



Frontispiece.

A view of Canterbury from the Dover Road.

The city, dominated by its Cathedral (648) rises from the surrounding farmland at harvest time.

From *The Land we Live In*, published by Charles Knight c. 1850.
Kindly lent by Dr. John Whyman.



589305

Cover Illustration

Good Friday Hot Cross Buns.

From *The Illustrated London News*. April 19th, 1851.

This picture brings to life the Victorian families for whom the churches ministered in 1851. The Census was held on Mothering Sunday, just three weeks before Good Friday, depicted here.

Guildhall Library, Corporation of London

KENT RECORDS

General Editor: A.P. Detsicas, B.A., M.A., D.Litt., F.S.A.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP IN KENT

THE CENSUS OF 1851

Edited by

MARGARET ROAKE

Published by the Kent Archaeological Society
The Museum
St. Faith's Street, Maidstone
Kent

1999

understandable that such incumbents showed reticence when confronted by a government enquiry.⁴⁰

Parish size and wealth

The parishes of Kent varied greatly in size and shape. In east Kent they ran to extremes, with Ash, Elham and Lydd exemplifying the most extensive parishes, while the country parishes of Chillenden, Knowlton, Barfreston and Ham were among the smallest, covering just a few hundred acres. Some parishes were divided, notably in east Kent: Northbourne comprised four separate parts, and a section of Newington parish lay some miles to the west.⁴¹ Even fairly extensive parishes in Romney Marsh had fewer than 100 inhabitants, and many were very small. Churches there were variously described in the Census Index as demolished, desecrated or decayed, yet the income from their livings is recorded in the clergy list as substantial. Examples are given here as editor's notes among the returns. These decayed parishes of east Kent and Romney Marsh prompt speculation. The census shows the concern of some clergy that lay impropiators took large sums, for example, at Oare (706), at Lympne (970) and at Woodnesborough (845). Several clergy elsewhere in Kent used the census to draw attention to their need for resources, or to advertise the meagre state of their own finances in relation to the real value of the living.

In Kent, the practice of combining neighbouring livings into a single benefice was not uncommon. For example, Bridge (608) and Patribourne (611), had been united into a single benefice at the Tithe Commutation Act. Many more of the Kentish returns show adjoining parishes to be under the charge of a single clergyman. Not all combined livings were poor ones. When the registrar of Bridge district, near Canterbury, followed up missing returns for parishes late in the year, it was the curate who responded at Petham (597) and Waltham (595). Mr Hallett who held the combined livings, enjoyed a greater-than-average vicarial income of £442 per annum. Occasional references were made to a curate's stipend; otherwise, in combined country parishes, it was usual for services to be held alternately, morning and afternoon in the two churches. The afternoon service nearly always drew the larger congregation. 'It is difficult', wrote the Minister at

⁴⁰ Some of the values of livings in the Clergy List, in the instances that I have investigated, vary widely from the value given in the Census return, some more, some less. The reasons for this would be interesting to explore. It is likely that some income went to lay impropiators of tithe. Examples are given in footnotes among the returns.

⁴¹ Kent County Council, *Map of Kent Parishes*, Doble Monk Butler, Westgate.

Smarden, 'to induce the labouring classes in this County to attend the morning service' (532).

Those Anglican clergymen, who were the younger sons of wealthy families, educated at Oxford or Cambridge, were at this date often men of private means, willing to put their own funds to use for the benefit of their parish.⁴² The returns for Penshurst (353-4) show such generosity in practice. The Rector of St. Mary Magdalene in Canterbury (644), complained of the need to draw upon his own funds. For other clergymen, however, their benefice provided their only livelihood. £300 per year was thought to offer comfortable prosperity in mid-Victorian England. £200 offered a modest lifestyle, anything less might be thought an impoverished living.⁴³ By these standards, a good proportion of Kentish benefices were poorly endowed, and the concerns about income displayed in the census returns were not unreasonable.

In country parishes, clergy often stressed the heavy expenses to which their gross income was subjected. At Plaxtol (306), the detailed account of income and expenditure provided evidence of this. A major part of most clerical incomes was made up of tithe, which had been 'redeemed' by conversion to a rent charge by the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836. The value was calculated on a seven-year average of farm prices at the time. Tithe redemption was complete in Kent well before 1851. Most parishes had commuted the tithe about 1840, but in these returns, incumbents complained forcefully of the decline in its value in the intervening years. Some considered Corn Law repeal to be the cause of their comparative poverty (e.g. 452, 632), others the reduction in hop cultivation (612, 951, 972). A full and revealing return came from the rector of Leeds and Bromfield (467-8). Generally, those willing to divulge their income disclosed figures that were not excessively large; some contributed to Queen Anne's Bounty, while others received small grants from this fund which supported small benefices by making a charge on those more favourably endowed.

Dissenters and the Census

The dissenting churches generally welcomed the Religious Census as a measure of official state recognition and an opportunity to display their strength. In his Report, Horace Mann took care to define the beliefs of the various sects with sensitivity and respect, distinguishing their congregations in terms of their doctrine, their rites and ceremonies

⁴² Knight, *op. cit.*, 133, confirms the view of Alan Haig in this respect, citing A. Haig, *Victorian Clergy*, 307.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, 131-2. Chapter 4 explores the issue in depth.

HO 129/64.1.10 Mint and St Nicholas Hospital

Area: 69 acres. Number of Houses in 1851: inhabited 39; uninhabited 3;
building - .
Population 1801: - ; 1811: - ; 1821: - ; 1831: - ; 1841: 113; 1851: 124.

The Mint and Almshouses of St Nicholas Hospital (deemed extra-Parochial), are surrounded by the Parish of Harbledown, with which they are presumed to have been returned down to 1831 inclusive.

605 Saint Nicholas Chapel

Endowment: [crossed through]

Average attendance: Morning 25, afternoon 36.

Remarks: This Hospital only contains about 15 houses so I have filled up the Return from the best information I can get.

Signed: William Hammond, Registrar.

Date: 6 September 1851.

Address by post: 37 Westgate Without.

HO 129/64.1.11 Holy Cross Westgate Without

Area: 72 acres. Number of Houses in 1851: inhabited 159;
uninhabited 5; building 4.

Population 1801: 791; 1811: 728; 1821: 872; 1831: 814; 1841: 829;
1851: 853.

[No return]

The remainder of the Parish of Holy Cross Westgate Parish ... is in the city and District of Canterbury.

HO 129/64.2 Barham Subdistrict

Area: 22,871 acres. Number of Houses in 1851: inhabited 1,165;
uninhabited 4; building 1.

Population 1801: 4,079; 1811: 4,702; 1821: 5,139; 1831: 5,712;
1841: 6,131; 1851: 6,094.

HO 129/64.2.1 Parish of Patricbourne

Area: 1,637 acres. Number of Houses in 1851: inhabited 50;
uninhabited 1; building - .

Population 1801: 213; 1811: 239; 1821: 268; 1831: 280; 1841: 251;
1851: 264.

606 St Mary's, Patricbourne. Ancient Parish Church

Diocese of Canterbury.

Endowed with: tithe £198 19s. 8d., glebe £42, fees £5.

Sittings: Free 100; other 200; total 300.

Attendance on 30th March: Morning 133+60, total 193.

Average attendance: Morning 120+60, total 180; afternoon 200+60, total 260.

Remarks: The Church will hold more than the population of the Parish. The above is about the average. Bridge and Patricbourne are united Parishes.

Signed: Maurice Allen Smelt, Curate, Vicarage, Patricbourne.

Date: 31 March 1851.

HO 129/64.2.2 Parish of Beaksbourne [Bekesbourne]

Area: 1,115 acres. Number of Houses in 1851: inhabited 68;
uninhabited 1; building - .

Population 1801: 216; 1811: 257; 1821: 311; 1831: 351; 1841: 332;
1851: 362.

Beakesbourne is a member of the Cinque Port Liberty of Hastings (Sussex).

607 St Peter's - Antient Parish Church, Bekesbourne.

Diocese of Canterbury. Endowment: [5th heading]

Sittings: [6th heading]

Attendance on 30th March: [and] *Average attendance:* [7th heading]

Remarks: The 5th head of enquiry does not make provision for a correct return of income, since it takes no notice of the burdens affecting it. Statistics found in returns under the sixth and seventh heads - especially the seventh - would be delusive, and would in all likelihood be dishonestly used. I therefore leave 5, 6 and 7 un-answered, except to the extent of stating that the income is much reduced since the last general valuation, that the church room is sufficient, and that the average attendance is fair.

Signed: C. Robertson, Vicar, Bekesbourne, Near Canterbury.

Date: 25 March 1851.

HO 129/64.2.3 Parish of Bridge

Area: 1,161 acres. Number of Houses in 1851: inhabited 132;
uninhabited 6; building - .

Population 1801: 325; 1811: 397; 1821: 432; 1831: 543; 1841: 817;
1851: 864.

Includes 165 persons in 1841, and 234 in 1851, in the Bridge Union Workhouse.

608 St Peter's, Bridge Ancient Parish Church

Diocese of Canterbury.

Endowed with: tithe £201 0s. 4d., fees £10.

Sittings: Free 100; other 300; total 400.

Attendance on 30th March: Afternoon 196+80, total 276; evening 102.

Average attendance during previous 12 months: Morning 180+90, total 270; afternoon 250+90, total 330; evening 102.

Remarks: Bridge is a Chapelry connected with Patrixbourne. The Church will nearly accommodate the whole of the Parishioners. [In the lower margin is written] Bridge and Patrixbourne United Parishes under the Tithe Commutation Act. Vicar's rent charge £400. Glebe rent £42. Total £442.

Signed: Maurice Allen Smelt, Curate. *Date:* 31 March 1851.

Address by post: Patrixbourne Vicarage, Canterbury.

[The Clergy List showed the Incumbent as J. Stevenson, with M.A. Smelt as Curate, the living combined with Patrixbourne valued at £350.]

609 Wesleyan Chapel, Bridge

Attendance on 30th March: Morning 12 upon an average.

Remarks: The enclosed information was obtained from M.C. Davis.

Signed: Charles Holman, Registrar. *Date:* 2 September 1851.

[It was unusual for a Chapel return to be completed by the Registrar.]

610 Preaching Room, Grove

Denomination: Wesleyan. Not a separate and entire building. Used exclusively as a place of worship.

Sittings: All free; total 60.

Attendance on 30th March: Morning 28 scholars, afternoon 54, evening 42.

Average attendance during previous 12 months: Morning 40+28, total 68.

Remarks: Being two and a half miles from the Parish Church the children were without a means of Grace until someone cared for them which caused my mind to consider their welfare by instructing them to read the Scriptures.

Signed: John Larkin, Superintendent. *Date:* 31 March 1851.

Address by post: John Larkin, Wickham, Wingham Delivery.

HO 129/64.2.4 Parish of Bishopsbourne

Area: 2,002 acres. Number of Houses in 1851: inhabited 67; uninhabited 5; building - .

Population 1801: 242; 1811: 259; 1821: 325; 1831: 358; 1841: 334; 1851: 348.

611 St Mary's, Bishopsbourne. The Parish Church

Diocese of Canterbury. Consecrated before 1800.

Endowed with: land no, tithe yes, very small glebe, pew rents no, fees yes. [Other headings marked with a dash.]

Sittings: Free 190; other 60; total 250. [These figures written in another hand.]

Attendance on 30th March: Morning 69+26, total 95; afternoon 72+27, total 99.

Average attendance: Morning 50+30, total 80; afternoon 90+30, total 120.

Remarks: The Rector is absent on sick leave & therefore I am unable to fill up No V; except that the church is endowed by tithe & a very small glebe.

Signed: Arthur Eden, Curate, Bishopsbourne, Canterbury.

Date: 30 March 1851.

HO 129/64.2.5 Parish of Kingstone

Area: 1,525 acres. Number of Houses in 1851: inhabited 62; uninhabited 2; building - .

Population 1801: 197; 1811: 276; 1821: 301; 1831: 282; 1841: 310; 1851: 310.

612 St Giles, Parish of Kingstone

Diocese of Canterbury.

Consecrated before 1800.

Endowed with: tithe commutation rent charge £500, glebe £21.

Sittings: Free, including Chancel - Children's seats 100; other 80; total 180.

Attendance on 30th March: Morning 71+37, total 108; afternoon 79+32, total 111.

Remarks: The Rent Charge is reduced by the lowering of the averages of Corn, & the breaking up of Hop Ground.

Signed: Thomas Bartlett, Rector of Kingstone.

Date: 31 March 1851.

Address by post: Kingstone Rectory, Canterbury.

KENTISH VISITATIONS OF ARCHBISHOP WARHAM

John Repon had paid their debts. William William would find sureties for payment. Item iconomi predicti dicunt quod Johannes Howlyn, Willelmus Howlyn et Johannes Repon satisfecerunt dicte ecclesie. Item dictis die et loco comparuit Willelmus William, et fatetur quod debet iconomis dicte ecclesie 32s. 8d. D.C. de consensu iconomorum predictae ecclesie iniunxit dicto Willelmo ad solvendum 17s. 8d. eidem iconomis in festo Nat. Domini prox. et 15s. in festo Nat. Domini extunc prox. sequenti, et ad introducendum fideiussores pro solutione dictarum summarum iconomis prefatis c. f. Pasche prox. s.p.e.

[fo. 52v] 136. Ecclesia parochialis de Bokten Alupene
[Boughton Aluph]

- a. Compertum est: that Johan Rehood withdrawithe 10 marks frome the churche the whiche Thomas Rehood bequethid.
- b. Item that thexecutours of Thomas Swyft withdrawithe 59s. that thesaid Thomas did bequethe.
- c. Item that oone Johan att Leff hathe grevously diffamed Agnes Peryne a woman of good conversacione and honest.

[fo. 63v] Acta.

- a. *John Redhoode admitted owing 10 marks to the church: ordered to pay. 14 Jan. a.d. predicto comparuit Johannes Redhoode, et dicit quod debet ecclesie predictae 10 marcas et D.C. iniunxit eidem quod satisfaciatur dictas 10 marcas iconomis predictae ecclesie c. f. Omnium Sanctorum prox. fut. s.p.e.*
- b. *Churchwardens said that Juliana Froggnall had paid the legacy of Thomas Swifte. Item dictis die et loco comparuerunt iconomi dicte ecclesie, et dixerunt quod Juliana Froggnall satisfecit legatum Thome Swifte factum dicte ecclesie.*
- c. *John at Leese denied having defamed Agnes Peryn; she maintained that he had publicly said that he had known her carnally: ordered to purge himself, he succeeded. Item dictis die et anno comparuit Johannes at Leese iuxta citationem sibi factam, et dixit quod numquam difamavit Agnetem Peryn, et dicta Agnes comparens dixit quod idem Johannes publice difamavit eam dicendo quod carnaliter cognovit eandem Agnetem, cui D.C. iniunxit ad purgandum se 5 manu die Martis [16 March] prox. p.f. S. Gregorii Pape prox. fut. Quo die veniente comparuit prefatus Johannes at Leese et cum numero sibi assignato legitime se purgavit et dimissus est.*

[fo. 52v] 137. Ecclesia de Waltham

KENTISH VISITATIONS OF ARCHBISHOP WARHAM

a. Compertum est: that Philippe Deues of the parisshe of Wy withholdithe 3 acres of lond that was devided by the testament of Stephene de Court in 2 parts, the oone to the churche of Waltham, the secunde to the churche off Broke.

[fo. 64r] Actum.

- a. *Philip Deuce of Wy denied withholding 3 acres of land left to be divided between the parishes of Brook and Waltham. Later witnesses from both parishes established the right of the parishes and Philip was required to surrender the land. 14 Jan. a.d. predicto comparuit Philippus Deuce de Wy, et negavit aliquam subtractionem trium acrarum terre per eum factam dividendarum inter ecclesias de Waltham et Broke. Iconomi de Broke et Waltham assumpserunt in se ad probandum die Martis [16 March] prox. p.f. S. Gregorii Pape prox. Quo die veniente predicti iconomi de Broke produserunt Willelmum William, et iconomi de Waltham predicta produserunt Thomam a Courte et Simonem a Courte quos, in contumaciam predicti Philippi Deuce, petierunt admitti et onerari vinculo iuramenti ac examinari; quibus admissis iuratis et diligenter examinatis deposuerunt de notitia et scientia suis quod quidam Stephanus a Courte legavit in testamento suo tres acras terre dividendas inter ecclesias predictas, que tres acre sunt in manibus prefati Philippi Deuce; et incontinenter D.C. decrevit eundem Philippum citari erga 9 Mai. prox. Quo die veniente comparuit prefatus Philippus iuxta citationem sibi factam, cui D.C. declaravit dicta testimonia per eum examinatorum, et interrogavit ab eodem Philippo utrum habuisset aliquam causam rationabilem quare compelli non debeat ad restitutionem; qui respondit quod non, et consequenter D.C. iniunxit eidem Philippo ad satisfaciendum dictis ecclesie de Broke et ecclesie de Waltham c. f. S. Mich. Arch. prox. fut. s.p.e.*

[fo. 52v] 138. Ecclesia de Bekysbourne [Bekesbourne]

- a. Compertum est: that William Lienes of the parisshe of Bekisbourne herithe not his divine service 2 tymes in a quarter in his owne parisshe churche.
- b. Item that thesaide William is a comen slauderere of his neighbors and a sower of discords.
- c. Item that Alice the wif of Johan C[1]aryngeboll suspiciously goethe to the house of M. Malk', vicare of Patrikysbourne,⁴⁸ late and rathe,⁴⁹ and he in lykewyse to hir house.

⁴⁸ Malcolm Ramsey, vicar of Patrixbourne, was also vicar of Bridge (no. 156e. below), since at least September 1502 (*Arch. Cant.*, xlvii (1935), 40).

⁴⁹ rathe: early.

[fo. 64r] Acta.

- a. *William Lyones to hear divine service in his parish church.* 14 Jan. a.d. predicto comparuit William Lyones iuxta citationem sibi factam, cui D.C. iniunxit quod audiet et intererit divina officia in ecclesia sua parochiali diebus Dominicis et festivis futuris s.p.e.
- b. *William not to slander his neighbours.* Item iniunctum est eidem Willelmo quod coherceat linguam suam a verbis difamatoriis vicinorum ibidem s.p.e.
- c. *Joan Claryngbold denied the article against her, was ordered to avoid the company of the vicar of Patrixbourne, but not required to purge herself, because this had been enjoined on the vicar.* Item predictis die et loco comparuit Johanna Claryngbold, et negavit articulum sibi obiectum. D.C. monuit ipsam Johannam quod evitet consortium vicarii de Patrykesbourn exceptis locis publicis s.p.e., et dimisit eam, eo quod indixit purgationem predicto vicario.

[fo. 52v] 139. Ecclesia de Chartham

- a. Compertum est: that Richard Culpeper, Robert Bifeld and Robert Naylour, executours to Dame Elizabeth, Ladye Bergavenny,⁵⁰ holden frome Chartham church a cope, a vestment and crismatory of silver.
- b. Item that the churcheyarde ys not dewly closid.
- c. Item the executours of Maister Sheffeld' withholdithe many things frome thesaide church.
- d. Item that Nicholas Lott withholdithe 8s for the ferme of a cove to thesaid church.
- e. Item that Thomas Rodman withholdithe 13s. 4d. of the bequest of Johan Somer.
- f. Item William Crompe withholdithe an annuelle obite for M. Petite whiche shuld contynew 20 yeres.
- g.⁵¹ That the chapelle of seynt Gylis by Chartham is served as it was wont of laudable custome to be.

[fo. 64r] Acta.

- a. *Executors of Elisabeth, Lady of Abergavenny, said to live*

⁵⁰ Lady Abergavenny's will is dated 14 April, proved 19 June, 1500, and is translated by N.H. Nicolas, *Testamenta vetusta* (2 vols. 1826), ii, 441. The will describes her as of Berghdenne in the parish of Chartham, widow. She was four times widowed (G.E. Cockayne, *Complete peerage*, 2nd ed., i (1910), 31).

⁵¹ 139g is displaced in the MS., appearing on fo. 53v with other strays, under the rubric 'Ecclesia de Horton. Compertum est: that the chapelle. . .'. But the chapel of St. Giles was dependent on Chartham parish church, and the *compertum* is therefore printed here. A favourable report in these terms is most unusual; perhaps we should read 'is not served'.

outside the diocese: case remitted to abp. 14 Jan. a.d. prescripto comparuerunt iconomi ecclesie prescripte, et dixerunt quod Ricardus Culpeper et alii executores testamenti D. Elisabeth Domine de Burgeyveney lares foveant extra diocesim Cant'. Idcirco D.C. istam detectionem D. Archiepiscopo remisit.

- b. *Churchwardens to repair enclosure of churchyard.* Item D.C. iniunxit eisdem iconomis quod sufficienter reparari faciant in clausura cimiterium ibidem c. f. Ass. B.M. prox. s.p.e.
- c. *Robert Pele, executor of Robert Sheffeld, denied that the latter had goods belonging to the church: churchwardens proved it, and Robert Pele ordered to pay on pain of 20s. to the repair of Rochester bridge.* Item dictis die et anno comparuit D. Robertus Pele vicarius de Chilham executor testamenti M. Roberti Sheffeld, et dixit quod non novit quod M. Robertus predictus habuit in manibus suis de bonis dicte ecclesie; dicit quod si possit probari solvet et satisfaciet. Iconomi ecclesie predictae assumpserunt in se ad probandum quod habuit in custodia sua 18s. die Martis [16 March] prox. p.f. S. Gregorii Pape prox. Adveniente dicto die Martis, dicto D. Roberto Pele absente, iconomi ecclesie predictae comparuerunt et prodixerunt Stephanum Swyfte et Willelmum Elsted de eadem parochia, qui iurarunt quod dictus M. Robertus Sheffeld habuit in suis manibus de bonis dicte ecclesie 18s. de notitia sua; et consequenter D.C. decrevit dictum D. Robertum Pele monendum fore ad audiendum voluntatem suam erga 28 diem Julii prox. Quo die veniente comparuit dictus D. Robertus, cui D.C. iniunxit quod satisfaciet iconomis dicte ecclesie de Chartham predicti 18s c. f. Pasche prox. sub pena 20s. ad reparationem pontis Roffensis applicandos.
- d. *Nicholas Lotte admitted owing the church 8s., which he undertook to pay within eight days.* Item dictis die et anno comparuit Nicholaus Lotte, et fatetur quod debet dicte ecclesie 8s.; assumpsit in se ad solvendum eosdem infra octo dies sub pena iuris.
- e. *Churchwardens said that they did not know who administered the goods of Thomas Redeman and so this case was hopeless.* Item iconomi dicunt quod nesciunt quis administrat bona Thome Redeman defuncti, et ideo ipsa detectio est desperata.
- f. *William Crumpe to keep the obit of Alice Petite, and to pay arrears.* Item dictis die et anno comparuit Willelmus Crumpe, cui iniunctum est quod servat obitum Alicie Petite modo aretro per duos annos videlicet unum illorum aretro existente in Quadragesima prox. et alium infra octavas S. Joh. Bap. prox. et deinceps annuatim unum obitum c. f. S. Mathei Apostoli et Evangeliste quousque 20 anni perimpti sint et finiti, s.p.e.

[fo. 53r] 156. Ecclesia de Brigge [Bridge]

- a. Compertum est: that the wardeyne of seynt Laurence in Caunterbury withholdithe 16*d.* a yere dew to the churche of Brigges aforsaid whiche he paid not thies 30 yeris.
- b. Item M. Isaac withholdithe 2*d.* a yere of the churche rent and is behynd by the space of 15 yeris.
- c. Item oone Thomas Yong withholdithe 5*d.* a yere of the churche rent 3 yeris and more and wille not pay except M. Isaac and other pay theirs.
- d. Item that Nicholas Parker withdrawithe 2*d.* a yere thies 30 yeris.
- e. Item that they be not duely served with an honest preest but sometyme with a freere, sometyme with noone at all, and that the vicare wille not have there a preest resident.
- f. Item that the vicare will geve noo rights to theym that wille not content his mynd and when they doo not aggre with hym aftir his pleasur.

[fo. 66r] Acta.

- a. *Robert Dovor, monk of St. Augustine's, warden of the house of the sisters of St. Laurence, Canterbury, denied owing the church 16*d.* annual rent. Churchwardens proved his liability and he was directed to pay or to answer before the abp.* 17 Dec. a.d. predicto comparuit D. Robertus Dovor monachus monasterii S. Augustini, gardianus domus sororum S. Laurentii prope Cant', et negavit huiusmodi redditum 16*d.*; et D.C. monuit iconomos ecclesie de Brigge ad probandum huiusmodi redditum 26 Jan. prox. Quo die veniente comparuerunt iconomi, et exhibuerunt rentale et diversos compotos iconomorum dicte ecclesie de receptione dicti redditus. Et D.C. decrevit predictum D. Robertum Dovor gardianum prefatum vocandum fore erga 18 Mart. ad audiendum voluntatem suam, vel ad dicendum causam quare ad solutionem dicti redditus compelli non debeat. Quo die veniente comparuit prefatus D. Robertus Dovor, et D.C. iniunxit eidem ad solvendum dictum redditum et arreragia iconomis dicte ecclesie, vel ad comparendum coram D. Archiepiscopo ad dicendum causam quare non.
- b. *William Isaak, gentleman, to pay annual rent of 2*d.* in future and to settle with churchwardens for arrears.* Item dictis die et loco comparuit Willelmus Isaak generosus, cui D.C. iniunxit quod solvet redditum 2*d.* per annum debitum ecclesie predicte annuatim decetero, et quod componat cum iconomis dicte ecclesie pro arreragiis c. f. Nat. S. Joh. Bap. prox. s.p.e.
- c. *Thomas Yong said he had settled with churchwardens for rent and arrears and they confirmed this.* Item dictis die et loco

comparuit Thomas Yong de parochia predicta, et dicit quod composuit cum iconomis dicte ecclesie tam pro reddito 5*d.* per annum quam pro arreragiis trium annorum, et iconomi id affirmarunt.

d. *Nicholas Parker denied owing rent. Churchwardens proved his liability by the rental, as above: to pay rent and arrears or to compound with churchwardens.* Item predictis die et loco comparuit Nicholaus Parker, et negavit huiusmodi redditum; et Dominus iniunxit iconomis ad probandum 26 Jan. prox. Adveniente dicto 26 Jan. iconomi exhiberunt rentale ut supra, et D.C. iniunxit eidem Nicholao ad solvendum huiusmodi redditum et arreragia, vel alias ad componendum cum iconomis predictis c. f. Ass. B.M. prox. s.p.e.

e. *Mr. Macolinus Ramsey, vicar, to serve the cure by a fit secular priest as soon as possible; meanwhile no religious to minister to the parishioners.* Item prescriptis die et loco comparuit M. Macolinus Ramsey, vicarius de Bregge, cui D.C. iniunxit quod deserviat cure ibidem per presbiterum idoneum et secularem quam cito commode poterit, et quod tempore medio nullus religiosus ministret parochianis suis ibidem sacramenta aut sacramentalia, cessante causa rationabili, s.p.s.f. suorum.

f. *Vicar denied having refused the sacraments to anyone on account of unpaid debts.* Item idem M. Macolinus vicarius predictus dicit quod numquam denegavit aliquibus personis sacramentata ecclesie propter non solutionem debitorum suorum nec intendit aut vult; si possit aliter probari submittit se correctioni.

[fo. 53r] 157. Ecclesia de Patrykisbourne [Patricbourne]

a. Compertum est: that the vicare of thesaid churche kepithe Alice Claryngbole and doethe advoutry the whiche is openly knowen.

[fo. 66r] Actum.

- a. *Mr Macolinus Ramsey denied the charge against him: ordered to purge himself with two laymen and two men of his order, came on the appointed day with . . .⁵⁵ 17 Dec. a.d. predicto coram prefato D.C. comparuit M. Macolinus Ramsey vicarius ecclesie de Patrykesborne, et negat huiusmodi articulum; et D.C. iniunxit eidem ad comparendum die Lune, viz 26 Jan. prox. cum 2 sui ordinis et 2 laicis ad purgandum se super crimine incontinentie cum Alicia Claryngbold. Quo die veniente comparuit prefatus M. Macolinus vicarius predictus et cum [blank]*

⁵⁵ Cf. no. 138c.

[fo. 53r] 158. Ecclesia de Barham

- a. Compertum est: that the trees in the churchyard are an impediment for them that bere the crosse in processione insomuche it cannot be borne upp righte for the bows.
 b. Item the body of the churche is unreparid.
 c. Item that the churchyard is occupied with unlauffulle bestes.

[fo. 66r] Acta.

- a. *Farmer to cut down trees beyond the paths of the churchyard.* 17 Dec. a.d. predicto comparuit Robertus Watts firmarius rectorie de Borham, cui D.C. iniunxit quod scindat arbores crescentes ultra cimiterii semitas c. f. Pasche prox. s.p.e.
 b. *Churchwardens to repair nave.* Item dictis die et loco comparuerunt iconomi ecclesie predictae, quibus D.C. iniunxit quod sufficienter reparabunt navem ecclesie ibidem c. f. Ass. B.M.V. prox. s.p.e.
 c. *Also to repair enclosure of churchyard and not to let unclean beasts feed there.* Item iniunctum est eisdem iconomis quod reparari facient clausuram cimiterii predicti et quod non permittant animalia immunda depascere in eadem s.p.e.

[fo. 53r] 159. Ecclesia de Bisshoppisbourne [Bishopsbourne]

- a. Compertum est: that in the churche there lakkithe a legend.

[fo. 66r] Actum.

- a. *Churchwardens to provide a sufficient legendary.* 17 Dec. a.d. predicto iconomi ecclesie parochialis de Busshoppesborn comparuerunt, quibus D.C. iniunxit ad providendum legendam sufficientem c. f. Pasche prox. s.p.e.

[fo. 53v] 160. Ecclesia de Kunysdone [Kingston]⁵⁶

- a. Compertum est: that Richard Nedersowle withholdithe frome the churche at the biquet of M. Johan Nedersowle £10.
 b. Item that Thomas Nedersoule owethe to thesaid churche for the bequest of Mighelle a Dien 5 marks.
 c. Item M. Johan Cryspe owethe for the bequest of Thomas Aden 20s.
 d. Item that Johan Awood owethe for the bequest of Cristian Frynds 13s. 4d.
 e. Compertum est: that the churche lakkithe a grayle, an antiphonar, a surplice and a rochetti.

⁵⁶ The rubric is repeated in the form 'Ecclesia de Kyngestone' before *compertum e.*

[fo. 66r] Acta.

- a. *Richard Nethersole admitted debt of £10 to the church: ordered to pay.* 17 Dec. a.d. predicto comparuit Ricardus Nethersole, et fatetur quod habet in manibus suis £10 sterlingorum de bonis dicte ecclesie de Kyngeston, et paratus erit ad deliberandum eandem summam ad diem sibi assignandum; cui D.C. iniunxit ad solvendum ipsam summam £10 dicte ecclesie iconomis c. f. S. Mich. Arch. prox. s.p.e.
 b. *Thomas Nethersole, executor of Michael a Den: ordered to pay his legacy of 5 marks.* Item dictis die et loco iniunctum est Thome Nethersole executori testamenti Michaelis a Den ad solvendum iconomis dicte ecclesie legatum 5 marcarum c. f. Nat. S. Joh. Bap. prox. s.p.e.
 c. *Churchwardens said that John Cryspe had paid legacy of 20s. from Thomas a Den.* Item iconomi dicte ecclesie dicunt quod Johannes Cryspe satisfecit legatum 20s. ex testamento Thome a Den.
 d. *John at Woode had settled with churchwardens for 13s. 4d. bequeathed to the church by Christine Frynds.* Item iidem iconomi dicunt quod Johannes at Woode composuit cum eis pro 13s. 4d. dicte ecclesie legatis per testamentum Christine Frynds.
 e. *Churchwardens to provide a gradual, an antiphoner and a surplice and rochet.* Item dictis die et loco iniunctum est iconomis predictis quod provideant unum gradale c. f. Pasche prox., unum antiphonarum c. f. S. Mich. Arch. prox., et unum superpellicium ac unum rochet, quam cito commode poterunt s.p.e.

[fo. 53v] 161. Ecclesia de Wye

- a. Compertum est: that sir Thomas Kempe, knighte, owethe sute service to the manor of Tremeworthe⁵⁷ whiche belongithe to the College of Maidstone and to pay rent and other custome belongyng to thesaid manor whiche he will not pay.
 b. Item that he withdrawithe frome thesaid College to his owne use 5 acres of land.
 c. Item that he owethe to thesaid College for tharrerages of the ferme of Grymworthe while he was fermor £4.
 d. Item that oone Johan Bocher is a great slauderer of his neighbors & callithe them thevis & their wiffs horys.

⁵⁷ See *Select cases before the King's Council in Star Chamber, 1477-1509*, vol.i, (Ed.) I.S. Leadam (Selden Soc., xvi, 1903) 271-4 for a suit between Mr W. Grocyn and the brethren of All Saints at Maidstone v. Sir Thomas Kempe over the manor of Tremworth and the advowson of Crundale. For Kempe see *ibid.*