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[Copy presented to the Misses Woolley by the Rev. W.H.R. Brickmann, Vicar of Christ Church Road Hill in 1882 - in Manuscript]

THE HISTORY OF NORTH BRADLEY AND ROADHILL

IN THE COUNTY OF WILTS

COMPILED BY A.F. (FARQUHARSON)

“A thing of shreds and patches”

LONDON - ELLIOT STOCK, PATERNOSTER ROW

TROWBRIDGE - W. COLLINS, MARKET PLACE

1881



ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, NORTH BRADLEY.

[Title

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[Dedication]

TO THAT EMINENT WILTSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGIST, THE REV. W.H.JONES, M.A., F.S.A.
Vicar of Bradford on Avon and Canon of Sarum
THIS LITTLE WORK IS RESPECTFULLY ASCRIBED
BY The Author.

INTRODUCTION.

In the pages contained in this little book we have attempted to collect and arrange in order such records of the parish as have from time to time appeared in print.

The Rev. Canon Jones, and the Rev. Canon Jackson, have by their learned researches done much to elucidate the bye-gone history of this County. Like the Pioneers of the West, they have cleared a path through many a tangled and obscure forest of tradition and error, and made the way clear for any who elect to penetrate into what was before *terra incognita*. From their works, whenever they have had reference to North Bradley, we have borrowed, and we cannot be too grateful for the great help they have given us. The Rev. Edward Peacock compiled an account of Roadhill during his residence there ; this has been embodied in these pages, and we offer our thanks to that gentleman for it. The great Wiltshire historian, Sir R. Hoare does not mention Bradley in his work. To such printed and written particulars relative to this parish as we have been fortunate enough to meet with, we added oral tradition and the results of our own observation, and we trust that our lenient critics will accept the whole as a humble attempt to chronicle the history of the parish, leaving it to some abler pen to enlarge upon it.

HISTORY of NORTH BRADLEY.

EVERY parish in the united kingdom has a history, and it is a subject of regret that it is not written and preserved. In the subsequent pages we have attempted to collect and arrange from authentic sources, a short account of North Bradley, which is a parish comprising the tythings of North Bradley and Southwick, in the Northern Division of the county of Wiltshire, Hundred of Whorwellsdown, Union of Westbury, County Court District of Trowbridge, Diocese of Salisbury, Archdeaconry of Wilts, and Rural Deanery of Potterne, and is situated two miles from Trowbridge, three from Westbury, seven from Warminster, and seven from Frome.

It is a disputed question if the entry in Domesday refers to North Bradley or to Malden Bradley. That high authority, however, Canon Jackson, thinks it means the former. The translation reads as follows :-

" Walter Giffard holds Bradlie of the King, Earl Tosti held it in the time of King Edward and it was assessed at 10 hides. There are 10 ploughlands. Four of the hides are in demesne where are 2 ploughlands and 4 servants. Six villagers and 13 borderers occupy ploughlands. Two mills pay 12s. 6d. There are 10 acres of meadow and the pasture is 3 quarters of a mile long and 2 furlongs broad. The wood is a mile and a half square. It has been valued at £12 now only at £10."

Sir R. Hoare, in his history of Wilts, claims this to refer to Maiden Bradley, but Canon Jackson very properly points out that Walter Giffard held lands in North Bradley, and that a portion of them descended to the Grenville family of Southwick.

This Walter Giffard was a great man and favourite of William I. He was created Earl of Longueville in Normandy, and Buckingham in England, and had granted to him lands in ten counties to support these dignities.

The area is 4036 acres, which is principally pasture; the rateable value of the tything of North Bradley is £5478, and of Southwick tything £5511; the population at the census of 1871 and 1881 was :

	1871	1881
North Bradley	885	887
Southwick	1135	999
Total	2020	1886

The village lies to the right of the high road Trowbridge to Westbury. In the early part of the present century it was surrounded by open common land, now enclosed, and lay like an oasis in the desert. From "Axe and Cleaver" lane, on the Trowbridge road, to the village was open, as was all the land between the high road and Bradley Chapel. Both sides of the thoroughfare known as Southwick hill were unenclosed, and beyond the village of Southwick lay Road Common ; whilst Hawkeridge Common ran from that hamlet to Yarnbrook. We have no doubt that all the present titles to the houses in the Rank and at Ireland are occupation titles only of 20 years, undisputed holding, and that these cottages were originally built by squatters on the common which existed there. There are two roads that lead out of the Westbury highway up to the village and church. The former is modern, having been made shortly after the late Vicar, the Rev. Harry Lee, came to Bradley some fifty years ago. The old route can still be traced by the trees standing in the centre of a field culled Pond-Close, occupied by Mr. Turner, and owned by Winchester College; instead of being quite straight, as now, it followed a serpentine course. Tradition tells us that the roadway we have just mentioned was formerly only a footpath to the church, and that the village green as it is now called and by the side of which the road runs, extended to Culverhouse's Barton, an old ruin that

stands in an orchard and away from the road some distance. In those days there were but two or three houses in this part of the village. Across the upper portion of the green is a flagged path which continues to the church; its remains can still be seen crossing the open in front of the Old Ring of Bells; it is a continuation of the paved way that runs through the potatoe field into Church Lane. This is doubtless all that is left of the footway that existed ere the road was made.

Church Lane as it is called, once ran at the back of the houses on the left hand side leading to the church and not in front as now. We question much if it continued as a road farther than to that building.

Bradley is bounded on the north by Trowbridge, on the south by Westbury, on the east by West Ashton, and on the west by Tellisford and Wingfield. It is somewhat singular, but approach it from what direction you will you must pass over a brook or small running stream to enter the parish.

DERIVATION OF THE NAME.

The origin of the name is simple ; it means the Broad-legh. This latter syllable denotes a meadow or pasture, so, in fact, Bradley is the broad field or pasture. Besides Bradley proper there are several other hamlets and villages in the parish. Taking the church as our stand point, we find Yarnbrook village one mile south-east. "Yarn" is said to be derived from the Welsh "Carn" (heap of stones), and so Yarnbrook signifies the brook by the "heap of stones." Southwick village is one mile to the north-west. The origin of this name denotes the south town, as "wick" means a number of houses. Road, a corruption of "Rood" or "Cross", is about three miles to the west; and Ireland occupies a site about a mile off in the same direction. Why this hamlet should be called "Ireland", or why two houses higher up on the hill should be named "Scotland", we cannot say. There is one other village at the extreme of the parish to the south-west called "Broker's Wood."

In the course of these pages we shall notice the Churches and Chapels, and give an account of each; also the old mansions of Cutteridge and Southwick Court.

THE MANOR

The manor of North Bradley was brought to Robert Long, in 1433 with his marriage to the daughter of Reginald de Bradley. What the lady's name was we have no authority for stating, and it remained in the name of Long till 1805, when the last male heir, Sir James Tylney Long, Bart., died. In 1812 his eldest sister, Catherine, married William Pole-Tylney-Long-Wellesley, who became fourth Earl of Mornington, and took the Manor of Bradley to her husband. It then passed to Earl Cowley, brother of the late Duke of Wellington, and that peer sold it about 1863 to C. P. Moore , Esq. , of North Bradley. In 1879 that gentleman sold it to the present owner, Walter Hume Long, Esq., M.P., of Rood Ashton.

The estate is a small one, consisting of a house and about 120 acres of land. The Manorial rights are lost, but the Lord still receives some quit rents, and is trustee for the preservation of the village green or fair piece, it being reserved for that purpose. Mr. Long has other estates in the parish, namely, Pound Farm, occupied by Mr. Geo. Woods ; Southwick Court, rented by Mrs. Joseph Long; Southwick Farm, held by Mr. Charles Long ; and a small place called Hooper's Pool, about 50 acres. With the woods, Mr. W. H. Long has about a thousand acres in the parish.

SOUTHWICK COURT.

Before we proceed to the other landowners we will turn our attention to Southwick Court, an old

moated Grange of great antiquity. It lies on the left hand side of the road from Trowbridge to Frome, about two miles from the former place.

Southwick Court is now occupied as a farmhouse. Canon Jackson speaking of it says "In Southwick, a tything of this parish, two carucates of land belonged A.D. 1274 to William de Greyville or Greynville, who held under the Abbess of Romsey. About A.D. 1294 his son Adam de Greynville (there was a justice in eyre of his name in 1267) attached to his house at Southwick Court a chapel dedicated to St. John the Baptist. By surrendering to the Rector Of Bradley (at that time the Prebendary of Edington) a ground called Alerleye, he obtained the right of presenting to his chapel a chantry priest, who, in acknowledgement of fealty, was to offer 2lbs of wax in Bradley Church, every year on the Anniversary of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. In 1369 the Bishop of Sarum granted a licence for Mass to be said in the private mansion house of Southwick. This chaplain, in after times, was always instituted to his office by the Rectors Of Edington Monastery, to whom the church of Bradley then belonged."

In 1872 the Wilts Archaeological Society visited Southwick Court, and gave the following details about it:-

" The manor of Southwick, and the advowson of the chapel at Southwick Court, appear to have passed, about A.D. 1341, by the heiress of Greynville or Greyville, to Humphrey Stafford, Knight, grandfather of John Stafford, Archbishop of Canterbury. Then by Alice Stafford, an heiress, to Sir Edmund Cheney , of Brook Hall ; and by their heiress to Sir John Willoughby of Brook, c 1430. In 1483, during a temporary forfeiture, Southwick was given by Richard III. to his favourite, Edward Ratcliffe; but it was restored, and in 1520 was sold by Robert Willoughby Lord Broke to Sir David Owen, a supposed son of Owen Tudor. In his will, 1529, Sir David Owen mentions this manor and chantry. One portion was sold by Henry Owen, to Sir Woolstan Dixie, Lord Mayor Of London, who by will, 1592, devised his lands here, worth £42 per annum, to Christ's Hospital. Another portion was sold, 1566, by John Owen, to Christopher Bayley, whose wife Matilda (Horton) appears to have possessed one third of the manor in her own right. She married Walter Bush, who held it for his life. Rebecca Bayley, an heiress, grand-daughter of Christopher, married, first Henry Long, of Whaddon, and secondly Henry Sherfield (who held it also for life). By another heiress, Rebecca, grand-daughter of Henry Long, of Whaddon, it passed in marriage to Sir Philip Parker; and on the failure of issue male in his descendant, 1740, it reverted to the Longs of Whaddon , from whom it has passed to the present owner, Walter Long, Esq., of Rood Ashton.

In speaking of the present state of Southwick Court, I will only say that the chief alteration, since Aubrey saw it, consists of the removal of the chapel, which of late years had been used a cowhouse and calf-stage ; it was pulled down about the year 1839, and the timbers of the roof were used in framing the roof of the present stable. On the walls of the house there are in three places stones with dates and initials upon them. Two have these figure and letters upon them :-

1567 W.B.

The W.B., I presume, stands for Walter Bush, who, at that date, seems to have owned the place in right of his wife, widow of Christopher Bayley, who bought a portion of the property in 1556. The third stone bears the date and initials ; —

1693 S.W.L.

I am not quite sure as to the first of these letters being an S, but the two others are perfectly distinct, and no doubt are the initials of a Long of Whaddon, to which family the property reverted a second time on the failure of a male heir to Sir Philip Parker, in 1740. The old moat round Southwick Court still remains." - Vol. 14, p.31, Wilts Arch. Mag.

“Tradition says that the two tall poplars that stand on either side of a gate opposite Bradley village green, mark the spot where the road from Southwick Court to the Church terminated. We may venture to suggest that Park Farm, that lies between Bradley and Southwick, derives its name from that part having been a portion of the park attached to Southwick Court.”

SOUTHWICK CHAPEL.

We have gathered the following as to the private chapel at Southwick Court, A.D. 1294. Before the foundation of Edington Priory, a controversy having arisen between the rector of Bradley (then Prebendary of Edington in Romsey Abbey), and Adam de Grenville (then owner of Southwick), about a chantry chapel of the said Adam de Grenville in his Court of Southwick, the rector of Bradley agrees to permit it.

Adam de Grenville and his successors are to present to the rector of Bradley fit Chaplains, who shall do fealty to the rector of Bradley, and shall promise to admit none but the family of Grenville and their guests. Offerings to be made 3 times a year in Bradley Church ; other offerings to be at the disposal of the chaplain, except thanksgivings of women, which are to be received at Southwick Chapel by the priest of Bradley himself, or by the other with special leave. For this concession certain lands were given to the rector of Bradley by Adam de Grenville.

A.D. 1397, after the foundation Of Edington Priory, the Prior then instituted Richard of Lokinton into the vacant Chantry by presentation of Humphrey Stafford, dated 5th June. In 1413 by an *Inquis. post mortem* , Humhrey Stafford and Elizabeth his wife were declared owners of Southwick Court and advowson of chapel. In the registers at Sarum there are no presentations to the chapel by itself. In 1534 Hugh Lloyd was Cantarist at £6 7s. per annum.

Some part of Southwick belonging to Edington Priory, was held after the dissolution under Sir Thomas Seymour, Lord Sudeley by Ambrose Dautsey. The Court Book of Southwick is in the Chapter House, Westminster.

At dissolution of chantries, in the reign of Henry VIII., Southwick or Grenfred's chantry as it was called, was reported by the Commissioners as follows:-

“Baltazar Segytte, incumbent with £6 7s. a year. The plate weighed 8ozs. 1dwt., and the goods were valued at 9s., whilst 8s. 4d., was allowed for a bell.”

THE BUSHES OF SOUTHWICK.

Through the kindness Of Mr. J. J. Bush, of Trowbridge, we are enabled to give some copies of original documents relative to his family and Southwick Court. On the 24th Of July, 1599, the Walter Bush whose initials are on Southwick House, and who married Maud Bayley neé Horton made his will. He is described as of Roulie, a dismembered parish between Farleigh Hungerford and Westwood and we find that in 1555, Sir Walter Hungerford and Agnes his wife leased Rowley Farm to Christopher Bayley, who married Maud Horton, who subsequently married Walter Bush. In 1583 that gentleman living there. Amongst the bequests is the following:-

“Itm.—I give unto Walter Bushe, the sonne Of Paule Bush fortie poundes.

Itm.—I give also to him a flat stocke salte, and a dozen of silver spoons, with a W upon them.

Itm - I give him also my third beste bede with all his furniture.”

“Maude his wife and James Bush his sonne, Executors ;
Edwarde Horton and Edwarde Longe, of Mounon, Overseers.”

The number of Walters in this and the subsequent documents is confusing, but we may well state that the testator Walter had three sons Walter, James, and Paul. The Walter mentioned in the will was son of Paul, and grandson of Walter. In 1601 Walter Bush senior being dead, the following document shews the family at law amongst themselves.

“Jovis xviii die Junii Anno Rgni Eliz. Regine, Eliz. Regine,xliiii. Int. Walteram Bushe, plaintiff, Henricum Long, gen., and Rebecca his wife, Jacobum Bushe et Edwardum Greenhill, defendts.

Forasmuch as this Court was this pSENT day informed by Mr. Chamberlyn, being of the plaintiff's counsell, that one Walter Bushe, father of the pt. and Maude his wife, grand-mother of Rebecca, wyfe of the said Longe und one Wllm. Horton were heretofre seysed of the manor of Southwick, and in 25 Eliz. graunted the copyhld in possession unto the pt. and unto Paule Bushe and James Bushe, his brothers, for their lyves, and the longer lyver of them successyvely at £150 fine. According to wch coppye the sam pt. entered and enjoyed the same by the space of seaven yeares. And then the said Henry Long and his wyef, dealing With Walter Bushe, the pt's father, and the said Maude for their estate in the manor which they consented to sell unto them, upon condition that the said Longe and his wyef should allow of the coppinghld in possession to the pt. his bretheren aud not to molest or impeach them therein, and accordingly the said Henry Longe entered into coven't to the said Walter Bushe, the pt's father, and Henry entered into bonde to the said Walter, the father, for the quiet enjoying thereof in the some of £300, since wch tyme the pt. hath enjoyed the same by the space of ten years, so that in the whole he hath held the same by the space of xvii or xviii yeres quietly before the bill exhibited. And now the said Long and his wife practising with the said James Bushe have got the bonde of £300 into their hand, the said James being the executr. to Waltr. Bushe his father, whereby the pt. is voyde of all collateral securitie at law for the said copyhold estate both of bonde and covenant. And now the said Longe seeketh to gett the possession from the pt. And hath brought an actn. of trespas at the Comon Lawe for that purpose and hath also served the pt. and one John Broswell, gen., his sonne in law wth mes returnable this terme ptending the grante to be voyde because of the graunts insufficiency of estate some time because another had interest therein for lyef at the time of th graunt and lastly because the pt. hath forfeyted the same by cutting downe of timber trees wthout lycense. Albeit the defendts. have by their annswer confessed the graunting but not the fyne, and have confessed the agreement to allowe of the estate graunted by the graunters aforesaid (but wth the word Lawefull estate). And do further confesse that the said Longe entered into bonde to allow this estate as a lawfull estate, granted by the custome and not otherwise for all wh. causes for the pt's possession of the said coppinghold land until the cause be heard in this Court, and also that all suits touching the same at the Cmon. Lawe may be stayed in the meane tyme. It is here-upon ordered that if the defendts. shall not by this day seaven night shewe unto this Court good cause to the contrary then such an injunction be granted as is required without further motion, and the rather for that yt. is informed the said James Bushe stands out at an attachemt. wth prclmacons and will not come in to answeere the pt's bill, the matter much concerning him.

HENRY EDWARDS, Deputy Regist.

INDORSEMENT.

Proceeding with appeal, 18 June, 1601, an order to shew cause why this injunction should not be granted.”

From the foregoing, we find that the name of Walter Bushe's wife, who owned Southwick in 1563 was Maud, not Matilda, as commonly stated, although we admit they are synonymous. This document also exposes a very pretty little family quarrel. The plaintiff, Walter Bushe, says his father granted him and his two brothers, Paul and James, the copyhold of Southwick for life. Then it appears that Henry Long and his wife Rebecca persuade old Walter Bushe to let them

have the estate after the death of his son Walter, and he agreed to do so upon their giving him a bond of £300, not to molest his son. After 17 years, old Walter being dead, and James his son being his executor, Long and his wife get the £300 bond given up to them, and then proceeded to eject Walter Bushe from Southwick, on the grounds that the grant to him was illegal. In consequence of all this Walter Bushe goes to the Court and gets an order, which is expressed in the latter part of the document we have printed. How the suit ended we cannot tell, but at all events the Long's got the estate and hold it to this day. Rebecca Long was the granddaughter of Christopher Bailey, and after her husband's death married Henry Sherfield, M.P. for Sarum, and Recorder for that city.

In 1600 Edward Horton, brother of Mrs. Walter Bushe senior, gave a bond to Walter Bushe, his grand nephew, who at the time was a minor.

“The xxivth of September, 1600, received by me, Edward Horton, of Westwoode, in the countye of Wiltes, Clothyer, of James Bushe, of the Cittie of Bristowe, mercer, in good currante Englyshe monie, the Summe of fower score poundes, and is for to be repaide unto the said James Bushe, his executors, administrators or assignes within one month next after that wherein Walter Bushe the sonne of Paule Bushe, late of Southampton, Mchant, shall growe and accomplyshe to be the full age of one and twenty yeares, and if it shall happen that the saide Walter Bushe shall departe this his transitorie life, then the saide Sum of fower score poundes is for to be repaide within three months then next after unto the said James Bushe his Executors, administrators or assignes, and for the trew performance hereof, I, the aforementioned Edward Horton, do bind me, my heires, executors, administrators and assignes. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seale the day and yeare above written.”

EDWARDE [L. S.] HORTON.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of us
EDWARDE LONGE,
THOMAS ARNOLDE.”

In 1603 Edward Horton died, and the following is an extract from his will, which evidently refers to the Walter Bushe to whom he had given the bond :-

“Mr. Edward Horton's will, bearing date the 19th daye of October, 1603, the first yeare of the Reign of ye Kinge.
Itm. I give and bequeath unto Walter Bushe the sonne of Bushe, deceased, forty poundes. Executors in trust, Henery Longe and Johne Maye. Overseers, John Satchfeilde Henery Long, of Whaddon, and William Carberry”

The family of Bush has resided many years in the neighbourhood, and the present J. J. Bush, Esq., solicitor, of Trowbridge, is a representative. This gentleman has in his possession documents and seals that will prove his descent for two hundred and fifty years. The arms on the seals, which are those borne by Mr. Bush, were granted as follows :-

Paul Bush, first Protestant Bishop of Bristol, 1542-54, had a grant of arms by Barker, Garter King-at-Arms—Argent, on a fess gules, between 3 boars pass. sa., a rose between two eagles dis. or. Arms were also granted to John Bush, brother of the Bishop, who resided at Dilton, near Westbury; they were similar, only the fess was sable and was charged with a fleur-de-lis, instead of a rose, between the eagles. This Paul Bush, Bishop Of Bristol, was the last Prior Of Edington. He married and had several children. The Bishop died 11 Oct., 1558, and was buried in Bristol Cathedral where his tomb is still to be seen. His wife, Edith Ashley, of Mendip, had died previously and lies near him.

In Wood's "Athenae Oxoniensis " is an account of Paul Bush, to which we refer our readers; we do not think it improbable that a biography of this prelate and his descendants may shortly appear, and it will contain many romantic incidents with reference to his marriage with the playmate of his youth.

Amongst the other landowners in the parish is William Roger Brown, of Trowbridge, Esquire, J.P., who by purchase within the last two or three years, has acquired Cutteridge, occupied by Wm. Francis, sen.; Overcourt, occupied by Wm. Francis, jun. ; Druce's Farm, occupied by Sydney Francis; Broker's wood, occupied John Haden ; and Norriss's Hill, occupied by Mrs. Doel ; besides 120 acres of wood and coppice, called Broker's Wood.

CUTTERIDGE

To clear the ground as we proceed, we will give our readers some particulars to the fine old mansion at Cutteridge, quoting from the Wilts Magazine, where in volume 14, page 34, is an article from the pen of the Rev. Edward Peacock in which he mentions Cutteridge, and which he takes to mean "Cot of the ridge," "Cot" being cottage, or small dwelling. Canon Jones, however, derives the name from "Cote-ridge", meaning the "ridge " of the wood.

"CUTTERIDGE.—About a mile to the S.W. of North Bradley Church are the remains of the fine old mansion of Cutteridge : it is still conspicuous in the Ordnance Map—its three fine avenues of limes, and string of fish-ponds being shown thereon. A note in Canon Jackson's Aubrey gives us this information respecting Cutteridge,

'The owners have been, Edington Monastery, John Blanchard, 1395; Francis Townsend, Esq., 1604; the Trenchard family of Wolverton (in Charminster, Dorset) from about 1655.'

The property ultimately came into the hands of John Ashfordby Trenchard, of Stanton, and Walter Long, of Preshaw, whose mother was the heiress of Hipplesley Trenchard, the latter of whom took Overcourt Farm, and the former Cutteridge: and both were purchased by Mr. John Whittaker (the grandfather of Frank Whittaker Bush) in 1807. The titles of two surveys relating to Cutteridge have kindly been shown me by T. B. Saunders, Esq., who, as trustee, holds the Cutteridge title deeds; the first reads thus,

"The view or Survey of the site and manor of Cutteridge, Honeybridge, Bradley, Southwick, Broker's Wood and Rudge, in the County of Wilts, taken by G. Curtis, Surveyor Of the said Manor, appointed for the same by Thomas Champneys, Esq., Lord of the said manor, given by the others of the whole homage and customary Tennants of the same manor at a Court holden there the vii. day of Marche in the xxxviii yere of the raigne of our Sovereign Lord King Henry Eight' (N.B. 1547, the year Of the King's death). The other title reads thus: 'A survey taken of the mor. of Cutteridge, Wm. Trenchard, Esq., xxvi. day of January in the year of the Raigne of our Sovereign Ladie Elizabeth, the Queen's Majestie that now is. (1578).'

What the date of the house at Cutteridge may have been I cannot pretend to say, but it would seem that there could not have been a house of any great importance there in Leland's days, as, in one of his journeys he went 'from Brook Hall to Westbury, from Westbury to Trowbridge'; now as Brook Hall, the next place we have to visit, is not half-a-mile from Cutteridge, we can hardly think it possible that he would have passed so near a place of importance without visiting, or at least naming it in his intinerary. On another journey Leland went from Bradford to Trowbridge, and again to Brook, and so on to Frome : neither now does he make any mention of Cutteridge ; we must therefore conclude that in Leland's days the mansion was not built.

The house at Cutteridge, as it now stands, is formed of a portion of the offices of the old mansion, which was pulled down about 1800. The original structure was roofed with copper ; and when the house was pulled down, the copper was sold, and most of the other materials as well; these latter were carried to Devizes, but where they were made use of cannot now be determined.

The three fine avenues of limes, the string of fishponds still remaining, show that Cutteridge was a house of some pretension; the garden walls also still remain, one of which is covered with vines, which produce an enormous quantity of grapes.

" Mr. William Francis, the present tenant of Cutteridge Farm, told me, that when a field near the house being drained about the year 1851, the men at work came upon a very heavy lead coffin, which lay north and south, and contained the remains of a female. This coffin was given to the men who were draining, and they sold it for old lead. During the progress of the draining, several more traces of interment, as well as well as human bones, were found in different places. It seems difficult to account for this fact, as I not aware that there was ever a chapel attached to the house, and consequently we should not expect to find any burial place."

In the above there is a discrepancy, namely, that Canon Jackson says the Trenchards owned the property from about 1655, whilst Mr. Peacock tells us he has seen a survey of Cutteridge for William Trenchard, Esq., dated 26 Jan., 1578, or nearly eighty years before. Another remark we may make is that Canon Jackson does not include Thomas Champneys, Esq., in his list of owners, who, it appears, was Lord of the Manor in 1547.

The present house at Cutteridge retains no traces of its ancient splendour, being in short, only the servants' offices, to which is added a small part newly built. The old mansion, in its prosperity, when lords and ladies perambulated through its many rooms, was said to have been only second in size to Longleat in this county. It was pulled down nearly 100 years ago, when

*It was a pleasant mansion, an abode ,
Near and yet hidden from the great high road,
Sequestered among trees, a noble pile*

* * * * *

*Within, unrivalled splendour met the eye-
Panels, and floors of oak, and tapestry;
Carved chimney pieces, where, on brazen dogs,
Revelled and reared the Christmas fires of logs;
Doors opening into darkness unawares,
Mysterious passages and flights of stairs;
And on the walls, in heavy gilded frames,
The ancestral Trenchards with old Scriptural names.*

Previously to its final demolition, visitors used to pay a shilling each to go over it and the grounds. We have been told that it was a large square pile of a building, and that it stood on what is now the garden in front of the present house. It was remarkable for the number and size of its windows, and the spectator looking at it from a distance when the sun fell on them, seemed to be gazing at a fiery furnace. At the back, where is now the kitchen garden, was the Chestnut Court, so named from those trees that stood on it. These were in existence long after the house was destroyed. On the south side of the mansion was the Wilderness, now an orchard, directly to the south of which ran an avenue, still existing, to the fish ponds. In front of the Wilderness were the pleasure grounds and parterres. Close to the fishponds is the spot where the lead coffin was found, about three feet underground, together with great quantities of human remains. Originally there were five avenues leading to the house, of these three remain tolerably intact, the fourth, which was of elm trees, has only a few standing, whilst the fifth

been destroyed. The estate of Cutteridge comprises 175 acres, and on it is the celebrated Barn field, so called from the fact of a barn having stood there, thus mentioned by Bodman in his history of Trowbridge :

“A piece of pasture land in the parish of North Bradley, called “Barnfield”, the property of J. Whitaker, Esq., of Fairwood was so renowned in Smithfield market in the former part of the last century that the naming of Barnfield grazing produced immediate sale, until, like other impostures, it was detected, for all the cattle were said to come from Barnsfield.”

A tradition exists that through the bottom of this field ran a canal that served as a waterway from Cutteridge to the church, but an inspection of the levels of the ground dismisses this idea. Roman remains have been dug up near the house, and coins and other antiquities have been found in the fields.

THE TRENCHARDS OF CUTTERIDGE

The first Trenchard known was Paganus, temp. Hen. I., Thomas Trenchard, of Wolverton, was knighted by Elizabeth in 1588. John, his second son, of Bloxmouth, was knighted also in 1692 as one of the principal Secretaries of State. Thomas, of Wolverton, was M.P. for Bridport; his son, Col. Thomas, was M.P. for Wareham 1695 and 1698 ; for Dorchester in 1689 ; and for Dorsetshire 1700 and 1701. He left an only daughter, who in compliance “with the testamentary injunction of her father” married her cousin, George Trenchard, and had issue three sons, none of whom left any issue. The property consequently came to her two daughters, Henrietta, married to Jocelyn Pickard, Esq., Of Bloxmouth, and Mary, who married Richard Owen Cambridge, Esq.; of Whitminster. Descendants from both these marriages still reside in Dorsetshire. It was probably a younger son of one of the Wolverton Trenchards who settled at Cutteridge.

The man of the greatest note who lived at Cutteridge was Mr. John Trenchard, some time M.P. for Taunton, and Commissioner of forfeited estates in Ireland. Mr. Trenchard was a well-known political writer in the *British Journal* and in the *London*, under the signature of “Cato”. He was the author of several pamphlets on the “South Sea Company,” the “Peerage Bill,” and also wrote the “Independent Whig.” Mr. Trenchard was the second son of Wm. Trenchard, Esq., of Cutteridge, and was born in 1669, and died in 1723. We do not know where he was buried, but he left no heir, and, we presume, died unmarried.

Mr. William Trenchard, father of John, was also a man of note. During his life he sat for Westbury in two parliaments of Charles II, namely, 1678, and 1681, besides holding the office of J.P., for the county. It seems he was a zealous dissenter, and when James II, in 1687, wished to find out who amongst the country gentlemen would support a bill to repeal the Acts against the Nonconformists and Roman Catholics, he received from his agents the following reports relative to Mr. William Trenchard. Speaking of Westbury, they say :-

“My Lord Abingdon- and Col. Lewis have the chief interest, but there is one Mr. Trenchard, who lives just by, may give an opposition if joined with some person that would spend monies, which will go a great way in the little Borough. Col. Lewis is a very near man who will spend little or nothing.”

The same report also says that amongst the dissenters fit to be appointed Deputy Lieutenants, Mr. William Trenchard is one.

A further report of Westbury says :-

“Westbury is Borough that chooseth by Burgess tenements. This town is under the influence of the Earl of Abingdon, whom we know not how to get to engage, unless he will only propose Col.

Lewis, who may be inclined to be right, and then the town may be made for Mr. Trenchard, who is undoubtedly right and hath so declared himself."

That William Trenchard was a fervent dissenter may be readily guessed, when we remember that he permitted the Nonconformists to assemble for worship in Witch-pit wood on his estate, although as a magistrate he might have put in force the law against them.

The great poet Addison is said to have often visited Cutteridge; perhaps he there met with his originals of Sir Roger de Coverley, his old chaplain, his butler, and Will Wimble. So long as the English language lasts, so long will remain these descriptions of country life and manners in Queen Anne's reign.

William Trenchard with his wife, lie in Bradley Church in the Cutteridge Chapel. A stately monument of variegated marble records their death in the following epitaph :—

"Near this place is deposited the body of William Trenchard, Esq., of Cutteridge, in the County of Wilts, by the body of his beloved Wife. He died the 22nd of August, in the year of our Lord 1713, in the 70th year of his age. His wife was the daughter of Sir George Norton, of Abbots Leigh, in the county of Somerset, by whom he had ten children ; whereof four lie buried in this church and only four survived him, viz., John, Frances, Anna, and Ellen, which three daughters he made joint executrixs, who in performance of his will and in grateful memory of their indulgent parents erected this monument."

The arms on the Trenchard monument, of which the tinctures are effaced, are, 1st and 4th - 3 palets—for Trenchard ; 2nd and 3rd —a saltire—for Nevill ; Impaling - 2 bars—in chief an inscutcheon ermine; for Norton, of London, not of Somerset. On reference to Burke we find these arms should have been, 1st and 4th , Per ale Arg. and az. in the first 3 palets sa. ; 2nd and 3rd , Arg. a saltire gules. Crest, a cubit arm erect, vested azure, cuffed argent, holding in the hand a battle axe ppr.—this crest is mutilated, being broken. Motto: *Nosce teipsum* (Know thyself). From this epitaph we gather that although William Trenchard left a son he made his three daughters his representatives. Two of them at least married, one a Mr. Hippisley, of Stanton, the youngest Mr. Henry Long, of Melksham, and ultimately the Cutteridge estate was divided between their children. In the chapel already mentioned are two other monuments and three grave stones. The first monument was erected to the memory of Henry Long, Esq., of Melksham, who married Ellen Trenchard, and died 23rd Oct., 1727, aged 40 ; Henry, his second son, 30th August, 1739, aged 26 ; Ellen, his wife, nee Trenchard, 9th July, 1752, aged 65. It was erected in May , 1756, by Mrs. Thresher, daughter of Henry Long and Ellen Trenchard. The other monument is to William Long, 15th June, 1773, aged 64. During his life he was known as mad Long. The arms on this tablet are Long quartering Trenchard, the latter being correctly given, thus shewing the male branch of the latter had failed, that the female line represented them. The flat grave stones are to William Trenchard, sen., William Trenchard, his son, 12th July, 1704, aged 26; Grace, daughter of Wm. Trenchard, sen., 11th June, 1707, aged 23 ; Henry Long and his two sons, William and Henry. On Wm. Long's stone the sinister or Trenchard side of the arms, are wrongly cut by the sculptor, the palets being on the sinister instead of the dexter.

The shield on Wm. Trenchard's monument has been described " quartering Ashfordby," but this is an error, as that family intermarried with the Trenchards years after William's death. We believe they owned property in Southwick, near Road Common. The following is what the Rev. E. Peacock says in the paper before alluded to :

" Mr. Ashfordby married Miss Ellen Trenchard, in 1766. This Ellen Trenchard was the daughter of Robert Hippisley, of Stanton, who assumed his mother's name of Trenchard, she having been the daughter and heiress of William Trenchard, of Cutteridge."

This would make Mrs. Ashfordby great grand-daughter of William Trenchard. We may also remark that Mrs. Hippisley was coheiress only, not sole heiress of her father, as is evident from the paper of Mr. Peacock himself, who describes the Longs as having half the estate. We find from a pedigree of the Long family that Henry Long, of Melksham, the husband of Ellen Trenchard, had three sons, William, John and Henry, who died unmarried, and one daughter, Ellen. We also find that Mrs. Ellen Ashfordby, great grand-daughter of William Trenchard, of Cutteridge, married as a second husband John Long, of Preshaw, and died 1788. Her son Walter, of Preshaw, Hants had a family of eleven sons and daughters.

Many are the tales told by the country folk of Cutteridge, and collected, they might form an interesting chapter in the volume of Wilts folk-lore. We believe that Messrs. Keary, Stokes and Goldney, solicitors, of Chippenham, have in their possession an old atlas of this county that contains a drawing of Cutteridge mansion and grounds. There is now no park surrounding the house, but the number and great size of the trees still remaining in the fields near it, bear undeniable evidence of its former extent and grandeur. We believe that Mr. Brown owns about 700 acres altogether in the parish, and we must not forget to mention that that gentleman has recently restored in excellent taste, an old cottage, timber framed and thatched that probably dates from the 16th century, which stands beside the road leading from Southwick Hill to Cutteridge. That estate and other farms, in all about 500 acres, was purchased by Mr. Brown of Mr. William Francis, the present tenant, who had about the year 1876 bought it of Mr. Frank Whitaker Bush. Mr. Brown purchased Brokers wood from W. H. Long, Esq., M.P. The trustees of the late Edmund Lewis Clutterbuck, Esq., own about 500 acres in Southwick tything. This was purchased by some members of the family from Lord Chedworth, who died 29th Oct., 1804, and was sold by them to Mr. E. L. Clutterbuck's grandfather. The remaining landowners are very numerous and comparatively small, none holding over 200 acres. They comprise amongst others J. J. Trask, Esq., of Fairwood, Thos. Miller, Esq., Barrow Court, near Bristol, whose estate is also in Southwick tything, and whose ancestors have held lands here for centuries. In 1709 one John Miller, a gardener, gave 7 lugg of land in Wyndsom's Close on which to erect a chapel. The site is now occupied by Southwick old chapel; also Messrs. Richard Long, John Long, Wm. Francis, John Francis, James P. Cogswell, W. B. Matthews, of Norton St. Philip, the Greenhill family, the Gerrish family, the Rev. William Doel, and the Warden and Fellows Of Winchester College, who are the lay rectors, patrons of the living and owners of about 129 acres. Besides these, are a great number of small freeholders, who own a few acres each.

Through the kindness of T. F. Kirby, Esq., Bursar of St. Mary's, Winchester, we are enabled to offer our readers the following particulars of the College lands in Bradley:-

LANDS OF WINCHESTER COLLEGE.

"The hereditaments now owned by the Winchester College in the parish Of North Bradley were formerly, (with certain unimportant exceptions, arising from purchases or exchanges) parcel of the possessions of the Priory of Edington, a house of the Canons of St. Austin, in Wiltshire, which was dissolved by the Statute of 81 Henry VIII, c 13. Under an exchange with that King in the year 1544, the College became possessed of the manor and parsonage of Endeforde (now Enford) in Wilts, which in the 1st year of King Edward VI., was by a decree in chancery at the suit of Thomas Colepeper, adjudged to be exchanged again with the King, for recompense whereof the manor of North Bradley and five other manors were, under that King's letters patent, given to the college."

The following is a translation of the description of the manor in the letter patent :-

"The manor of North Bradley with its appurtenances in the County of Wilts, and the rectory of North Bradley and Southwicke.

THE PARCELS.

The rent of assize of certain land in North Bradley, in the tenure of Marke Broke, payable at the terms of the Blessed Mary the Virgin and St. Michael the Archangel in equal moieties, per annum 13s. 4d.

The rents of the customary tenants also payable at the terms aforesaid, per annum 33s. 10d.

The profits of the close of land, wood and underwood called Hoke Wood with the appurtenances lying and being in Bradley, aforesaid, comprising 20 acres of pasture and wood, demised to William Cowper, by Indenture given under the seal of the Prior and Community of the late Monastery aforesaid, on the 9th day of October, in the 12th year of King Henry VIII, for a term of 35 years at a yearly rent of 34s. 4d.

The profits of the rectory of North Bradley, and Southwicke adjoining the said rectory of North Bradley, with all tithes of grain, hay, wool, and lambs, to the said rectory appertaining, with its appurtenances; together with also 4 acres of arable land lying in a field called "Copley's Field", demised to Ambrose Dannorick, gentleman, and his assigns, by indenture dated on the 10th of December, in the 30th year of King Henry VIII, for a term of 30 years, at yearly rent of £9 0s 1d.

A grove called 'Alder Grove,' comprising by estimation 2 acres, demised to John Harforde, by copy of Court roll, paying at the times usual, per annum, 16d.

The fines, heriots, and other perquisites of Court, coming on an average of years to 20d.

Total £13 4s. 10d.

REPRISALS :-

The fee of the Bailiff there for prosecuting his office, per annum 6s. 8d.

The clear annual value is £12 18s. 2d.

Hookwoods, comprising 20 acres 2 roods 30 perches, is now rented of the college by Mr. Edward Rogers, of Southwick. Aldergrove is rented by Mr John Hayden. Copley's field is now rented by Mr. Sidney Francis.

There are no fines or other prerequisites of Court, the manor having become extinct within the last 40 or 50 years."

OLD HOUSES IN THE PARISH.

Scattered about the parish are a few old houses that have dates and initials on them. Thus there is Culverhouse's Barton, in Bradley, that takes its name from that family, and which is shortly to be pulled down. It has been a considerable house, evidently enlarged at various periods. On the wall facing the church are the letters E.M. 1702, and on another part that stands at right angles to the former is I.C. 1766, probably for John Culverhouse. The windows are stone-framed and the roof is tiled. The building has for some time been used as cow sheds, though at one period it was the residence of a substantial yeoman, but *sic transit gloria mundi*.

In a field at the end of Church Lane, leading to Brooke House, is a group of cottages, two of which have on them the letters B./R.E. 1735 and B./I.M. 1735, they are the initials of --- and Mary Bucher, who owned this property. King's farm, occupied by Mrs. Stainer, is an old house

bearing the traces of having been much larger than at present, and opposite the south side of the church, till within the last few years, was Church Farm, a very ancient erection. At Lower Hogginton, in Southwick tything, stands an old building now occupied as a laborer's cottage which, from the stability of the workmanship in the house, we imagine to have been the residence of a person of means. On the porch are the initials R. G. and E. G., together with the year 1678. It is evident that this porch is of later date than the house itself, which was formerly the property of the Greenhill's of Farleigh. On the ornamental ironwork round the latch are the figures 1680, the door itself is very heavily nailed. The building is of stone with tiled roof and the windows have stone frames and labels, whilst gables ornament the roof; it is the property of W. B. Matthews, of Norton St. Philip. In the New Ring of Bells Inn, in Bradley, is an ancient grate that is supposed to be coeval with the house. It is moveable and the front is adorned with brass, the old brass fender also exists. Connected with it is a large back plate, dated 1633 and having on it the figures of a man and a woman with a child in her arms; at the lower edge in each corner are the letters C.D. and the word AFRICA between them. On one end of the house outside, are the letters E.V., 1736.

Old tokens and coins have often been found in various parts of the parish. In 1880, a mason repairing a floor at Road, picked up a Taunton, Bristol, and Bath farthing, and ½ farthing tokens of Westbury and Road. These coins are now in the Devizes Museum. In a field in the occupation of Mr. John Francis, called the "Twelve Acres", to which there is a roadway that is directly opposite Poleshole, on the road leading to Cutteridge, tradition says a large house stood, and in its immediate neighbourhood remains of all kinds have been excavated, including coins, old pipes, etc. But whose house it was or when it was removed no one can tell. Blue Barn farm house, in Southwick tything, has on one of its chimneys, the letters I. W. , and the date 1637.

Pighill farmhouse, now pulled down, occupied a site in a field on the top of Southwick Hill, a little above Scotland; it had been for many years the residence of the Bissie family, whose members filled the office of J.P. for Wilts. The old buildings at Pound Farm were of an ancient date; new ones now occupy their site as is the case at Poleshole. The present Manor farmhouse is not an old erection, having been rebuilt after fire in 1760; formerly, a pane of glass in a window there recorded the fact. There is no doubt that at one time another house stood near, on the slope above the pond, as remains of such a structure have been excavated; the old people living a few years since could remember when there were a great number of magnificent trees standing, which were felled by the Earl of Mornington in the early part of the present century. We imagine this must be the site of the Manor House, and the present building the farm attached to it. Mr. Moore's family have resided here more than fifty years, and previously to them, a Mr. Hale, who had married a Miss Wereatt, whose ancestors had occupied the Manor Farm two hundred years.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

In the parish of Bradley are two churches, one the old fabric dedicated to St. Nicholas, and the other a modern erection at Roadhill erected by the late Vicar, Archdeacon Daubeny, an account of which we shall furnish under the head of Road. The situation occupied by St. Nicholas' Church, is on rising ground that affords a view of the Westbury hills at the back with the broad valley of the Biss intervening. The present fabric is in the Perpendicular style and evidently occupies the site of an older building.

John Aubrey, the Wiltshire antiquary who lived at Easton Piers, in the parish of Kington St. Michael, and who between the years 1659 and 1670 personally examined many parish churches in Wilts, and made notes respecting them, mentions Bradley. This M.S. is now in the Bodleian library, Oxon, and its contents have been published, with additions by the Rev. Canon Jackson,

rector of Leigh Delamere. From that work, the following description of Bradley Church, as Aubrey saw it, has been taken :-

“Jackson's Aubrey page 345.—

NORTH BRADLEY.

There is a very fine church built all of freestone. The windows here have been extraordinary good. For a windowe by the porch, now all plain glasse, Westbury, before the warres, would have given fourscore pounds, and glazed the windowe again with plaine glasse. These glorious windowes are now such defaced, there is but enough left for one to guess at former beauty and skill : remains in the Chancell East windowe I.H.S. and M. and this Coate, Or, on a cross eng. gu. 5 roses of the first ; for Edington Priory. In the East windowe of the South aisle are five columns (*window lights*) at the bottom of each an Angell finely painted, with purple wings, holding a scutcheon in a riband, viz., 1 broken, 2 Long and Wrottesley, viz., Sa, semee of cross crosslets a Lion ramp. arg. Imp. Or, three piles sa. a canton ermine ; this Coat *inverted by the glazier*. 3. Long, Imp. Popham, and another broken, 4 Long, Imp. 5 *broken*. In 12 little columns at the top of this window are 8 Of the apostles in little, *lost*. In the limbe of the next South windowe our Lord " MCCCCXXVII the dan this window in the yeare Orate p. aia. Dni. Thome Elme nup. At the bottom, as in the other, here are two angells remaining, but the scutcheon broken : about the middle Of the windowe these : 1, Three anlaces or daggers 2, Two battle axes in saltire.

A notable old Gothique font with the escutcheon of Christ's passion and the heiroglyphicks of the 4 Evangelists.

In the north aisle are two windows stopped up ; one with board, the other with mortar.

SOUTHWICK COURT

Mortuary chapel of the Staffords Of Southwick Court—

By the north isle is a peculiar chapelle of excellent worke, the roof of wood, curiously carved. I guesse the work to be about temp. Hen. 6, about which time this kind Of Gothique architecture was at the height. This was as noble a Chapelle as any in the county ; now (1669), in the windowe like a great bay windowe is only one scutcheon left entire ; viz., Stafford, Or, a chevron gules. Another was quarterley, *now broken* ; another thus, Stafford, imp. Beville. At the bottom whereof is a flatt gravestone of freestone well worked, lineally with the figure of a lady in a Gothique niche. In the limbe (*margin*) thereof this inscription—

Hic jacet dna Emma Mater Veneratissimi patris et domini dui Johis Stafford dei gra Cantuariensis Archiepi que obiit quinto die Mensis Septembris Anno dui Millesimo c.c.c.c.mo quadragesimo bi.to Eujus aie ppicietur Deus. Amen. (O Deus trina me John Conserba ruina.)

in the limb of the window are these fragments— Emma Matris d*** dui Johis Archiepi ***r** dicti ***.

In the top of this window, also of the other, are in scrolls— “Enothi seanton: Nosce teipsum.

The other window is all broken but the scrolles aforesaid ; only the picture of the Archbishop, except his head, remains of curious painted glass; he is in his formalities with pall, crosier, &c , in a cope of sky colour. In a limb of this window ** hujus Capelle ** Archiepi Cantaur **.

In the carved wooden work of the roof are several little hunting figures as of men carrying a

deer, shooting a deer in the wood, &c . One scutcheon of Hungerford, in wood. This chapell is built outside the church as Hungerfords at Sarum, but the scutcheons of stone are not charged.

John Stafford, made Bishop of Welles, 1425, translated to Canterbury, 1443. His arms with the mitre are in the hall next to Polydore Virgil's house at Welles."

About Archbishop Stafford's parentage there has been much confusion , and there is still some mystery. Some have called him son of Humphrey Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, others, of a Stafford, Earl of Wiltshire. Battely (Canturia Sacra p. 75) says he was born at Hook, Co. Dorset, and son of Sir Humphrey Stafford " with the silver hand," by his wife Elizabeth Dynham. He certainly was the son of Sir Humphrey, of Southwick, but not by Elizabeth Dynham, nor by his second wife, Alice Beville (if that Christian name is given rightly in Coll. Top. and Gen. vi, 335), for the inscription still in the chapel in Bradley church gives Emma as the Christian name of his mother, but without any surname. This appears in some degree to corroborate the traditions that he was "*ignota matre inhonestus.*" Dr. Thomas Gascoigne ("Lewis Life of Pecoock" Pocock," p. 19) says "*bastardus origine,*" but this authority be taken "*cum grano salis*".

We will now proceed to describe the Church as it is at present. It consists of a chancel, nave with side aisles, south porch, and tower at the west end. The vestry is on the north of the chancel. At the east end of the north isle is the Stafford chapel, at the same end of the south aisle is the Cutteridge chapel. The aisles are separated from the nave by four arches resting on circular pillars of the Norman type. The church is lighted by clerestory windows, and two in the north aisle, one at the west end of the north aisle, the tower window and one the south aisle, all these with the exception of the tower are square, with two lights with trefoil heads, the window in the south Aisle alone has three lights. The tower window is filled with Perpendicular tracery; the glass is plain. In the Cutteridge chapel are four large lights filled With the same tracery as the one in the tower; that nearest the porch is the one to which Aubrey alludes when he says the parish was offered £80 for it. In the chancel are two windows, viz. , an east light of stained glass presented by the late Mrs. Bennett, in memory of her husband, late clerk of the parish for many years, and a small square one on the north side. In the Stafford chapel are the two bay windows mentioned by Aubrey. The font, too, as he described It still remains. It is a Perpendicular font of rather late date, but of good design, both the bowl and the shaft are octagonal and panelled; the former has doubly feathered quatrefoils enclosing shields, four of which are filled with the Evangelistic emblems, and the remaining ones with those of the Crucifixion. The latter is also panelled with round shafts at the angles, resting on moulded bases, and which are continued under the bowl to the extreme edge and support the buttresses at the angles of the bowl. It stands in the south aisle of the nave, near the porch door. The dimensions are : Height, 3ft. 3 ½ in. ; depth of bowl, 1ft. 4in. ; diameter across the top 2ft.8in. depth of the interior, 1ft. 2in. ; diameter of interior, 1ft. 10in.

The pulpit and reading desk of oak stand on the north and south of the chancel arch—the organ is in the Cutteridge chapel . The chancel is fitted with seats for the choir, and on the south side is an ancient stone sedilla ; the floor is paved with encaustic tiles. There is no doubt that both the chapels were added to the church after its completion, and that previously the aisles ran the whole length of the nave. Both are in the same style, except that the roof of the Cutteridge Chapel is not carved, but of plain oak. Prior to 1863 the church was very dilapidated; in that year it was restored ; up to that time there were a number of grave stones, now all taken away, and in the windows were fragments of stained glass *that were beaten out with a hammer.*

The Stafford Chapel presents the same appearance as it did when Aubrey saw it ; the tomb remains, and the indents, shewing where the brass effigy of the Archbishop's mother lay, are still to be seen. But the final words quoted by Aubrey, "*O Deus Trina, &c.*", cannot be found, nor are traces left of them. The arms in wood of Hungerford are not there now ; probably since Aubrey's time they have been destroyed. In the south-east corner is a piscina, and the altar

evidently stood beneath the east window. The Cutteridge Chapel on the opposite side is much larger than the Stafford Chapel, and runs nearly the whole length of the chancel, from which it is separated by an arch in which stands the organ. There is an entrance to the Chapel from the yard by a door that was placed there since its erection as it partly mutilates one of the windows. From the architecture of this Chapel we suspect it is late Perpendicular. The arch that separates it from the chancel is in the Debased style. It may have been added to the church by the Longs, Lords of the Manor, and the fact that Aubrey found many of their shields in its windows favors the idea. It subsequently became the burial place of the owners of Cutteridge. Besides the monuments already mentioned, there are plain tablets in the chancel to Rev. Charles Daubeny, LL.D., Archdeacon of Sarum, and Vicar of Bradley, 10th July, 1827, and Elizabeth, his wife nee Barnston, 15th Jan., 1823. Another to Samuel Richards, R.N., 23rd April, 1827. Over the reading desk is one to William Thornhill, of Bath, 28th April, 1835, aged three years ; and Henry John Thornhill, June 1838, three years and four months. These are all the tablets in the church. All the flat grave stones, of which there were several, were taken away in 1863, except those we have mentioned, and the floor was found to be honeycombed with vaults, especially the chancel and Cutteridge Chapel. Underneath the arch that separates the latter from the chancel was excavated a coffin, formed from a tree hollowed. It contained a few bones and a portion of a skull, and also a small pewter plate and cup, which are now in a glass case in the chancel. The date of these articles has been ascribed to the 14th century, and the human remains are supposed to be those of a priest, the vessels being such as are used at the celebration of the ordinance. The coffin was carried away piecemeal as relics.

The tower, as we mentioned, contains six bells ; the oldest has the initials I. W., and the date 1591, With the legend— "PRAYSED BE THY NAME, O LORD."

The other five bells were recast by Thomas Bilbie, of Chew Stoke, the agreement being dated 6th July, 1747, James Wereatt and Thos. Pepler, Churchwardens. This document is still in the parish chest. Before the church was restored in 1862 the only gallery was at the west end of the nave in front of the tower, and the vestry was beneath it. Outside the church is a porch on the south side of the nave, over the entrance to which is a sun-dial, with the words TEMPUS FUGIT. and the name RAWLINGS, BOX. FECIT, 1777.

When the church was restored, the yard was levelled and nearly all the old tombs and headstones destroyed ; portions, however, are built into the wall, that is between the Vicarage garden and the yard. We saw the following still remaining in the yard:- James Wereatt, April, 1767, aged 80; Grashen Usher, 5th Nov., 1737, aged 61; Betty Francis, 1st May, 1767, aged 7, with the following epitaph:—

*"By wagon wheels my life was lost
Though it was for my gain,
And now with Christ I sit on high
Fo ever to remain"*

*Like birds of prey death snatch away
This young and tender dove,
With soul so pure in heaven secure
With Christ that reigns above"*

Another epitaph to the memory of John Randall, 5th August, 1839, is as follows:-

*"Here lies the remains of poor John Randall
To all the world he was no scandle;
Here he lies beneath these stones
With the blessing of God to rest his bones"*

We noticed on a panel of a square tomb that now belongs to the Moore family, in which the

Rebbecks were buried, a shield of arms which were—a chevron between 3 garbs—a chief—but we cannot help thinking that these arms are not those of the Rebbecks, but probably belong to the original owners of the vault, and indeed they bear a strong resemblance to the shield of Townsend, once connected with Cutteridge.

The living of Bradley, till the Reformation, was a chapel belonging to Edington, whose college received the rectorial tithes of Bradley. The oldest records in the parish church are the churchwarden's accounts of 1620 ; they commence by stating, "In this year the tower was newe leaded, and much of the timber newe made." The lead was brought from Mendip, and the timber from Broker's Wood. In the same year the collections in the church by the churchwardens on briefs, contained, amongst others, the following items :-

"For a widow in Bristol 1s. 3d.; for a loss by fire in Sussex, 1s.; for divers captives of Waymouth, 2s. 6d.; for Joshua Carpenter, slave under the Turks, 1s. 1d."

Then there are the bills for the churchwardens attending the Visitation at Edington. At first they always went there for the Visitation, but subsequently to Market Lavington. In 1621 John Dueye and Ambrose Chappell were churchwardens ; they paid for bread and wine at Whitsuntide, 3s 5d.; at Christmas, 3s. 4d.; and we give in full their account for Easter, it reads:

"For vii. gallons and i. pint of muskadell and canarie wine, bought at Bristole, for the *Communion at Easter*, att 3s. 8d. the gallon, £1 6s. 2d. ; for carrying the wine from Bristole viiid.; paid for bread, xd."

On the 25th May, 1642, the church property consisted of 1 silver challis, 1 pewter flagon for communion table, 2 linen table cloths and a carpett ; also 2 bookes, also 1 Bible in folio, and a common Prayer-book; also pulpit cloth and 1 cushion, and 1 surpliss; also 5 deedes of church property, &c. On the 28th May, 1672, the property consisted of one serplis, a silver boole, a flagone, a carpett, a small dish, 2 church bookes, and a table cloth. The first entry in the register of baptisms is that of Richard Jones, 29th April, 1641. The first marriage was that of James Coombe and Alice Coles, 27th May, 1667 (Whit Monday). The first burial was Robert Hinden, 23rd August, 1667. One would naturally have supposed that amongst the papers in the parish chest might have been found some interesting documents, but such is not the case. The present writer has searched through them, and found they consisted mainly of bills and receipts, apprentice indentures, warrants for the removal of paupers, &c.

INCUMBENTS

The following list of incumbents was compiled by Canon Jones. He says of them :- "The names here given are taken from Sir Thomas Phillips's *Wilts Institutions*. It is sadly inaccurate, as regards the spelling of names, &c. I suspect some of the early ones to be in a corrupt form. I have venture to suggest in one or two cases the true name. Of course the only sure way is to go to the registers themselves, but only a few, comparatively, can read them accurately."

DATE.		PATRON.	INCUMBENT.
1316 1345	Capell de Bradelys Vic. de Bradale	Gilbert de Middleton Gilbert de Bruera (Prebendary Rector of Edyngdon)	William de Avoning John of Swyndon
1346 1346 1349 1361	Vic. de Bradale Vic. de Bradale Vic. de Bradale Vic. Bradelegh	Gilbert de Bruera Gilbert de Bruera Gilbert de Bruera Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	*John Manclere John of Swyndon John "de Baa." John Spacey
1389	Vic. Bradelegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	Richard Budden
1404	Vic. Bradelegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	John Couper (Cooper)—void by resignation
1407	V. N. Bradlegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	John Young—void by resignation
1410	V. N. Bradlegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	John Cory alias Hockehyn (Hutchin) void by resignation
1425	V. N. Bradlegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	Richard Hechen
1428	V. N. Bradlegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	Thomas Martyn
1429	V. N. Bradlegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	John Bodyn by exchange
1453	V. N. Bradlegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	John Marshall
1477	V. N. Bradlegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	Roger Lovelace (? Lovell)
1502	V. N. Bradlegh	Rect. & Conv. de Edyngdon	John Deane (p. mortem R. Lovell.)
1513	V. N. Bradlegh	The King	† Thomas Hale
—	V. N. Bradlegh	The King	Percival Clough
1545	V. N. Bradley	John Owen, Armiger	Balthasar Lagget (p. mortem, Percival Clough)
1546	V. N. Bradley	The King	John Eruley

* This seems to have been a disputed presentation.

† Vice Paul Bush promoted to the See of Bristol, but Paul Bush was the last Rector of the Conventual Church of Edyndon.

DATE.		PATRON.	INCUMBENT.
1532	V. N. Bradley	John White, Warden of Winchester	William Chase
1557	V. N. Bradley	Thomas Stampa, Warden of Winchester	Lawrence Bridges
—	V. N. Bradley		Philip Barton (or Barerton)
1578	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	Warden of Winchester	Leonard Cox (void by death)
1603	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	John Harner, Warden, &c.	Matthew Jervis
1632	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	John Harris, Warden, &c.	John Willis
1645	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	Warden of Winchester	Matthew Buckett
1661	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	College of S. Mary, Winton	Edward Worley—he resigned in 1666
1666	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	Wm. Burt, Warden, &c.	Daniel Phillips, of S. John's College, Oxon.
1711	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	John Nicholas, Warden, &c.	Evan Jones (p. mortem D. Phillips) res. 1750.
1720	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	College of S. Mary, Winton	Nathanael Brewer, ditto
1727	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	College of S. Mary, Winton	Peter Stuckley—(void by cession)
1729	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	John Dobsan, Warden, &c.	Avery Thompson, ditto
1739	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	Henry Digg, Warden, &c.	Edward Batten, ditto
1778	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	The Bishop, by lapse	Charles Daubeny
1827	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	College of S. Mary, Winton	Harry Lee
1880	V. N. Brad. & Southwick	College of S. Mary, Winton	E. A. Ware

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF INCUMBENTS

There is a tradition existing in Bradley that the Rev. Edward Batten, vicar from 1739 to 1778, received but £20 per annum as the full stipend of the vicarage, and that he refused to preach more than once a Sunday, upon which the congregation subscribed £5 a year more. Mr. Batten was also curate at Road and Farley Hungerford and we believe he is buried in that place.

His successor was the Rev. Charles Daubeny, LL.D., Archdeacon of Sarum, Fellow Of Winchester and Prebendary of *Minor Pars Altaris* in the cathedral of Salisbury.

Charles Daubeny was the second son of George Daubeny, Esq., a highly respected merchant of the city of Bristol. This gentleman was descended from a Norman Baron, whose name was spelt De Albin; one of them was summoned to Parliament in 1295 as Lord Daubeny. George Daubeny, Esq., Charles's elder brother, represented Bristol in 1781, and was a magistrate. When eight years old, Charles was sent to St. Philips Norton under the care of the Rev. Mr. Harris, and at 18 he was entered at Winchester. He rose to the top of the school, and at 18 obtained a scholarship, and subsequently a Fellowship at New College. At the age of 21 he succeeded to a "genteel fortune," and set out to make a tour on the continent for the benefit of his health, returning to England in 1772, after an absence of 2½ years. In 1773 he was ordained deacon by Dr. Law, Bishop of Oxon, and the week after ordained priest by Dr. Terrick, Bishop of London. In the following year he succeeded to a fellowship of Winchester. He had not resided above 2 years at Winchester when the vicarage of North Bradley was offered to him.

This living having never been occupied by a fellow of the college, had fallen into a general state of dilapidation. Service was only performed once on a Sunday and was thinly attended. The parish abounded in sectarians and the population was wild and uncivilized, whilst the income was reduced to £50 per annum. About this period Mr. Daubeny married Miss Barnston, daughter of William Gregg Barnston, Esq., who proved the source of his greatest happiness for 47 years. During the first year of his marriage, Mr. Daubeny and his wife resided at Clifton, the vicarage at Bradley being uninhabitable. It has been described as a miserable hovel, and the church in a state of dilapidation. Mr. Daubeny caused the latter to be paved throughout, the chancel new roofed and repaired, and a new east window inserted. He also performed a full service and administered the sacrament monthly. The vicarage house was chiefly re-built, with walls for the most part enclosing the gardens. Several cottages with gardens appendant were purchased and pulled down to enlarge the premises. All this cost £3000, whilst the vicarial tythes were only £180 year. In a diary of Mr. Daubeny's, dated February, 1785, he writes "Great importunities were made use of to prevail upon me to leave this parish; I trust that God will enable me to ride out the storm." This entry had reference to the "repeated insults and injuries which he received from those who had long been accustomed to hold the church and its ministry in contempt, although at the time they seriously affected his mind and health, and excited the apprehension of his friends, who repeatedly urged him to effect an exchange of livings." We are further told that "even the Sunday school, consisting of about 80 scholars, which the Vicar had established, was not allowed to prosper undisturbed."

In 1784 Mr. Daubeny was appointed a Prebendary of Salisbury, and then travelled on the continent for 2½ years, chiefly for the benefit of the health of his family. By Mr. Daubeny's exertions a free church was built in Bath; the first stone was laid in 1795, and in 1798 the building, containing 1360 free sittings exclusive of the galleries, was consecrated by Dr. Moss, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and called Christ Church.

In 1804, Mr. Daubeny was appointed Archdeacon of Sarum. In 1808 the Archdeacon built and endowed an asylum and school in his parish of North Bradley. The former was for the reception of 4 aged persons of good character, the allowance being 4s. a week and a piece of garden

ground. The original endowment and building expenses were £3000 and the Vicar bequeathed £2000 consols in further aid of this excellent institution.

The outside of this building has the following inscription
NORTH BRADLEY ASYLUM 1810 AD LAUS DEO.

Above are the arms of Winchester College and Daubeny; they are—a chevron between three roses, for Winchester College ; Imp.—4 lozenges or fusils conjoined in fess, for Daubeny. In 1817 the Archdeacon built a poorhouse, capable of holding 12 persons, which was completed and opened in 1818. Both the institutions to which we have referred were left by the Archdeacon, under the care of the incumbent or resident curate.

In 1817 the Archdeacon had, from failing health, taken up his residence in Bath, but during the summer officiated at Bradley. In 1822 the university of Oxon. conferred on him the degree of LL.D., in recognition of the services he had rendered to the establishment. In the fall of 1822 a proposal was made to him to erect a church at Road. This building and its surroundings we shall notice in our account of that part of the parish of Bradley. In July, 1827, Archdeacon Daubeny died, and his body was buried in Christ Church Road.

During his long life he wrote several works, which were published and attained considerable reputation, notably his *Guide to the Church*, 1798, and *Protestant Companion*, 1824. His first publication was in 1776, *An Address on the Present Crisis of American Politics*. His last in 1827, the year of his death, entitled *A letter to the Right Hon. George Canning, in the character of one of the old Reformers*. The above particulars have been taken from a *Memoir of the Rev. Charles Daubeny*, prefixed to his *Guide to the Church*.

The Rev. Harry Lee, B.D., appointed vicar in 1827, was the son of the Rev. Harry Lee, Bursar Of Winchester College and grandson of the Rev. Henry Lee, Warden Of Winchester. Mr. Lee was a fellow of Winchester, J. P. for Hereford and Prebendary of that Cathedral. In 1831 he married Julia, daughter of Gorges Lowther, Esq., of Hampton Hall, and formerly M.P. for Ratoath, County Meath. He represented the ancient family of Lee, of Coton, Shropshire, which estate remained in the family from 1335 to 1819. Through the will of Mr. Lee's uncle, which continued the entail, being found invalid, the estate passed to the Wingfields of Tickencote. The Lees of Coton were the same family as the Lees of Langley, near Shrewsbury, and acquired Coton by a marriage with one Astley de Nordley, in the year 1335. They were of Saxon origin, and one of them was Sheriff for the County of Salop in the 19th year of William the Conqueror. Richard Lee, of this family, was one of the founders of the Colony of Virginia, and from him was descended General R. E. Lee, Commander-in-chief of the Southern Confederacy.

CHARITIES

The only other charity belonging to North Bradley, with the exception of the ones we have mentioned, is the following : " Rachel Long, by will dated 4th November, 1778, charged the Manor Farm with the payment of £3 a year for ever, to be distributed by the minister of the parish to six poor persons, in sums of 10s. each."

The tenor of Archdeacon Daubeny's will relating to Bradley is as follows:- "The income of £3,800 to be applied, as to £10 in establishing a Sunday-school at Road ; as to £10 in providing for the annual expenses of Road church ; as to £10 for the relief of such poor families as should regularly attend divine service ; and as to the residue for the support of the Asylum at Bradley in conformity with a plan which he laid down for the maintenance of a free almshouse and the salary of the mistress of the school which he had built. "

THE TYTHES AND VICARAGE.

The rectorial tithes taken by Winchester College amount to £460, and the vicarial to £640. The rectorial glebe is 23A. 2R. 30P., and the vicarial 3A. 2R. 9P. Besides this, the Vicar enjoys a pension of £10 a year out of the rectory. It has been paid from time immemorial, and was probably settled on the Vicar at the time when the Monks of Edington held the rectory, as a compensation for the loss of the tythes which were enjoyed by that religious house until it was dissolved by the statute of 31 Henry VIII, cap. 13.

The present vicarage-house was built in 1841-3, with £1800 given by Winchester College. The old house stood nearer Church Lane, which it faced. Till within the last few years there was a path through it from Church-lane to the Common, coming out where the coach doors are now.

The only vicar of whose burial in Bradley we found a record was the Rev. Dan. Phillips, in 1711.

During the period that the Rev. David Peirce was curate-in-charge of the parish, which was from 1877 to the early part of 1881, a new organ at the cost of £130 was added to the church, and a large and efficient choir instituted. The cause of the Establishment in the parish had previously been at a low ebb. The congregation attending the services being very small, in fact, Bradley had been described as an "ecclesiastical blot in the Diocese of Sarum". This arose from various causes, one being that the Vicar was non-resident and unpopular, misunderstandings having arisen between him and the parish at the commencement of his incumbency which had never been set right. At the present time the church is largely attended and the services are conducted in a most excellent manner.

NONCONFORMITY IN BRADLEY.

The history of Nonconformity in Bradley has a tinge of romance in it. During the existence of the Five Mile Act, a little band from the place itself and the neighbouring parishes assembled in Witch-pit Wood, sometimes called "The Covenant," on the Cutteridge estate. The earliest records of the cause are lost, but in the year 1700 the community were still worshipping in the wood under the ministry of Mr. Andrew Gifford. This gentleman was born in 1641, and in 1699 we find him preaching at Bristol and many other places. For conscience sake he was imprisoned three times in Newgate, and once in Gloucester. Witch-pit Wood was supposed to be five miles from the nearest Boro' town, but during the existence of the Five Mile Act, some persecutors at Westbury attempted to measure the road from thence across the Ham by Brook House and Stouridge waters, but Mr. William Trenchard, J.P., and owner of Cutteridge, insisted on their measuring by the turnpike road, which ran to Bradley, and which exceeded the limits. In 1701 the congregation emerged from the wood and met in a barn at Pighill; a farm that formerly stood above Scotland, on the left hand side of the road from Bradley to Southwick Hill, and which was last the residence of Mr. Anthony Bissie. In 1709 they built a place of worship. We have extracted from the church book of Southwick Old Chapel the following :-

"The people that composed the Baptist Chapel at Southwick, meeting in Witch-pit Wood, to worship God by the preaching of Andrew Gifford from Uppen, in the year 1700, removed to Pighill Barn 1701. They called a church meeting 13th March, 1706, and set apart for the ministry Thomas Woolley, Thomas Webb, John Green, and John Millar to preach at home or elsewhere. They made a collection in August 28th, 1709, and gathered £17 12s. 6d., and built a new chapel, 30 feet by 16, and 9 feet high; in this place they worshipped God. August 10th, 1727, they set apart one of the four ministers to be their pastor, namely John Millar; he preached to them till 1743. John Millar died in 1747. Thomas Sayer, another of the ministers of the church, was ordained in 1714. Thomas Sayer died in 1785. Supplied by Wm. Clift and Wm. Norris from Trowbridge Baptist Meeting. Wm. Norris chosen to be their pastor 29th Nov., 1787, he preached to them till 1820. Absolom Bennett another minister of the church, was called to the ministry

in 1810. He preached in the evening until the year 1816, then mornings and evenings till the year 1820, when he was ordained as co-pastor with their aged minister William Norris, since which time he has preached constantly with universal approbation and success. The old meeting was a place to worship and praise God in for 106 years. In the year 1815 the new chapel was built, which is 34 feet long, 26 feet wide, and 22 feet high in the clear."

The present chapel opened for public worship 1st Nov., 1815. W. T. Gough, from Westbury Leigh, preached in the morning from Exodus xx. 24th verse; Joseph Seymour, of Beckington in the afternoon, from Isaiah li. 3rd verse ; and in the evening, Joseph Clift preached from Psalm lxxxii. 4th verse.

The building was enlarged on the 9th May, 1862. The deed of the new chapel, dated 1815, recites the old gift of the ground, on 12th September, 1709, by John Millar, a gardener, and it states that it then consisted of seven luggs, in Wyndsom's Bridge Close, and that it was vested in one James Taunton, of Trowbridge, druggist maker. The deed of the present chapel distinctly states that the building is intended for the use of Calvinistic or Particular Baptists holding Trinitarian doctrines. We quote the following from a short History of Southwick Chapel :-

" In 1820, Absalom Bennett was ordained pastor, and continued preaching with success till 1835, when he resigned, after baptising sixty-two persons. The church was supplied by various ministers until the 6th December, 1840, when Mr. Eacott preached his first sermon as pastor, from 1 Cor. ii. 1. During his stay with us it was his study for the welfare and improvement of the chapel, which he carried into execution by making " it more convenient. The pulpit then stood at the right-hand side as you enter, when it was removed, and the gallery placed in its present position; and the pulpit placed opposite the entrance, with much alteration in the body of the chapel at a cost of about £70. It was re-opened October 11th, 1846, by Mr. Blake, of Broughton Gifford; and before Mr. Eacott died, it was free from debt. During Mr. Eacott's ministry, Absalom Bennett was again received into the Church, and chosen clerk, and preached occasionally till his death, March 27th, 1849. Mr. Eacott reached his last sermon August 18th, 1850, from 2 Kings iv. 26 : 'Is it well ? ' He died September, 1850, after preaching ten years and baptising seventy-one persons. We were again supplied by various ministers till 1856, when Mr. Nightingale was chosen pastor, who staid with us till 1861 ; and now we are supplied by Mr. Davis and the Messrs. Huntley and others, occasionally, hoping a Divine blessing may attend the word so faithfully and honestly preached."

The following ministers have been pastors of Southwick old chapel :-

1727	—	1749	.....	JOHN MILLER.
1744	—	1785	.....	THOMAS SAYERS.
1785	—	1787	.....	SUPPLIES.
1787	—	1823	.....	WILLIAM NORRIS.
1820	—	1835	.....	ABSALOM BENNETT.
1835	—	1840	.....	SUPPLIES.
1840	—	1850	.....	MR. EACOTT.
1850	—	1856	.....	SUPPLIES.
1856	—	1861	.....	MR. NIGHTINGALE.
1861	—	1879	.....	SUPPLIES.
1879	—	—	.....	WILLIAM DOEL,
Who is the present minister.				

This meeting was originally known as "Miller's Meeting," this name is spelt in the church book Miller, Millar, and Millard. In the same book we find that on 25th March, 1715, there were fourteen members, who subscribed 19s. a quarter for the pastor. On 25th April, 1723, at a church meeting, it was concluded by the members of the church that if any members shall

absent themselves from this place two Lords' days successively, "they shall be subject to an examination and reproof, unless they can give a sufficient reason for their so doing." On 1st December, 1791, a table cloth was bought by subscription of the members for the use of the ordinance; also, there were "two putor coops, two putor dishes, marked I.M. (probably John Miller), dated, 1745, each of them and a basket to hold them, two iron candlesticks, two tin sockets and lanthorn, and pair of bellows." In September, 1794, they bought a clock. In 1810 there were "bought four brass scones, 2 3/4 yards of jack chain, a pendant, two two-branch tin scones, and a new Bible." Amongst the bequests to the cause were 30s. a year by Matthias Miller, still enjoyed charged on Gooteridge plot, and in 1739 Henry Usher gave by will £30 and in 1756, Robert Heyning, by will, gave £50. This sum of £80 spent on the chapel in 1817.

The chapel school numbers 150 teachers and children, and the congregation includes 90 members, of whom five are deacons. Up to the close of the last century there was another chapel standing not far from the present one, on what is now an orchard, opposite the house lately occupied by Mr. John Long. When this building was erected we have no record nor can we explain the difference that existed between its doctrines and those of the chapel we have mentioned. It became the property of the Conigre Unitarian Conventicle, Trowbridge, but we think it is without doubt that it was originally a Baptist church. The ground on which it stood is now an orchard, and was the burying ground. As a proof that both these chapels existed at the same time, we mention that Joshua Keates, licensed victualler, of Southwick, by his will, dated 28th October, 1787, devised as follows :-

"I hereby expressly charge and make liable said messuage and dwellinghouse, garden, close of ground called " Little Chantry,' and premises now in my own occupation, with the perpetual payment of two several annuities or yearly sums of 10s. each to be paid to each of the ministers for the time being of the two meetings at Southwick aforesaid, called Baptist meetings, where Mr. Twining and William Norress are now pastors."

The house kept by Keates was called "The Flower de Luce." We believe that Mr. Sampson Gerrish now owns the property charged with these annuities. Amongst the remains that lie mouldering in this graveyard are those of an ancestress of the Francis family. Somewhere about the beginning of the last century a Mr. Francis occupied a house that stood here Mr. John Francis's house now stands. We believe he was a Churchman, but his wife Martha was a Dissenter. It is related that she underwent the ceremony of immersion at midnight in winter in Organ pool, a piece of water that stands beside the road leading from Bradley to Southwick. It is further said that the ice on the pond had to be broken. This Mrs. Martha Francis was buried in the yard surrounding the chapel.

There are two other chapels in Southwick, one dilapidated and unused, which we believe belongs to the Wesleyan body. This building, which is very small, presents a most forlorn appearance. The windows are broken, the door unfastened, the entrance choked with weeds, and the interior walls inscribed with ribald verses.

The other chapel, founded in 1861, called Providence chapel, owes its origin to some who separated from the old chapel on doctrinal points. It is supplied with ministers, and stands beside the high road from Trowbridge to Frome on a small piece of land that is used as a cemetery. The first minister was Mr. Nightingale, who seceded from the old chapel. The doctrine preached is High Calvinistic. Mr. Nightingale died in 1877. There are now about 45 members and 2 deacons. Service is held twice on a Sunday, there is a prayer meeting Wednesdays. There are 20 teachers and 110 scholars in the Sunday school.

In Bradley tything are two chapels, both belonging to the Baptist connexion. The oldest was founded on 30th July, 1779. This body owes its origin to a few Nonconformists, who met for worship in the house of a Mr. Batchelor, a gentleman who lived in the premises now occupied by

Mr. Richard Long. The room they assembled in still exists, it being a portion of the domicile that was not removed when Mr. Long rebuilt the house.

In the first instance a small number of worshippers met under the ministry of the Rev. Mr. Marshman, pastor of Westbury Leigh. Under the sound teaching of Mr. Marshman the little company were led more clearly into truth, both as to doctrine and practice. The first conversion mentioned is that of Jane Steavens, who was a servant to Mr. Batchelor, thus was his house as that of Obedom's, blessed, "because of the ark." Mr. Marshman, being a Baptist, in the course of his house ministry showed its importance as a gospel ordinance. In 1775 he had the pleasure of seeing his ministry so blessed as to remove every question concerning this rite from the minds of the first few who met. Consequently on Lord's day, October 29th, 1775, the persons whose names are here subjoined were baptized by him at Westbury Leigh, Viz. : George Batchelor and Wife ; William Wilkins, John Silverthorn, John Hussey, John Dicks, John Butcher, John Sergeant, and Betty Noise. Those nine persons, together with Jane Steavens before named, were formed into a particular Baptist Church by Mr. Marshman the Lord's day following, and partook of the emblems of the Saviour's death ; which would be November 5, 1775.

About fourteen months after this event, the little church suffered a severe trial in the death of their hostess, but as she had done her work, a work for which the present members of the church do well to be thankful, she was called home to receive her reward. On Whit—Tuesday, 1777, the first addition was made to the church, but how many were added is not so clear, for the present church book does not contain all the names of the early members. The registry has been made many years since, and chiefly from memory —on account, it is believed, of the original having been lost. The increased spirit of hearing rendered the room too small to meet the wants of the people. Then came a consultation "about building a house for God." It being decided as a duty to do so, "the next thing was to purchase a piece of land." One of the members (John Hussey) at that time rented a house garden and orchard of a Mr. Henton of Bishopstrow; which orchard was considered a good site for a chapel; so this friend was deputed to negotiate with his landlord for a piece of the same. The kind owner told him he could not sell, as it was his daughter's at her majority, nevertheless he would give consent for a chapel to be built if the tenant and his friends thought proper. The church, believing Mr. Hinton to be an honest man, and to expedite the object, took him at his word and built the chapel without any legal security ---nor was their confidence misplaced, for on the daughter becoming of age the piece of land was conveyed without cost. The cornerstone of this sanctuary was laid July 30, 1779, ten years before it was secured by a trust deed. The dimensions were 32ft. by 24ft., and cost about £300. The narrator says: "Friend Batchelor came forward and gave largely and towards the expense, and the rest we collected among ourselves without the help of any neighbouring church."

We wish the churches in general would follow the same practice. It is evident "the people had a mind to work" and had the simplicity and liberality of the churches generally kept pace with the increase of intelligence and wealth there would be few chapel debts in existence. The house was publicly dedicated to God on Easter Tuesday, 1780. How far the old adage of "early to bed and early to rise" was deemed advantageous in religion as well as in the world, will be seen in the order of service. Mr. Marshman was chosen to preach the opening sermon, which he did at 7 o'clock in the morning : his text was, "And the name of the city from that day shall be, the Lord is there." At 10 o'clock, Mr. Parsons, of Bath, preached from the words, "Behold I lay in Zion a chief corner stone," &c., 1 Peter ii. 6. The last sermon was at 2 O'clock, when Mr. Bothely, an Independent minister of Westbury, preached from— "There shall be one fold and one shepherd." Thus ended the dedication day. The chapel was duly licensed and registered in the registry of the Bishop of Sarum, May 2, 1780. The next grave question was how should they get the pulpit supplied-- but in this their heavenly Father anticipated their wants in calling into the ministry a John Matthews, of the Baptist Church, Bradford, and William Clift, of the church over which Mr. Marshman was pastor ; in the same year likewise was Joseph Clift called out into the work. This

John Matthews and Wm. Clift were chosen as supplies for the church at Bradley, while the Church at Road made choice of the former and Joseph Clift to supply the pulpit there. Thus they went on for about eight years, during which time was granted one addition to their number. But on the church at Road calling Mr. Matthews to the pastorate, the church at Bradley was deprived of his services—yet this was scarcely a privation—for on his settling at Road, Joseph Clift was relieved from his fortnightly engagements there, who on returning home from the ordination of his late colleague, was impressed with the words “Ye have compassed this mountain long enough, turn ye northward.” He said he did not know what it meant except it was for him to turn to North Bradley, which appeared to be the meaning, for the church gave him an invite to take the alternate Lord’s day with his brother William, which he accepted.

In 1796 a gallery was erected over the front entrance to accommodate the increasing congregation ; and in 1803 the chapel was lengthened 10ft. at the back, and another gallery erected; the pulpit being removed from the end to the side, where it remained for nearly fifty years. This alteration, which gave the interior a very singular appearance, made sufficient room for many years. The church gradually increased—the pastor having by this time (1803) baptized about forty-two persons. Nothing very particular occurred for some time after, further than the reception of members by baptism ; which ordinance was administered about once in three years, up to August 18, 1816, when Mr. Clift for the last time administered the rite to eleven persons.

Mr. Clift continued still to labour in peace amidst his flock, but as there was no addition for six years after, by that time he was too feeble to attend to the baptism, when Mr. Dimott performed it for him. In '22 Mr. C. had become too weak to preach more than once a day - on which the church obtained the help of four brethren. In 1828 the aged minister died in peace, on his successor’s arm, at the age of 83 years, thirty-six of which he had been pastor of this church, and was loved and esteemed by all who knew him. Soon after his death, the ordination of Mr. Wilkins took place ; and in 1831 the chapel again became too small and was considerably enlarged by being widened, affording room for the erection of a large gallery in front of the pulpit, which was left still at the east side. This gallery connected the two end ones, the old wall remaining as a resting place for the new gallery. A room was thus formed underneath, for the accommodation of a Sunday school, which was established Oct. 15, 1825, in the house of Philip Maddox, by the self-denying indefatigable labours of five kind gentlemen, who came from Westbury to show their affectionate concern for the rising generation, who till now had been overlooked by the Bradley friends.

The chapel finished—the school established—and the debt of several hundred pounds all paid off—the church was prepared to go on smoothly for some years. The next new feature was the annual series of services which commenced, though not without some opposition, about the year 1836.

During Mr. Wilkins’ ministrations here he baptized 183 persons, about 50 of whom entered the world of spirits before him. Shortly after his resignation in 1849, the Rev. G. Rodway was called to preside over the church ; and in 1852 the chapel again underwent considerable alterations and improvements, the interior being entirely taken out. The schoolroom was thrown into the chapel ; the pulpit which had been on one side for nearly 50 years was restored to its original aspect ; though now in a sanctuary four or five times as large as the one of 1780. The galleries and pews were properly arranged, and an excellent schoolroom with vestries erected at the back, rendering the whole compact and uniform, and most likely making sufficient room to meet the demands of the village.

The Mr. Marshman who was the first preacher at Bradley chapel, was born at Westbury Leigh, of which chapel he was pastor, and lies in the yard surrounding that fabric. In the chapel, close by the pulpit, is a monument to him dated 1806. The family of Marshman were originally Protestant

refugees from France, who fled to this country after the revocation of the edict of Nantes. They followed the cloth trade. Tradition says their original name was Montaigne, corrupted into Marshman. The celebrated Dr. Marshman, the missionary to the East, whose labours in translating the Bible into several Asiatic languages are well known, was born at Westbury Leigh, and was probably a brother of the Rev. Robert Marshman, mentioned above. Mr. Joseph Marshman, of Church Street, Trowbridge, is a great grandson of this Robert.

The following are the ministers who have been appointed to Bradley chapel :-

1775 – 1780	MR. MARSHMAN.
1780 – 1828	JOSEPH CLIFT, died.
1828 - 1849	BEN. WILKINS, resigned.
1849 – 1868	GEO. RODWAY, resigned.
1869 – 1875	HEN. BARDWELL, resigned.
1876 –	JOHN HANSON.

This gentleman is the present minister.

The above dates are taken from the Church book; which records that Mr. Rodway was minister and received salary up to June 1868. On his tomb it says he resigned in 1866 this is an error.

The three first ministers, viz., Joseph Clift, Ben. Wilkins, and George Rodway lie side by side in tombs in front of the chapel. Mr. Rodway died in 1875, and during the 19 years of his pastorate the chapel enjoyed a period of success never equalled before nor since. Friends came from all parts to attend the service, and it was a subject of remark the many that came from Trowbridge. The number of deacons at present belonging to this chapel is 7. In the Sunday school are 12 male teachers, 14 female teachers, and 120 scholars and young people.

The small chapel at Yarnbrook, connected with Back Street Baptist Chapel, Trowbridge, was built in 1874. It is a pretty little building, principally erected by Mr. N. T. Hobbs, of Bradley. The ministers are supplies and local preachers. We must not close our account of the Bradley chapels without mentioning that about 20 years since a Charles Dunning, a young man, assisted by a few others started a meeting in a building adjoining the last houses on the left hand side of the road from Yarnbrook to Westbury. The room was also utilised for the first Agricultural Laborers Union in Wilts, but owing to the determined opposition of the farmers and employers of labour, the society died from inanition. This pioneer of the line, since taken up by Joseph Arch is now in America in a large way of business.

OLD INNS.

In the early part of the present century there were only two public houses in the parish. One was at the end of Church Lane, on the site now occupied by Mr. John Francis' residence, the other at Axe and Cleaver. We believe the name of the one in Church Lane was the Bell, and its last landlord, who only kept it a short time, was one Edwards who by trade was a tailor. His predecessor was Alexander Jordan and the tomb of his family still exists outside the vestry in the churchyard. At the period of which we are writing the ground in front of the house was unenclosed common, and yearly at the end of October fairs horse racing took place. The starting post was at the top of the Rank and the course continued round by Organ Pool and Ireland. The green in front of the Inn was famed as a bowling place. The Axe and Cleaver hostelry, which is still standing in the lane of that name although no longer an Inn, was last kept by one Gifford Guley, who about the year 1803 left the house to open the Long's Arms at Yarnbrook, which had been built for him. His predecessor was one Thomas Watley, a butcher, who gave the name to the inn. The Old Bradley Friendly Society met there, but was broken up on the last landlord's

leaving and a new society was formed. The present club held at the New Ring Of Bells is the outcome of this one. At the time of which we write there was no Inn between the Rose and Crown at Trowbridge, and Westbury, till the Long's Arms was built, nor between Trowbridge and Road save The Flower de Luce at Southwick, still in existence. Bradley has now, however, several Inns, viz:- "Old Ring of Bells," "New Ring of Bells," "Royal Oak," and "Rising Sun" in the village, whilst at Yarnbrook there is the "Long's Arms," and on the Trowbridge Road is the 'New Inn," a beerhouse. In Southwick tvthing besides the "Flower de Luce," are "The Swan", "The Royal Oak," and the 'New Inn". At Brokers Wood are two beerhouses.

OLD FAMILIES.

Names cling to localities, for many years we find the families of Culverhouse, Francis, Doel, Gerrish, and Hussey in the parish. The first Hussey that settled here was in Cromwell's time, when a poor lad came off the downs seeking work in Westbury, from whence he came to Bradley, where he was employed by a man named Gibbs a baker, whose house stood on the site of the asylum on the green; subsequently he married a widow named Pepler, who lived in the Rank and from that union sprang the Husseys of Bradley. The Hardings, who are very numerous, are descended from an orphan lad who out 1780 was apprenticed by the Bristol guardians to a weaver here. The Moore's migrated from Tellisford about 1672, in the parish chest are the records of their coming.

SCHOOLS.

The first school started in the neighbourhood was commenced by the late Vicar, Archdeacon Daubeny, in a house at the top of Church Lane, and the master was one William Gunston, parish clerk. Up to the present time the only day school within two miles was the Asylum school, founded by Dr. Daubeny, which now numbers 60 pupils. On the appointment of the present Vicar, the Rev. E. A. Were, he found a school board just formed to relieve the parish; from the burden of a Board school, he offered to set apart a piece of the glebe and erect on it a school house and teacher's residence. The offer was accepted and the designs prepared by Messrs. Weaver and Adye, of Bradford ; the contract was taken by Messrs. F. and W. Long, Of Bradford at £920. The building is partly of brick with Bath stone dressing and partly of Bradford stone from the quarries of Messrs. Long; the school measures 40 ft. by 18 and a classroom 20 ft by 16. The teacher's residence contains six rooms; the whole stands on the east of the churchyard, facing Church Lane and will provide accommodation for over a hundred scholars. The buildings are nearly completed and will be probably opened in the spring. The day school at Southwick was opened in 1868 and is erected on land given by the late R. P. Long, Esq., M.P. The estimated cost was £700, which was made up by subscriptions and donations. The style chosen was the Tudor, and the schoolroom is 55 feet long by 21 feet Wide and the class room is 20 feet by 16 feet. The teacher's residence is of brick with stone facings ; the whole was designed by Mr. L. Moody.

HAND LOOM WEAVERS.

Before the introduction of the power loom the weaving trade was carried on in nearly every cottage in the parish and very lucrative wages ware earned, as even the children were employed in some branch or the other. The large windows still remaining in many of the houses were called Weaver's windows; they were constructed to admit as much light as possible and ran the whole length of the side of the room. Old people still talk of the jealousy that existed between the Bradley and Southwick weavers and the fights that took place. At the present time hand-loom weaving has entirely died out and the work is done in the factories at Trowbridge and Westbury to which places many of both sexes walk daily to and from. One way of earning a living in Bradley years ago was the trade of smuggling. A man named Tadd who lived in a cottage on the road to Yarnbrook , was a chief actor in the game. The spirits in kegs that held

two or four gallons were fetched out of Dorsetshire on horseback and stored in his house which though often searched was never found to contain illicit goods; the price of brandy was about 15s. a gallon.

FAIRS

Bradley has two chartered fairs one in May and the other in October. The first is quite obsolete, the ghost of the latter still remains. Only a few years since the green was covered at the October fair with cattle and merchandise, but now a solitary standing for gingerbread represents the whole, although it is true the number of visitors to the village are more numerous than at ordinary times. The period of holding this fairs is regulated by the feast of the "Holy Rood".

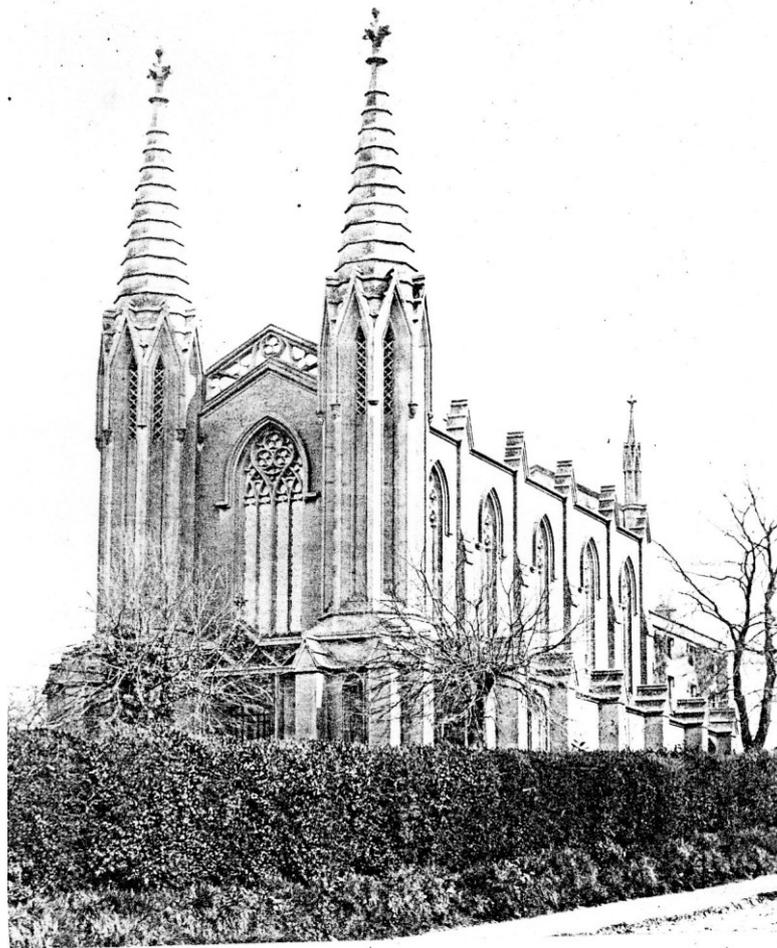
The soil of the parish is a stiff yellow clay which retains the water, consequently many houses in Bradley are very damp. Before the waterworks passed through the village, the water supply was bad, the wells containing only surface water. In sinking a shaft for a well at the Rising Sun Inn a saline spring was tapped, so strongly impregnated that the water was useless for household purposes. It acts as a mild aperient.

ADDENDA.

In the preceding pages we referred to a window in the Cutteridge chapel next to the porch. On examining the label above it we found it terminated on the dexter side in a wyvern on the sinister in a cat which were the supporters of the Dauntsey and Danvers arms. On referring the matter to Canon Jackson that gentleman wrote as follows :-

" I think the Dauntsey, Wyvern and Cat on the Bradley window may be thus accounted for. The Dauntseys of very early times were without doubt proprietors of land rather largely at Bratton and Dilton. I happen to have a copy of the particulars of sale of the Earl of Abingdon's estate in Wilts in 1788. The Earl inherited all he had in Wilts from the Danvers family, who certainly succeeded the Dauntseys. And in the list of lands is a tenement of a few acres at Bradley. In the building or rebuilding of Bradley Church nothing would be more likely than that the Danvers family would help and so this token of them appears."

As we previously said this chapel does not run the whole length of the south side of the chancel, and is called indiscriminately "The Longs," and at other times "The Cutteridge" Chapel.



CHRIST CHURCH, ROADHILL.

HISTORY OF ROAD HILL

ROAD HILL in the County of Wilts, is a district chapelry of the extensive parish of North Bradley, formed according to the Act 59 Geo. III. Sec. 16, and embraces the third and more distant of the three parts into which the parish is naturally divided by the grouping of the population viz North Bradley, (or the part near the Church), Southwick, and Road Hill.

The adjoining parish Of Road, in Somersetshire, gives the name to the district, the greater part of which, together with the Church, Vicarage, and School, being situated on the slope of the hill leading down into the village of Road, and known as Roadhill.

The Boundaries Of the district, determined by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners April 15th, 1852, are as follow:-

“The Boundary of the said District Chapelry follows a line drawn up the centre of Chancefield Road, from a point at the South end thereof, at its junction with Poplar Lane, and proceeds up the middle of such road to the North end thereof, where it enters the road called Hogginton Road, up the middle of which latter road it then proceeds in a westerly direction to Turnpike Road leading from Frome and Beckington to Bradford , and continuing Northward along the middle such turnpike-road, as far as the boundary of North Bradley Parish against the Parish Of Wingfield: the district Chapelry is then bounded on the North by the said parish of Wingfield: on

the West by the Parishes of Tellisford, and Road, and on the South, by the other part of the said parish of Road : which said district chapelry is more particularly delineated on the map hereunto annexed, and is thereon coloured buff. "

The Chapelry is situated in the Hundred of Whorwelsdown, and in the 8th division of the county, as established at the Quarter Sessions in 1830.

The total acreage exclusive of roads is 515 acres, 2 roods and 24 perches and this is divided, into

	Acres	Roods	Perches
Arable	225	2	24
Pasture	199	3	8
Wood	60	2	24

the remainder being made up by houses, gardens, and waste.

At present there are no ancient remains of any kind existing; but within the memory of persons still living, there was an earthwork extending from the site of Roadhill (now Langham) House, to the brow of Mogg-hill. When Langham House was built, the main sewer was laid in this earthwork, which was then levelled, and filled up with the earth which came from the cellars and foundations.

There were also some barrows near the same spot: and the ancient and curious farm house just below, is still known as the " Barrow Farm."

Adjoining Langham House, and sloping towards the Bridge is a field called "Lanthorn Tun Meadow." And to account for such a singular there are two traditions, one, that a beacon was lighted there on dark nights to guide travellers to the ford across the river; the other, that the field was so named from the "lanthorn" chimney of one of the houses, which formerly stood where the present mansion now is; and of which "lanthorn" chimneys still be seen in the parishes of Norton St Philip , and Kilmersdown.

LANGHAM MANOR.

The ancient Manor of Langham, includes nearly the whole of the District; indeed the only part beyond the manor comprises the few fields numbered 219, 220, 221, 238, 239, 240, 241, on the Parish Map.

The Rev. Canon Jackson, of Leigh Delamere, has kindly furnished the following account of the Manor of Langham.

"Langham was anciently spelled Langenham. In 1316 it belonged, together with another manor at Rode, to Lawrence de St. Maur, or Seymour, whose name still survives at Seymour's Court. About 1430 it passed, by marriage of the heiress of St. Maur, to William Zouche, fifth Baron of Harringworth.

"The Estates of Edward St. Maur, Lord Zouche and Cantelupe at "Rode and Langenham," belonged in 1581 to Sir Walter Hungerford, of Farleigh Castle. Mr. Hungerford paid for Langham Mill a quit-rent of 6s. 8d. a year to the Crown, formerly paid to the Abbess of Romsey, of her Manor of Steeple Ashton.

In 1687 the manors Of Langenham and Rode were sold with the rest of the Hungerford Estates,

to Henry Baynton, Esq. A few years afterwards Langham Mill and some land about it, were sold by Baynton, to John George, alias Edwards, of Worton, in the Parish of Potterne. In 1739 the mill and lands were bought by Joseph Houlton, Esq., of Farleigh, and by his descendants, were disposed of to the late Mr. T. W. Ledyard, about the year 1821."

The rest of the Langham property had previously passed into the hands of the Ledyard family, by exchange with Mr. Houlton.

LANDOWNERS

The next considerable property belongs to Edmund Lewis Clutterbuck, Esquire, of Hardenhuish, Wilts, and is called the Vaggs Hill Farm. The farm house at Vaggs Hill, bears on one of its chimneys the following initials, and date: P. 1615. E; and about the middle of the back of the house, there is a semi-circular projection, from the foundation to the roof, to contain the staircase.

At the time of the enclosure of the Commons in 1792, part of the present Vaggs Hill Estate was in the possession of Edward Andrews, Esq., John Moger, and John Edwards, from whom the Clutterbuck family seem to have purchased it, and added it to the farm.

The family of Pooll also own property in the district, both near Road Bridge, and near the Parish of Wingfield.

Samuel Lloyd Harford, Esq., possessed in 1792 the land on which the house called Dillybrook now stands, and which house was built early in this century by Mr. Tovey, a shopkeeper and clothier, of Road, having had his house near Road Church destroyed by a fire.

The family of Whittaker also possessed property in the district, which has now passed into the hands of the families of Pooll, and Ledyard

There are also many other owners of small properties in the district.

REGISTERS.

The registers only date back to the consecration of the Church in 1824, and the first entry records the baptism, on the day of consecration, September 2, of a child of Lt. Colonel Daubeny, son-in-law to the Venerable Archdeacon Daubeny, the founder of the Church. The baptism was solemnized by the Bishop of Salisbury, (Fisher). The entry is in the handwriting of the Arch-deacon.

The register of burials begins with that of the Archdeacon himself, who was buried within the Church, on the 20th July, 1827; he having died on the 10th of that month, at the age of 82.

The next entry records the re-interment of the remains of the Archdeacon's wife, which were removed from the Abbey Church, Bath, on the day of her husband's burial.

From the day of consecration of the Church, (September 2nd, 1824), the register of baptisms has gone regularly on; but that of burials has no further entry till the year 1837, when a son of a former Incumbent, the Rev. G. R. Orchard, was buried. There is no entry again till 1840, when another son of Mr. Orchard was interred.

The next entry is in 1850, from which period burials have regularly taken place in the

churchyard, previously the only burials having been within the Church.

Marriages have only been solemnized since 1852, on the formation of the district.

The various entries in the register books were evidently made when the events which they record took place; and are far better, and more clearly written, than is usually the case.

At the time of the Census (March 1851) , the population of the District was 430 : but at the present time it is rather less.

The number of inhabited houses in June 1858 was 78, and of those that were vacant 12, making a total of 90.

The Census of 1861.

Houses			Population		
Inhabited	Uninhabited	Building	Males	Females	Persons
98	21		202	209	411

The Census of 1871.

Houses			Population		
Inhabited	Uninhabited	Building	Males	Females	Persons
94	12		169	197	366

Those houses inhabited by the labouring population, are, generally speaking, good; but many of them would be much improved by the addition of a garden; but being in many cases arranged in the manner of a street, this is impossible. The rent ranges from 1s. to 2s. per week.

The population in former times was much larger than at present, on account of the amount of business then carried on in the clothing trade, and consequently many houses have been taken down.

The registers are of such a recent date, that they are of little use in forming any statistical statements with respect to fluctuations of the population, or the ages at which marriages have taken place.

The district is now drained and exceedingly healthy, and many instances of longevity prevail.

The proportion of deaths per cent (as far the register is a guide) has been about 1½ per cent per annum.

AGRICULTURE.

The agriculture of the district is much the same as is generally found where the soil has a substratum of clay, not so perfect perhaps as where it is easier to work. The land, where properly cultivated, produces excellent wheat crops, but less is adapted to the growing of potatoes. The pastures are very rich.

The land is pretty equally divided into arable and pasture : the arable amounting to about 230, and the pasture to 200 acres.

No land appears to have been broken up since the Tythe Commutation Act, indeed the contrary appears to be the case; as several fields once under the plough, are now pasture.

The greater part of the district is absorbed by the two farms of Langham and Vaggs Hill ; other holdings being of a much smaller area. The land belonging to these farms, lies pretty well together; though a deep valley , which runs through both of them, renders access to some fields rather difficult.

The dairies are not underlet, and are more productive of cheese, than butter. The price of the cheese made in the district at the present date, is about £3 10s per cwt., and the butter 1s. 3d. per pound. The cows are almost entirely of the improved shorthorn breed.

FAIR

There was until lately a large one held on the Monday after "Road Revel Sunday" (*Sunday on or after the 9th September,*) in the field called Blundersleigh, for the sale of cheese, and as a pleasure fair. But Frome has now become the great cheese mart of the District.

COMMONS

There was a very large amount of unenclosed land on the borders of what is now the district of Roadhill, which land was enclosed in the year 1792, and the old fence, which divided the cultivated land from the Common, may still be traced.

TRADE

A few of the inhabitants of the district are employed at a dye-house in the adjoining parish of Road: but the bulk of the people are now engaged in farm labour, and such trades as are usually found in villages, namely, shoe-makers, tailors, carpenters, &c.

Those who leave the place in search of employment, seem to hold similar views with Whittington of old, seeking in London that prosperity which they fancy cannot be found at home.

As the district is not divided from the rest of the parish, except in matters ecclesiastical, such subjects as the Tythe Commutation, various rates, and local burdens, belong rather to the history of the parish than of the district.

ROADS

The chief roads in the district, are the two main ones, meeting at the top of Roadhill, one leading from Bradford through Wingfield, and the other from Wolverton over Road Bridge: both were portions of the Trowbridge Trust.

The roads were much altered at the time of the enclosure of the commons: the one from Road to Bradford formerly passed through the field now called Blundersleigh, and crossing the present highway, entered the field called the Cabbage Garden, and passed under the West hedge, beneath a large forked oak tree still standing, and thence by an inn, called the "Green Man" , or "Fives Court", 'now burnt down, and thence on, into the present Bradford road lower down.

An old road, now little used except for farming purposes, enters the district at Tellisford Bridge, and passing Vaggs Hill Farm leads on to Southwick. It was once much travelled by pack horses, and on the Tellisford side of the Bridge, the old paved road down the hill still, in part, remains.

This one seems to have led from Bristol, through Combe Hay, Wellow, Norton St. Philip, Tellisford, North Bradley, and Edington, to the Downs, and so to Salisbury. It is still occasionally used by drovers, for the advantage of the grass by its sides.

THE CHURCH

The Church is called Christ Church, and owes its erection to the exertions of the late Rev. Charles Daubeny, LL.D. Archdeacon of Sarum, and Vicar of the parish.

In the memoir prefixed to Daubeny's "Guide to the Church" the erection of the fabric is thus spoken of :

"The great extent and length of the parish of North Bradley, had always been regretted by the Archdeacon. The parishioners residing at Southwick and Road were 4 miles from the parish church, which precluded the possibility of their attendance at his ministry, or of their deriving proper advantage from his pastoral care. In the fall of 1821, a proposal was made to him, on the part of some of the most respectable parishioners of Road, to erect a church at the extremity Of the Parish, where the population was very numerous. The Archdeacon entered with his usual energy into a proposal so consonant with his feelings. The Warden and Fellows of Winchester College, the Archbishop Of Canterbury, Bishops Barrington, Tomlin and Fisher, with other friends to the Establishment, subscribed liberally to the undertaking, and the plans of the church were drawn, when the Archdeacon was seized with fever, which for some time threatened his life.

His illness does not seem to have long impeded the scheme of building the church, for in his diary we find the following, "June 25th, 1822 : Laid the foundation stone of the new church at Roadhill. God be praised."

A large company of clergy, and laity attended, upwards of fifty persons dined at the Vicarage, and as many more at Mr. Ledyard's. Mrs. Ledyard laid the first stone: the day was fine, and every thing went off well.

The work of building was continued till the 2nd Of September, 1824, when the new church was consecrated by the Bishop of Salisbury: and the following notice of the fact occurs in the Archdeacon's diary : "A glorious day but very hot—escorted the Bishop and his family to the new church."

The Architect of the church was Mr. Henry Gooderidge, of Bath.

The following account of the consecration is quoted from "The Living and the Dead," by General Daubeny, in his memoir of the Archdeacon ;-

"To this hour I remember the effect—and I question whether aught but the chilling approach of death will efface it from my recollection, which the Archdeacon's air and manner produced upon me the last time I saw him officiate. It was at the consecration of his church at Roadhill. I call it his church because to his influence, his exertions, to his judicious and unbounded liberality, it owes its existence; because it was embellished by taste, and completed under his constant and unwearied superintendence." The same writer says: "The Church is a perfect picture, built in the most beautiful style of Gothic Architecture, on the summit of a hill, in the midst of the most enchanting landscape, looking down with an air of protection upon the hamlet that is scattered at irregular intervals below it, and completely isolated from every other object ; it forms a feature on which the eye of the most fastidious critic may repose with transport."

The account which General Daubeny gives of the expenses of the building is as follows:- "Including the vicarage house, subsequently built, and various unexpected expenses, the cost was about £12,000; of which rather more than £8000 were contributed by subscription, Queen Anne's Bounty Office, the Church Building Society, and the rest by the Vicar."

The stables and yard, however, not belonging to the living, they were purchased in 1851-52 out of the Parliamentary Grant and the garden likewise was attached to the living, the Incumbent for ever paying £5 per annum to the Fund for keeping the church in repair.

The position of the church is admirable, the greater portion of the population being within quarter of a mile of it.

To those who have imbibed the fashionable ideas of church architecture originated by the late Mr. Pugin, and who therefore expect to find in a recently erected fabric, an imitation of all the additions, and alterations, which lapse of years may in many cases have produced, this church may afford but disappointment; yet to those who regard perfect adaptation to its intended purpose, excellent materials, and workmanship, and considerable beauty of design, it will be a source of pleasure; and is universally admired, except by those, to whom some slight departure from the fashionable standard presents an insurmountable obstacle to approbation.

The form of the church is a parallelogram, in length 78 feet 8 inches, in breadth 42 feet 8 inches. It does not stand correctly East and West, but rather E by S and W by N. This measurement is made in the interior.

There are two towers with spires, at the west end, one of which contains the bell, and the other the staircase.

The church has four doors, a large double door in the west end, two smaller ones at each end of the south side, and a small door into the vestry on the north.

Externally, there is no appearance of a chancel, but this is not the case in the interior, as at the east end the church is contracted by a vestry on the north, and by the entrance, formed by an internal porch, on the south. The building is open from end to end, the loft in which the organ was placed being supported on open arches. The organ was removed into the church, in 1876, by Rev. W. H. R. Brickmann, vicar.

The seats run in blocks, the whole length of the building, with a broad paved pathway between them. The first five rows from the communion rails are distinguished from the rest by being more ornamented, and enclosed by low doors: these are appropriated, and all the rest are free.

The whole number of sittings is 700, of which 550 are open to all. Those who choose to pay for sittings, are charged a rent of 5s. per annum, per seat; these seats are let by the Incumbent, who renders an account of the proceeds to the trustees of the church.

The only monuments in the church are erected to various members of the Daubeny family, and that of the Rev. G. R. Orchard, a former Incumbent.

Archdeacon Daubeny's monument stands at the south side of the chancel; it is formed of Bath stone, and represents the Lord's Table with a roll of a book—the Holy Bible, and a chalice upon it: on either side stands a female figure the size of life; one representing Faith, the other Charity.

Beneath the Daubeny arms, is a black marble tablet with the following inscription:-
 “Sacred to the memory of The Reverend Charles Daubeny, LL.D. Archdeacon of Sarum, Fellow of St. Mary’s College, Winchester, and 52 years Vicar of North Bradley and Southwick, descended from Giles Lord Daubeny, K.G. whose noble ancestor accompanied the Norman Conqueror. He was still more worthily distinguished by his talents, accomplishments and literary labours, and also by his extensive charitable donations. As author of “A guide to the Church,” he will be remembered with respect and gratitude, by every sincere friend of our Protestant church. He was the projector and founder of Christ Church in Bath, the first free church ever erected in the kingdom; and likewise of this church and glebe. Simplicity of heart, and unshaken integrity of mind, were his distinguishing characteristics. To these were joined a native kindness and benevolence of feeling. His piety was of that exalted kind which governs every action, softens even sorrow, and sheds that true peace which no earthly blessings can bestow. His habits of temperance from his earliest youth, were graciously rewarded by the full enjoyment of mental and bodily vigour in old age. He delivered a charge to the clergy, and a sermon to his flock, in this church, within the last week of his life, which terminated on the 10th of July 1827, in the 83rd year of his age, after a very few hours’ illness, releasing him from his labours in the vineyard (we may piously hope) to receive his reward in heaven. The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with one in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.” Malachi, 2nd chap. 6th verse.
 The remains of his most beloved wife, exhumated from the cathedral Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, in Bath were re-interred on the same day, and in the same tomb with her husband, beneath the Chancel of this Church. “They were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided.” 2. Sam : 1 Chap: 23 Ver.

This tribute to their memory was erected by Lieut.-Col. Daubeny, and Elizabeth his wife, eldest daughter of the deceased.

On the opposite wall of the chancel are two white marble panels, with inscriptions to the memory of various members of the Daubeny family, amongst which is one to General Daubeny, or, as his branch of the family spell the name, Daubeney.

On the north wall of the church is a tablet in excellent taste, to the memory of the late Rev. George Randall Orchard, 25 years vicar of Roadhill, and to two of his sons.

There are three brasses in the stone floor of the middle aisle ; two recording the deaths of the Archdeacon, his wife, and grandson, and the other that of Mr. Orchard and his children.

On a large board affixed to the north wall of the church, near the vestry door, is the following account of the charities of the parish .

“The Rev. Charles Daubeny, D.C.L., Archdeacon of Sarum, and 52 years vicar of North Bradley, gave the following:-

BENEFACTIONS

1798—The Parish Church, and chancel were repaired throughout, the east end rebuilt, nearly the whole of the Vicarage house built, and the premises greatly enlarged.

1810—The Asylum was built and endowed, £3000.

1814—The Rectory was converted into a residence for the curate, and nearly rebuilt.

1817—The Vicar’s poor-house was built, which, including the purchase of the ground, cost upwards of £800.

1824—This Church, called “Christ Church,” built and endowed, and the ministers manse erected, which, exclusive of the sum subscribed generally, cost the Vicar upwards of £4600.

1827—By his will bequeathed £2000 Consols, half the dividend to be applied to the further

support of the asylum. £10 per annum towards the repair of this church. £10 per annum towards the support of the school of this church. £10 per annum for the relief of such dwellers in the parish of North Bradley who shall regularly attend divine service in this church. “

On the Vestry wall is another board With this inscription :-

“The Church called “Christ Church,” in the parish of North Bradley was erected in the year 1824, and consecrated by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Sarum, on the 2nd day of September, 1824. It contains sittings for seven hundred persons, and in consequence of a grant from the Society for Promoting the Enlargement and Building of Churches and Chapels, five hundred and thirty of that number are hereby declared to be free and unappropriated for ever.

“ CHARLES DAUBENY, LL.D., Archdeacon of Sarum and Vicar of North Bradley,
JOHN LONG, SAMUEL JEFFRIES, Churchwardens”

The only stained glass is in the East window, but there is nothing remarkable in the design.

The Holy Table is of stone, and raised by steps above the rest of the chancel.

The Communion plate consists of a chalice, flagon, plate, and two patens, the whole of which are plated. The author of “the Living and the Dead,” says that the Archdeacon, being dangerously ill, calmly and steadily betook himself to settle his affairs, and especially every particular relating to his church ; “let the Communion vessels”, said he to his old friend, Mr. Hey, “be plated. I have always condemned those who have placed unnecessary temptations in the path of their fellow mortals, and I am anxious that the last act of my life should hold out to others no inducement to sin.” His life, however, was spared some years longer, and no doubt the donor of the plate, (Joshua Watson, Esq., his nephew) was well acquainted with his uncle's wishes.

The font was placed in a small baptistry at the bottom of the south tower, and was entirely cut off from the body of the church, and out of view of the congregation. It consists of a white marble basin about 16 inches wide by 7 deep, set on a handsome Bath stone shaft, containing a pipe to carry away the water. It was removed into the church, near the West door, fixed, drained, and an oak cover made in 1875, by the Rev. W. H. R. Brickmann, vicar. Stone steps were also placed round it.

The bell weighs about one ton; at least it is said to been a good load for the horse which drew it from Bath. It bears the following inscription : “ DONUM MARTINI S. SMITH, RECTOR DE FLADBURY IN COM: VIGORN : 1823. J. RUDHALL, FECIT”

The tower in which the bell hangs is provided with an arrangement of questionable utility, to counteract the vibration caused by ringing the bell, viz., a ponderous stone hung from the highest interior point of the spire by an iron rod and chain. The organ made by Flight and Robson, formerly belonged to the late Duke of York stood in the gallery, and was fitted with barrels, to be used in the absence of the organist. These were removed, when the organ was taken from the gallery, and thoroughly repaired, and improved.

The churchyard is small, never having been intended for interment. It is fenced by a dwarf wall on the North and East, and by hedges on the South and West.

The expense of keeping the church in repair, and of conducting the services is defrayed by the £10 per annum left for that purpose —the pew rents, and £5 per annum paid by the Incumbent. Whole expenses, for last six years, before 1858, averaged £10 per annum, they now reach £36.

The services in the church, are as follows :-

Full service twice every Sunday, Christmas Day and Good Friday ; one on Ash Wednesday, and one on every Friday during Lent. Services now always at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., the church being well lighted by lamps. Holy communion twice a month, and on all festivals. The services are well attended, and the communicants are numerous.

In 1877 a lectern was presented to the church by Mrs. Brickmann. The pulpit was removed to the North side, a new prayer desk, and Priest's Desk erected, texts painted on the walls, dado and corbels painted ; an oak alms box was also given by Mrs. Brickmann. In 1878 the reredos and chancel, which were all stone colour, were repaired, and coloured ; and new altar cloths (1) purple velvet (2) red cloth, placed in the church.

LIST OF INCUMBENTS.

1824–1825 EDWARD WILTON, M.A., resigned.

1825–1850 GEORGE RANDALL ORCHARD, died.

1850–1874 EDWARD PEACOCK, J.P., resigned.

1875--W. H. R. BRICKMANN, who is the present Vicar.

The school was built by subscription in the year 1834, and received a grant from the National Society. It is now under Government inspection, being conducted by a mistress and one pupil teacher. Now there is a mistress, paid monitor, and pupil teacher.

The average attendance on week-days is about 60, and on Sundays 75. The lending library is partly made up by a grant from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and partly by books purchased from time to time from the list of the above Society, and numbers over 250 volumes.

The Wiltshire Friendly Society has a branch in the district, numbering about 20 members, and some of the inhabitants belong to other Clubs in the adjoining villages. There is a Clothing Club for the children who attend the school, and at Christmas coals are usually given away to the poor. The charitable bequest of the late Archdeacon Daubeny has already been mentioned, and it is distributed at the discretion of the Incumbent. There is also a good Blanket Charity managed at the Vicarage.

The greater part of the district is considerably elevated ; probably nearly on a level with the Mendip Hills ; but the west side it slopes very abruptly down to the river Frome, and the greater part of the population reside on the low ground about the brook which divides the counties of Wilts and Somerset.

In the field called Birchenleaze, behind the Vicarage House, the view is most extensive and beautiful, embracing the churches of Studley, Steeple Ashton, West Ashton, Heywood and North Bradley to the East ; Tellisford to the West ; Monckton Farleigh clump to the North ; Orchardleigh to the South, as well as the high ground about Bromham, Roundway and Chippenham.

The soil is mostly a stiff loam, but in parts stone is found and quarried, and though occasionally used for building, more extensively for lime. The stone is of the Oolite formation, and in it has been found and recognised the following organic remains, and fossils viz:- *Pholadomya*, *Marchisonii*, *Isocardia minima*, *Terebratula obovata*, *Terebratula perovalis*, *Lutraria decartata*, *Rynconella concinna*, *Avicula echinata*, *Lima cardiiformis*, *Nucleolites clunicularis*, joints of *Enchrinites*, &c.

The River Frome, which rises near Bruton, forms the western boundary of the district, and there are two brooks crossing the district, one from Dillybrook to Langham, and the other dividing the counties of Wilts and Somerset, and falling into the river not far from Road bridge. The river Frome contains trout, perch, roach, dace, gudgeon, and minnows, and otters are occasionally seen.

The wells are of moderate depth, and the supply of good water is abundant.

Road Hill, in the last century, was somewhat celebrated for its medicinal waters. One of the springs was just above the Vicarage, but it is now exhausted; the other was at the end of Lower, (or Frog) street, and what was formerly the pump room is still standing, but occupied by a grocers's shop . About the beginning of the present century an attempt having made to increase the supply of water by deepening the well, a spring of ordinary water broke in, in such abundance, as entirely to destroy the medicinal spring.

In an old book called "The Compleat Family Physician," by Hugh Smithson, M.D., 1781, the water is thus spoken of :- "ROAD, WILTSHIRE, - The water in this spring is Chalybeate, with a mixture of sulphur perceptible to the smell ; it must be drank at the spring, and is prescribed for the same disorders as the Queen Camel water. " And on referring to the Queen Camel water he says : "It has been prescribed in scrophulous and scorbutic cases, and in diseases of the skin."

The air may be considered to a slight degree, moist, but fogs are seldom, or never seen. The climate is mild and genial, being sheltered by the high ground, from the North, and North East winds.

There is nothing to be remarked upon in the animal kingdom, but in the vegetable kingdom, the district is richer than many others.

The Genistella Tinctoria is found in the neighbourhood, and is known to the poor people by the name of Woad Wax. They collect it for the dyers, who buy it at 3s. per cwt. ; but some years since, the poor, who gathered it, could make as much as 6s. per cwt.

The elm flourishes throughout the district, and there are also some fine oaks, two or three of very great age; the oldest, stands in the Limekiln field, near the pathway leading to Langham. There is another standing in the hedge which divides the Birchenleaze from the Cabbage Garden, and remarkable not only from its peculiar form, but also as showing where the road to Bradford once ran, and which, it then overhung.

In the old maps of the parish, there is a tree set down, called the Romsey Oak, so-called, no doubt, as marking the boundary of the ancient manor of Langham, which formerly belonged to the Abbess of Romsey ; the tree, laving fallen into decay, was, about 40 years since, set on fire, aud destroyed by some wanton boys.

Fruit trees usually thrive well, but there is nothing, worthy of record, to be said about them.

THE END