

Bridgwater meeting, Secretary's report  
H. B. CARSLAKE, Esq., as Town Clerk, exhibited a very valuable and interesting series of Churchwardens' Accounts belonging to the Corporation of Bridgwater, some of which were as early as the time of Rich. II, and a Taxation Roll of the County temp. Edw. III.

They had kindly permitted the Secretaries to examine the valuable collection of Documents in their muniment-room, which were of a most interesting character, not only supplying ample materials for the history of Bridgwater, but also many facts relating to the County. He trusted the Corporation would allow them to have access to the papers again, and allow a selection of them to be published by the Society.

AN INVENTORY OF THE VESTMENTS &C  
BELONGING TO SAINT KATHERINE ILE, IN THE  
CHURCH OF BRIDGWATER, WITH RENTS  
BY THE REV. W. A. JONES, M.A., F.G.S.

THE original MS., of which the following is a copy, is on parchment. It was brought first to light during an examination of the records and archives of the corporation of Bridgwater, which, by their permission, was undertaken by the Rev. W. H. Black, late of the Record office, and myself. It bears no date, but the handwriting is clearly of the 15th century. The Rev. Dr. Oliver, of Exeter, considers that it was written in the reign of Henry VI. It is now given, *verbatim et literatim*, from the original, because of the great interest it possesses to the philologist, and to the ecclesiastical and local antiquarian. The vestments require no comment, as they correspond more or less with those still in use by the Roman Catholic Church. There are two entries, however, which are peculiar, and as such deserving of special notice. One is the "ij steyned clothes to stond bfore the Tablemer in y<sup>e</sup> lent tyme." Here "Tablemer" is probably a form of Tabernaculum. In the original the letters are perfectly clear and distinct; but with the word in this form, those who are more versed in these matters than I am seem altogether unacquainted. The other entry is a "guer" or "quer of Comemorations." Here "quer" is probably a form of "quare," or "quire," a square of paper, whereon were recorded the names of the benefactors of St. Catherine's Ile.

I will only further remark that the streets referred to in the Rent Roll bear the same names in the present day. "Ratyn Rew," however, has disappeared, and I have no means, at present, of determining the locality.

It seems to have had its origin in the cloth manufactures which were extensively carried on at Bridgwater from an early period. The "pere of towkers sheres," mentioned in this MS., for the use of which Thomas Nawden paid *ijd.* annually to the wardens of St. Catherine, are indications of the same craft. "Ratteen" was a kind of thick woollen stuff, quilled. "Ratyn Rew" may have been the name of the street or locality where this stuff was manufactured. Pynel is now joined to Orliou, as Pennel-Orliou street. In old documents they appear as distinct streets. The origin of both is very obscure. The latter may have been named from the wine trade with Orleans, in France, which place in old MSS. appears in the form of Orliaunce: as "Wyne of Langdoke and of Orliaunce."\* The accounts of the water-bailiffs contain many entries of wine among the importations at Bridgwater, temp Henry VIII. May Orliou street have been an ancient corruption of Orliaunce street?

\* Quoted by Halliwell in his Archaic Dictionary

Her folowith the vestiments w<sup>t</sup> other thyngs the which bith longyng to Seynt Katrīn Ile :

In p<sup>m</sup> remayneth a masse boke w<sup>t</sup> ij claspses of sylver.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a chalys wayng xix on.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth ij per of vestiments of white damask.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a per of vestiments of blew wursted.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a per of vestiments of blake damask [erasure].

It<sup>m</sup> a per of vestiments of blake silke, but therto lakyth the amysse and the stole.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a chesipill of blake wursted.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a cope of rede silke.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth ij corpas with ij cacys.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a per of vestiments for eny day chekered.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a per of vestiments of Bustyan for lent tyme.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a chesipell of Bustyan.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a chesipyll of grene silke.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth iij cowells ij of them bith of diapur and the one is pleyn clothe.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth iiij auti clothes iij of diapur and one of pleyn cloth, iij steyned clothes to hange bifor y<sup>e</sup> auter.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth iiij fallyngs to sett at the auter is side.

It<sup>m</sup> remayneth a cloth to sett before Seynt Katryn in the lent tyme.

It<sup>m</sup> ij steyned clothes to stond bfore the Tablemer in y<sup>e</sup> lent tyme.

It<sup>m</sup>i remayneth iiij sacryn belles.

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Sm<sup>to</sup> 3<sup>li</sup> 1 8

Itm̄ remayneth iij frangs one of white damaske a nother of tawny silke.  
 Itm̄ remayneth a per of grete candelstycks.  
 Itm̄ remayneth a per of candelstikks to set uppon the aut̄r eny day.  
 Itm̄ remayneth ij litell per of candelstycks for ye same awt̄r.  
 Itm̄ remayneth iij steyned bannarse.  
 Itm̄ remayneth ij cruetts of tyne.  
 Itm̄ remayneth an olde pall steyned.  
 Itm̄ remayneth a quer of Coñemorations.  
 Itm̄ remayneth an auti cloth the which Rawlyn Cutlers wife gave m<sup>d</sup> off Howlond clothe . . . . . Itm̄ remayneth a peire of vestiments of blake wursted . . .

m<sup>d</sup> that Agnes Cuttelar have gevyn an anvyl to the chirche of Briggewat' that is to witte to oure laday to Seynt Kateryn and to Seynt Rasmus.

Itm̄ remayneth a pere of towkers sheres in Thomas Nawden is honds paying therfor bi the yere to Seynt Kateryn wardeyns ij*d* delyuerd bi Agnes Trowte is, ij*d*.

Edited by Tony & Jane Woolrich, 03/10/2019

The Copy of Seynt Katren Rent.

In prm Willm Thomas Boucher for a shopp by y <sup>o</sup> yere	xvjs.
Itm̄ Saunder Elmonte Bocher bi the yere for a shoppe	vis.
Itm̄ John Saunders Mercer for a gardyn in Pynnell strete by the yere	xij <i>d</i>
Itm̄ John Saymo holdith a tenét in Seynt Mare strete beryngbi the yere	vjs
Itm̄ the howsse nexte Thoms Bentley beryn bi the yere .	vs
Itm̄ Johan Cheselet bering bi the yer	ijsvj <i>d</i> .
Itm̄ ij Cotags in Ratyn Rew one at and the tother at	iijs. iiij <i>d</i> . iiijs.
Itm̄ a chamer over Willm Boucher is shoppe	ijs.
Itm̄ a nother oW Saunder Boucher is shoppe	ijs.
Itm̄ John Stevyns in the backe strete berith bi the yere for y <sup>r</sup> parte of a tenement y' was Margery Gonys	ijs.
Itm̄ in the Ffreryn strete parte of a tenement that was Botylmakers beryng bi the yere	iijs. iiij <i>d</i> .
Itm̄ in the high strete in the north side that was John Bigwyns beryngbi the yere	ijs, vi <i>d</i>
Itm̄ a stabull afor Thomas Ley is dore	xil <i>d</i>
Itm̄ for a gardyn that Agnes Alys holdith by the yere	vj <i>d</i>
Itm̄ for a gardyn all most at Mathewis feld in the south side	viiij <i>d</i>
Itm̄ half a plate by the white chymney	xd
Itm̄ a gardyn w <sup>th</sup> oute the west yate nexte the old crosse	xd
Itm̄ a gardyn that Agnes Milward holdeth	xij <i>d</i>
Itm̄ John Bounde holdith a tenement beryng bi the yere	xil <i>d</i>