Liddington Hospital - The Gentlemens Magazine June 1796

Including figs 1 to 5

Front of the Bishop of Lincoln Palace, now the Hospital at Liddington
Mr. Urban,

May 11.

The town of Lydington, in Rutlandshire, formerly more considerable than at present, is situated in the hundred of Wansteoke, in the South part of the county, and near the Eastern edge of Leicestershire, about three miles South of Uppingham. In Dominc's Book it is written Lidan-
tone, and reckoned as part of the bishopric of Lincoln, in the county of Northampton; of which, till the reign of John, Rutlandshire made a part. Edward III. a. r. 3, granted Henry Burghersh, then bp. of Lincoln, free warren in this manor, which continued annexed to the see til the reign of Edward VI. when bishop Holbech gave it up to the Crown, but on what condition does not appear. It was granted to Edward VI. to Gregory lord Cromwell and his wife for their lives, during the king's pleasure; and, 5 Edward VI. the reversion in fee to Sir William Cecil, lord Burghley, whose son Thomas was, 3 James I. created earl of Exeter; and in this family it still remains. This Thomas, earl of Exeter, about the year 1602, converted part of the bishop of Lincoln's palace here into an hospital for a warden, poor men, and two women nurses, by the name of Jesus hospital; which foundation still subsists. This building is on the North side of the church-
yard, the South front of which is here represented (Plate I.) Behind is a cloister, and between the chimneys a window under a pediment, 4 doors and a porch, stone steps ascending to the hall, in the windows of which are the red rose crowned, and several times repeated, D'N'S EXALTATICO MECI, and DELECTATIIO DOMINO, a border of crosses moline A. and S. and a faltire A. and E. between 4 fleurs-
delis G. the arms of bishop Long-
laid, fig. 1. There were, in Wright's time, those of bishop Ruffet, a chevron between three roses, fig. 2.

In the window of the warden's room, on a label, LUX PREVLFGENS EN VSTA REX SINE MANERIS EM ORATE. A bishop in a red rochet and mitre, jewels on his hands, kneeling and praying, holding a crozier with a scroll round it, EGNO RESIDENS O DIVINA PATRONA PARADISI GAV-
dia dono et limis. Over the chimney 3 roses, perhaps the arms of bp. Ruffet, but without the chevron.

In the hall lies a folio Bible inscribed, "Liddington hospital Bible, by John Clare, 1652, Steward to lord Ex-
eter," and a written prayer for the ho-
spital, read with the rest of the service by the warden. At the entrance to the churchyard is a stone watch-
tower.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of a body on 5 pointed arches, clustered columns, and 5 square clerestory windows. Two ailes. In the East end of the South aisle a piscina, a perk over it, and two on each side of it. In the East end of the North aisle a perk and no piscina. Door to loft, and steps to rood-loft.

On the floor, the brass figure of a woman in the veil head-dress, thin meagre visage, mitten sleeves, belt and cordon.

In the South wall of the chancel a small window low as a door.

Three steps lead up to the altar on the chancel floor.

Three seats and a piscina are in the South wall.

A brass figure of a man in hair, fur gown, long loose sleeves furled at the end, long close sleeves, a woman in the veil head-dress, fallen cape to gown, furled cuffs, long belt, and cordon, fur falls from the hips. Below, sons and 10 daughters.

Arms, twice, on a chevron 3 roundels between 3 birds. Two shields gone.

Here perch Helph Darcy, the wep of Robert Darcy, gentleman, wed decemly on Whit Friday, in the wep of our lord God a DECLEFER, on whose soul God have mercy. ASCH.

The epitaph on Edward Watson, fec etary to three bishops of Lincoln, who died 1530, mentioned by Mr. Wright, p. 81, is still remaining.

Here is a school, the master's salary 6l. 14s. 6d. for five boys; to which a lady left 30l.; the interest of which, much improved, arising from land, is for the benefit of three patines, Nottingham, Lenton co, Nottingham, and Liddington.

The church is a vicarage, a prebend of Lincoln, the corps whereof consists of the impropriation and advowson, valued, 1534, at 30l. 10s. 3d., now, in the king's books, at 20l.

A lift of the prebends may be seen in Willis's Lincoln, p. 209—212. The vicarage
vicarage was endowed so early as the reign of Henry III. and consisted in alnage and all the small tithes of Lidington, except those of the bishop's court (curia), and of all mills in the parish, and in two marks a year from the churches of Caldecott and Snelleton. Valued altogether at 81. 25. (Wright, p. 87.) Clear yearly value, 43l. 17s. 1d. being a discharged living; and, though in the diocese of Peterborough, exempt from the jurisdiction of that see, being a peculiar of the church of Lincoln (Bacon, 849). 

Caldecott church, dedicated to St. John, stands at the South-east extremity of the village, consists of a nave and chancel (the latter lower than the former, having only an East and two South windows), a slender tower embattled, with a stone spire having windows in it. The nave has a South aisle, and a chancel, dated 1643, fixed at the East end of the roof of the nave. In the South wall of the chancel, two pointed arches and a square piscina. A locker at the back of the communion table, and another in the North wall. The nave has two pointed arches on octagon pillars; the font is octagon. In the South aisle is a long pointed piscina. This is a chapel annexed to Lidington, served by Mr. Graham, of Gretton, patron. The present lord of the manor is the earl of Exeter.

In Fitzherbert's Natura Brevisum, p. 134, is a writ of nuance, directed to the sheriff of Rutland, authorizing the bishop of Lincoln to diaouas (prosumers) and the market at Uppingham, set up unjustly to the prejudice of the free market of C. of Lincoln, by P. de M. (Peter de Montfort). Mr. Wright supposes this writ of the time of Henry III. when Peter de Montfort was lord of the manor of Uppingham.

Yours, &c. D. H.

Mr. Urban, Slateford, May 24.

A FEW days ago I purchased a gold ring, which was dug up in St. Mary's field, near Leicesters, about a fortnight before. As it is curiously carved, and has some deeply-engraved characters within it, I have inclosed a drawing (pl. 1, fig. 3) of the ring and characters as near as I could take them, hoping you will see them.

Fig. 4, which is also in my possession, was found some time since, at Belgrave, near Leicesters. J. Tailby.

Mr. Urban, May 25.

ABOUT the year 1731, a brass seal, of which the impression is enclosed (fig. 5), was dug up in a garden in the Friar's lane, at Leicesters, belonging to a house of Mr. Simpson, on which site had formerly stood a priory of Grey friars. In the center, under a rude Gothic arch, IPS, and round it, EST AMOR OES, making, when complete, Iesus est Amor meus, an inscription not unfrequent on old monuments. J. N.

Mr. Urban, May 21.

WHAT I and others, formerly predicted three years ago, has now happened to the Diators; "Babylon is fallen, it is fallen!" HACKNEY COLLEGE, a spacious building, fitted up at an immense expense, is to be sold by auction, or private contract, before the expiration of next month, in one lot, and the house occupied by Dr. Rees in another. What will be the future application of this subfraudio subsa time will show; but that the proud boast of this party are come to an end already is pretty clear; "He that is in the Heavens, hath laughed them to scorn, and men will have them in derision." They talk too plain, and their designs are covered with confusion. Either they have no funds, or they have no managers, or they have lost all the men of abilities capable of conducting the mighty Babel, which was to make them a name to Heaven. The crazy ——; the infuriate ——; the heavy ——; the obese ——; the

† Vol. LXII. pp. 412, 612.
‡ See vol. LX. p. 793.
§ See vol. LXI. pp. 599, 623, 984 &
A topographical description of Lydington and its Hospital.

The town of Liddington, in Rutlandshire, formerly more considerable than at present, situate in the hundred of Wrangdike, in the South part of the County, and near the Eastern edge of Leicestershire, about 3 miles South of Uppingham. In Domesday Book it is written Lidentone, and reckoned as part of the bishopric of Lincoln, in the County of Northampton; of which, till the reign of John, Rutlandshire made a part.

Edward III. A. r. 3, granted Henry Burghersh, then Bishop of Lincoln, free Warren in this manner, which continued annexed to the fee till the reign of Edward VI. To Gregory Lord Cromwell and his wife for their lives, during the King’s pleasure; and, 5 Edward VI (1551/2). The reversion in fee to Sir William Cecyl, lord Burghley, whose son Thomas was, 3 James I (1605/6), created earl of Exeter; and in this family it still remains. This Thomas, earl of Exeter, about the year 1602, converted part of the bishop of Lincoln’s Palace into a hospital for a warden, 12 poor men, and two women nurses, by the name of Jesus Hospital; which foundation still subsists. This building is on the north side of the churchyard, the South front of which is here represented (plate I.).

Behind is a cloister, and between the chimneys window under a pediment, 4 doors and a porch, stone steps ascending to the hall, in the windows of which are the red Rose crowned, and several times repeated:

D’N’S EXALTACIO MEA, and DELECTARE IN DOMINO
a border of crosses moline A. and S. and a saltire A. Erm. Between four fleur-de-lis G. The arms of bishop Longland, fig. I. There were, in the Wrights time, those of bishop Russel, a chevron between three roses, fig. 2.

In the window of the wardens room, on a label:

O LUX PREFVLGENS ENVSTA EX SINE MANERIS EM ORATE.
Bishop in a red rochet and mitre, jewels on his hands, kneeling and praying, holding a crosier with a scroll round it;

EGNO RESIDENS O DIVINA PATRONA PARADISI GAVDIA DONO ET LIMS.
Over the chimney three roses, perhaps the arms of bishop Russel, but without the chevron.

In the hall lies a folio Bible inscribed, “Liddington hospital Bible, by John Clare, Esq. Steward to lord Exeter”; and a written prayer for the hospital read with the rest of the service by the warden.

At the entrance to the churchyard is a stone watchtower.

The church, dedicated to Saint Andrew, consists of a body on 5 pointed arches, clustered columns, and 5 square clerestory windows. Two aisles.

In the East end of the South aisle a piscina, a perk over it, and two on each side of it.

In the East end of the North aisle is a perk and no piscina. Door to loft, and steps to rood-loft.

On the floor, the brass figure of a woman in the Vale head-dress, thin meagre visage, mitten sleeves, belt and cordon.

In the South wall of the chancel a small window low as a door.

Three steps lead up to the altar on the chancel floor.

Three seats and a piscina are in the South wall.

A brass figure of a man in hair, fur gown, long loose sleeves furred at the end, long close sleeves, a woman in the Veil head-dress, fallen cape to gown, furred cuffs, long belt, and cordon fur falls from the hips. Below, 5 sons and 10 daughters.

Arms, twice, on a chevron 3 roundels between 3 birds. Two shields gone.

Here lyeth Helyn Derby, the wyf of Robert Derby, gentlemen,

wch decessyd on Whitsonday, in the year of our Lord God A.D.

CCCCLIIIUIJ on whose soule God have mercy. ABCD

The epitaph on Edward Watson, secretary to three bishops of Lincoln, who died 1530, mentioned by Mr Wright, P, 81, is still remaining.

Here is a school, the Masters salary 6l. 14s. 8d. for five boys ; to which a lady left 300l ; the interest of which, much improved, arising from land, is for the benefit of three parishes, Nottingham, Lenton co, Nottingham, and Lidington.
The church is a vicarage, prebend of Lincoln, the corps whereof consists of the
impropriation and advowson, valued, 1543, at 20l. 10s. ; Now, in the Kings books, at 20l.
A list of the prebends may be seen in Willis’s Lincoln, p.209 -212. The vicarage was
endowed so early as the reign of Henry III. and consisted in altarage and all the
small tithes of Lidington, except those of the bishop’s court (curia), and of all mills
in the parish, and in two marks a year from the churches of Caldecot and
Snelleston. Valued together at 8l. 2s. (Wright, p. 81). Clear yearly value, 43l. 17s. 1d.
being a discharged living; and, though in the diocese of Peterborough, exempt from
the jurisdiction of that fee, being a peculiar of the church of Lincoln (Bacon, 849).

______________________________

Caldecot church, dedicated to St John, stands at the South-east extremity of the
village, consists of a Nave and chancel (the latter lower than the former, having
only an East and two South Windows), a slender tower embattled, with a stone
spire having windows in it. The nave has a South aisle, and a stone, dated 1648,
fixed at the East end of the roof of the nave. In the south wall of the chancel, two
pointed stalls and a square piscina. A locker at the back of the communion table,
and another in the north wall. The nave has two pointed arches on octagonal
pillars ; the font is octagon. In the South aisle is a long pointed piscina. This is a
Chapel annexed to Lydington, served by Mr Graham, of Gretton, patron.
The present Lord of the Manor is the earl of Exeter.

In Fitzherbert’s Natura Brevium, p. 184*, is a writ of nusance, directed to the sheriff of
Rutland, authorising the Bishop of Lincoln to disannul (prosternere) the market at
Uppingham, set up unjustly to prejudice of the three market of C, Bishop of Lincoln,
by P. de M. (Peter de Montfort). Mr. Wright supposes this writ of the time of Henry III.
when Peter De Montfort was lord of the manor of Uppingham.

Yours, &c. D.H.