



Clergy of Warsop.

THE inside of the cover of Vol. I. of Register C contains the following memorandum, in leather, together with a written list of rectors from 1638 to the present time.

Memorandum.—“Warsop Register. The Rev^d Mr. Mosley, Rector; R^{bt} Jackson & T^s Bowet, Church Wardens. 1742.”

“Rectors of Warsop.”

- “1638. William Spurre.
- 1658. Oliver Dand, S.T.B., Minister verbi Dei.
- 1661. William Lacy.
- 1663. George Fothergill.
- 1683. Thomas Fothergill, A.M.
- 1703. John Mandevile.
- 1735. John Mosley, A.M.
- 1778. Samuel Hallifax, D.D.
- 1790. Robert Southgate, A.M.....died Jan. 25, 1795.
- 1795. Francis Herbert Hume, A.M. died Feb. 17, 1806.
- 1806. Samuel Martin, A.B.....died April 4, 1859.
- 1859. Alleyne Fitz-Herbertdied April 15, 1860.
- 1860. Philip Davison Bland, A.M.,—was inducted to the Rectory of Draycot le Moors, in Staffordshire, March 25, 1871: instituted to the same, Nov. 21, 1870.
- 1871. William Alexander Woodward.....1871—1872.
- 1872. Richard Fitz-Herbert.”

In addition to the above list of rectors, about whom we purpose making a few remarks presently, we are glad to be able to give a few particulars respecting some of the clergy of Warsop prior to the earliest date on this list.

From the Archbishop's Register at York, we learn that in 1245 "Richard de Sutton had the Church of Warsop at the presentation of John de Lexinton." This was no doubt the Richard de Sutton who was prebendary of North Muskham, at Southwell, and to whom, in 1260, the vicar of Southwell granted that when the Mass for the Dead was celebrated in that church, a special petition should be made for him, and another for the souls of Robert de Sutton, and Alice, his wife. A Chantry at St. Peter's Altar, at Southwell, was founded for Richard de Sutton's soul by his executors, Ernald de Callenton and Oliver de Sutton, canon of Lincoln—Oliver Sutton, bishop of Lincoln, being a helping party.

His successor was Stephen de Sutton, who died in 1290. On April 7, 1291, bishop Sutton of Lincoln, granted an "indulgence for the soul of our cousin, Stephen de Sutton, archdeacon of Northants, whose body lies in the prebendal Church of Empingham." He was archdeacon of Northants from 1280 to 1290, and at the time of his death, prebendary of South Newbald, at York, as well as rector of Thoresway and Aston, in the diocese of Lincoln, and of Averham and Warsop, in the county of Notts.

In Register A we have the burial recorded of Thomas Pott, rector of Warsop, who died in 1550; whilst in the Archbishop's Register mention is made of his appointment, in 1513, and the death of his predecessor John Pecke.

With respect to the foregoing list of rectors, it is to be noted that the first eight names are all in the same handwriting, and to all appearance that of Bishop Hallifax; but unfortunately the dates prefixed to the first two names are not in accor-

dance with those given in the older registers. William Spurre was, as we have already seen, rector of Warsop at the time of the allotment of seats in 1615, if not before. His death took place in 1646, and judging from the handwriting of the records of that time it is most probable that Oliver Dand was his immediate successor. It is certain that he was rector prior to the date given by Bishop Hallifax, for we have his own signature as such in 1653. The names of Richard Southgate and Francis Herbert Hume are also in one handwriting, namely that of John Ashpinshaw—better known as Dr. Staunton of Staunton—who was curate of Warsop from 1792 to 1798. The other names appear to be the signatures of the several rectors themselves, with the exception of that of Philip Davison Bland, which seems to be in the handwriting of W. A. Woodward.

Oliver Dand, the second name on Bishop Hallifax's list, was the son of Francis Dand of Mansfield Woodhouse, one of the few Nottinghamshire families mentioned in the Herald's Visitation. He was born in 1605. His name appears among the baptisms for that year in the Mansfield Parish Registers as the *Second* Oliver Dand son of Francis Dand—the *First* having died in infancy the year before. He was rector of Warsop all through the troublous time of the Commonwealth, and, as it would seem, exerted what interest he had on the side of the King and the Church. There is a fine old brass tablet to his memory in Warsop Church, surmounted with the arms of his family—a griffin rampant, and three scallop shells—and bearing the following inscription in Latin:—

“Sacred to the memory of Oliver Dand, Bachelor of Divinity, and formerly one of the Senior Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge, Rector of this Church, and a vigorous Defender of the lately down-trodden Cause of King and Religion, who, after gaining many

and honourable distinctions by his fidelity, zeal, and learning, was at length carried off by paralysis, May 4, 1661, aged fifty-five years, and now lies here the ornament of his own tomb.

Heedful traveller wouldst thou turn
 From the speaking stone in fright ;
 Know, a sacred herald's urn
 A voice to have is only right."

Brass tablets have been erected also to the memories of George and Thomas Fothergill. A curious circumstance is connected with the tablet to the former of these two rectors. When removing it just lately from the tower, where it was lost to sight, to a more prominent position on the West wall, it was discovered that the inscription exposed to view was a comparatively modern one, and that the original inscription which contained the same words, only in a quaint sort of spelling, had been turned to the wall. We need scarcely add that the older inscription is the one now to be seen. It runs thus:—

“ Here lyeth the Body of Master George Fothergill whoe was Rector of Warsop twenty yeares whoe departed this life in the seventy six yeares of his age the twenty third of August Anno Domini 1683.”

The modern side of the plate contains also the arms of the family—a buck's head coupéd within a bordure engrailed or. This proves at once the connection of these two rectors, father and son, with the old Westmorland family of Fothergill—one of whom founded a Grammar School near Ravenstone dale in that county; as well as with the Revs. George Fothergill, D.D., and Thomas Fothergill, D.D., who were eminent members of the University of Oxford about the middle of last century.

John Mosley was of the same family as the Mosleys of Rolleston Hall, near Burton-on-Trent. He was the second son of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., and on the death of his brother, without issue, in 1757, succeeded to the baronetcy. In 1777 he presented himself to the living of Rolleston but did not resign Warsop till the following year. He died at Rolleston, in 1779, and was buried in the church of that parish. During his incumbency as rector of Warsop, and before he succeeded to the family estates and title, Sir John seems to have got into a dispute with Mr. Ralph Knight, the patron of the living, concerning the right to dig limestone and other building stone out of the glebe lands and to sell it for his own private profit and advantage. The case was never brought to trial, we believe, but counsel's opinion was obtained which from its general bearing is so very important that we are tempted to insert it in full. "I think," wrote the counsel, "Mr Mosley has no right to dig limestone and other stone in his glebe for sale, for I take the breaking of the surface of the ground and selling the soil to be waste; from the doing of which he may be restrained: and Mr. Knight's proper method will be to file a bill in Chancery and endeavour to get an Injunction to restrain Mr. Mosley from committing any further waste. I know of but one case that makes this doubtful, and that is the case of the earl of Rutland and Gee, where the court refused to grant a Prohibition for digging Mines in the parson's glebe: but admitting that case to be law, it seems to differ from this; for in working Mines, the surface of the ground is not broken up and spoiled, as in digging limestone; and besides the limestone may be wanted for repairs." The following copy of an inventory of church goods, signed by Sir John Mosley, was found by us in the small chest containing the settlement papers:—

"A Schedule or Inventory of the Books, Vestments and Vessels belonging to the Parish Church of Warsop.

Books: A Great Bible Newly Translated in the year 1610. Common Prayer Books, Register of Parchment, a Book of Homilies.

Vestments: A Surplice, a Carpet for the Communion Table, a Linnen Cloth for the Communion Table, a Linnen Cloth to cover the Elements, a Cushion for the Pulpit, and Hearse-cloath.

Vessels: Which are a Pewter Flaggon, a Chalice and Paten, of Silver, and Bason for the Offertory of Pewter.

June the 21st 1736. Attested by us

John Mosley Rector

John Davy }
William Wood } Churchwardens"

The old Bible mentioned in this inventory has long since disappeared, as has also the Book of Homilies; but the Prayer Books, although no longer in use, are preserved and kept in the parish chest. The silver chalice and paten, too, as well as the pewter flagon and bason, are still in existence, but the two latter vessels are no longer in use.

Samuel Hallifax was the second son of Robert Hallifax and Hannah daughter of Richard Jebb, maltster of Mansfield. By his father's side he was connected with the old Waterhouse family of Halifax, in Yorkshire, and by his mother's with the celebrated Sir Richard and Dr. Jebb. His grandfather, Robert Waterhouse de Halifax, was, we believe, the first of the family to drop the patronymic of Waterhouse and to call himself simply Halifax, from the town with which his family had been so long connected, The bishop was born at

Mansfield in 1733, and educated in the Grammar School of that town. At the early age of sixteen years he proceeded to Jesus College, Cambridge, where he gained a sizarship, and in due course graduated B.A. in 1754, and M.A. in 1757. In this latter year he was also elected Dean of his college, whilst in the following year he was nominated Lecturer by the President. In 1764 he took the degree of LL.D; in 1768 he was made Regius Professor of Arabic; in 1770, Regius Professor of Civil Law; and in 1775 he was created D.D., by royal mandate. During the course of his professorship he acquired much eminence by a work he published on civil law, in which a comparison is drawn between the old Roman laws and those of England. For some time, too, he was Chaplain in Ordinary to his Majesty George III., as well as Master of Faculties in Doctors Commons. In 1778 he was presented to the living of Warsop, by Mrs. Gally; whilst in 1781 he was consecrated Bishop of Gloucester, and in 1789 transferred to the See of St. Asaph. As a prelate he was renowned for his deep knowledge and great ability; but as rector of Warsop, little is known of him beyond the mere fact that he took much interest in the choir which he brought to such a state of proficiency that no choir for miles round could bear comparison with it. A story is told how he stopped the singing one morning in the middle of a psalm, greatly to the choir's disgust, because they were singing somewhat out of tune. His second son, Richard, a little boy not three years old, was accidentally scalded to death by falling into a vessel of hot liquor in a brew-house, at Warsop, in 1782, and was buried in the chancel of the church. A marble tablet to the bishop's memory may be seen in Warsop Church, with the following inscription upon it in Latin:—

“Here near to his most dear little son who was some time since snatched away by untimely fate the Very Reverend Samuel Hallifax LL. D and S.T.P. wished

his paternal remains to be deposited. Born and instructed in the first rudiments of learning in this neighbourhood he afterwards held the position of Public Lecturer and Regius Professor of Civil Law in the University of Cambridge, Master of Faculties in Doctors Commons, Rector in this Church, and Bishop first in the Cathedral Church of Gloucester and afterwards in that of St. Asaph: through all of which offices he distinguished himself by his ability, profound learning, and wonderful industry; by his unswerving allegiance to the English Church; by the power and sweetness of his discourses; by the touching grace and elegance of his writings; and moreover by what he ever held to be of paramount importance, the uprightness of his life.

He was born at Mansfield Jan. 8. 1733: worn out by stone he died a premature death alas! March 4. 1790, aged fifty-seven years. His wife Catherine being left his survivor with an only son and six daughters has erected this monument as somewhat of a mournful solace to her grief."

The following table drawn up and signed by Bishop Hallifax, appears on the fly-leaf before the burials in the same volume.

"From		
1688 to 1697 inclusive	were	181 Baptisms, 106 Burials
1741 to 1750 inclusive		189 129
1771 to 1780 inclusive		281 176
S. Hallifax, Rector."		

Robert Southgate has the honour of having been the first rector who started a Sunday School in Warsop. As a matter of fact, indeed, he was one of the pioneers in the excellent