

INCUMBENTS AND PATRONS OF MAKER and kindred matters

Note¹

Page 1

In a letter of John, Bishop of Exeter 1186-1191, addressed to Martin, Prior of Plympton 1176-1188, the church of Macre is listed among the possessions of the priory. The priory, which was Augustinian, was founded by Bishop Warelwast in 1121. He is described² as an “obsequious courtier” and Maker was presumably given by or under the influence of the Crown.

Owing to the lack of episcopal registers, no incumbents before or after Maker’s appropriation to Plympton are recorded until:

Bishop Bronescombe’s Register³

Gilbert de Plymptone: priest, was instituted to Macre 6 June 1264; patrons-the Prior and Convent of Plympton⁴.

At the same time, Bronescombe proceeded to “tax” this and all other local vicarages, assigning to the vicar of Maker the altar offerings, a tithe of fish, a dwelling house, eight acres of glebe and one mark from the tithe of corn.

Note⁵

From 1291 to 1396 there is a gap in the episcopal registers. During this period Sir Hugh was instituted by Bishop Bitton or Bishop Quivel.

Page 2

Taxation of Pope Nicholas IV, 1291

This gives the value of Maker as 53s 4d⁶. It appears also that the rectorial tithe was by that time transferred to Launceston.

The taxation of temporal possessions at the same time shows that Plympton had the Cremyll Estate⁷.

¹ The title ‘Sir’ applied to clery represents the Latin ‘dominus’ and is purely honorific. Graduates are ‘Master’, that is ‘magister’. There is one apparent use of ‘Sir’ in the Maker Register subsequent to 1630; it then dies out.

² Ollard Cross & Bond – Dictionary of English Church History

³ Hingeston-Randolf, page 31

⁴ Polsue, Parochial History, adds “ad ecclesiam vacantem”

⁵ The Maker glebe fields which include some of the steepest land in the parish amounted to eight acres until the sale of a portion with the old vicarage in 1957. As the old vicarage also has the spring nearest the church other than St Julian’s Well, the site of the house and the glebe no doubt correspond with those allotted under Bronescombe’s regulations.

⁶ The same value as Quethiock

⁷ Chapel Lands

Bishop Stapledon's Register

Sir Hugh, died 21 September 1318.

Sir William de Miriefield: priest, instituted 5 October 1318; patrons - the Prior and Convent of Plympton⁸. Died 13 January 1321-2.

Sir John de Crewcombe: priest, instituted 17 February 1321-2; patrons - the Prior and Convent of Plympton.

Bishop Grandison's Register⁹

Sir Richard Campernowne, given licence for celebration by his own chaplain at Insworke 6 August 1331.

Sir John de Devenebury: priest, instituted at Chudleigh 8 May 1360 to Macre "add ecclesiam vacantem".

Sir John Paywelle (or Baywell): instituted at some date prior to 1386.

Bishop Brantingham's Register

16 September 1386: The Bishop to Master William Hendre, Official Peculiar for Cornwall:-

"The bishop has been informed concerning Sir John Paywelle, the vicar of Maker, that he was an aged man and too feeble to serve his cure".

The Official was to appoint a coadjutor, allowing the vicar to nominate approved clerics and in the event of delay, the official was to make the appointment himself. However, on the death of Sir John Paywelle

Sir John Frunde: instituted at Clyst 12 January 1390-1; patrons - the Prior and Convent of Plympton.

Thomas Champernon: general licence for celebration – 1374.

William Trerice and his wife: licence to celebrate at Stonehouse – 1376.

Stephen Derneforde and his wife: licensed – 1379.

William Trerice and his wife: licensed at Stonehouse and Harebeare – 1381.

⁸ Page 131

⁹ Maker confirmed as a possession of Plympton Vol.2 fol.12

Note¹⁰

Page 3(ii)

Bishop Stafford's Register

Sir John Frunde: resigned 1405.

John Stybbe: chaplain, instituted 6 October 1405.

John Motelegh: was instituted 30 July 1406; when he resigned

John Pral: was instituted 7 July 1410

Stephen Durneford and his wife, Rade Gund: licensed to celebrate in East Stonehouse – 28 September 1411.

Page 4

Bishop Lacy's Register

Master John Holdyche: chaplain, instituted at Chudleigh on 19 November 1437 on the death of Sir John Pralle.

Oliver gives the following successors:

Nicolas Tremedon: alias Thomas, 8 July 1491; on whose death

John Ryse: 26 June 1512, on presentation of William Fortescue Esq¹¹; on his death

Bernard Traversse: 25 June 1519 on presentation of the Priory; on his death

John Rose: 2 November 1536 on presentation of Bishop Vesey (also a curate, John Cade, 1537-8).

Page 5

Suppression of the Monasteries

On the suppression of Plympton, the advowson of Maker, the tithe and the Cremyll estate of the Priory was affected to Dr John Tregonwell LLD, suppresser of

¹⁰ Hingeston-Randolph heads the 1376 entry "East Stonehouse" and the 1381 entry "Maker and Calstock", but there is nothing in the text to suggest which Stonehouse is meant, and the Trerice mansion could have been in West Stonehouse, perhaps where the Lower Gardens of Mount Edgcombe now are, whose situation separated from the house is otherwise difficult to explain.

¹¹ This may be the John Ryse who was confirmed Prior of Plympton 3 April 1508 and leased the Cremyll Estate to Sir Peter Edgcombe in 1512.

Monasteries, who obtained a special grant of the advowson of Maker from the Priory by virtue of which he appointed:

Page 5(ii)

William Williams: 30 October 1537.

Note¹²

Oliver gives the following successors:

Richard Havell: 19 December 1552; patron - the King; on whose death

William Barnes: 25 November 1592; patron - the Queen.

Nicolas Deeble: 7 October 1602, age 26, MA (Oxon) and later Rector of Calstock from 1610 where he resided¹³.

Page 6 and 7

He was succeeded at Calstock by his son Nicolas and at Maker by his nephew:

John Deeble: instituted 18 July 1631. He was dragged from his pulpit and ejected¹⁴ some time before 16 December 1653 when an intruded minister was appointed.

Francis Collens: during his period at Maker vicarage, he lost two daughters (October 1654 and October 1655) and his wife, Honor (October 1655). He remarried 1656 or 7, and in 1673 was inducted vicar of Charles Church in Plymouth. In this church he was buried 13 March 1686.

Meanwhile . . .

John Deeble was restored to the benefice of Maker after 1660, but was infirm and unable to work.

Robert Warren: Rector of Rame, was put in charge of the parish and was instituted 28 July 1664 "ad vicariam legitime vacantem" and he held Maker in plurality with Rame until he died and was buried at Rame 10 February 1668-9.¹⁵

Note¹⁶

¹² The Cremyll Estate (now known as Chapel Lands) was at that time leased by Sir Peter Edcumbe from Prior Ryse (see above) and on the suppression the estate was granted by Henry VIII on 8 February 1545 to John Pope of London, gent, who was licensed on the next day to sell or convey it to Sir Richard Edcumbe of Stonehouse Kt. The conveyance was executed 21 February 1545.

¹³ Maker glebe at this time was 8 acres – 4 arable, 1½ meadow, 2½ furrow

¹⁴ Walker – "Sufferings of the Clergy"

¹⁵ See also Notes on Rame

David Lawrence: inducted 31 March 1669, resided at Maker, baptised eight children, buried one.

Page 7(ii)

Robert Hoblyn: was instituted 18 June 1683. Patron – the Crown.

Robert Michell: was inducted 27 October 1692. He married at Maker May 1698; on his death

Thomas Smart: was instituted 28 February 1717-8. He baptised two sons at Maker and buried one. He is reputed to have rebuilt the vicarage and from the comparison of the present house with the earlier terrier¹⁷, it appears that all the back part of the house belonged to the pre-Smart period. He added the front.

Note¹⁸

Smart was buried at Maker 22 May 1735 and succeeded by

Page 8

John Wolrige: instituted 22 July 1736. His great-uncle was a Rector of Rame. He was buried at Maker in the chancel with his wife 2 April 1776¹⁹; succeeded by

Thomas Drake: inducted 20 August 1776; then

Richard Elliott: instituted 9 February 1785; then

Darell Stephens: instituted 18 February 1796. He was also Rector of Little Petherick from 1834 and does not seem to have resided at Maker. He employed Thomas Hunt Ley²⁰ as curate and also his relative Edward Trelawney who succeeded him.

¹⁶ When Collens was in Plymouth, his neighbours would have been Dr Robert Ashton and family whom he must have know well. Ashton was Warren's son-in-law. Collens and Ashton, as incumbents of Charles Church and St Andrews, Plymouth were most probably of Parliamentary sympathies.

¹⁷ At Exeter by Mrs Watson in 1972

¹⁸ Reynolds family tradition has it that while on a visit to Mount Edgcumbe, Reynolds (then aged less than 12) was at Maker Church with the first Lord Edgcumbe and his son who was about seven years older than Joshua. During the sermon, preached by the Rev Thomas Smart who was tutor to the Edgcumbe family, Reynolds drew a sketch of the parson on his thumbnail, causing much mirth between the two boys. On seeing the sketch, Lord Edgcumbe encouraged him to paint a large version of the portrait, giving him a boat-sail for a canvas and a boat-house at Cremyll for a studio. The painting is inscribed on the reverse "Rev Thomas Smart, Vicar of Maker, died May 1735. Painted by Joshua Reynolds at Mount Edgcumbe when under 12 years old". The painting was given to the Rev Joseph Smart, thence to his sister's family – A J Boger. Mrs V C W Boger sold it in 1949 to the Harmsworths and it now hangs in the boardroom of the Western Morning News. A photograph is in Maker Church, another in Mount Edgcumbe.

¹⁹ The stone recording the burial is now under the tower, against the south wall on the floor

²⁰ See Rame

He was responsible for bringing the Norman font from St Merryn when it was thrown out by that Church after being replaced by a fine blue Catacleuse stone font found in the ruins of St Constantine²¹.

Edward Trelawney: instituted 24 April 1848²². Trelawney died in 1867 and is buried in Maker Church yard.

Frederick Thomas William Wintle: was instituted in 1867, having been Rector of Rame for a year. He and the 4th Earl together did much for the Parish.

Cremyll : The Earl built a school for the estate children at Cremyll. An apse was added, partitioned off as a sanctuary and Wintle obtained the Bishop's license for this as a chapel of ease 17 July 1867²³.

Millbrook: There had been a chapel of ease at Millbrook since 1827, served by a Perpetual Curate who made returns of baptisms to the vicar of Maker. Marriages and burials were confined to Maker. In 1869 Millbrook was constituted a separate parish. In December of the same year, on a petition to the Bishop, the ground surrounding the (then) church was consecrated as a churchyard.

Maker: At the Vestry meeting held in Maker Church on Easter Tuesday 1869:

“It was proposed by Mr Veale (churchwarden) and seconded by Mr W Willcocks that a meeting be convened on Monday 14 April next at 3 o'clock in the afternoon to decide what steps should be taken to raise funds for the repairs of the Parish Church of Maker during the year ensuing”

This was the beginning of Wintle's chief contribution to Maker. In 1872 a meeting was called at which plans already formulated by the Earl and Wintle were discussed. A plan drawn up by J P St Aubyn was produced

²¹ St Merryn adjoins Little Petherick

²² A document of the 4th Earl partly copied by Mr Winchester at Mount Edgcumbe in about 1965 says: “Recollections of R E Trelawney – Sermons on 39 Articles etc. Everybody loved him and he came out well in the black cholera days of 1849 when one in seven of his people died”. This document is no longer at Mount Edgcumbe but may have been deposited at the CRO Truro.

²³ The license and the document revoking it are among the parish papers. The memorial inscription recording the Cremyll School and Sunday School is now on the north wall of the vestry at Maker, to which it was moved from the north wall of the apse at Cremyll when the latter's use as a church was discontinued (about 1970). The furnishings are also at Maker and listed in the inventory.

“for reseating the church, removing the Mount Edgcumbe gallery and opening a new aisle in the South Transept”

The Earl offered

“to take upon himself the whole of the interior woodwork, making a new aisle etc on condition that the roof should be made good and put in thorough and substantial repair”

Wintle presided over all the work which followed²⁴. The total expenditure was £1,884 1s 9½d and the total achievement is recorded on the North wall inside the tower porch. The committee dissolved on completion of its work, 27 September 1875.

Wintle resigned Maker in October 1875 and went to be Rector of Bere Ferrers²⁵.

F H Newnham: was instituted in 1875²⁶.

Page 10

In 1876 Newnham started services in Kingsand in a room in a house²⁷. This continued until the building by the 4th Earl of the Mission Room on the Green in 1878. This became so popular that it became too small and steps were taken to build St Paul's, Egloshayle²⁸.

The Earl gave the site, the stone and a sum of money²⁹. Unfortunately, neither the Earl or Newnham saw to the provision of any conveyance of deed of gift.

Page 10(ii)

Newnham was buried at Maker and is recorded on a tablet just East of the North wall of the tower porch.

He was interested in the occult and there is a detailed report of his experiments in the use of a planchette by his wife in “These Things Happen”³⁰.

Page 11

²⁴ The minutes, accounts, details of fund-raising work etc, all admirably put together by him, remain among the parish documents together with Sr Aubyn's plan of the church.

²⁵ His photograph may be one of those among the parish papers, but his last surviving daughter, then nearly 90, was unable certainly to identify it in 1970.

²⁶ Some issues of the “Maker Chronicle” survive from his time among the parish papers. His photograph also survives, identified by parishioners who knew him, notably Mrs Eve (nee Earle) who was living at Hooe in 1971, aged nearly 96.

²⁷ In 1970 this formed the north portion of Honey's Stores (two doors below Kingsand House in Fore Street). Now the Village Stores (2004)

²⁸ Now the Church Hall (Community Hall – 2004)

²⁹ A description of the fund-raising with a list of subscribers and a report of the dedication are to be found in the “Maker Chronicle” among the parish papers.

³⁰ By Charles J Seymour, published by Odhams Press

Note³¹

E A Evans: was instituted on Newnham's death³².

Page 12

Francis W Briggs: was instituted in 1897. He had a wealthy wife and was able to maintain the vicarage house and garden in some style, being in the practice of exchanging choice plants with the Lord Mount Edgcumbe³³.

The experimental Parochial Church Council began in his time, largely under the impetus of that ardent churchman, the 4th Earl³⁴.

Briggs was keenly interested in church music and a strong choir of boys and men was kept up. The boys went to church for practice on a weekday evening and were afterwards entertained at the vicarage. A large collection of diocesan choral festival music which was in the vestry suggests that the choir regularly attended these festivals.

He was assisted during 1897-1901 and 1903-5 by his nephew Frederick Julian Briggs who left for Barbados in 1905.

Samuel Herbert: was instituted in 1921. On his resignation in 1943 to become chaplain of Maryfield³⁵, the union of the parish with Rame took place and the Rector of Rame, Elias Truscott became incumbent of the united parish.

Elias Truscott: (1943) On the instigation of the 5th Earl, he moved into Maker vicarage. The proceeds of the sale of Rame Rectory and the land attached were spent on doing up the vicarage³⁶.

Page 13

INCUMBENTS AND PATRONS OF RAME and kindred matters

The earliest surviving entry in the ecclesiastical registers falls between 23 May and 25 June 1263. It refers to the institution of Robert, the chaplain of Cullompton, to the vacant living of Rame by Bishop Walter Bronescombe on the presentation of Fulco de Ferraris (Ferrers) with the right "of succeeding additionally to the whole office on the death of Robert the vicar".

³¹ He was remembered by Mrs Lee as a cripple walking with two sticks.

³² There is a photograph of him in Army uniform in the parish papers.

³³ A bill of fixtures which he purchased on coming into the living from his predecessor is among the parish papers. The total exceed the annual value of the living and at the end of his first year in the parish he mentioned that his expenses exceeded the income of the living.

³⁴ It's minute book survives.

³⁵ Wilcove

³⁶ This, in turn, was sold in about 1957, after remaining empty for more than a year, for £1,700. The proceeds were put towards the purchase, in about 1955, for £5,000 of the former Gray residence, Kingsand House in Fore Street.

It would therefore appear that there had been both a rector and a vicar of Rame and that the vicar, Robert, was living at the time of this entry.

On 24 April 1265 the Bishop took action against the Abbot and Convent of Tavistock to show cause why they had taken, among other things, a tithe from Rame and in 1269 the Abbot, Johannes Chubbe, was deposed.

Value of Rame

Valuation of Pope Nicholas IV 1291 – 46s 8d.

William de Nywenham: clerk, was instituted to the vacant living on 1 April 1318 on the presentation of Sir John de Ferrariis Kt. He received a dispensation for non-residence to study for 2 years from 22 September 1318. This was renewed for a year in 1320. He previously had the parish of West Buckland where he had also spent much time abroad in study.

In 1324 Newenham appears in the Feet of Fines in the case of Wringford³⁷.

William Chape: was ordained deacon on 15 September 1331 on the presentation of Johannis de Rame, patron of the church.

Page 14

John Raufe: clerk, was instituted at Chudleigh 21 January 1339-40, patron Joan de Rame. He was given dispensation for non-residence to study at Oxford, to “return to his living whenever possible and to give account at the end of the period to the Bishop”. In 1354-5 he was appointed a penitencier and again in 1371, the reference being to Master John Rauf.

Page 15

John Dauney: chaplain, was instituted at Clyst on the death of Sir John Rawe (Raufe) on 19 September 1376. On 2 February 1396 as Rector of Rame, he was licensed by Bishop Stafford to celebrate in St Michael’s chapel in that parish. On his death

Sir William Moggerygg: was instituted on 14 February 1422-3; patron - Stephen Derneforde. He was licensed to celebrate in the chapel of St Michael on 1 April 1425 and on the same date forty days indulgence was offered to visitors to St Katherine’s Chapel, Plymouth.

³⁷ Com 484 – 18 Edw III

Enquiry into Patronage

10 September 1465: it was stated that Sir William Mokerygge died on 8 August 1465 and that William Kerver Esq and William Derneforde, bastard, are patrons by hereditary right of a grant from James Derneforde Esq, son and heir of Stephen Dernford and Lord of the Manor of Rame.

Sir John Tanton: chaplain, was instituted 13 September 1465; patrons – William Kerver and William Derneford.

Master John Luggwardyn: was instituted at a date unknown; patron – Charles Dynham Esq.

Enquiry into Patronage

19 May 1491: it was stated that the benefice was void on the resignation of Master John Luggwardyn ... and that this turn belongs to the Lord of the Manor of Rame.

However ...

Sir Edward Mayow: chaplain, was instituted on 14 July 1491 on the resignation of Luggwardyn; patron – Charles Dynham.

St James Nutshawe: chaplain, was instituted on the death of Mayow; patron – Peter Edgcumbe Kt.

Sir John Cornew: priest, was instituted on the resignation of Nutshawe on 5 June 1531; patron – Sir Peter Edgcumbe Kt.

Robert Allyn: was instituted on the death of Cornew on 7 February 1543-4; patron – Sir Richard Eggecombe Kt.

Sir John Nicholls: was instituted on the death of Allyn on 12 October 1557; patron – Sir Richard Edgcumbe³⁸.

John Harte: instituted 16 December 1577 on the death of Nicholls; patron – Peter Edgcumbe Esq.

Robert Campyan BA: instituted on 4 October 1586 on the resignation of Harte; patrons – Richard Carewe of Antony, Richard Edgcumbe and Richard Harwell, clerk.

³⁸ In 1556 he had been appointed to the parish church of Credenon, but “he held that incumbency only for a short time”. But in 1572 there is a minute in the accounts of the governors of the parish church of Holy Cross, Credenon of a gift to the poor of that town from “Sir John Nycolls, clerk, parson of Rame”.

Thomas Dixe BA: instituted 9 January 1611-12. No detail as to the manner of vacancy; patron – the Crown, by lapse.

Page 16(ii)

Robert Seaman MA: instituted (to St German's-in-Rame) on 21 February 1612-3; patron – John Battersbye Esq. Dixe, however, did not relinquish the benefice and Battersbye brought proceedings on the writ “ejectio firme” against the Bishop and Dixe. Seaman was re-instituted 11 July 1613³⁹.

Page 17/Page 18

William Kemp MA: instituted on the death of Seaman, 16 April 1644; patron – John Batterbye Esq. A ledger stone to “Paschoe Kemp of this Parish” lies in the centre aisle. He died 1628. A monument to “Joh Battersby of Rame” is on the east end of the south aisle wall⁴⁰.

Robert Warren: instituted perhaps 1646 but sometime before July 1655 when his fifth child, Nathaniel, was baptised at Rame⁴¹.

Warren was probably of Parliamentary sympathies. On 13 February 1663-4 his daughter Margaret married Dr Roger Ashton DD, vicar of St Andrew's, Plymouth. Ashton had been elected by the Mayor, Councillors and Freemen of Plymouth and was inducted 30 October 1662 by the Rectors of Lifton and Bere Ferrers and the vicar of Buckland Monachorum, assisted by the “preaching minister” of Charles' Church, Francis Porter.

The Ashtons evidently spent much time at Rame and Warren was clearly on friendly terms with a son-in-law acceptable to the Parliamentary citizens of Plymouth. The entries of the Ashtons' children's baptisms (and some burials) are in the Rame register and they themselves were buried there.

Page 19

The Ashton's fine black and white marble monument is on the west wall of the north transept and also a monument to three of their children with the following inscription:

Heere lye the Bodyes of Mary and Anne Daughters of Roger Ashton Dr
of Divinity; and Margaret his wife who died in the yeeres 1664 and 1667
as also a son of their who Departed this life in the same hour it began to
live 1666.

³⁹ Ledger stones commemorating Robert Seaman, parson of Rame, 1644, and his wife Alice, 1633, lie in the main aisle, perhaps having been moved from the chancel.

⁴⁰ See 'Monuments'

⁴¹ Details of Warren's forbears and family are fully reported in Geoffrey Blanchford White's original notes

Heere reader see
Poore Infants three
Lye like greene fruit pluckt from the Tree
yet they are blest
and are at rest
Though implumed birds forc't from their nest
one was a son
his race soon run
Hee liv'd not once to see the sun
I murmur not
they were begot
To the grave, mankind's common lot
It glads my heart
their better part
Is now with God never to part

Not everything that was done in Warren's incumbency met with his approval. The first page of the surviving Register Book of Rame records the appointment by the vote of the principal parishioners⁴² of Richard Lawry as registrar of the parish. His own signature was clearly written on the bottom third of the page, but this third has been off. At the end of the entries made by Lawry, when the book was returned to Warren the latter was written "exit registrarius". It is to be presumed that it was Warren who tore the signature of the offending registrar out of the parchment volume. His own entries begin with a flourish of Latin – "nomina baptizatorum ..." etc.

Warren died 7 February 1668-9 and was buried on the 10th⁴³

He had held Maker also from December 1663 until his death, having been in charge of that parish since 1660⁴⁴.

He made arrangements for his son to succeed him and for his family to retain the rectory as appears from the institution record.

Robert Warren (Junior): instituted 16 February 1668-9, no statement as to vacancy; patron – Pascho Edwards, assign of Robert Warren by virtue of grant by John Battersby to Edwards and Warren "for this turn". The Edwards family may already have been occupying Rame Place.

⁴² Whose names and marks are appended

⁴³ His ledger stone is in the central aisle immediately in front of the font, having perhaps been moved from the chancel.

⁴⁴ See Maker notes

He married Pricilla Granger at Rame in 1670; the baptisms of nine children are recorded at Rame. He was buried 10 October 1690.

Page 19(iii)

Thomas Wolrige: instituted 9 March 1690-1 on the death of Warren; patron – Pearce Edgcumbe Esq. On 30 May 1695 he married Mrs Ann Matthew at Rame. She was buried 22 September 1695, leaving no children. On 30 October 1718 he married Mrs Eve Carleton at Maker⁴⁵. Their daughter Matilda was baptised 16 December 1720 and buried 24 April 1722.

Wolrige was also vicar of Mevagissey from 1722. He was buried 24 February 1737 and his widow, Eve, on 8 October 1743.

Page 20

William Baron BA: instituted on the death of Woldridge (sic) on 11 August 1737; patron – Richard Edgcumbe Esq. He was resident for much of his long incumbency and information can be found from the registers.

John Baron MA: instituted on the death of William Baron on 6 June 1787; patron – George, Viscount Mount Edgcumbe. On his death

John Arscott BA: was instituted on 22 May 1804; patron – Richard, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe. In the Visitation Return of 1881 Arscott says that he was ordained priest 12 July 1801. He had the perpetual cure of Plympton St Maurice in Devon where he resided and did duty. Rame was served by his curate, the Reverend William Rennell, who was resident but not licensed and with a stipend of £60 plus fees.

He married Mary Ann Strode by license in Plympton St Maurice on 2 July 1804. The Strodes were a wealthy and important family of Plympton. Arscott and his wife are buried there and there is a monument to him in the church.

Thomas Hunt Ley MA: instituted 31 March 1824 on the cession of Arscott; patron – Richard, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe.

He was born about 1786, graduated at Oxford and was ordained priest 21 December 1812. He was appointed curate of Maker by Darell Stephens (qv) 1809. He married Sarah Hillier at Maker on 25 March 1812 – nine children were baptised at Maker.

On 16 April 1813 he advertised in the “The Courier” of London as wishing “to take into his family four young gentlemen for education. The Advertiser is a married man. Direct for: Reverend J H Ley, Maker Vicarage, near Plymouth Dock”.⁴⁶

⁴⁵ Recorded in the Rame register

⁴⁶ His signature invites the reading of “J” for “T”

On 15 February 1820 Ley was instituted to the vicarage of Landrake; patron – Richard Earl of Mount Edgcumbe. He never resided at Landrake but maintained a curate there, Reverend John Roberts, to whom he paid £80 pa and fees, although in 1808 the value of the Landrake benefice was only £40. Ley retained Landrake until his death and is commemorated in a window there.

At Maker in 1821, he himself received £65 pa (plus 6 guineas for Bennet Preacher sermons) with house and garden. He remained as curate of Maker until 1833 when he was succeeded by Edward Trelawney.

On his institution to Rame, he put in as his curate Richard Dunning, probably a relative. He appears not to have taken up residence at Rame until October 1835, despite leaving Maker in 1833. His signature, however, appears in Rame registers in December 1834 and in April and May 1835.

After taking up residence at Rame, he appears to do all duties with occasional help from sons or neighbours until 1862 when he had George P Grantham as a curate, but continued to officiate himself and did all duties from June 1864 to November 1865.

A curate, John Butterfield, appears in January 1866 and Ley was buried from Rame Rectory on 9 March 1866, aged 79. He is commemorated in the east window of Rame.

Ley's wife, Sarah, died 16 November 1857 and is buried, according to a tablet in Rame porch, in Cumner, Berkshire.

In 1819, in September and October, he buried nine children under five years who died "in measles". In 1832, between 26 July and 9 September, he buried at Maker thirty-two victims of asiatic cholera, of which seven on 19 August.

In 1849, between 12 August and 8 October, he buried at Rame thirty-seven victims of cholera, of which five on 4 September.

W J Cox (qv) says of him, when Cox was a boy:

"The Reverend T H Ley was the minister of Rame church and also of the chapel of ease in Cawsand⁴⁷. The Rector of Rame was a strict churchman and in no shape or form would dare to have tolerated a dissenter.

A good preacher, many a good sermon have I hear the old gent preach of a Sunday evening in the chapel of ease. The service was conducted on sound evangelical principles".

⁴⁷ This will be about 1845

After service as a boy aboard ship:

Page 21(ii)

“The Rev T H Ley, of whom I have spoken before took me then to live at the Rectory. Stable boy, ostler, boot and shoe polisher, knife and fork cleaner, gardener, errand boy etc etc. Here I remained some time and spent many happy and miserable hours but on the old gentleman hearing that I sometimes attended the Wesleyan chapel on a Sunday with Mother, he gave me notice to quit unless I would promise not to go near those deluded people again. I would not promise – so good-bye to Parson and the Rectory”.

Page 22

Dr J T Cheves: in the “Maker Donation Book” records of Ley:

“The last time the stocks, now in Maker Church, were used was in 1851, when a man named Spriddle was placed in them by order of Parson Ley, Rector of Rame and a JP on account of his being drunk. The stocks were placed outside Beach House, The Cleave, Kingsand”.

Rex Carne: farmer of Rame Barton⁴⁸

A verbal reminiscence as told him by his father:

“Father used to do a trade in landing coal on the beach, a bit of farming and so on. One day Parson Ley and his dog were walking from Rame down to Cawsand. They met Carne and his dog.

The two dogs took a dislike to each other and fought, watched and encouraged by their owners. Perhaps the Rector’s dog lost; anyhow, when the fight was over, Parson Ley said to Carne ‘We’ve seen which is the better dog. Now let’s see which is the better man’.

With which he took off his coat and gave a very good account of himself”.

Note⁴⁹

Frederich Thomas William Wintle: was instituted July 1866, patron William Henry, Earl of Mt Edgcumbe (see Maker notes).

William Cornwallis Evans: instituted on the resignation of Wintle in July or August 1867. Evans was a low churchman and when the Sisters established

⁴⁸ Died about 1964, aged 72

⁴⁹ A descendant of Ley was living in Millbrook until 1967 when he emigrated with his family to Australia

their small convent at Norrock they were not able to operate in Rame parish but only Maker.

Page 22(ii)

Evans added to the Rectory the eastern wing, slate hung, for his married daughter to live in. His son, John Amphlett Evans was ordained a chaplain the Royal Navy. He predeceased his father and both are commemorated on a tablet on the north wall of the chancel at Rame. Evans himself is buried at Maker.

St Andrew's was built early in his incumbency.

Note⁵⁰

George Henry Trist MA: instituted May or June 1894 on the resignation of Evans; patron – William Henry, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe.

Crockford at that time gives the value of Rame as:

45 acres glebe. Gross income £200, net £164 and house.
Population 865

Robert Charles Warre Ekins: instituted December 1900 on resignation of Trist; patron – William Henry, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe. Ekins was an Anglo-Catholic and made alterations in the church arrangements accordingly ... He became an Honorary Canon of Truro.

He had a son, who died in his late teens of meningitis while serving with the RFC⁵¹.

He had two daughters. The younger, Audrey Emma, died in 1921 aged 27⁵². The elder, Christine, married Captain Donald Horatio Nelson RN⁵³. They lived in Cawsand and she died at the birth of her daughter Mary.

Page 23

All the above members of the family are buried at Rame, including the son. Mr and Mrs Ekins are buried in the churchyard. Nelson is commemorated by the Table of Rectors in the church⁵⁴.

The family were friends of Noel Coward, who used to stay at the Rectory, and also of the family of Herbert Reed, the wood-carver⁵⁵.

⁵⁰ Mrs Eve (nee May Earle) who was born in Lower Row and was still living at Hooe in 1971, recalls Evans removing his surplice before going into the pulpit to preach.

⁵¹ John Robert Warre Ekins died on 17 April 1917. He is commemorated in the east window of the north transept, the face of "St Michael" being a likeness of the deceased.

⁵² She was commemorated by parishioners by the gift and installation of the organ.

⁵³ A collateral descendant of the Admiral

⁵⁴ Mary Nelson became a member of the Sisters of Bethany

Ekins pioneered electric lighting at St Andrews before there was any in the village. He was also a pioneer motorist.

Note⁵⁶

Elias Truscott: instituted June or July 1940 on the death of Ekins(?)⁵⁷; patron – Piers Alexander Hamilton, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe.

On the retirement of Herbert from Maker in 1943, the scheme for the union of the two parishes came into effect, and the burden of trying to make this work was considerable. In addition, there were a number of gun-sites and Service installations in the parish to be looked after. Truscott was induced by the Earl to leave Rame and live at Maker⁵⁸.

Tom Venables Hordern: instituted 23 May 1952 on Truscott's resignation; patron for this turn - the Crown. In 1961 he was instituted to Shaw-with-Witley, Sarum, where he died. He was married with three daughters.

Geoffrey Blanchford White MA: instituted 1 August 1961 on the resignation of Hordern; patron for this turn – Kenelm William Edward, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe. White was Rural Dean of East 1971-1976.

⁵⁵ Whose firm produced the unfinished screen in the church, and whose son made the woodwork of the Table of Rectors.

⁵⁶ Rex Carne told how once the car broke down in Cawsand and Ekins fetched Carne to tow him up to Rame with a horse. It came on to rain hard and as they mounted the hill, Carne saw a smile grow ever broader on the Rector's face. When they reached the Rectory, Carne asked Ekins what the joke was. "There was I sitting in the dry" said Ekins "and there were you out in the rain with the horse and I was thinking to myself what you would be saying".

⁵⁷ Ekins died 8 August 1945

⁵⁸ On leaving Maker-with-Rame, Truscott went to Torpoint and while there was for three or four years Rural Dean of East and was made an honorary canon of Truro. In about 1965, he was instituted to St Issey and there both he and Mrs Truscott died. They had three daughters and were greatly aided in all their parishes by Mrs Truscott's older unmarried sister, Miss Copeland. Truscott was an able amateur actor.