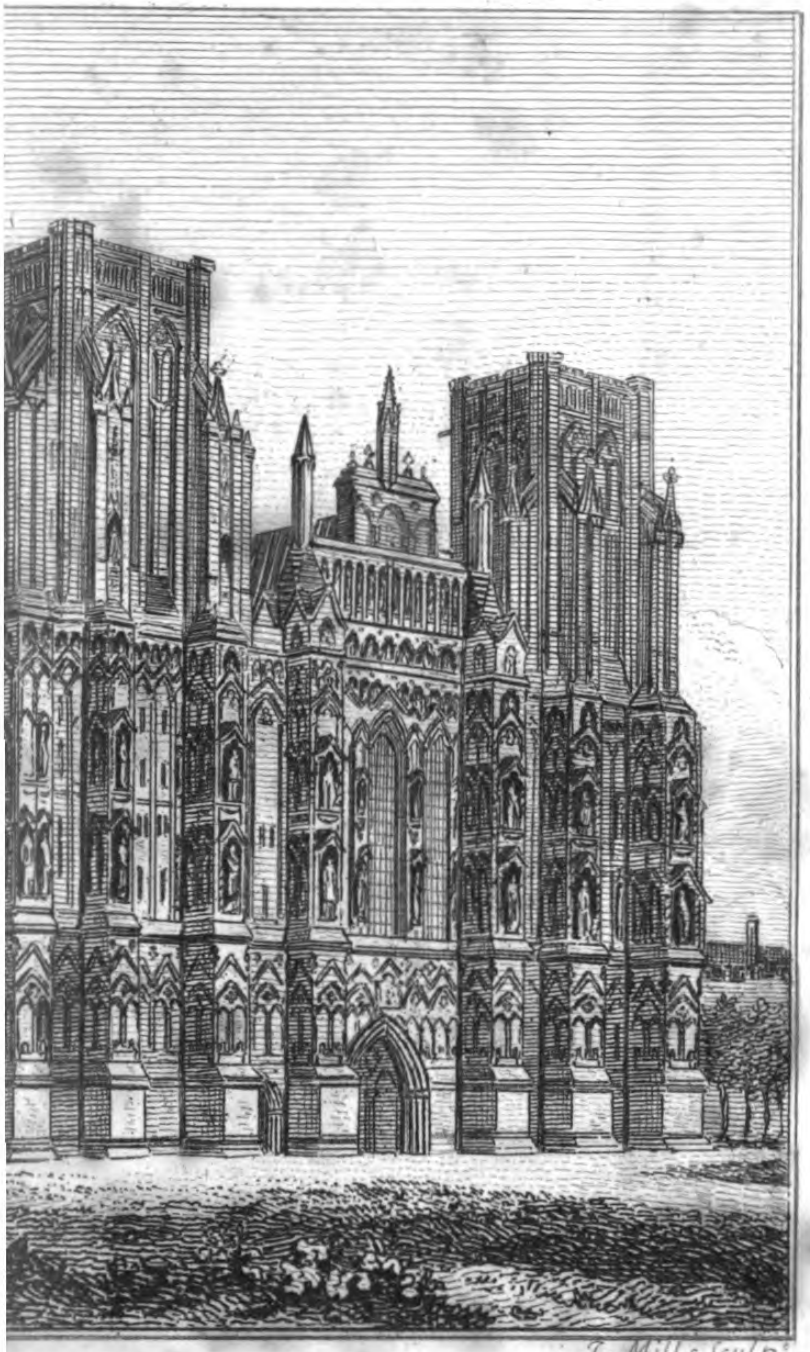
Robert Baker

May. 1820

HISTORY

OF

WELLS CATHEDRAL.



RAL CHURCH of *WELLS*.

vis. Wells.

A CONCISE HISTORY OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT ANDREW, IN WELLS;

To which is added, an abridgment of

THE

Lives of the BISHOPS and DEANS OF THE CHURCH;

AND A CATALOGUE OF

The MONUMENTS and ANTIQUITIES

Contained in the same.

By JOHN DAVIS,

Verger of the Cathedral.

SHEPTON-MALLET,

PRINTED BY W. J. QUARTLEY,

1814.

DEDICATION.

To the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, the Honorable and very Reverend the Dean, the Right Reverend and Reverend the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Wells:

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Language connot express the feelings of gratitude with which I am impressed by your kind condescension in permitting me to place this edition of the History of the Cathedral Church of Wells under your patronage. However unworthy I may feel myself of this honor I cannot but rejoice in bearing this public testimony to the uniform kindness and liberality which you have ever extended towards me, and of assuring you that

I am,
my Lord and Gentlemen,
your very faithful
and devoted Servant,
JOHN DAVIS.

PREFACE.

The first edition of "A concise History of the Cathedral Church of St. Andrew, in Wells," having met with the approbation of the antiquary, and the public in general, the author feels it a duty incumbent on him to present them with a SECOND EDITION, rendered more valuable by the addition of an ENGRAVING (the particulars of which, with the Latin Sentences faithfully translated, will be found in page 88) by an accurate account of the painted glass, placed in the central division of the Western Window, since the publication of the last edition; and by translations from the Latin monumental inscriptions.—Some few historical errors have likewise been corrected.—No printed history of this beautiful fabric being extant, but the one which the author of this, and the former little manual has presumed to offer to the public, he humbly trusts, that in the present undertaking, he shall be supported by the same generous patronage with which they have been pleased to honor the former edition.

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Ode

TO

Saint Andrew.

LONG may thy gothic Pillars bear the weight,
Which tow'r in Beauty o'er their slender form!
Nor with rude crash consign their charge to fate,
But brave the whirlwind and defy the storm!

Long may thy solemn Organ's melting sound
Attune the mind, and pure affections raise!
Roll thro' the vaulted Roof, and thence rebound
To distant aisles, and die in songs of praise!

Long may thy Matin and thy Evening bell
Give to the passing gale its calls to pray'r!
And with it's iron tongue impressive tell,
That all must for an awful change prepare!

Or should it chance to toll the Knell of Death,
When a frail body claims it's kindred sod,
May it proclaim that (with departing breath)
A Christian Spirit wings it's way to God!

J. Bowen.

HISTORY

OF

WELLS CATHEDRAL.

CHAPTER I.

Of the First Introduction of Christianity into Britain.

AFTER the conquest of Britain by Cæsar, an intercourse necessarily took place between the Britons and their neighbours on the Continent. At this time the religious institution of the Britons was under the superintendence of certain priests, called Druids, who lived in caves and solitary places; practised the greatest austerities, and were regarded by the people with superstitious reverence: the

management of their judicial proceedings was likewise intrusted to them, and all differences and controversies were left to their decision.

These Druids, being possessed of a greater share of the learning of those times, naturally extended their attention to the countries from whence their invaders came, and were in some degree the cause of the introduction of Christianity into Britain immediately after the Conquest.

It happened about this period that St. Philip was propagating the doctrines of Christianity in Gaul: the Druids, attracted by the novelty of his tenets, and energy of his preaching, began to inquire into the origin of the doctrine he taught, which probably induced each party to make a full disclosure of their respective tenets.

The Apostle, finding the religion of these Druids burdened with superstitious ceremonies, and highly derogatory to the honour of the Supreme Being, and that

a narrow strait only separated their Island from the Continent, immediately resolved to send missionaries among them.

Accordingly we find, that Joseph of Arimathea, the friend and companion of Philip, and twelve assistants, were sent to Britain, about the year 60, to remove from the minds of the Britons the errors of druidical superstition, and to introduce in their place the mild and benevolent doctrines of Christianity.

The situation allotted to these pious men was Glastonbury, in Somersetshire, a conical hill, surrounded with bogs and morasses: here they built a small Chapel and dwellings for their accommodation.

The Christian Religion, being thus fixed at Glastonbury, was diffused by very slow degrees; and several centuries elapsed before it shone forth in all its lustre.

The continued scene of war and bloodshed between the Romans and Britons was little favourable to the cause of Christianity, and it was not until the Saxons

had invaded this country, and given it a regular form of government, that it made any progress. A singular circumstance, however, occurred, which induced the King of Britain to give Christianity his protection; who, acting only from political motives, became indirectly the cause of its making a most rapid progress through the kingdom.

Ethelbert, King of Kent, having married Bertha, daughter of Caribert, King of Paris; this Princess had stipulated for the free exercise of her religion: a French Bishop had also accompanied her to the Court of Canterbury; and her influence over Ethelbert confirmed the Roman Pontiff, Gregory the Great, in the hopes he had long and early indulged of converting the British Saxons to the Christian Faith.

Christianity having now the protection of the Sovereign, soon spread itself through the whole kingdom: the latent spark at Glastonbury, which had lain dormant for many years, now revived in

the greatest splendor, A. D. 597; and Glastonbury became, in the course of time, one of the richest and most magnificent Monasteries in the world.

The doctrines of the Gospel having been preached at Glastonbury for so long a period, naturally influenced the people who resided within a short distance from thence; among whom, we may suppose, the inhabitants of Wells were included, though we do not find they had any public place of worship till many years after.

CHAP. II.

Of the Foundation and Endowment of the Church, and the first Consecration of a Bishop.

HISTORIANS agree that, in or about the year 704, Ina, a pious and judicious Prince, descended from Cerdiccas, the 12th King of the West Saxons, returning from the conquest of the West, founded here a Collegiate Church, which he dedicated to the honour of St. Andrew the Apostle. This King, after having reigned 37 years, left his kingdom, and went with his Queen Ethelburga to Rome; living there the remainder of his life, (not more than a year,) after a severe monastic manner: he died A. D. 728.

Thirty-eight years after, in 766, Kinewulf, successor to Sigibert in the West Saxon territories, gave, for the support of the Clergy here established, (who at first were only four in number,) eleven Manses, or Farms, situate near the River Welve, and contigious to the Valley of Asancumb.*

The whole ecclesiastical government of the West Saxons was, in the first instance, under the sole jurisdiction of the Bishop of Dorchester, and afterwards under the Bishop of Winchester, whose diocese being so very extensive, was, by the founder, Ina, divided into two, viz. Sherborne, and Winchester: and thus it continued until the time of Edward the Elder. This King, when he came to the Throne, finding both these Bishoprics vacant, (Athelmus and Ethelwardus, the two last Bishops, having died two years before,) did not fill them up for at least five years, when Pope Formosus, threat-

* Dugdale's Monasticon Angl.

ening the King with excommunication, he, with the advice of his Nobles, not only filled up the vacant sees, but also erected three new Bishoprics, viz. one at Wells, for the County of Somerset; one at Crediton, for Devon; and one at St. Germains, for Cornwall.

The first Bishop of Wells was Adelmus, Abbot of Glastonbury, who was consecrated in the year 905. After having filled this chair ten years, he was, in 915, translated to Canterbury.

Wifelmus succeeded him in this See, as also in Canterbury. He was a man of great learning and piety.

The episcopal chair, thus placed and erected here, continued for several successions under the title of Wells.

In 1031, Dudoca, a native of Saxony, was raised to this See. He received from Edward the Confessor the Manors of Congersbury and Banwell, which he annexed to the Bishopric.

Giso, a native of Lorrain, being sent as Legate to the Pope by Edward the Con-

fessor, was, during his absence, elected Bishop, and consecrated at Rome April 4th, 1061. On his return to his See, he found the state of the Church in great confusion; for Harold, brother to the Queen, and who afterwards succeeded to the Crown, had stripped the Church of its ornaments, ejected the Canons, and seized upon their revenues.

Giso complained to the King, but procured no redress: however, the Queen bestowed on him the Manors of Mark and Modesley.

The King being dead, Giso, fearing the resentment of Harold, went into exile, where he continued until the conquest of this country by William of Normandy, A. D. 1066. This Prince restored to him all that Harold had taken away, except a small Living in Gloucestershire: he also recovered the Manors and Rectories of Yatton and Winsham. The Manors of Litton, Worminster, and Comb St. Nicholas, were likewise annexed to this See; and he obtained many other priveleges

from the King. Having thus increased the revenues of this Church, he augmented the number of the Clergy, calling them Canons, and appointed a Provost or President over them. He also built for them a Cloister, with a refectory and dormitory.

In the year 1088, John de Villula, a native of Tours, in France, and a physician, was appointed to this See: a man of corrupt and ambitious spirit. He destroyed the Cloister, and other buildings erected by Giso, built for himself a Palace in the same situation, and compelled the Canons to seek for lodgings in the city. He also prevailed on William Rufus to permit him to transfer this See to Bath, styling himself Bishop of Bath.

This title continued only with his successor, Godfrey; for, on the death of this Prelate, a violent dispute arose between the Monks of Bath and the Canons of Wells, as to the election of their new Bishop; each party claiming to himself the right of electing. At last both parties agreed to refer the matter to Bishop

Robert, who compromised the affair, by injoining, " That from henceforth the " Bishop should be nominated from both " places, and precedence should be given " in the title to Bath.

" That, in the vacancy of the See, a " certain number, delegated from each " Church, should elect their successive " Bishops.

" That, after the confirmation of such " election, the Bishop elect should be " enthroned in both Churches, and first " in that of Bath.

" That, both their bodies should be the " Bishop's Chapter, so that all grants and " patents should be confirmed under both " their respective seals."

This arrangement did not long secure a mutual agreement between the two parties; for, on the death of Bishop Reginald Fitz-Joceline, Robert's successor, Savaricus, Archdeacon of Northampton, was consecrated Bishop of this See, and went to Rome for confirmation in 1192.

About this time it happened that Richard I. returning from the Holy Land, was made prisoner by Leopold, Duke of Austria. The sum of 100,000 pounds was demanded for his ransom, and hostages left in the Emperor's power until the money was paid. Among these hostages was Savaricus, who, embracing this opportunity of ingratiating himself with the King, on his return obtained a grant to annex the Abbotship of Glastonbury, then void, to the Bishopric: surrendering up to the King, for himself and his successors, all right and title to the city of Bath.

Richard, afterwards repenting of this extraordinary act, took from Savaricus the Abbotship of Glastonbury, and made William Le Pie Abbot of that place, in his stead. On the death of Richard, Savaricus, making his appeal to Rome, was restored; and retiring to Bath, he died there, and was buried in the Abbey.

No sooner was this Prelate dead, than the Convent of Glastonbury became ear-

nest petitioners at Rome, for a restoration of their original and ancient way of government under an Abbot.

At this time Joceline, of Wells, being elected Bishop of Bath and Glastonbury, a violent dispute arose between him and the Monks of Glastonbury, which lasted for nine years. Joceline at length, wearied with so much vexation, consented to have such union dissolved, on their yielding up to him ten Manors; which they agreed to, and thus the dispute ended.

The Monks had their Abbotship restored to them, and the Bishop resumed the title of Bath and Wells, which has continued to the present day.

CHAP. III.

Of the Original Constitution of a Dean, Chapter, and Prebendaries.

AFTER the foundation of the Cathedral by King Ina, in 704, a period of two hundred years elapsed before it became the See of a Bishop, in the reign of Edward the Elder; and a like period from that time before a Dean and Chapter was constituted here. Bishop Robert having compromised the dispute between the Canons of Wells and the Monks of Bath, was himself elected to this See.

This Prelate, finding the revenues of the Church absorbed by the Prepositus, or Provost, (an office first appointed by Bishop Giso,) took the whole possessions into his own hands; and, by the consent

of King Stephen, and with the advice of the Metropolitan, divided them into two portions; one of which he settled upon the Canons, as a body Corporate, placing over them a Dean, as head and governor of that body; the other portion he distributed to several persons in holy orders, calling them Prebendaries and Officers of the Church, to be by them enjoyed in a constant succession of such persons as should be nominated and collated by himself and his successors upon every vacancy.

Among these officers he appointed a Sub-dean; a Precentor, or Chanter; a Succentor; a Chancellor; and a Treasurer. To these Prebends of Bishop Robert, (which, no doubt, he endowed chiefly out of his own revenues, the possessions of this Church being at that time inconsiderable,) others were added by Reginald Fitz-Joceline, his immediate successor. Savaricus also appropriated the Churches of Ilminster and Long Sutton, making them Prebends, and annexing them to

the Abbots of Athelney and Muchelney, and their successors; but both these were swallowed up, and involved in the destruction of those Abbies. Other Prebends were founded afterwards by Bishop Joceline, successor to Savaricus, who was the last person who added any to this Church. Their number is fifty, corresponding with the number of stalls in the Choir and in the Chapter-house.

Besides these Dignitaries and Prebends, there are three Archdeaconries, viz. of Bath, Wells, and Taunton.

Thus the Church continued (after Bishop Robert had prudently settled the dissentions between the Monks of Bath and the Canons of Wells), under the distinct care and management of a Dean and Chapter for near four hundred years; from Bishop Robert's time, in 1150, until Bishop Knight's, in 1547; at which period Wm. Fitz-Williams was Dean of this Church, who, following the example of Polydore Virgil, Archdeacon of Wells, surrendered the Deanery, together with the whole re-

venues and possessions thereto belonging, to Edward VI. A new Deanery was, however, erected on the ruins of the Provostship; and the Succentership given to the Dean, in lieu of his former possessions: and thus it continued during the remaining part of the reign of Edward VI. the whole of Queen Mary's, and the first twenty-four years of Queen Elizabeth; when, by her letters patent, bearing date at Westminster, in the 24th year of her reign, this Church was again new founded and constituted; the Queen creating, *de novo*, a Dean, Canons, Dignitaries, and Prebendaries; and settling on them their several revenues and possessions.

By this new Charter, the number of the Canons Residentiary is limited not to exceed eight, nor be less than six; of which the Dean may be one if he pleases; and a power is given them of electing upon every vacancy, according to the rule therein prescribed.

CHAP. IV.

Of the Foundation of the Vicars Choral, and their College or Close.

IT is very probable that soon after the foundation of a Church here by King Ina, there were certain persons appointed to perform and chaunt Divine Service. What stipends were appropriated for their maintenance is not at this remote period to be ascertained. Bishop Joceline was the first who styled them Vicars Choral, and increased their stipends.* Thus they continued until Bishop Ralph de Salopia came to this See, who, finding them dispersed about the city, resolved to incor-

* "Vicarious corales primus ordinavit, qui cononicorum "vices in canendo et sacris operando peragerent."
Godwin de Presul. page 371.

TRANSLATION.

* "He first styled them vicars choral, their business was "to assist the canons in performing and chaunting divine "service." P. S.

porate them, and endow their body with lands for their future subsistence. This Prelate being in great favour with Edward III. obtained from him a licence to fulfil his resolution, and accordingly built an habitation for them, calling the same the College, or Close of the Vicars, and gave them certain rules and statutes for their government. What their number was is not to be ascertained with any certainty.

In the visitation of this Cathedral by Queen Elizabeth, they also received a Charter from her, bearing the same date as one granted to the Dean and Chapter.

This new Charter, according to the common form, makes them a Body Corporate, with all the usual privileges thereunto belonging; giving the title of Principals, Seniors, and Vicars Choral, in the Choir of the Cathedral Church of Wells; as also a Common Seal, for the transacting of their affairs; restricting their number not to be less than fourteen, or more than twenty: and then, naming two Principals, five Seniors, and seven other Vicars, settles

on them their revenues and possessions, and gives them their statutes, which are in force to this day. In memory of which event, there was formerly, over the staircase leading to the Hall, a picture, representing the Vicars Choral as kneeling before the Bishop, on his throne, and addressing him in these words:

"Per vicos positi villæ, pater alme rogamus,
"Ut simul uniti, te dante domus, maneamus."

To whom the Bishop replied,

"Vestra petunt merita, quod sint concessa petita:
"Ut maneatis ita, loca fecimus hic stabilita."

IN ENGLISH THUS:

"On us dispers'd, O let thy bounty come,
"Benignant smile, and call thy Vicars home."

THE ANSWER.

"To merit's suit I always lend an ear,
"Your merit strongly pleads, live social here."

The Vicars Close, or College, owes its institution to Walter de Hull, Canon of

this Church, and Archdeacon of Bath; who gave two messuages and lands in Wells for the habitation of the Chantry Priests who officiated in the Cathedral. When Bishop Ralph came to this See, (as before stated,) he erected the Close, in the form and manner, we may suppose, as it now appears, with a common hall, buttery, and other conveniences over the southern gateway; a neat chapel, with a library over it, at the northern extremity, and twenty distinct dwelling-houses on each side, contiguous to each other, A. D. 1348. They choose their officers on the Feast of St. Matthew, annually.

This building falling into decay, was, by the munificent will of Bishop Beckington, completely restored to the state it appears in at present. This pious Prelate, among many other benefactions, bestowed a great part of his estate on the Vicars Choral, to repair their Close. This bequest was vested in his three executors, Richard Swan, Hugh Sugar, and John Pope, who faithfully discharged their sa-

cred trust. Their arms are to be seen on each house, viz. three swans, Swan; three sugar-loaves, Sugar; and the talbot, Pope. This Bishop also joined the Close to the Cathedral, by a noble arched gateway, having a covered passage communicating with the Northern Transept.

So great a benefactor has Bishop Beckington been to the Vicars, that he is esteemed as joint founder of this place with Bishop Ralph; and his statutes are equally in force. In an old painting, over the great mantle-piece of their Hall, which represents the whole body of Vicars receiving their statutes from Bishop Beckington, are the following lines in a scroll:

"Quas primus struxit summâ pietate Radolphus,
"Dispersis nobis Hospitioque dedit
"Ædes, consimili studio pîa facta secutus,
"Bekingtonus eas auxit honore, bonis.
"Regali tandem firmavit singula nobis
"Assensu, princeps Elizabetha suo.
"Elizabetha bonis nunquam contraria cæptis,
"Aspirans studiis Elizabetha bonis.
"His nos ornati donis, regina, precamur
"Sceptra tenens vivas Elizabetha diu."

TRANSLATION.

"These sacred structures rose at Ralph's command,
"These walls an emblem of his bounty stand,
"The pious Beckington with equal care,
"Bade us in plenty this indulgence share.
"Eliza great in power, in goodness great,
"Her fiat gave and all was fixed as fate,
"Princess whose smile awakes the worthy deed,
"Gives learning growth, and ripens ev'ry seed.
"Whilst we possessors of this social scene,
"With grateful voice proclaim---long live our Queen."

Among the benefactors to this place, we find Richard Pomroy, whose name is inscribed in various parts of this building: in a waved scroll round the mantle-piece are these words:

"In vestris precibus habeatis commendatum Dominum
"Richardum Pomroy, quem salvet Jesus. Amen."

TRANSLATION.

"Your prayers are desired for Richard Pomroy, whom
"may Jesus save. Amen. P. S.

The whole close is worthy the attention of the antiquary, though modernized in a great measure by the introduction of sashed windows in the place of the original ones. The Hall is a spacious room, with a coved ceiling, and has a small organ, now fallen into decay. Here the Vicars assemble to transact their business, and they have a commemoration day annually on the 8th of November.

CHAP. V.

Of the first Building of this Church.

THE city of Wells is indebted to the pious zeal of its Bishops for that beautiful structure its Cathedral. What kind of building King Ina, at the first foundation, in 704, erected here, it is not possible at this remote period, to ascertain. We cannot suppose it to have been large or magnificent, but merely a Chapel for the celebration of Divine Service.

This building of King Ina having, in the course of four centuries, fallen into a dilapidated state, was, about the year 1150, rebuilt on a much larger plan, by Robert, Bishop of this See. In 1239, it received a considerable addition on the eastern part, particularly in the Choir, by

Joceline, Bishop of Wells: in 1366, the South-west Tower was added by Bishop Harewell and others: in 1415, the North west, by Bishop Bubwith: and finally the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the eastern extremity of the choir, by Bishop Beckington, about the year 1445.

The Cathedral, as it now appears, is built of free-stone, dug at Doulting, a small village seven miles to the eastward of Wells, and is dedicated to St. Andrew the Apostle. It consists of a Nave, Transept, and Choir with Side Aisles; at the extremity of the Choir is a smaller Transept, and at the east end the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Over the intersection of the Nave and Transept is a large and elegant quadrangular Tower, the Western Front is flanked by two lesser Towers, before mentioned.

The whole building exhibits a fine specimen of the different styles of architecture prevalent between the twelfth and fifteenth centuries, and displays the se-

veral periods of its erection. The most ancient part of the building is the Nave, Transept, Side Aisles, and a part of the Choir, as far as the third window towards the east. This is evidently the work of the same architect, both from the form of the arches, and the uniformity of the mouldings and parapet on the outside of the building. This part is attributed to Bishop Robert, and is worthy of particular attention, from the chaste style of its architecture.

The nave is supported by eighteen clustered columns,* nine on each side, supporting pointed arches: over these is a row of small arcades, a fine specimen of the later Saxon architecture, and an ingenious contrivance of the architect to lessen the weight of the side walls which support the vaulting: by thus diminishing the superincumbent mass, he has not, in any degree, weakened the building, hav-

*The capitals of these columns are decorated with the most ludicrous and grotesque groups of figures, in basso relievo, which can well be imagined, and will amply repay the curious observer for the time devoted to their investigation.

ing added flying buttresses, springing from the exterior wall of the Side Aisles, to support the span of the vault, and which are concealed between the vaulting and the roof of the Aisles.

The ceiling of the Nave and Aisles is destitute of tracery, and has cross-springers only, arising from corbel heads projected between the windows, which have a neat and pleasing effect. The windows are lancet-shaped, with slender mullions only. The whole building is covered with lead.

The North Porch is greatly admired for its elegance and symmetry, and is part of Bishop Robert's building.

Thus the building continued until Bishop Joceline came to this See, who, finding some part of it in want of reparation, took down part of the Choir, leaving the columns and side walls standing, (as evidently appears from examination of the building,) and extending it considerably in length, together with the Side Aisles, rebuilt the choir as it now stands,

together with the Great East Window over the Communion Table, in a most elegant style of gothic architecture, which about this time began to prevail in England, A. D. 1239. The internal part of the Choir may, with great justice, challenge any thing of the kind in this kingdom, of the same æra, for symmetry of proportion and elegance of design.

There is a slight difference in each side of the Choir arising from the architect wishing to preserve the columns of the original building intire; as is evident on the outside, where we find the same kind of moulding which ornaments the Nave is continued on to the third window of the Choir. The vaulting of this part of the building consists of cross-springers, orbs, and tracery, in the greatest profusion. The intersections of the cross-springers are highly ornamented with rosettes and various other devices, fancifully spreading over the roof. The sides of the Choir are likewise one uniform assemblage of tabernacles, niches, &c. separated from

each other by slender square pilasters, and surmounted by a profusion of pinnacles, crockets, and other ornaments. Over the Communion Table are seven beautiful tabernacles, though the statues which originally filled them are destroyed. It is lighted by twelve highly pointed windows, full of tracery, six on each side; and by the great East Window, which occupies the whole breadth of the building: this window consists of seven compartments, separated by slender mullions; the arch is ornamented with the most elegant tracery, in various shapes; and the whole is full of good painted glass. The other windows contain some remains of painted glass, much mutilated. In a window on the north side are several figures of Crusaders, which prove it undoubtedly coeval with the building, which was finished, and newly dedicated by Bishop Joceline to St. Andrew, November 1239. The Choir is handsomely fitted up with stalls, for the Dignitaries, Canons, and Prebendaries, corresponding with the

number of Prebends: each stall is separated from the other by slender wooden pillars, supporting the canopies above; the seats are also curiously carved. The Organ forms a splendid ornament to the Choir, being decorated with gilding and painting; as are also the canopies of the stalls, though by some persons thought too light and airy for a sacred edifice.

This Organ has the date of its erection on the case, 1664, which was soon after the return of Dr. Robert Creyghton, the Precentor, from exile with King Charles, II. under whose direction it was built: it has since undergone a thorough repair, at the expence of the Dean and Chapter, in 1786, by that great artist Mr. Samuel Green, of London, and is esteemed by judges to be as good an instrument as any in the kingdom.

The Episcopal Throne, situated on the south side of the Choir, where Bishop Joceline's building unites with Bishop Robert's, is highly decorated with a profusion of ornamented pinnacles and slen-

der pilasters, surmounted with an elegant canopy, most exquisitely sculptured in stone, and painted: it was built by Bishop Beckington, A. D. 1450.

On the right of the Throne is a Chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, beautifully enriched with the most delicate sculpture and painted decorations: in it stands an open Altar Tomb of Bishop Beckington, on the top of which is his effigy, and under it his skeleton.

At the east end of the Choir, and open to view, is the elegant Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, lighted by five most beautiful Gothic windows, filled with tracery and richly painted glass; it is an octagon, but open on the three sides next the Choir: it has an highly pointed vaulting, richly ornamented with rosettes, &c. the cross-springers uniting in the centre, and is unique of its kind.

Over the Altar are several ornamented Tabernacles, though much mutilated by the hands of those fanatics and zealous reformers of the seventeenth century,

who, under the idea of destroying the worship of images, have defaced some of the finest specimens of sculpture in the kingdom.

The view of the Choir, Organ, and Nave, from the Altar, is highly interesting to the spectator. In this Chapel stands a Brazen Desk, which heretofore stood in the centre of the Choir, on which was placed the Bible used for Divine Service.

On each side of the Desk is the following inscription:

"Dr. Rob. Creyghton upon his return from "fifteene yeares Exile with our Souveraigne Lord "King Charles the 2nd. made Dean of Wells in "the year 1660, gave this brazen deske with God's "holy word thereon to the said Cathedral "Church."

The Area between the High Altar and the Chapel is supported by slender clustered columns, forming a variety of intersecting arches, highly ornamented.

There are also several beautiful and highly ornamented Chapels: those of Bishop Bubwith and Beckington, in the upper part of the Nave, are particularly

deserving attention, being composed intirely of stone, and most delicately sculptured. Adjoining Bishop Beckington's Chapel is an ancient Stone Pulpit, formerly used, having round it the following inscription, in old English characters:

PREACHE THOV THE WORDE
BE FERVENT IN SEASON
AND OVT OF SEASON
REPROVE REBVKE EXHORT W̄
ALL LONGE SVFFERYNG &
DOCTRYNE 2 TIMŌ

In the Great West Window of the Nave are the figures, in painted glass, of Moses and Aaron; King Ina; & Bishop Ralph de Salopia, pontifically habited; Bishop Harewell, it appears, paid one hundred marks towards defraying the expence of glazing this window about the year 1385. It was again repaired and enriched by Dr. Robert Creighton, then Dean of the Cathedral, about the year 1647, with painted glass collected by him on the Continent, during his Exile with King Charles the II. Those figures which time had suffered

to remain were taken down in the year 1813 by the Dean and Chapter, cleaned, and properly arranged with some additions, so as to form the two side divisions. The figures as they now stand, are Moses and Aaron; King Ina; and Bishop Ralph de Salopia, pontifically habited. In the year 1813 the same Chapter likewise munificently restored the central division of this Window, all the painted glass having gradually disappeared. At the top and within the pointed Arch of the Central division is the Figure of St. Andrew, the Patron Saint of this Cathedral bearing his cross, in very rich stained glass. The four highest lights came from Rouen in Normandy, and contain legendary passages from the life of St. John the Baptist. The four subjects are separated by a slight Iron bar, which likewise supports the glass. The highest on the left, represents St. John in the act of prayer, and an Idol falling from a pillar. In the compartment to the right, St. John is supposed to convert Stones into Rings. In the compart-

ment below, on the left, we have the Baptism of a Bishop; and in the remaining compartment on the right, the vision of the seven Candlesticks, from the Revelation of St. John. These subjects are, perhaps, rather too minute, and, to be clearly understood, may require the aid of a glass. Beneath these are two more compartments of rich stained glass. In the upper compartment Herod and his incestuous Queen are represented at the banquet, Salome, the daughter of Herodias, bears the head of St. John upon the Charger, and Herodias is supposed to wreak her revenge upon the head of the murdered Baptist, by thrusting her bodkin through the tongue.

In the lower compartment are two very fine figures of St. John kneeling down, and the Executioner preparing to strike off his Head. These were brought from Cologne, and are exceedingly beautiful. Above these figures there is an inscription in old French, comprising the words "Coreger. scet. ung. Grandt, Danger

Deter. A. Lui. Susmis. Lan De Grace. 150X." The imperfect word "Da" is supposed to imply danger; and then the whole may be thus understood; in reproving (viz a great man) you are in imminent *danger* of falling a victim to his displeasure; a sentiment fully illustrated by the fate of St. John the Baptist. Beneath are the figures of St. Paul and St. Bartholomew, in brilliant colouring from Rouen.—The whole window reflects credit upon the taste and munificence of the existing chapter.

On the Wall of the south side of the Nave, between the springing of two arches, nearly opposite the North entrance, are two Busts, supposed to represent the heads of King Ina and Bishop Robert.

In an old Chapel of the Northern Transept is a curious old specimen of the art of clock-making; it is a Dial, constructed by Peter Lightfoot, a Monk of Glastonbury, about the year 1325, of complicated design and ingenious execution. On its face the changes of the moon, and other

astronomical particulars, are represented: an horizontal frame-work, on the summit of the Dial, exhibits, by the aid of machinery, a party of Knights armed for the Tournament, pursuing each other with a rapid rotatory motion.

Over the intersection of the Transept and Nave is an elegant and lofty quadrangular Tower, supported by four massy columns, strengthened by inverted arches, and having an highly ornamented vaulting, decorated with tracery; the cross-springers arising from corbel heads projecting from each column: the whole terminating in a circular aperture in the centre, for the admission of the bells, which formerly were hung in this tower. This part of the building is attributed to Bishop Joceline, as the style of architecture is similar to the Choir. The inverted arches add greatly to the beauty of the internal view of the Cathedral, and afford a solid foundation for the tower above. That these arches were added to the original building of Bishop Robert, is un-

questionable; for, on an examination of them, it will be discovered that no part of the original arches is in the least altered; the foundation of the *piers* being placed on the floor, and united with the columns which support the tower, by a strait joint. Their chief design was to prevent the four central *pillars* from pressing inwards, the only point where any danger could arise; as the side walls of the Nave and Transept effectually secured the other parts from yielding to the pressure above.

This tower is built of the same kind of stone as the other parts of the Cathedral, and is surmounted by four quadrangular turrets, ornamented with statues, pinnacles, crockets, and other devices: the skill of the architect is eminently displayed in the construction of it. The interior consists intirely of tiers of arches, supported by slender pillars, the thickness of the exterior wall being only twelve inches; thereby diminishing the immense weight which must necessarily have *loaded*

the inferior arches had it been constructed with solid masonry. There is a winding stair-case in each angle, communicating with the summit of the building, from whence there is a delightful prospect of the surrounding country to a very considerable extent; comprehending within the view, part of the Bristol Channel, and the Dorsetshire and Devonshire Hills.

This Church was not only thus enlarged and beautified, but had also, shortly afterward, a considerable improvement at the west end, by the addition of two Towers, of excellent workmanship. That on the north-west was built by Bishop Bubwith, and others; that on the south-west* by Bishop Harewell, who glazed and beautified the Great West Window between these Towers.

The Western Front of this building is esteemed one of the most superb pieces of Gothic architecture in the kingdom, being adorned with a vast profusion of

* In this Tower is a fine peal of eight deep-toned Bells.

Images and Statues,* most beautifully sculptured, in niches, tabernacles, and recesses; the canopies of which are supported by slender pillars of Purbeck marble.

Over the West Window are three niches, supposed to contain the statues of King Ina, Bishop Robert, and Bishop Joceline; below these are the twelve Apostles, and under them are Hierarchs: the whole line of cross pates is filled with a representation of the Resurrection, in small figures, wherein are expressed all the various attitudes of resuscitated bodies emerging from their earthly mansions.

The largest figures which adorn the front are also interspersed with other scriptural representations, pourtrayed in high relief, and the sides of the great buttresses are filled with statues as large as life, of Kings, Queens, Abbots, Bishops, Knights, Popes, and Cardinals. It was

* From the superior style of their sculpture, it is probable they were the work of Italian artists.

finished about the year 1410.* "The "multiplicity of Figures which decorate "this Western Front; the beauty of the "niches wherein they stand enshrined; "the light appearance of the pillars, de-"tached from the wall, and from each "other; combine to form the most "splendid and agreeable example of "Gothic ecclesiastical architecture.

Dimensions
of the principal Parts of the Cathedral.

LENGTHS.

	Feet.
Extreme outside from West to East - -	415
Inside ditto - - - - - - - - - - - -	383
From the Western Door to the Choir - -	192
Choir, including the High Altar - - -	117
From the High Altar to the Lady's Chapel	24
Lady's Chapel - - - - - - - - - - -	50

* On the buttress north of the Great Western Entrance is the following Sepulchral Inscription, cut in large characters

† PVR L.ALME: IOHAN:
DE: PVTTENIE PRIES:
ET: TRESE: IVRS: DE:

commemorating the Rector of Pitney, John Bennet, who died 1428.

WIDTHS.

	Feet.
Extreme outside of the Grand Transept -	150
Inside ditto - - - - - - - - - - -	131
Extreme of the Western Front - - - -	143
Ditto of the Nave and Aisles - - - -	82
Nave between the Columns - - - - -	38
Aisles of ditto, each - - - - - - - -	16
Lady's Chapel, inside - - - - - - - -	35

HEIGHTS.

From the Pavement to the top of the Tower	182
Ditto to the top of the Parapet- - - -	157
Ditto to the extreme top of the West Front	113
Of the two Towers flanking ditto - - -	124
Vaulted Ceiling of the Nave - - - -	67
Ditto of the Choir - - - - - - - -	73
Ditto of the Aisles - - - - - - - - -	28
Chapter room, an octagon, diameter - -	50
Height of ditto - - - - - - - - - -	41

N. B. The Choir and its Aisles are the same width as the Nave and its Aisles.

The Arms of this See are azure; a St. Andrew's cross, or; saltire per saltire quarterly, quartered, or and argent. This is the original Coat of Wells, and frequently occurs impaled with the Arms

of the priory of Bath, which are azure; two keys indorsed in bend sinister; the upper or, the lower argent, enfiled with a sword in bend dexter of the last.

The Chapter-house adjoins the northern Transept, and the entrance to it is by a flight of steps from the north-east corner of it. It is an octagon, having a vaulted roof, supported in the centre by a clustered column of Purbeck marble, from whence spring the groins of the ceiling, diverging from each other. The windows are ornamented with tracery, in trefoils, and various other figures. The walls are decorated with niches, surmounted by ornamented canopies, and separated from each other by slender pillars, with highly finished capitals: their number corresponds with the stalls in the Cathedral Choir.

This building is attributed to Bishop Robert, who having assembled the Canons together, and settled a regular establishment for them, built this place for

their Assembly to transact the business of the Chapter, A. D. 1160.

The style of architecture is similar to the Nave; and from its being united, and communicating with Bishop Robert's building, clearly proves it to have been built by him. The elegance and symmetry of the whole cannot fail to strike the spectator with awful pleasure.

Beneath the Chapter-room is a vaulted apartment of the same dimensions; the Roof of which is supported by plain groins, springing from a continuation of the same Pillar which sustain the room above. It is lighted by ten small pointed Windows, originally it was supposed to be the Repository of the Church Treasures.

The cloisters are on the south side of the Nave, communicating with the Southern Transept: they are in good preservation, and are esteemed a fine building. The Eastern Cloister, leading to the Bishop's Palace, was built by Bishop Bubwith, and is 162 feet in length. Over it is the Library, which was fitted up by

Bishop Lake, A. D. 1620, containing a good collection of Books.

The two other sides of this building are chiefly the work of Bishop Beckington; as is evident from his arms being sculptured on various parts of the building—a beacon standing in a tun. Over the Western Cloister, which is of the same length as the Eastern, are the public Grammar-school, Audit-room, and several other apartments, appropriated to the keeping of the records, &c. belonging to the Church.

The Southern Cloister has no apartment over it, and is 130 feet long: this cloister was finished by Thomas Henry, Treasurer of Wells, and Archdeacon of Cornwall.

There was, according to Leland, an elegant Chapel, communicating with the Eastern Cloister, said to have been built by Bishops Stillington and King, though nothing now remains of it but the arched entrance; which, on the exterior, exhibits marks of rich decoration.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Building of the Bishop's Palace and of the Deanery.

THE Episcopal Palace was built by John de Villula, on the scite of a cloister erected by Bishop Giso, for the use of the Canons. Joceline, a succeeding Bishop, obtained from King John a licence to impark certain lands adjoining the Palace; and afterwards built a sumptuous Chapel for the use of his family.

The Great Hall within the Palace, which, since the time of Edward VI. lies open, having the bare walls only remaining, was built by Robert Burnell, Bishop of this See, in the time of Edward I. When it was in complete repair, it must have been a most noble apartment: it exceeds, in

dimensions, any Hall in either University, or in any of the Inns of Court, being in length 120 feet, and in breadth 70: it had likewise a handsome arched porch. During this time the Palace lay open, without any moat or circumvallation, when Bishop Ralph, finding plenty of water flowing near it, caused a wide trench to be excavated to receive this water; and also built a substantial wall, with battlements, and a terrace round it on the inside, with redoubts and embrazures similar to a fortified place, having a stately gateway, castellated, with a draw-bridge, portcullis, and strong gates, probably for defence as well as ornament, A. D. 1363. Its walls encompass seven acres of land.

After Bishop Ralph had thus strengthened and adorned the Palace, leaving it in such complete repair, such was the parsimony and neglect of the succeeding Bishops, that it was much out of repair, when Bishop Beckington came to this See in 1443. Of this the Prelate himself

complained; however, he not only repaired the building, but also added a middle Tower or Gate, which led to the dwelling-house, together with the Cloisters, which extended from the Gate to the Great Hall; no vestige of which, or the Tower, remains.

Thus was the Palace built, beautified, and enlarged by the care of its successive Bishops, and became the most magnificent in this part of the kingdom, which was, indeed, in some measure, the cause of its ruin.

The great Duke of Somerset, uncle to Edward VI. (whose title proved fatal to this See and Bishopric,) was not contented to obtain most of the manors, lands, and possessions belonging to this Bishopric settled on himself and his posterity, but at last, even the Palace itself. And though Bishop Barlow (during whose Prelacy this See was plundered,) afterwards recovered the Palace; yet not sufficiently soon after the Duke's attainder to prevent its falling into the hands of Sir John Gates: this

man totally destroyed the Great Hall, and sold the lead and the timber thereof; the Palace itself only escaped the rapacious hands of this plunderer, in consequence of his apprehension, trial, and conviction, for his evil deeds. He was beheaded two years afterwards.

The Palace seems to have been preserved only for complete destruction by Cornelius Burgess, a furious fanatic, during the rebellion in 1641; for this man having purchased it, together with most of the Bishopric, sold not only the lead, but also the timber, leaving only the bare walls remaining, and entrance gateway, which he let out to poor people.

Thus was this ancient Palace ruined and destroyed by these dissembling zealots, and remained for some years in ruins, until it was the Almighty's miraculous pleasure to restore King Charles II. and the Church to their own original rights, when the Palace was completely restored.

Since the present Bishop came to the See, the Palace has undergone considera-

ble improvements, and may justly vie with any Episcopal Palace in the kingdom for the spaciousness of its apartments and tasteful decorations. The garden is enriched with a choice collection of exotic plants, arranged in a pleasing manner.

Of the Building of the Deanery

The Deanery owes its origin to Bishop Robert, who, after he had constituted a Dean and Canons, appropriated to them several houses for their residence.

It appears that no part of the original building at present remains; for Bishop Ralph, finding the Deanery in a dilapidated state, obtained, from Edward III. a confirmation of a deed of gift made to John Carleton, Dean at that time, of a ruinous house adjoining the Deanery, to enable him to enlarge the same; which he rebuilt in so complete and substantial

a manner, that nothing more was wanting to it for a century after.

John Gunthorp, who was elected Dean in 1472, built the apartments next the garden, and had the honour to entertain King Henry VII. in his victorious return out of the West.

The Deanery, thus enlarged, was preserved from the sacrilegious hands of the fanatics; for Cornelius Burgess, the despoiler of the Palace, fixing on the Deanery for his residence, considerably improved and repaired the same, about the year 1641.

The present house is a handsome quadrangular building, the entrance being from an enclosed court, on the east side thereof, communicating with the road by an arched gateway. It contains a spacious suite of apartments, well adapted for the residence of its dignified possessors.

CHAP. VII.

A Chronological List of the Bishops of this See, and Deans of the Church.

THE first Bishop was ADELMUS, Abbot of Glastonbury, who was consecrated in 905, and translated to Canterbury in 915. (a)

2. WIFELINUS *alias* WIFELMUS (b)
Succeeded him, and was likewise translated to Canterbury, in 928.

3. ELFETH *or* ELPHEGUS (c)

4. WUFELMUS. (d)

5. BRITHELMUS, (e)
A Monk of Glastonbury, consecrated A. D. 958, and in the year 959 translated to Canterbury.

a V. Edward the Elder. b XV. Edward the Elder.
c I. Athelstane. d No Date. e IV. Edwin.

6. KINEWALDUS, (f)

Abbot of Middleton, was made Bishop in the following year, and died A. D. 985.

7. SIGAR, (g)

Abbot of Glastonbury, who died A. D. 995.

8. ALWYN, A. D. 995. (h)

9. BURWOLD, A. D. 1000. (i)

10. LEONINGUS, 1002. (k)

Who was translated to the See of Canterbury A. D. 1012.

11. ETHELWYN,

Who was expelled by

12. BRITHWYN,

Who sat only thirteen days, when Ethelwyn was restored.

f XVI. St. Edgar. g VII. Ethelred. h XVII. Ethelred. i XXII. Ethelred. k XXIV. Ethelred.

13. Merewith.

Abbot of Glastonbury.

14. Dudoca,

A Saxon, was consecrated A. D. 1031, and having sat here twenty-seven years, seven months, and seven days, died, and was buried in the Cathedral.

XIV. Canutus.

15. Giso, (a)

A native of Lorain, was elected to this See in 1059. He was sent as Legate to the Pope by Edward the Confessor; and endowed this Church with several Manors. He died A. D. 1087, and was buried on the north side of the Altar in the Cathedral.

16. John de Villula, (b)

A native of Tours, in France, and a physician, succeeded Giso, and filled the

(a) William the Conqueror. (b) William II. 2.

Episcopal Chair thirty-four years. He died, and was buried in the Abbey of Bath, A. D. 1121.

16. Godfrey, (c)

A native of Flanders, was consecrated A. D. 1123. He was Chancellor to Henry I.; died August 16, 1135, and was buried in the Abbey at Bath.

18. Robert, (d)

A Monk of Lewes, in Sussex, was elected to this See in 1135: he united the Abbotship of Bath to this Bishopric, styling himself Bishop of Bath and Wells, He was a great benefactor to this Church. Having sat here twenty-nine years and four months, he died, and was buried at Bath, A. D. 1165.

After the death of Robert, the See was vacant for nine years, when

(c) Henry I. 23. (d) Stephen.

19. Reginald Fitz-Joceline, (e)

Was consecrated, A. D. 1174: he incorporated and granted to the Corporation of Wells many privileges. In 1191, he was translated to Canterbury.

20. Savaricus, (f)

Archdeacon of Northampton, was elected Bishop of this See A. D. 1192: he transferred the Chair to Glastonbury, and died A. D. 1205.

21. Joceline de Wells, (g)

A native of this city, and Canon of the Cathedral, was consecrated Bishop A. D. 1206: he endowed this See with many Manors: repaired, enlarged, and beautified the Building of Bishop Robert, and became one of its greatest benefactors. After having presided here thirty-seven

(e) Henry II. 20. (f) Richard I. 4. (g) John 8.

years, he died, and was buried in the centre of the Choir, which he enlarged, A. D. 1248.

22. Roger, (h)

Was appointed to this See by the command of the Pope, the 11th of September, A. D. 1244; and died January 3, A. D. 1247.

23. Wm. Bitton *or* Button, (i)

First Subdean, and afterwards Archdeacon of Wells, was, by the common consent of the Monks of Bath and the Canons of Wells, consecrated Bishop A. D. 1248, died A. D. 1264, and was buried in the Cathedral.—After him

24. Walter Giffard, (k)

Canon of Wells, and Chaplain to the Pope, succeeded to this See A. D. 1264. In 1265 he was made Lord High Chancellor, and afterwards translated to the See of York.

(h) Henry III. 28. (i) Henry III. 32. (k) Henry III. 49.

25. William Button, (l)

The second of that name, and nephew of the former, was elected to this See, February 10, A. D. 1267: he died in 1274, and was buried in the South Aisle of the Choir; but his Tomb now stands near the Lady's Chapel. He made several excellent statutes for the government of this Church, and ordered the Dean and Chapter to assemble at four stated periods of the year for the transacting of their public business.

26. Robert Burnell, (m)

In January, A. D. 1275, was elected Bishop of this See: he was Treasurer and Lord Chancellor of England; by which public offices he amassed a large fortune; part of which he expended on the buildings of Wells, particularly the Palace. He filled this Chair eighteen years; and

(l) Henry III. 51. (m) Edward I. 3.

dying at Berwick on Tweed, was brought to Wells, and buried in the North Transept of the Nave of the Cathedral, A. D. 1292.

27. WILLIAM DE MARCHIA, (n)

Treasurer of England, succeeded Bishop Burnell in this See, A. D. 1293: he was the favourite of Edward I.; and dying in June A. D. 1302, was interred in the South Transept of the Cathedral, near the door leading into the Cloisters.

28. WALTER HASELSHAW, (o)

Dean of Wells, was appointed Bishop of this See A. D. 1302, and lies buried in the Nave of the Cathedral, near Bubwith's Chapel, A. D. 1309.

29. JOHN DROKENSFORD (p)

At the time of his being made Bishop of this See, A. D. 1309, was Keeper of the King's Wardrobe and Privy Seal: he

(n) Edward I. 21. (o) Edward I. 30. (p) Edward II. 3.

was a liberal benefactor to this Church; and dying A. D. 1326, was buried in St. Catherine's Chapel.

30. Ralph de Salopia, (q)

Succeeded June 2, 1329, by the consent of the Monks of Bath and the Canons of Wells, to this See: he exceeded almost all his predecessors in his great liberality and munificence. He built the Vicars Close; as likewise a house for the Master of the Choristers, on the western side of the Cloisters. The Church of Winscomb, and many mansions on the Episcopal Estates, were also erected by him. He died at Wiveliscomb, August 14, A. D. 1362, and was buried in the Cathedral, under an Alabaster Tomb, formerly standing before the High Altar, but now removed to the north side of the Choir. In his time Mendip was disforested.

(q) Edward III. 3.

31. John Barnet, (r)

Was translated from Worcester to this See November 24, A. D. 1363: and after sitting here two years, was translated to the See of Ely.

32. John Harewell, (s)

Chaplain to Edward the Black Prince, and Chancellor of Gascony, was consecrated Bishop March 7, A. D. 1366: he was the principal contributor to the building of the South West Tower, wherein he hung two large Bells; and paid one hundred marks towards defraying the expence of glazing the Great Western Window. He died in July, A. D. 1386, and was buried before the Altar of St. Calixtus.

33. Walter Skirlaw, (t)

Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, succeeded him in the same year, and two

(r) Edward III. 37. (s) Edward III. 41.
(t) Richard II. 10.

years afterwards was translated to the See of Durham.

34. RALPH ERGHAM, L. L. D. (v)

Bishop of Salisbury, was translated from thence to Wells, September 4, 1388: he was a great benefactor to the Cathedral. He died April 10, A. D. 1401, and was buried near the Chapel of St. Edmund.

This See being vacant, the Pope appointed RICHARD CLIFFORD, Archdeacon of Canterbury; but the King refused to restore the temporalities of the See: he resigned the appointment, and was succeeded by

35. HENRY BOWETT, L. L. D. (w)

Canon of Wells: who was consecrated November 16, A. D. 1401, in St. Paul's Church, in London; the King and all the Nobility being present. Before his pro-

(v) Richard II. 11. (w) Henry III. 3.

motion he had been a steady adherent to Henry, Duke of Hereford, afterwards King Henry IV.; for which, in 1389, he was banished by Richard II.: when Henry IV. came to the Throne he was restored to his Bishopric. In 1406, he conducted Philippa of Lancaster, the King's daughter, into Denmark, to be married to Eric, King of that country; for which services he was translated to the See of York, December 1, A. D. 1407.

36. Nicholas Bubwith, (x)

Bishop of London, afterwards of Salisbury, and Treasurer of England, A. D. 1401, succeeded to this See A. D. 1408: he was a great benefactor to the Church, and contributed largely towards the building the North-west Tower. He died the 27th of October, A. D. 1424, and was buried in an elegant Chapel, built by himself, in the Nave of the Cathedral.

(x) Henry IV. 9.

37. John Stafford, (y)

Son of Humphrey, Earl of Stafford, Keeper of the Privy Seal to Henry V. Lord High Treasurer to Henry VI. which office he resigned A. D. 1426: he was created a Prebendary by Bishop Bubwith; afterwards he was made a Dean; and on the death of that Prelate, was consecrated Bishop of this See. In 1432, he was made Lord High Chancellor of England; and in 1443 was translated to the See of Canterbury.

38. Thomas de Beckington, L. L. D. (z)

Was consecrated Bishop of this See the 3d of October, 1443: he was a native of Beckington, in this county, and was educated at William of Wickham's College, in Winchester: removed from thence to New College, Oxford, whereof he was elected Fellow; and having commenced Doctor of Laws, became Chancellor of that University. He was thence called

(y) Henry VI. 3. (z) Henry VI. 21.

to instruct Henry VI.; appointed Dean of the Arches, Chancellor of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, Archdeacon of Buckingham, Prebendary of York and Wells, and Rector of St. Leonard's, near Hastings, in Sussex, and of Sutton, in the Diocese of Salisbury. He was one of the greatest benefactors to this Cathedral, as stated in the account of it. His bounty was not confined to Wells, many other Churches experienced his munificence. This great Prelate died January 14, 1464, and was buried under an elegant Marble Tomb, which he caused to be erected in his life time, on the south side of the Choir.

John Phreas, (a) Master of Baliol College, in Oxford, having travelled through many parts of the Continent, came to Rome, where he was introduced to the Pope: the See of Wells being vacant at that time, he was appointed by him to the

(a) Edward IV. 5.

Bishopric, on account of his great learning. He did not long enjoy his dignity, being poisoned at Rome a month after his appointment.

39. Robert Stillington, L. L. D. (b)

Archdeacon of Taunton, Keeper of the Privy Seal, and Lord High Chancellor of England, was consecrated March 16, A. D. 1465: he was a great courtier; by deserting his sacred office, and interfering with political affairs, he incurred disgrace, and was imprisoned at Windsor, where he died A. D. 1491, and was buried in a Chapel, built by himself, adjoining the Eastern Cloister, long since destroyed.

40. Richard Fox, L. L. D. (c)

Was translated from Exeter to this See February 8, A. D. 1491: after having sat here three years, he was translated to the See of Durham.

(b) Edward IV. 5. (c) Henry VII. 7.

41. Oliver King, L. L. D. (d)

Was also translated from the See of Exeter to this Bishopric, November 6, 1495, and enthroned March 12, 1496: he was some time Fellow of King's College, Cambridge; Archdeacon of Taunton; Registrar of the Order of the Garter; Canon of Windsor; and Principal Secretary of State to Edward IV. V. and Henry VII. He died A. D. 1504, and was buried in the Abbey at Bath.

42. Hadrian de Castello, (e)

A native of Tuscany, was sent by Pope Innocent VIII. to appease the disturbances in Scotland: he was promoted to the See of Hereford A. D. 1502, was made Cardinal the following year, and A. D. 1504, was translated to this See, which he let out to farmers, residing himself at Rome. He was deprived of all his preferment for conspiring against Pope Leo X. A. D. 1518.

(d) Henry VII. 11. (e) Henry VII. 19.

43. THOMAS WOLSEY, (f)

Cardinal, and Archbishop of York, held this See *in commendam* for four years: he had previously rented it of his predecessor, Hadrian de Castello. This great accumulator of ecclesiastical preferment was, within the space of a few years, Rector of Lymington; Sub-treasurer of Calais; Chaplain to Henry VII.; Rector of Redgrave, in the Diocese of Norwich; Dean and Prebendary of Lincoln; Rector of Torrington, in the Diocese of Exeter; Canon of Windsor; Registrar of the Order of the Garter; Prebendary and Dean of York; Bishop of Tournay; Bishop of Lincoln, Durham, Worcester, Bath and Wells, and Hereford; Archbishop of York; Cardinal of St. Cicely; and Lord High Chancellor of England. His annual income exceeded the revenues of the Crown; he kept eight hundred servants, among whom where nine Lords, fifteen Knights, and forty Esquires. Notwith-

(f) Henry VIII. 10.

standing all his greatness, he died in disgrace November 29, A. D. 1530.

44. John Clerk, D. D. (g)

Dean of Windsor, Master of the Rolls, and one of the King's Privy Counsel, was consecrated to this See A. D. 1523. Being on an embassy in Germany to the Duke of Cleves, he was poisoned A. D. 1540, and afterwards brought to London, and interred in the Church of the Minories.

45. William Knight, L. L. D. (h)

Fellow of New College, in Oxford, was elected Bishop of this See A. D. 1541. In his time, 35th of Henry VIII. an Act of Parliament passed for settling the right of election of the Bishops of this See; whereby the Dean and Chapter of Wells, being made one sole Chapter, were vested with that power. He died September 29, A. D. 1547, and was buried under the

(g) Henry VIII. 15. (h) Henry VIII. 33.

Stone Pulpit in the Nave, which he caused to be built for his Tomb.

46. William Barlow, D. D. (i)

Some time Bishop of St. Asaph and St. David, was translated to this See: he was a man of the most corrupt principles, having suffered nearly one half the revenues of this Church to be sold and exchanged, together with many buildings belonging to this See. On the accession of Queen Mary, he abdicated his Chair, and fled to Germany.

This See becoming vacant by the voluntary exile of Barlow.

47. Gilbert Bourn,, S. T. P. (k)

Fellow of All Souls College, in Oxford, was elected Bishop A. D. 1554; but refusing to subscribe to the supremacy of the Queen, he was deprived of his Bishopric A. D. 1559, and died at Silverton, in Devonshire, September 10, A. D. 1569.

i Edward VI. 3. k Mary I.

48. GILBERT BERKELEY, (l)

A descendant of the noble family of Berkeley, of Berkeley Castle, in the county of Gloucester, was consecrated Bishop of this See March 24, A. D. 1559: he sat here twenty-two years, and died November 2, A. D. 1581, and was buried in the Cathedral.

After the death of Bishop Berkeley, this See, continued vacant for nearly three years, when

49. THOMAS GODWIN, (m)

Dean of Canterbury, was consecrated thereto September 13, A. D. 1584: he died November 19, A. D. 1590, and was buried at Oakingham, his native place.

After the death of Bishop Godwin, this See continued vacant two years, when

50. JOHN STILL, D. D. (n)

Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, was elected Bishop A. D. 1592: he was

l Elizabeth 2. m Elizabeth 26. n Elizabeth 35.

a man of eminent learning and piety. He died February 26, A. D. 1607, and was buried on the south side of the High Altar.

51. James Montagu, D. D. (o)

Succeeded him, April 17, A. D. 1608: he was Dean of Worcester, and afterwards Dean of the Chapel Royal. He, at a very considerable expence, repaired and beautified the Palaces of Wells and Banwell, the Cathedral of Wells, and the Abbey of Bath. He was translated to Winchester A. D. 1616, and died July 19, A. D. 1618.

52. Arthur Lake, D. D. (p)

Warden of New College, in Oxford, Dean of Worcester, Archdeacon of Surrey, and Principal Secretary to James I. was consecrated to this See, December the 8th. A. D. 1616; and dying May 4, A. D. 1626, was buried in the Cathedral.

o James I. 6. p James I. 14.

53. WILLIAM LAUD, D. D. (q)

Was translated from St. David's to this See September 18, A. D. 1626: in two years afterwards he was translated to the See of London, and from thence to the See of Canterbury.

54. LEONARD MAWE, S. T. P. (r)

Master of Peter-house College, in Cambridge, was elected Bishop July 24, A. D. 1628, and consecrated the 7th of September following: he was Prebendary of Wells, and Chaplain to Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I. whom he attended in his visit to the Infanta of Spain; a service which procured him this See. He died September A. D. 1629.

55. WALTER CURLE, D. D. (s)

Bishop of Rochester, succeeded to this See December the 4th, A. D. 1629: he was translated to the See of Winchester A. D. 1632. He was a great sufferer in

(q) Charles I. 2. (r) Charles I. 4. (s) Charles I. 5.

the Rebellion; for, besides the loss of his Bishopric, all his private estates were sequestered. He died in retirement at Subberton, in Hampshire, A. D. 1647.

56. WILLIAM PIERCE, D. D. (t)

Dean and Bishop of Peterborough, was translated to this See December the 13th. A. D. 1632: he was deprived of his Bishopric by the Parliament, but recovered it again at the Restoration. He died at Walthamstow, in Essex, April, A. D. 1670.

57. ROBERT CREIGHTON, S. T. P. (v)

A native of Scotland, Fellow of Trinity College, Public Orator and Greek Professor of the University of Cambridge: he followed Charles II. into exile, and was by him, on his return, appointed Dean, and afterwards Bishop of this See, June 19, A. D. 1670, being then 77 years of age. He died November 21, A. D. 1672, and is buried in the Cathedral.

(t) Charles I. 8. (v) Charles II. 22.

58. PETER MEWS, L. L. D. (w)

Successively Prebendary of Durham, Canon of Windsor and St. David's, Archdeacon of Berks, Dean of Rochester, and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, was consecrated Bishop of this See A. D. 1672, and translated to the See of Winchester A. D. 1684.

59. THOMAS KENN, S. T. P. (x)

Prebendary of Westminster, was consecrated to this See January 25, A. D. 1684: he was a zealous guardian of the Church against Popery, and one of the seven Bishops who opposed the reading of the King's declaration of indulgence; for which he was, with the six other Bishops, sent to the Tower. When the Prince of Orange came over to England, he chose rather to relinquish his preferment than his allegiance to his Sovereign; and retiring to the seat of his friend and patron, Lord Viscount Weymouth, at Longleat,

(w) Charles II. 24. (x) Charles II 36.

in Wiltshire, he died there March 19, A. D. 1710-11, and was buried in the Church-yard at Frome.

This See being vacant by the abdication of Bishop Kenn, Wm. Beveridge, S. T. P. was, A. D. 1691, nominated to fill this See, by the King; but he refused, and was succeeded by

60. Richard Kidder, S. T. P. (y)

Dean of Peterborough, who was consecrated August 13, A. D. 1691: he perished, together with his Lady, by the falling of a stack of chimnies on his Palace, during a most violent storm and hurricane, in the night of November 27, A. D. 1703, and was buried on the north side of the High Altar.

61. George Hooper, D. D. (z)

Succeeded the before-mentioned unfortunate Prelate: he was Dean of Canterbury, Bishop of St. Asaph, and translated to the See of Wells March 14, A. D. 1703.

(y) William and Mary 3. (z) Anne 2.

He died at the age of 90, September 6, A. D. 1727, and was buried in the south aisle of the Choir.

62. JOHN WYNNE, S. T. P. (a)

Was translated to this See from St. Asaph, November 11, A. D. 1727: he sat here sixteen years, and died at his seat at Soughton, in Flintshire.

63. EDWARD WILLES, D. D. (b)

Succeeded him: he was made Bishop of St. David's A. D. 1742; and was translated to this See A. D. 1743. He died at his house in London, November 24, 1773, in the 80th year of his age.

64. CHARLES MOSS, D. D. (c)

Rector of St. George's, Hanover-square, and Bishop of St. David's, was translated to this See A. D. 1774. This Prelate died at his house in Grosvenor-place, in Lon-

(a) George II. 1. (b) George II. 17. (c) George III. 13.

don, A. D. 1802, in the 92d year of his age, and was buried in South-Audley Chapel, in London.

65. RICHARD BEADON, D D. (d)

Was translated from Gloucester to this See A. D. 1802, and is the present Bishop.

(d) George III. 41.

A Chronological List of the Deans of the Church.

		A. D.
1	Ivo - - - - - -	1150
2	Richard de Spakeston - - -	1160
3	Alexander	
4	Leonius - - - - -	1235
5	Ralph de Lechdale	
6	Peter de Ciceter	
7	William de Merton - - -	1236
8	John Sarracenus - - - -	1241
9	Giles de Bridport - - -	1255
10	Edward de Knoll - - -	1256
11	Thomas de Button - - -	1292
12	William Burnell - - - -	1292
13	Walter de Haselshaw - - -	1295
14	Henry Husee - - - -	1302
15	John de Godelee - - - -	1303
16	Richard de Bury - - - -	1333
17	William de Littleton, died before installation - - - - -	1333
18	Walter de London - - -	1336
19	John de Carlton - - - -	1353

		A. D.
	William de Camel elected, but refused	
20	Stephen de Penpell - - -	1361
21	John Fordham - - - -	1379
22	Thomas de Sudbury - - -	1381
23	Nicholas Slade - - - -	1396
24	Thomas Stanley - - - -	1402
25	Richard Courtney - - -	1409
26	Walter Metford - - - -	1413
27	John Stafford - - - -	1425
28	John Forest - - - - -	1425
29	John de la Bere, never installed, though elected by Pope Nicholas - -	1447
30	Nicholas Carent - - - -	1448
31	William Witham - - - -	1467
32	John Gunthrope - - - -	1472
33	William Cosin - - - -	1498
34	Thomas Winter - - - -	1525
35	Richard Woolman - - -	1537
36	Thomas Cromwell - - -	1537
37	William Fitzwilliams - - -	1540
38	John Goodman - - - -	1548
39	William Turner - - - -	1550
40	Robert Weston - - - -	1566

		A. D.
41	Valentine Dale - - - -	1574
42	John Herbert - - - -	1589
43	Benjamin Heydon - - -	1602
44	Richard Meredith - - -	1607
45	Ralph Barlow - - - -	1621
46	George Warburton - - -	1631
47	Walter Raleigh - - - -	1641
48	Robert Creyghton - - -	1646
49	Ralph Bathurst - - - -	1670
50	William Grahme - - - -	1704
51	Matthew Brailsford - - - -	1713
52	Isaac Maddox - - - -	1733
53	John Bishop of Landaff - -	1736
54	Samuel Creswicke - - -	1739
55	Lord Francis Seymour - - -	1766
56	George William Lukin, L. L. D. -	1799
57	Hon. Henry Ryder, D. D. - -	1812

CHAP. VIII.

A List of the Monuments contained in this Church.

IN the centre of the Nave lies a large stone, which has been ascribed to King Ina, the founder of the Church. On the north side, a little above it, is an elegant Chapel, between two pillars, called Bishop Bubwith's, in which that Prelate lies interred: his arms are sculptured on the inner wall, a fesse ingrailed between three bubbles, impaled with the arms of the See. On the south side of this Chapel, under a large grave stone, lies Bishop Haselshaw.

Opposite to which between two pillars, is a beautiful Chapel built by the Executors of Bishop Beckington, about the year 1444. *

* See Plate descriptive of the Interior.

Communicating with this Chapel, is a Stone Pulpit, built by Bishop Knight, who lies buried near it: his arms are, per fesse, or; and gules, a demi-rose and a demi-sun conjoined, counter-changed of the field; on the top of the rose an eagle displayed with two heads issuant, sable.

In the south wall of the South Transept, under a neat canopy, is the monumeut of Bishop William de Marchia. Upon the Altar-Table lies his effigy, attired in his episcopal habit; his right hand is in the attitude of giving the blessing; his left sustains a crosier: over his head is a double cushion supported by angels, and at his feet a cropped long tailed dog.

Adjoining this, under an ornamented arch, is the Monument of Viscountess de Lisle,* which has the following inscription in old English characters:

* This monument, which had been walled up with broken pieces of the statue belonging to it, (probably for centuries) was opened by the Dean and Chapter, in 1809, when three beautiful tabernacles, highly adorned with sculpture, were presented to public view.

INSCRIPTION.

" Hic jacet Joanna Vicecomitissa de Lisle,
" una filiarum et hæredum Thomæ Chedder,
" Armiger; quæ fuit uxor Joannis Vicemotis de
" Lisle, filii et hæredis Joannis Comitis Salapiæ,
" et Margaretæ uxoris ejus, unius filiarum et
" hæredum Richardi Comitis Warwici, et Eli-
" zabethæ uxoris ejus, filiæ et hæredis Thomæ
" Berkeley, militis D. de Berkeley; quæ obiit
" 15mo die mensis Julii, Ano Dom. 1464."

TRANSLATION.

Here lies Joanna Viscountess de Lisle, one of the Daughters, and Coheiresses of Thomas Cheddar Esq. who was the Wife of John Viscount de Lisle, son and Heir of John Earl of Shrewsbury, and Margarit his Wife, one of the Daughters and Coheiresses of Richard Earl of Warwick, and Elizabeth his Wife, Daughter, and Heiress of Sir Thomas Berkeley Lord of Berkeley, who died the 15th. Day of July, in the year of our Lord 1464. P. S.

In St. Martin's Chapel is the tomb of John Storthwait, Precentor, A. D. 1426, and Chancellor of this Church A. D. 1439, with his effigy under an arched canopy.

Near which is a Grave Stone, with the following Inscription: John Grene, Minor Canon of this Church, who died the 20th day of January, in the year of our Lord 1400.

In St. Calixtus's Chapel, adjoining the above, and now the Canons Vestry, is an elegant alabaster tomb, with a rich canopy over it, to the memory of Dean Hussee, whose effigy, likewise of alabaster, and formerly highly decorated, lies thereon. He died A. D. 1305.

Against the south-east pier of the Tower is a small tablet, to the memory of Richard Hebdon, Gent. second son of Sir John Hebdon, Knt. who died January 21, 1668, aged 30.

In the south aisle of the Choir is the tomb of Bishop Harewell: his effigy, which appears to have been richly ornamented, represents him in his episcopal robe, maniple, and crosier; his head reclines on two cushions, and is covered with a mitre, richly decorated; at his feet are two hares, in allusion to his name.

Opposite this tomb, at the back of the stalls of the Choir, are three effigies of Bishops, vested in their pontifical robes, and their hands crossed in different directions: the lowest is for Bishop Burwold;

the next above him for Bishop Ethelwyn; and the next for Bishop Brithwyn. Near this, in the same line, is a marble slab, whereon is represented the figure of a Bishop, pontifically habited; under it lies Bishop Bitton the first. Between this and the next tomb is the place of Dudoca's interment, according to Bishop Godwin.

Under the staircase near the above, at the back of the Bishop's Throne, lies Bishop Lake, on the stone are affixed his arms, and a short inscription on a brass plate.

On the south wall of the same aisle is a handsome mural monument to the memory of Bishop Hooper; and near it a smaller one to the memory of his Lady, who died September 24, 1726, aged 71.*

Above the south entrance into the Choir, in St. Mary's Chapel, is the tomb of Bishop Beckington; his effigy, in alabaster, is represented lying on the top

* In the window near this monument are several small compartments full of beautiful painted glass.

of an open altar tomb, habited in his episcopal robes: underneath is a representation of his skeleton.

On the floor, near the above, is a plain grave stone to the memory of Roger Humphreys, Chancellor and Canon Residentiary, who died January 17, 1738. On the wall is a mural monument to the memory of Samuel Hill, Archdeacon of Wells, and Canon Residentiary, who died March 7, 1715-16.

Under a plain stone lies Wm. Hughes, Chancellor of this Diocese, who died January 1715-16.

Above are two plain stones to the memory of some branches of the Carew family, of Camerton. Four similar stones, to the memory of some branches of the Palmer family, of Fairfield, in this county; and a small mural tablet to the memory of Nathaniel Palmer, who died of the small pox, at the Grammar School, in Wells, November 16, 1706, aged 12. Opposite to which is a neat tablet, erected by Giles Hemens, to the memory of Philip

Allanson, who died March 4, 1767, aged 40 years.

In St. Catherine's Chapel is an altar tomb, with several coats of arms upon it, to the memory of Dean Gunthorpe, who died June 24, 1498.

Within an iron railing is a handsome mural monument to the memory of Peter Davis Esq. Recorder of Wells, and Bencher of Lincoln's Inn, who died June 11, 1745-6, aged 69: adjoining which is an elegant mural tablet, representing a female weeping over an urn, to the memory of Margaret Isabella, wife of Peter Sherston, Esq. and only daughter of Peter Burrel, of Leicester, M. D. who died April 6, 1779, aged 29.

Near this Monument, on the West wall, is a brass plate, emblematically engraved, and dedicated to the memory of Humphry Willis, esq.—see plate, &c.

A free Translation of the scattered Sentences in the Plate.

Within his reach God's shining armour lies,
Let this be mine! the Christian Hero cries,

VT PEREAM VIVO VIVAT VT ILLE PERIT:
TERRA TIBI HOS CINERES COMENDO MEOSQ DOLORES
HVIC CINERI DONEC TRADAR ET IPSA CINIS.

Optabit melius T:P consanguineus

J. Mills Sculp

An ear to vanity no more I'll lend,
Vain world farewell! to mercy's seat I tend;
But what remains! a waning race I see,
A headless trunk, a weather beaten tree
Yet as a tender cion still survives,
Hope's cheering ray a gleam of comfort gives!
His tearful eye the humble suppliant rears,
And thus on bending knee his suit prefers,
Give me the word of life! a voice from Heaven
Replies, to him that asks it shall be given;
Well hast thou fought, the glorious struggle dar'd
Take from an Angel's hand this proud reward.

Below the Engraving,

Here lies Humphry Willis, Esq. Son of Humphry Willis, Esq. who died the 21st of October, in the Year of our Lord, 1618, aged 28.

Sacred to his pious Memory, his afflicted Wife placed this Tablet.

Of me the worst part lives, the better dies,
I live to die, he dies in joy to rise,
To earth these griefs, and ashes I resign,
Till with this kindred dust I mingle mine!

On the opposite side of this Chapel is a neat monument, with a sarcophagus on

the tablet, and the following inscriptions to the memory of

DODINGTON SHERSTON, of this City, Gent. who died November 23d. 1751, Aged 46 years. Likewise of BRIDGET, his WIFE, who died May 25, 1792, Aged 72 years.

The thorny path of tedious life she trod,
Rever'd her duties, and ador'd her God;
To ev'ry station ev'ry credit gave,
And built on happiness beyond the grave.

Also of WILLIAM TUCKER SHERSTON, Son of Dodington Sherston, Gent. and Bridget his Wife, who died the 28th of March, 1770, in the 19th year of his age. Whilst in pursuit of academical learning, with as much improvement and attention as his weak habit of body would permit; His piety to God, and filial duty to his surviving parent, were great and unaffected; an open and ingenuous behaviour, adorned by genteel manners; An easy cheerfulness, recommended by a pleasing, modest countenance, engaged him the love of all. Sweetness and equality of temper, enabled his youthful and naturally lively mind to bear a lingering and painful disease with a wonderful composure. These happy endearments, with untainted virtues, fitted him, through JESUS CHRIST, for those

blissful regions, where love and joy for ever reign.

Dear kindred shades, accept this last adieu;
This tribute paid to virtue and to you.

P. S. April, 1793.

On the same side is an elegant mural monument, representing two females leaning on a sepulchral urn, to the memory of Margaret, second wife of Peter Sherston Esq. and youngest daughter of Thomas Strangways, Esq. of Shapwick, in this county, who died January 16, 1795, aged 39.

On the south wall is a simply elegant tablet to the memory of John Gooch, D.D. Rector of Ditton, in the county of Cambridge, and Prebendary of Ely; who died at the Palace of his son in-law, the present Bishop of Bath and Wells, January 7 1804, aged 75.

On the north side of this Chapel is the altar tomb of Bishop Bitton the second, his effigy lying thereon.

Near the Lady's Chapel is a beautiful altar tomb, surmounted by an enriched

canopy, supported by slender pillars, and ornamented with the most delicate sculpture, in pinnacles, crockets, trefoils, &c. to the memory of Bishop Drokensford.

On the adjoining wall are two marble tablets; one to the memory of Elizabeth Frances, wife of the Rev. Richard Chaple Whalley, who died May 6, 1795, aged 40; the other to Francis Whalley, son of the above, who died in 1795, aged 13.

Opposite Bishop Drokensford's tomb, on the south wall, is a handsome monument to the memory of Elizabeth Sage, wife of Isaac Sage, Esq. of Thornhill, in the County of Dorset, who died December 17, 1778, aged 33.

In the Lady's Chapel is a simply neat monument to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Eyre, L. L. D. Eldest Son of the Rev. Thomas Eyre, sometime Chancellor of this Diocese; and Brother of Sir James Eyre Knt. Lord Chief Justice of the common Pleas; Rector of Fovant and of Chilmark in the County of Wilts, Trea-

surer of Wells Cathedral, aud Canon Residentiary of Wells and Salisbury; who died March 26th 1812, Aged 81, deservedly respected, beloved, and lamented.

Also to the memory of Arabella Eyre, Sister of the Rev. Thomas Eyre, L. L. D. who died January 15th 1784, aged 45.

Near this monument against the wall is a small Brass Plate with the following inscription,

"Henricus Hawley, Armiger, qui obiit octave "die Februarii, Ano Dni 1573."

TRANSLATION.

Henry Hawley Esq. who died the eighth day of Feb. in the year of our Lord 1573. P. S.

Near this spot is an ancient stone to the memory of Sir John Newton, Bart. who died February 4, 1661, with the following couplet in Monkish Latin verse:

"Hoc non jacet corpus loco,
"Sed hic jacet pars pro toto."

TRANSLATION.

"Beneath a body find we not,
"But for the whole a part we've got. P. S.

On the south side of the Altar is a handsome monument to the memory of Richard Healy, M. A. Vicar of St. Cuthbert, in this city, and Maria his wife.

Maria died Dec. 11, 1722, aged 35.

Richard died Nov. 1, 1736, aged 46.

Adjoining it is a small tablet to the memory of Richard Healy, L. L. D. who died September 1, 1713.

On the north side of the Altar is a highly decorated monument with a bust of Claver Morris, M. D. who died March 19, 1726, aged 67.

On the same side is a neat tablet to the memory of Anna, wife of William Keate, Prebendary of this Church, with the following Latin Inscription:

Hic Juxta, cum parentum cinere
Suum etiam misceri voluit
ANNA KEATE,
Johannis et Elizabethae Burland filicet
GULIELMI KEATE,
Hujus Ecclesiae Prebendarii,
uxor dilectissima.
ob. Jul. 18. A. S. 1790.
Ætat: Suae. 50.
Obeatis inter annumeranda!

Hoc amoris qualecunque pignus,
Maritus, tui, dum vivet memor,
Nec diu Superstes, posuit.
Hoc accipe Supremum Vale!

On the east wall of the north part of the area between the Lady's Chapel and the High Altar is a neat tablet to the memory of Lord Francis Seymour, son of Edward Duke of Somerset, and thirty-three years Dean of this Church, who died February 1799, aged 73.

Near it is a similar one to the memory of Catherine, relict of the before-mentioned Lord Francis Seymour, who died December 21, 1801, aged 75; and Leonora, wife of Lieut. Col. Francis Seymour, who died June 16, 1795, aged 41.

On the same wall is a small monument to the memory of John Harris, D. D. Bishop of Landaff and Dean of this Church, who died A. D. 1738.

In the north-east corner is an oval tablet to the memory of Thomas Payne, A. M. Canon Residentiary of this Church, who died December 24, 1797, aged 82.

Likewise Judith Payne his wife, who died 19th. May, 1813.

Near the same place, has lately been erected, a neat monument to the memory of John Berkeley Burland Esq. the statuary (Bacon Junior) has beautifully delineated the Christian on a Couch, waiting with patience the appointed hour, at the feet death appears drawing aside the curtain, at whose approach the dying man holds out his hand ready to welcome him. Hope is also distinguished by a small branch of blossoms, which she places before the departing Christian. The open Bible and the cross emblems of the religion he professed are grouped immediately beneath the alto releivo, together with a palm branch denoting victory thro' the Cross, there also appears a branch of Cypress and the Scales of Justice, the latter refering very justly to the general integrity of the deceased as a Magistrate, and the former to the great regret prevalent at the loss of such a character. The tablet bears nothing more than ample justice to so distinguished a man.

In St. John's Chapel is the altar tomb, with an effigy lying thereon, of John Forest, Dean of Wells, who died March 25, 1446.

On the east wall of this Chapel is an old mural tablet to the memory of Robert Brydges, who died November 12, 1712.

Above the same is a small neat tablet to the memory of Kempe Brydges Gent. Son of Marshall Brydges, late Chancellor and Canon Residentiary of this Cathedral; aged 77. Also of Eleanor Brydges his Wife, aged 84.

Near it is a similar one to the memory of Francisca Creyghton, daughter of Wm. Wolrond, and wife of Bishop Creyghton, who died October 30, 1683.

On a sarcophagus, adorned with coats of arms, lies the effigy of Bishop Creyghton, in alabaster, richly adorned, with a long inscription relating to his exile, as stated in the list of Bishops.

Under an arch lies John de Middleton, or Milton, founder of this Chapel, with his effigy. He was collated to the Chan-

cellorship of Wells in 1337; but a short time afterwards he quitted it, and assumed the habit of a Friar-minor.

Near it is the ancient tomb of Bishop Berkeley, which was removed from the north side of the High Altar to make room for Bishop Kidder's monument.

On the west side of this Chapel is an elegant and highly decorated monument, surmounted by an urn, to the memory of Abraham Elton, only child of the late Isaac Elton, and Sarah his wife, daughter of the late Samuel Peach, who died April 23, 1794, aged 30 years.

Against the same wall is a simply neat tablet, with an elegant Inscription from the pen of the late Rev. Charles Thomas Barker B. D. Subdean and Canon Residentiary of this Cathedral,

TO THE MEMORY OF

CHARLES SPENCER OGILVIE,

only Son of John Alexander Ogilvie Esq. of Charlestown South Carolina, and Midshipman of his Majesty's Ship L'Imperieuse, who closed his short and blame-

less life by gallantly falling in the british Service at Elvoursdyde in South Beveland, on the 16th of December, 1809, in the 17th year of his age, the Integrity of his principles, the Sweetness of his temper, the Purity of his manners, and the Elevation and firmness of his professional character, prepared him (as it seemed) for a sure and prosperous course of worldly felicity and honour; the Almighty hath dealt yet more graciously with him by calling him to the blessings of Immortality, before his fair hopes had been clouded by misfortune, or his innocence endangered by temptation.

In the north aisle of the Choir is a plain stone to the memory of John Sellek, S.T.P. Archdeacon of Bath and Canon Residentiary, who died in 1690, aged 80. He was Ambassador of Charles II. to the Algerines, to redeem the English prisoners from captivity.

On a plain altar tomb lies the effigy, in alabaster, of Bishop Ralph de Salopia:

he is vested in his episcopal habit, with his crosier, &c.

In the middle of the Choir lies interred Bishop Joceline de Wells; and over his grave was formerly a marble tomb, with his effigy in brass placed thereon; though nothing now remains of it.

On the south side of the High Altar is a handsome monument, consisting of a marble sarcophagus, with the effigy of the Bishop in his parliamentary robes, lying under a canopy supported by pillars, and surmounted by a shield, on which are the Bishop's arms impaled with those of the See, to the memory of John Still, D. D. Bishop of this Diocese. On the north side is an elegant monument to the memory of the unfortunate Bishop Kidder and his Lady. On the Altar Table lies a female figure, representing the daughter of the Bishop, who, by her will, caused this monument to be erected: she appears in the attitude of looking at two urns, supposed to contain the ashes of her deceased parents: the canopy is very

elegant, and on the top is a shield, whereon is the Bishop's arms.

Near the Altar was the following inscription on a brass plate, in old English characters:

"Hic jacet Magr Johes Spekinton, hujus
"ecclesiæ canonicus et subdecanus, qui obiit
"penultimo die mensis Decembris Ano 1462.
"cujus animæ propitietur Deus. *Amen.*"

TRANSLATION.

Here lies Master John Speckington, Canon and Subdean of this Church, who died the last day of December, 1462.

Under a seat near St. Mary's Chapel is a brass plate to the memory of Sir John Bernard, Treasurer and Canon Residentiary of this Church, who died April 30, 1459.

Not far from thence lies Wm. Witham, Sub-dean, who died July 16, 1472.

In the north aisle of the Choir, under a large stone, with a brass plate thereon, lies Timothy Revett, D. D. Archdeacon of Bath and Canon Residentiary, who died April 1, 1638.

Near it is a brass plate, with an inscription thereon, to the memory of Wm. Powell, S. T. P. Archdeacon of Bath and Canon Residentiary, who died March 12, 1613.

Against the back of the stalls of the Choir lies four effigies of Bishops, vested in their pontifical habits. two of them having their hands crossed, and holding a crosier. These are supposed to represent Bishops Giso, Alwyn, Kineward, and Brithelm.

At the north end of the east aisle of the North Transept is an altar tomb, with a canopy over it, to the memory of Thos. Cornish. On the border of the altar table the following inscription remains, part being broken off:

" obiit supradictus Dns Thomas Tinensis Epus
" tertio die mensis Julii Anno Dni 1513. cujus
" animæ propitietur Deus. *Amen.*"

TRANSLATION.

The aforesaid Thomas Lord Bishop of Tyne, died the third day of July in the year of our Lord 1513, to whose soul may God be propitious. P. S.

N. B. Tyne was the last Island the Venetians held in the Archipelago.

He was Precentor, Chancellor, and Canon Residentiary of this Church; Master of St. John's Hospital, in Wells; Suffragan Bishop of this See to Richard Fox, and of Exeter to Hugh Oldham; and Provost of Oriel College, in the University of Oxford.

Parallel with this are two plain altar tombs, covered with slabs of black marble, and containing the remains of the Bishop's Officers.

On the floor a large grave stone, circumscribed, in old English characters,

"Tumba Domini Johis Roland, canonici dum
"vixit ecclesiæ cathedralis Wellens: et Magistri
"Cancellarii Domini Regis, qui obiit secundo
"die mensis Decembris, Ano Domini 1427.
"cujus anima per meritum passionis et miseri-
"cordiam Jesu Christi requiescat in pace.
"*Amen.*"

TRANSLATION.

The tomb of Master John Roland Canon of this Cathedral Church during his Life, and Master in Chancery of our Lord the King, who died the second day of December in the year of our Lord 1427, may his soul through the merit of the passion and mercy of Jesus Christ rest in peace. Amen.

On the grave stone near the upper end of the south aisle is the following inscription:

"Of the Soule of John Braham, Canon,
"Good Lord have mercy."

On the west side of the north entrance into the nave is a handsome marble monument to the memory of Thos. Linley, Esq. who died November 19, 1795; and two of his daughters, and a grand daughter, Elizabeth Ann, wife of R. B. Sheridan, Esq. M. P.; Mary, wife of Richard Tickell, Esq.; and Mary, the infant daughter of the former; with the following elegant inscription:

"In this bless'd pile, amid whose favoring gloom
"Fancy still loves to guard her votary's tomb,
"Shall I withhold what all the virtues claim,
"The sacred tribute to a father's name? [thine
"And yet, bless'd saint! the skill alone was
"To breathe with truth the tributary line;
"The mem'ry of departed worth to save,
"And snatch the fading laurel from the grave:
"And oh! my sisters, peaceful be your rest,
"Once more reposing on a father's breast;

"You, whom he lov'd whose notes so soft, so clear
"Would sometimes wildly float upon his ear,
"As the soft lyre he touch'd with mournful grace,
"And Recollection's tear bedew'd his face.
"Yes, most belov'd, if ev'ry grateful care
"To soothe his hours, his ev'ry wish to share;
"If the fond mother and the tender wife
"Could add fresh comfort to his eve of life;
"If youth, if beauty, eloquence could charm,
"Genius delight him, or affection warm;
"Your's was the pleasing task from day to day,
"Whilst Heav'n approv'd, and Virtue led the [way."

WILLIAM LINLEY.

Near Mr. Hebdon's tablet (in page 85) on a grave stone, is a brass plate, with the following Inscription:

HEERE-RESTETH-THE-BODY
OF-EDWARD-WYKES-ESQVIER
LATE-RECORDER-OF-THIS
CITY-WHO-DECEASED-THE
EIGHT-DAY-OF-AVGVST-AT
THE-AGE-OF-FIFTY-FOWRE
YEARES, ANNO,DOMINI-1664.

CHAP. IX.

A List of the Dignitaries, Canons, and Prebendaries of the Cathedral Church of St. Andrew, in Wells.

RICH. BEADON, D. D, -- Bishop.
The Hon. and Rev. Hen. Ryder, D. D. Dean.
John Watson Beadon, A. M.
Precentor and Prebendary of Litton.
William Willes, A. M.
Archdeacon of Wells, and Prebendary of Huish and Brent.
Charles Sandiford, A. M.
Chancellor and Prebendary of St. Decumans.
Gilbert Heathcote, A. M. Treasurer.
John Turner, A. M.
Archdeacon of Taunton, Canon Residentiary and Prebendary of Milverton 1st.
James Phillott, D. D.
Archdeacon of Bath & Prebendary of Combe 4th
Houstonne Radcliffe, D. D. Sub-dean.
Walker King, D. D.
Bishop of Rochester, Canon Residentiary and Prebendary of Wiveliscombe.
Henry Gould, A. M.
Canon Residentiary and Preb. of Wedmore 4th.

George Trevelyan L. L. B.
Ditto and Prebendary of Taunton.
Roger Frankland, A. M.
Ditto and Preb. of Combe 7th.
Frederick Beadon, A. M.
Ditto and Prebendary of Compton Bishop.
Hon. Jacob Marsham, D. D.
Prebendary of Worminster.
John Michell, A. M. Ditto of Compton-Dando.
Edward Foster, L. L. B. Preb. of Barton David
Edward Barnard, A. M. Ditto of Yatton.
John Jenkins, A. M. Ditto of Dindar.
Thos. Ireland, D. D. Ditto of White Lackington.
John Wyndham, A. M. Ditto of Hazlebere.
John Gooch, A. M. Ditto of Whitchurch.
Rich. Thos. Whalley, A. M. Ditto of Ilton.
Laurence Heard Luxton, A. M.
Ditto of Holcombe.
Thomas Heberden, D. D.
Ditto of Cudworth and Knowle.
John Williams, A. M.
Ditto of Buckland Dinham.
William Brudenel Barter, A. M.
Ditto of Easton in Gornado.
Anthony Hamilton, A. M. Ditto of Warminster.
Henry Parsons, L. L. B. Ditto of E. Harptree.
Thomas Keuich, A. M. Ditto of Scamford.
Caleb Rockett, A. M. Ditto of Timberscombe.
Brooke Henry Bridges, A. M.
Ditto of Henstidge.
Wm. Fred. Browne, D. D. Ditto of Wanstrow.
Joseph Drury, D. D. Ditto of Dultingcot.
Thomas Morgan, L. L. D. Ditto of Combe 1st.
Thomas Abraham Salmon, L. L. B.
Ditto of Combe 2d.
Thomas Williams, A. M. Ditto of Combe 3d.
John Lukin, A. M. Ditto of Combe 5th.
Edward Willes, A. M. Ditto of Combe 6th.
Aaron Abraham Baker, L. L. D.
Ditto of Combe 8th.

Geo. Hen. Templer, A. M. Ditto of Combe 9th.
Alexander Fownes Luttrell, A. M.
Ditto of Combe 10th.
Edward Edgell, A. M. Ditto of Combe 11th.
James Williams Hoskins, D. D.
Ditto of Combe 12th.
Thomas Sedgwick Whalley, D. D.
Ditto of Combe, 13th.
John Bishop, D. D. Ditto of Combe 14th.
John Cosberd, D. D. Ditto of Combe 15th.
William Chase, A. M. Ditto of Wedmore 2d.
John Yeatman. A. M. Ditto of Wedmore 3d.
Josiah Thomas, A. M. Ditto of Wedmore 5th.
William Henry Turner, A. M.
Ditto of Milverton 2d.

FINIS.

W. J. QUARTLEY, PRINTER, SHEPTON-MALLET.