir Edwin Sandys, and to his son William'—known as 'Golden Sandys' for his prodigality. He sold Brimpsfield, before his death in 1712, to his cousin Windsor Sandys (d. 1729). His son, Windsor (twice High Sheriff of Gloucestershire, 1725 and 1745), sold it to John Gilbert, Archbishop of York, whose daughter, Emma, married (1766) George, Baron Mount Edgcumbe (created Earl, 1789). This transaction must, one surmises, have been a 'family affair'.

Till 1798 the patronage continued attached to the manor. In the 19th century they became separate, both manor and advowson changing hands frequently. The latter came to be regarded less as a source of personal income than as a means of granting preferment. Reference to the Tables shows the names of Sandys, Cox and Pitt occurring both under 'Incumbents' and 'Patrons'.

The later history of the manor has become too obscure to trace to the end, and has been omitted from the final Table.

PART II

THE CHURCH AND ITS INCUMBENTS

From this point, the reader must consider the Tables and Appendices (which have full reference to sources) as the main source of information, but it may be desirable first to attempt some definition

¹ *Cal. P.R.* 1, Ed. VI. vol. 1, p. 115. (Thus is dated June 21—presumably 1547). The grant to Katharine Parr is dated 25 Feb. 1544. See also Augmentations Office MSS. (P.R.O.) E. 318/168. m. 11, not dated.

of the terms applied to the incumbents—rector, vicar, chaplain, perpetual vicar—and of the titles dominus (Master or Sir) and clerk.

A rector of a parish was entitled to his glebe—held originally in strips among the common fields of the manor; to a parsonage or residence of some kind—possibly no better than that of the higher-class villagers; and to the parishioners' tithes—the 'greater tithes' (the 10th sheaf and 10th lamb) and to many others, varying according to the products of the soil. These might include tithes of milk, porkers, poultry, fruit, vegetables and hay. What was paid or claimed at Brimpsfield in early days we do not know; a glebe Terrier of 1704 expressly states that tithes of cows and sheep were then paid, but *not* tithes of milk.¹ Where a church had been given to a religious house—as was Brimpsfield to Fontenay Abbey—the latter almost invariably appropriated the income and products, keeping the greater tithes for its own use and appointing a vicar to perform the parish services. It may be that in the 12th and 13th centuries such duty was performed at Brimpsfield by a monk living in the priory—if there was a priory before 1280. (A 13th-century door on the north side of the church nave suggests its use by a serving priest from the priory, adjoining the churchyard. But there is also a door on the south side of the chancel, which was enlarged or rebuilt at this time.) A Lateran Council in 1215 decreed that the rector of a parish must either reside and officiate there, or take care that 'a perpetual vicar should be canonically instituted by the bishop'. A 'perpetual vicar' could not be arbitrarily dismissed. From this date there is a steady growth in the 'ordination' of vicarages—i.e. the authorization by the bishop of the rectorial assignment of tithes and offerings. Sometimes, instead of the 'lesser tithes', the vicar was assigned a fixed stipend. In 1219 William of Blois, Bishop of Worcester, fixed the minimum stipend for a perpetual vicar at 5 marks (£3 6s. 8d.) and made the residence of such a vicar compulsory.²

At Brimpsfield the institution of perpetual vicars is almost invariable from 1380 to 1459, after which date the vicarage is a rectory (see *ante* 77) with, presumably, the greater tithes.

The terms 'chaplain and priest' following the name of a presentee, were used generally in the Middle Ages to cover the large floating class of unbeneficed clergy, who served chantries, assisted incumbents or performed casual duties.³ During the 15th century the prefix 'dominus' occurs—a title with no absolute significance. At Oxford

¹ Glouc. Pub. Library. R.Z. 56. 1.

² Wilkins. *Concilia* I. 571.

³ A. Hamilton Thompson. *The English Clergy in the later Middle Ages*. p. 122.

it was—and still is—used to designate a B.A.; but was also, at this early date, ‘largely used for beneficed clerks in priest’s orders.’¹

In the 16th century ‘Master’, ‘Sir’—or the mere suffix ‘clerk’—seem to be used similarly, i.e. as=priest.

From the early 17th century the rectors are almost invariably graduates.

The Incumbents

Some of these deserve special notice. (Reference should be made to Tables and Appendices.)

John de Cymteus (1317) is the first vicar with a *name*, whom we know certainly to have been presented by the Prior. ‘*de Cymteus*’—clearly written in the M.S.—is hard to explain. He may have been a foreign priest—possibly the *socius*, or companion, whom it was customary for the mother-house to send to such tiny cells as were little more than ‘granges’.² After him, the names are obviously English.

It may be noted that *William of Hildesley* was presented twice over—first by Roger the Prior (1343), and next year by the King, ‘the priory being in his hands by reason of the war with France’. (We are getting near the peak of the war: Crecy, 1346.) He was instituted after each presentation, by the Bishop, Wulstan de Bransford. The first of these entries is the only source for the incumbency of his predecessor *John of Prestbury*, by whose death (1343) the vicarage was vacant. No institution of J. of Prestbury can be found in the Bishop’s Register.

William of Couleys (1380) and *Robert Cronham* (or *Craneham*) are obviously local men. (Cranham used to be spelt in either of these ways; Cowley adjoins Brimpsfield on the north.)

Walter Robert, or *Roberdes* (1412) had a troubled career. In 1419 the Dean of Gloucester was ordered to sequester his ‘fruits and income’ to cover the cost of repairing ‘the vicarage’. This is the only medieval reference to the vicar’s residence. Brimpsfield Priory had recently (1414) been dissolved, and bestowed on Queen Joanna, widow of Henry IV. Could it be that the priory had hitherto lodged, or at least held itself responsible for the lodging of the vicar? After this incident, Master Robert was re-presented by King Henry V, but there is no record of a second *institution*. He resigned seven years later under what were considered doubtful circumstances.

John Reynold, his successor (1427) had to undergo an enquiry into the legality of Robert’s resignation and his own presentation by

¹ Emden. ² Matthew. *passim*.

the young King Henry VI. There was some suspicion of a simoniacal transaction—probably through the promise of a pension to Roberts. 'A fitting pension for livelihood' was allowable if properly authorized, but the new vicar ought not to be overburdened. Perhaps Master Robert, like many other country parsons since his day, was still impoverished by the condition of his vicarage house, and afraid to retire into absolute poverty.

William Lynryk, presented by Eton College (1443) bears an interesting name. The celibacy of the clergy was not enforced with unvarying strictness, and it would not be very unusual for a vicar to leave descendants. One would like to trace a link with a family named Lymbricke, or Limbrick, which appears in the Parish Registers in 1593, 1686, 1801 and 1770. 'John Limbrick, builder', has a mural monument, dated 1759, on the outer wall of the church, near the porch, and his son, also John, appears frequently in the churchwardens' accounts as doing church repairs.

John Whyte, appointed by Eton College 1459 may possibly be identified with an entry in Eldon (III 2035) 'John Whyte, Scholar of Winchester, Scholar (1457) and then Fellow (1459) of New College'. If so, this Fellow can have seldom resided in Brimpsfield, as he acted as bursar and occasionally as Sub-Warden at New College. (It may be noted that the institution was by proxy only.)

John & William Feyraunter, the first two rectors (1465 and 1490) have also, very probably, traceable descendants. The name (?=smith or 'ironworker'), seems to reappear as Veranter, at a visitation, 1540, as Farender (1559) in the Diocesan Records, and finally as Verrinder, a name which still survives in the adjoining village of Cranham.

William Pedder (1498) is remarkable for his long incumbency, during a period of much religious change. He is the first rector whom we know to have had a curate—'Sir' John Powton, who appears with him at archidiaconal visitations of 1532 and '34, when Sir William must have been an old man. We do not know the date of his death or resignation. Did he live long enough to have to face the reforming zeal of Hugh Latimer who, in 1535 became Bishop of Worcester, in succession to Bishop Ghinacci (removed by Parliament, because he was 'a foreigner and non-resident')?¹ Bishop Latimer ordered every clergyman to provide for his own use a Bible, or at least a New Testament, both in Latin and Greek, as well as the Bishops' instruction manual, called 'The Institution of a Christian Man'. What Latin and Greek, one wonders, would Pedder have possessed?

¹ Anglia Sacra I. 539.

Thomas Lane. The date of his institution is not recorded, but he appears in 1540 with his churchwardens, Thomas Veranter and Thomas Ashmeade at the last visitation made to Brimpsfield by a Bishop of Worcester. (John Bell.)

In 1541 the diocese of Gloucester was formed, mainly from the former archdeaconry of Worcester diocese. The first bishop, John Wakeman, was a zealous reformer, and issued a long list of articles to his clergy, covering the removal of images and the provision of Bibles and 'the Paraphrases of Erasmus'. In June 1548 the Brimpsfield churchwardens had to report that 'they lacked the Paraphrases' and were ordered to purchase them before Christmas. Sir Thomas Lane was reported as 'contumacious'. He suffered another visitation in January 1553, but apparently was left undisturbed during the reign of Mary. Bishop Brooks (1555-57) was not over-zealous against Protestants, though he gave orders for the restoration of the rood (in churches where Bishop Latimer's zeal had successfully removed them, under Henry VIII), and for the provision of a tabernacle on the high altar.

Was Thomas Lane, perhaps, at heart a sympathizer with the 'old religion' or was he a 'Vicar of Bray'? To have religious principles, and to stand by them was, at this time, to incur grave risks. Two bishops—Latimer (Worcester) and Hooper (Gloucester) were burnt and 54 clergy in the Gloucester diocese were deprived, under Mary.¹ Each Protestant bishop had in his turn ordered the removal of rood-lofts. We do not know which of them to hold responsible for the removal of the Brimpsfield rood-loft. There is no reference to the matter by the time that a Parish Register begins a good many years later.

Sir Thomas Lane does not cut a good figure in the ecclesiastical records of Elizabeth's reign. Summoned before the Consistory Court (1570) for non-residence, he admits to holding the living of Cranham as well as Brimpsfield, but proves a lawful dispensation. At the bishop's visitation two years later he admits to serving Syde parish also, with the aid of a curate. He is still non-resident (did he live perhaps in Cranham?) and 'keepeth no hospitalitie'. The church is 'out of repair'. At the visitation of 1585 he is in residence at Brimpsfield, but is dismissed slightly as 'not a graduate' (despite the title 'Sir') 'nor a preacher'.

In 1585 the rectory became vacant through 'the natural death of the incumbent'. (Poor old Sir Thomas! after at least 45 years of

¹ *V.C.H. Glouc.* pp. 28 and 30.

stolid incumbency!). *John Turner* was collated by Bishop Bullingham, October 1585, and two years later started a Parish Register (which his predecessor had neglected, despite the injunctions of Queen Elizabeth in 1559—indeed of earlier injunctions from 1538 onwards).

From this time onward the Parish Registers, besides providing much formal information, are some indication also of the zeal and capacity of the incumbents. (There are five volumes, in good condition, for the years 1587–1812, as well as more modern volumes.)

James Smarte (Oct. 1591), who records the death and burial of John Turner, kept a steady register of christenings, burials and marriages up to 1610, after which there is a gap till the end of his incumbency; he was probably a good Elizabethan Puritan; he signs himself 'minister and prechere' and baptized his children by such Biblical names as Daniel, Samuel and Abigail.

John Martin (1616) was a faithful keeper of his registers.

William Woolley (1636) took his B.A. degree in 1629 from Brasenose College, Oxford. His patron, Sir William Sandys—of Miserden and Brimpsfield manors—presented him also to the living of Miserden, and about 1650 he is described as a 'pluralist' with a curate, William Eldridge. He was still at Miserden in 1662, but seems to have faded out of Brimpsfield affairs, long before this date.

This mid-period of the century, covering the Civil War and the Commonwealth, is one of much ecclesiastical confusion, which is reflected in the Parish Registers. Between 1638 and 1666 burials and christenings are entered regularly, but no marriages. This might be due to carelessness, or to destruction of the record. Gloucestershire was strongly Puritan and opposed to Laud's church policy at Gloucester; in 1641 it was one of eleven counties which petitioned Parliament to abolish Episcopacy. The following year Bishop Goodman's palace was sacked, and he fled the city. It may well be that some ecclesiastical records were destroyed in the sack; there is an immense gap in the volume of *Diocesan Institutions*, between page 120 (1642) and page 121 (1660). In 1646 the use of the Prayer Book was forbidden, and the abolition of episcopacy was demanded by the Army. In 1653 Episcopacy and Prelacy were exempted from the 'Christian religions' to be tolerated by the Instrument of Government, and an ordinance instituted civil registration of births and burials. In 1654 Civil marriage was made obligatory—entries to be made by the 'Register (= Registrar) in a book of good vellum or parchment'.¹ The Parish Register duly records the name of

¹ Irvine Gray and J. E. Gethyn Jones. *Reg. of Church of S. Mary, Dymock*. pp. xix, xx.

John Hooper Civil Registrar, 1654, but there are no entries signed by him. If he did provide a special book, it has not survived. The ordinary Parish Register records the baptism of two children of John's and the name of 'Ishmael Hooper, churchwarden' 1650. It looks as if John was an ordinary villager, pressed—perhaps—to service, but interfering as little as possible. From 1651 a new and much better handwriting appears in the Register and continues for a long period, so it can hardly be Hooper's. It is probably that of an elusive person,

William Henry Hooke, whose signature appears in large capitals, but with no title (such as rector or preacher) attached. In 1655 he signs several times—sometimes in full, sometimes as Henry Hooke. (An alphabet and names in a child's hand appear in this part of the book. Was it perhaps secreted from the 'Civil Registrar', kept in the clergyman's house, and occasionally used by his children to scrawl in?).

On 16 December 1663 Henry Hooke subscribed to the Act of Uniformity in order to be admitted to 'the cure of Cowley' (Cowley parish has no record of him). At the same time John White, now 'to be admitted to the cure of Brimpsfield', subscribed the Act. There is no trace of White in the register which, however, contains a signature to a burial by H. Hooke, *Rector*, in December 1665.

Humphrey Randall was formally instituted Rector, November 1670.

In 1672 *Henry Hooke* was instituted Rector of Brimpsfield by the Archbishop of Canterbury, 'on the death of the last incumbent'. He was at length legal incumbent of the parish he had served intermittently for so long. His will—as Henry Hooke—with the same clear signature, is now in Gloucester City Library. His varieties of signature, and the very long period which he covers, are remarkable. It is conceivable that 'William Henry' and 'Henry' are two distinct persons—or the signatures may have been varied, to baffle the eye of the secular authority. His latter years seem to have been calm, despite the religious changes which continued to distract the realm. In 1681 the register records the death of 'Dorothy, ye loving good wife of Henry Hooke'; but he married again and had children. He enjoyed a good parsonage, 'of 4 bayes of Building', a barn and out house and gardens of $\frac{1}{2}$ acre', according to a Terrier of 1704,¹ which records another source of benefit, 'Item, our parishioners usually pay their funeral sermons'. This is signed by Henry Hooke, Minister.

In 1658 the Trustees appointed by Parliament 'for the maintenance and encouragement of preaching ministers' had their eye upon Brimpsfield; and reported in favour of uniting the parish with that

¹ Glouc. Pub. Library. R.Z. 56. 1.

of Miserden.¹ (William Woolley was then at Miserden, and perhaps wished to resume his hold on Brimpsfield.) The proposal never took effect, but the Trustees may have 'encouraged preaching' at Brimpsfield by persuading some Puritan to provide the pulpit, still surviving—inscribed *H.C. 1658*. (Who H.C. was, is not known.)

Hambury Sandys (1716) M.A. of Pembroke College, Oxford, started a fresh volume of the Parish Register. Both he and his successor were appointed by relatives, and were able to afford a curate.

Thomas Chamberlaine Cox (1726) must have been mainly non-resident; his name never appears in the Parish register. His work was largely performed by a curate, Isaac Priest, who signs a number of ordinary entries, as well as a full and interesting 'Perambulation of the Parish' in 1726. (This Perambulation refers to another, made eighty years earlier, a surprising date for such parochial activity!) Mr Priest and the churchwardens were evidently active in their duties. Between 1737 and 1742 the provision of 'a large Prayer Book' for 15s. is noted in the Churchwardens' Accounts, as well as the purchase of three new Bell-ropes, and a number of repairs both to bells and fabric.

John White, D.D. (1745) appears in a Diocesan Survey, *circa* 1750. Brimpsfield was reported to have a 'full service'. On his institution the churchwardens paid £2 1s. od. for a new surplice.

James Parsons (1777) and *William Metcalfe* (1785) both employed a succession of curates. The last named occasionally received assistance also from W. Wallbank, Rector of Cranham, to which living Metcalfe succeeded shortly before his death (1797).

James Pitt (1798) was also rector of both parishes, which were united until 1892. At the date of their 'consolidation', 6 February 1798, the yearly value of the two livings was £259.

The 19th century keeps up the tradition of long incumbencies.

James Phelps (1806–29), was served by two curates. One of these, *William Moore*, was curate for seven years, residing in Cranham Rectory, and for part of his time, receiving a stipend of £100 with surplice and fees. He was *Rector* (1829–79). A survey of the diocese 1856 gives the population of the two parishes together as 797, and the value of the two livings as £458. A surviving tradition reports him as living in Birdlip, and visiting his widely-spread parishioners on horseback. He helped to found a Church School for Brimpsfield; it continued from 1841 to 1947, in the original building.

¹ Lambeth Library. Minute Book of Trustees, 1658 (MS. 1000. f. 89) and Surveys of Church Lands, 1649 (vol. 9, p. 137).

BRIMPSFIELD CHURCH HISTORY

Richard Henry Denne (1879-1914) M.A. of University College, Oxford, is still remembered as a dignified and conscientious rector, who visited his congregation regularly. He was assisted on Sundays by Charles Scriven, one of the last surviving examples of the parish clerk, who bequeathed money for a memorial window to himself and his sister. In 1883 Mr Denne obtained a faculty for extensive repairs and restoration of the church. A gallery at the west end of the nave, built in 1833, was pulled down at this time, and stone crosses were placed—or re-placed—at either end of the roof. His successors, aided by the Parochial Church Council, have kept the building in excellent repair. In 1892 the consolidation of the two parishes, Cranham and Brimpsfield (dating from 1798) came to an end. The hamlet of Caudle Green and the southern half of Birdlip had—probably from the earliest times—been included in the parish. Since 1928 the whole of Birdlip village is included in the ecclesiastical parish of Brimpsfield.

NOTE TO APPENDICES

Punctuation has been added.

Contractions have been extended as a rule, but have been given with an apostrophe (') in case of obvious place-names, or where the extension could not be definitely decided. The 'institutions' follow a regular formula, which the clerks evidently did not think it necessary to give in full, though they vary it in a way that is sometimes baffling and barely grammatical.

APPENDIX 1

P.R.O., S.C.I.11.65 (ANCIENT CORRESPONDENCE)

Magistri Ph. de . . . et (P. de Norhampt)on domino E. Giffard salutem. Mandatum domini/Cantuariensis recepimus in hec verba. R. dei gracia (Cantuariensis) archiepiscopus totius Anglie primas dilectis in Christo filiis Magistris/Ph. Ruffo et P. de Norhampton salutem g(raciam) et benedictionem. Querelam Andree . . . recepimus continentem quod/cum venerabili fratri nostro Wigorniensi Episcopo ad vicariam ecclesie de Brumesfeld' . . . onis esset presentatus, Idem/Episcopus . . . licet nichil canonicum ei obstiterit per uolunt . . . sic arbitrio admittere re/cusavit Propter quod . . . nostram audientiam apellavit. Quocirca discretioni vestre mandamus quatinus vocatis/qui fuerint evocandi de dicta apellatione Leg . . . cognoscentes. Si . . . esse inveneritis causam ipsam audiatis. & quod/canonicè . . . statuatis Revocantes (ad) statum debitum quicquid post dictam apellationem inveneritis accepta/tum . . . etiam quod statutum per censuram ecclesiasticam firmiter observari. Data apud Winton' xvij Kal. Ja/nuarij pontificatus nostri anno primo. Huius ergo auctoritate mandati uobis mandamus quatinus coram nobis Si uobis vi/deritis expedi(re) . . . (v)elitis in maiori ecclesia Herefordensi compareatis die sabbati proxima post quindenam Sancti Pauli. Sciatis quod/dicta auctoritate sive veneritis sive non dicto die faciemus quod ius dictabit. Eadem . . . auctoritate uobis prohibemus/sub pena canonicè districtionis ne dicta causa coram nobis pendente aliquid in prejudicium iurisdictionis/nostre faciatis uel p(ro)uret)is. Valet.

The date is Jan. 1230. The Archbishop of Canterbury was Richard le Grand (June 1229–Aug. 1231)

APPENDIX 2

REGISTRUM SEDE VACANTE, f. 101^d. (29 April 1317)

Memorandum quod iij Kal: Maii Anno domⁱ supradicto Johannes de Cynteus Capellanus ad presentacionem fratris Thome Brikebec prioris de Brimmesfeld institutus fuit et inductus in vicariam de Brimmesfeld et jur' &c.

BRIMPSFIELD CHURCH HISTORY

APPENDIX 3

REGISTER, WAKEFIELD, f. 13. (1380)

(Br)ymesfeld vicaria Aluerth dictus pater admisit Willelmum de Couleys presbyterum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochiale de Brymesfeld Wygorniensis diocesis vacantem per resignationem * ultimi et immediati vicarii ibidem in manibus dicti patris factam et per ipsum admissam ad vicariam perpetuam cum suis juribus et pertinentiis universis cum onere continue residendi et personaliter ministrandi† in dicta vicaria juxta formam constitutionum dominorum Otonis et Octoboni etc. instituit in eadem ad presentationem excellentissimi principis domini Ricardi dei gratia Regis Anglie et Francie spectantem ratione temporalium Prioratus de Brymesfeld alienigene in manu dicti domini Regis occasione guerre inter eum et illos de Francie mote existentis, prestito que dicto patri per prefatum Willelmum obediencie canonice juramento, habuit litteras consuetetas instituere et ad inducendum Archidiacono Glouc' vel eius officiali directas.

* Space left for name.

† Almond shaped hole (1 in. × ½ in.) begins after 'ministrandi' and reaches through 6 lines to 'officiali'.

APPENDIX 4

REGISTER, WAKEFIELD, f. 33. (1382)

Vicesimo tercio die mensis Septembris loco et annis supradictis Robertus Cronham capellanus ad vicariam ecclesie de Brumesfeld per excellentissimum principem Ricardum dei gratia Regem Anglie et Francie illustrissimum presentatus, fuit in forma jur' admissus et vicarius perpetuus juxta formam constitutionum editarum perinde in hac parte sub debito jurament' corporalis cum suis juribus et pertinentiis universis institutus canonice in eadem. Et prestita obediencia per eundem scriptum Archidiaconi Glouc' Officiali fuit pro inductione ipsius in forma etc.

Institutio
Vicarie de
Brumesfeld

APPENDIX 5A

REGISTER, PEVERILL, f. 46. (1412)

Penultimo die mensis Junij anno domini M^oCCCC^oXII^o Et translac' domini episcopi quinto apud Bredoñ Admissus fuit Walterus Robert capellanus ad perpetuam vicariam ecclesie parochialis de Brymesfeld Wigorniensis diocesis, per liberam et spontaneam resignationem domini Roberti Craneham ultimi vicarii ejusdem vacantem, ad presentacionem illustrissimi domini domini Henrici dei gratia regis Anglie et Francie et domini Hibernie veri ejusdem vicarie patroni, juratusque fuerat ad continualem et corporalem residenciam, juxta formam constitutionum Dominorum Othonis et Ottoboni¹ quondam in Anglia sedis apostolice legatorum in hac parte editarum, prestitaque Domino obediencia emanavit mandatum Archidiacono Glouc' seu eius Officiali pro ipsius inductione.

Vicarie de
Brymesfeld
Institutio

¹ This reference, recurring in successive institutions, is to the legatine councils held in England by Cardinal Otho (1237) and Cardinal Ottobono (1268).

APPENDIX 5B

REGISTER. PHILIP MORGAN, f. 8. (13 FEBRUARY 1419)

Sequestratio Eisdem loco die et anno ac mense per Vicarium generalem antedictum
 pro repara- emanavit mandatum Decano Glouc' ad inquirendum de defectibus pro
 cione vicarie reparacione vicarie de Brymmesfeld et ad sequestrandos fructus et
 de proventus usque ad summam ad quam defectus hujusmodi reparacionis
 de Brymmesfeld extendit &c.

APPENDIX 6

REGISTER. THOMAS POLTON, f. 18d. (1427)

Mandatum Thomas permissione divina Wigorniensis Episcopus Dilecto nobis in
 inquisitionis Christo magistro Thome Mortoñ in legibus Bacallario nostro Commissario
 vicarie de generali salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Presentavit nobis Excellent-
 Wigor'dioc' in Christo Princeps ac Dominus, Dominus noster Henricus dei
 Capellanum ad perpetuam vicariam ecclesie parochialis de Brymysfeld' gratia Rex Anglie et Francie illustris', Dominum Johannem Reynold'
 nostre diocesis, per liberam resignationem domini Walteri Robertes
 ultimi vicarie eiusdem vacantem, ut dicitur, et ad suam regiam presenta-
 tionem, ut asserit, hac vice * spectantem.* Quocirca vobis committimus
 et mandamus quatinus, super huiusmodi resignatione debita et plenaria
 habita primitus informatione, extunc de jure nunc ad dictam ecclesiam
 presentantis, et quis ultimo presentavit seu presentarunt ad eandem,
 necnon de vita ordinib' et minist' presentati, ac super aliis articulis
 in hac parte debitis et consuetis inquisitionem diligentem faciatis sub
 debita juris forma. Et si per inquisitionem huiusmodi inveniatis ipsam
 resignationem debere factam ipsamque celsitudinem nunc presentantem
 ad dictam vicariam hac vice habere jus presentandi, et inter ipsos
 resignantem et presentatum nullam fraudem seu pactionem symoni-
 acam intervenisse, aliudque canonicum non obesse ipsam resignationem
 et dictam presentationem ad dictam ecclesiam admittendi, ipsumque
 vicarium perpetuum instituendi canonice in eadem in corporalemque
 possessionem juriumque et pertinentium suorum universorum induci
 mandandi, necnon ab eodem presentato nomine nostro canonicam
 obedientiam exigendi et recipiendi, reservata tamen ipsi resignanti
 pro victu ad sue vite terminum congrua pensione de fructibus ipsius ecclesie
 arbitrio nostro moderandi, Ceteraque omnia et singula faciendi que in
 premissis quomodolibet necessaria requiruntur, Vobis de cuius consciencie
 puritate fiduciam in domino gerimus specialem tenore presentium commit-
 timus vices nostras. Et nos, dicte inquisitionis negotio expedito, cum ad
 hoc fuerit congrue requisiti, hac breve patenti certificetur distincte et
 apte quid fecerit in premissis. Datum sub sigillo nostro in Manerio
 nostro de Polton' XXVIII die mensis Maii Anno domini millesimo
 CCCCXXVII et nostre Translationis anno secundo.

* This word inserted above line.

BRIMPSFIELD CHURCH HISTORY

APPENDIX 7

REGISTER. JOHN CARPENTER, I, f. II (1444)

Vicesimo tercio die mensis Februarii Anno domini millesimo CCCC^o XLIIII^{to}. In monasterio beatae Mariae Cirencestr' Reverendissimus in Christo pater et dominus Johannes dei gratiae Wigorn' Episcopus dominum Willelmum Lynryk presbyterum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis Bremmesfeld sue diocesis per liberam resignationem domini Johannis Reynold ultimi vicarii ejusdem in manus dicti reverendi patris factam & per ipsum admissam vacantem. Institucio
Vicarii de
Bremmesfeld

Ad quam per venerabiles viros prepositum & socios Collegii Regalis beatae Marie de Etona veros ipsius vicarie patronos dicto Reverendissimo patri extitit presentatus, in forma juris admisit ac ipsum vicarium perpetuum cum onere perpetue & personalis residence, juxta formam constitutionum legatarum in ea parte editarum, inibi faciente jurat' instituit canonice in eadem cum suis juribus & pertinenciis universis. Receptoque corporali juramento ab eodem de canonica obediencia in hac parte. Scriptum fuit Archidiacono Glouc', seu ejus officiali, ad inducendum eundem &c.

APPENDIX 8

REGISTER. JOHN CARPENTER. I. 151 (1459)

Vicarie de Brymmysfeld Institucio XVII die mensis Augusti Anno dom' supradicto apud Hillyngdon' Magister Willelmus Vance in presencia M.' Edmund Heker admisit dominum Johannem Whyte ad vicariam perpetuam de Brymmysfeld, in persona dom' Johannis Walt' procuratoris sui, et instituit in eadem, prestito primitus juramento corporali de residencia in eadem, juxta formam constitutionum dominorum Otonis et Ottobonis Ap' . . . , per Prepositum et Collegium de Eton' presentat'. Et scriptum Archidiacono Gloucestr' pro ejus inductione.

APPENDIX 9

CARPENTER. I. f. 188 verso (1465)

Ecclie de Brymmesfeld Institucio XXVII^o die mensis Aprilis anno domini & loco supradict' M' Thomas Balsall commissarius predictus Reverendi patris, ad infrascripta sufficienter & legitime deputatus, admisit dominum Johannem Feyreant' capellanum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Brymmesfeld' Wigorn' diocesis vacantem; ad quam per Ceciliam ducissam Ebor' presentatus extiterat, ipsumque rectorem ibidem canonice instituit, Curam &c jur' &c jurat' obediencia. Scriptum fuit Archidiacono Glouc' ejusve officiali ad inducendum.

Curam = ? received the cure.
jur. &c. = ? juribus episcopalibus &c.

TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1962

APPENDIX 10

REGISTER. Morton, f. 43. (1490)

Tercio die mensis Novembris Anno domini supradicto admissus fuit dominus Willelmus Feyreauntr' presbiter ad ecclesiam parochialem de Brymesfeld' Wig[orniensis] diocesis, per liberam resignationem ultimi Rectoris ibidem in manibus domini factam et per ipsum admissam vacantem, ad quam per nobilem mulierem Ceciliam Regine Anglie Aviam Ducissam Ebor' veram ut dicitur ipsius ecclesie patronam, Domino extitit presentatus ipseque dominus Willelmus Rector fuit institutus in eadem cum suis juribus et pertinenciis universis Curam etc. Juribus episcopalibus etc. Et recepto canonicè obedientie juramento scriptum fuit Archidiacono Gloucestr' seu eius officiali pro ipsius inductione. Ecclesie de Brymesfeld'

APPENDIX 11

TO SHOW VALUES OF PRIORY AND MANOR WHILE SEPARATE

	<i>Priory</i>		<i>Manor</i>
1293.	£6 13 4 ¹		1300. (Castle) £23 ⁷
1303	£5 18 0 (amount levied by King) ²		1331. £25 8 9 ⁸
			1338. £28 6 8 ⁹
1377.	£6 0 0 ³		
1414.	£7 0 0 ⁴ (to Queen Joan)		
1434.	£7 0 0 ⁵		
			1449. £25 12 8 ¹⁰
			1468. £26 3 8 ¹⁰
1547. 'Rectoria valet' ⁶	£9 11 11		1547. £23 4 0 ¹¹

¹ B.M. Adds 6164 (Monastic Records I).

² Ginsborough's Reg. (W.H.S.) p. 44

³ BGAS, LXXIV, p. 130

⁴ Cal. P.R. 1413-1416, p. 166.

⁵ E.106/12/35 (P.R.O.). Extents of Alien Priors.

⁶ P.R.O. E. 318/168 (Augmentations Office MSS.). M.9

⁷ Cal. P.R. 1292-1301, p. 495.

⁸ Cal. Fine Rolls, IV, 274.

⁹ Glos. Inquisitions p.m., Vol. 5, p. 275.

¹⁰ P.R.O. S.C.6 Ptf. $\frac{850}{27 \text{ } 8 \text{ } 31}$

¹¹ Given in grant to Sir John Bridges (see p. 79).

PART III
TABLE OF INCUMBENTS—1

<i>Date of Institution</i>	<i>Name of Incumbent</i>	<i>Patron</i>	<i>Lord of the Manor</i>
(1086)	'A priest' mentioned in Domesday Book		1086 Osbern Giffard
1230 (presented but not admitted)	Andrew ¹	(under dispute)	<i>cir.</i> 1190-1247 Elias Giffard
1303	'Vicar' ²	Robert le Masiner, Prior of Brimmesfeld	1299-1322 John Giffard II
1317	John de Cymteus, ³ chaplain	Thomas Brykebec, Prior of Brimmesfeld	
(unknown)	John of Prestbury, ⁴ died 9 Nov. 1343	uncertain	1322 Hugh le Despenser (younger) 1327 John Maltravers
1343 1344 (re-instituted)	William of Hildesley, ⁵ priest	Roger de Haketo, Prior King Edward III	1341 Maurice Berkeley
1349	John Lovenhull, chaplain ⁶	King Edward III	1349 Lionel, Duke of Clarence
1375	Stephen Welwykes, priest ⁷	King Edward III	Philippa, his daughter, who <i>m.</i> Edmund de Mortimer, Earl of March <i>d.</i> 1381
1380	William of Couleys, priest ⁸	King Richard II	
1382	Robert Cronham (or Craneham) chaplain ⁹	King Richard II	Roger de Mortimer, 4th Earl of March, <i>d.</i> 1398
1412	dom' Walter Robert (or Roberdes) chaplain ¹⁰	King Henry IV	Edmund de Mortimer, 5th Earl, <i>d.</i> 1425
1420	Walter Roberdes	King Henry V	

¹ P.R.O. S.C. 1. 11. 65 (tattered and defaced), *see* Appendix 1.

² Ginsborough's Reg. p. 39 (*W.H.S.*).

³ Reg. Sede Vacante (1317) f. 101d (by courtesy of Dean and Chapter), *see* Appendix 2.

⁴ W. de Bransford's Reg. I. 59d. Worcs. R.O. (gives death of J. of Prestbury, 'last vicar').

⁵ W. de Bransford's Reg. I. f. 59; f. 68; f. 70 verso, *also* *Cal. P.R.* 6 Ed. III (1343-45), p. 196.

⁶ Reg. Sede Vacante, p. 229 (*W.H.S.*) *also* *Cal. P.R.* 8 Ed. III, p. 474.

⁷ Reg. Sede Vacante, p. 344. (*W.H.S.*) *also* *Cal. P.R.* (1974-77), p. 112.

⁸ Wakefield's Reg. (1380). f. 13d. Worcs. R.O. *also* *Cal. P.R.* 3 Rich. II. p. 457. *See* App. 3.

⁹ Wakefield's Reg. (1382) f. 33. Worcs. R.O. *also* *Cal. P.R.* Rich. II. vol. 2, p. 165. *See* App. 4.

¹⁰ Peverill's Reg. (1412), f. 46. Worcs. R.O. *also* *Cal. P.R.*, Hen. IV, p. 412 and *Cal. P.R.*, Hen. V. vol. 2, p. 260. *See* App. 5A and 5B.

TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1962

TABLE OF INCUMBENTS—2

<i>Date of Institution</i>	<i>Name of Incumbent</i>	<i>Patron</i>	<i>Lord of the Manor</i>
1427	dom' John Reynold chaplain ¹¹	King Henry VI	1425 Richard, Duke of York (nephew of above)
1444	dom' William Lynryk, priest ¹²	Provost and Fellows of Eton College	
1459	dom' John Whyte ¹³	Provost and Fellows of Eton College	
1465	dom' John Feyreanter, chaplain, <i>first rector</i> ¹⁴	Cicely, Duchess of York	1461–1495 Cicely, widow of above
1490	dom' William Feyraunter, priest ¹⁵	Cicely, Duchess of York	
1498 (or earlier)	Master William Pedder ¹⁶	Unknown	1495 Elizabeth, wife of King Henry VII—grand-daughter of Cicely
?1540	Sir Thomas Lane ¹⁷	Uncertain	1509 Queen Katharine and each of the wives of Henry VIII in succession (as jointure), finally Queen Katharine Parr, 25 Feb. 1544 1547 Sir John Bridges (Lord Chandos of Sudeley, 1554)
1585	John Turner, clerk ¹⁸	Collated by Bishop J. Bullingham of Gloucester	1556 Edmund, Lord Chandos

¹¹ Polton's Reg. (1427), f. 18d. Worcs. R.O. *also Cal. P.R.*, Hen. VI, vol. 1, p. 398. *See* App. 6.

¹² Carpenter's Reg. (1444), f. 11. Worcs. R.O. *See* App. 7.

¹³ Carpenter's Reg. (1459). I, f. 151. Worcs. R.O. *See* App. 8.

¹⁴ Carpenter's Reg. (1465). I. 188, verso. *See* App. 9.

¹⁵ Morton's Reg. (1490), f. 42. Worcs. R.O. *See* App. 10.

¹⁶ Hockaday, *General Abstracts* (Worc. Dioc. Archd. Visitation sheet 30; and Bell, sheet 15).

¹⁷ Hockaday, *General Abstracts*, *G.D.R.*, vols. 26, p. 128; 28, p. 46; 31, p. 14; 37, p. 15; 42, p. 20;

44, p. 20.

¹⁸ *G.D.R.*, 27a, p. 143 and Parish Register.

BRIMPSFIELD CHURCH HISTORY

TABLE OF INCUMBENTS—3

<i>Date of Institution</i>	<i>Name of Incumbent</i>	<i>Patron</i>	<i>Lord of the Manor (from Atkyns)</i>
1591	James Smarte, clerk ¹⁹	Giles, Lord Chandos of Sudeley	1573 Giles, Lord Chandos, 2 co-heiresses, 1594
1616	John Martin, clerk M.A. ²⁰	Lord William Sandys, Knt.	1608 Miles Sandys (High Sheriff of Glos, 1625
1636	William Woolley, clerk, B.A. ²¹	Sir William Sandys	1641 Sir Edwin Sandys and Miles Sandys, son
1654	John Hooper, Civil Registrar ²²		
1655	William Henry Hooke (no title) ²³	Trustees for Maintenance of Ministers, 1658	
1670	Humphrey Randall, clerk, M.A. ²⁴		William Sandys, <i>d.</i> 1712
1672	Henry Hooke, clerk, B.A. ²⁵	John Guise of Gloucester City	
1710	Hambury Sandys, M.A. ²⁶	William Sandys, Esq.	Windsor Sandys, <i>d.</i> 1729
1726	Thomas Chamberlayne Cox ²⁷	Charles Cox of Lippiat 'for this turn'	Windsor Sandys, <i>b.</i> 1754 John Gilbert, D.D., Arch- bishop of York
1745	John White, M.A. ²⁸ later D.D.	Emma Gilbert	Emma Gilbert, <i>m. G.</i> , Lord Mount Edgecumbe, 1766

¹⁹ *G.D.R.*, 27a, p. 187.²⁰ *G.D.R.*, 27a, p. 414.²¹ P.R.O. Bishops' Certificates, Gloucester and Bristol, No. 14, m. 2 (Hockaday). See also *Alumni Oxonienses* (Venn), pp. 166-8.²² Parish Register.²³ Parish Register.²⁴ P.R.O. Bishops' Certificates, Gloucester and Bristol. No. 17, m. 5 (Hockaday).²⁵ *G.D.R.*, 160, and 208, pp. 83 and 84.²⁶ *G.D.R.*, 271, p. 23 and 279, p. 152.²⁷ *G.D.R.*, 279, p. 172.²⁸ *G.D.R.*, 381. (Survey of the Diocese).

TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1962

TABLE OF INCUMBENTS—4

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Patron</i>
1777	James Parsons, M.A. ²⁹	George, Lord Mt. Edgcumbe, <i>d.</i> 1796
1785	William Metcalfe, M.A. ³⁰	
1798	James Pitt, B.D. ³¹ (also Rector of Cranham)	Richard, Lord Mt. Edgcumbe, <i>d.</i> 1806
1806	James Phelps, M.A. ³²	Mrs Pitt
1829	William Moore, M.A. ³³	Mrs Mary Pitt, of Gloucester City
1879	Richard Henry Denne, M.A. ³⁴	James Goodrich of Ruthin
1915	Charles Wyndham Earée ³⁴	Reverend Alured John de Den Denne
1937	Edwin Eustace de Lacy Mann ³⁴	As above
1949	William Stanley Bubb ³⁴	Mrs Avens S. R. A. Denne, and G. H. Pritchard- Rayner, Esq.
1951	Hugh Douglas Atkinson, M.A. ³⁵	As above
1956	Frank Eric Cottrell, B.A. ³⁵	As above

²⁹ *G.D.R.*, 292*a*, p. 207 and Parish Register.

³⁰ *G.D.R.*, 304, p. 92 and 319, p. 47.

³¹ *G.D.R.*, 319, p. 261. The consolidation of Brimpsfield and Cranham Rectories, 6 Feb. 1798, is recorded here.

³² *G.D.R.*, 334, p. 9.

³³ *G.D.R.*, 341, p. 217 and 351, p. 66.

³⁴ Diocesan Registry, Gloucester.

³⁵ The Sanctuary, Westminster.

N.B. For 'Lords of the Manor', my chief authorities after 1322 have been Atkyns, Bigland and Rudder.

BRIMPSFIELD CHURCH HISTORY

ABBREVIATIONS

- Atkyns = *History of County of Gloucestershire.*
BGAS = *Transactions, Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society.*
Bigland = *Bigland's History of Gloucestershire.*
Calamy = *Calamy Revised*, ed. A. G. Matthews (1934).
Cal. P.R. = *Calendar of Patent Rolls.*
Cal. Cl. R. = *Calendar of Close Rolls.*
Cal. St. P. = *Calendar of State Papers.*
Emden = *Emden. Biographical Register of the University of Oxford.*
G.D.R. = *Gloucester Diocesan Records*, mainly as quoted in Hockaday, *General Abstracts* (Gloucester City Library).
Matthew = D. J. A. Matthew. *The Norman Monasteries*, O.U.P., 1962.
P. & M. = Pollock & Maitland, *History of English Law.*
P.R.O. = Public Record Office.
P. Register = *Parish Registers of Brimpsfield.*
V.C.H. = *Victoria County History.*
(W.H.S.) = The printed Registers of the Bishops of Worcester, published by the Worcestershire Historical Society
Worcs. R.O., following a reference = the M.S. Registers of the Bishops of Worcester in Worcs. Record Office; ref. b. 716.093.

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