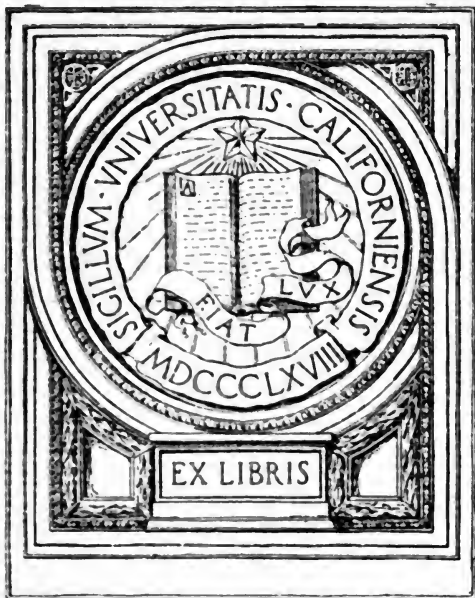


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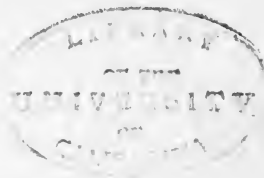
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THE ESQUIRE BEDELLS

OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

FROM THE
13TH CENTURY
TO THE
20TH CENTURY.

BY THE
REV. H. P. STOKES, LL.D., F.S.A.,
CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE.



Cambridge :

PRINTED FOR THE CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

1911

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THE ESQUIRE BEDELLS

OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

(1250—1910)

PUBLICATIONS: OCTAVO SERIES
No. XLV



AN ESQUIRE BEDELL (1815), with A YEOMAN BEDELL.

[From Ackermann's *History*.]

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1911

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A CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF ESQUIRE BEDELLS.

[The following List is compiled from many sources. Before the *Grace Books* begin, it is impossible to give accurately the dates of the Bedells. Reference must be made to the documents quoted in Chapter VIII. In *Grace Book A*, uncertainty still reigns as to the periods during which our officers held their posts. But afterwards, not only can the length of their service be recorded, but during the latter part of the 15th century, and during the 16th, distinction can be made as to the Bedellship held. For instance [D] signifies the Bedell of Divinity (and Canon Law), [A] the Bedell of Arts, and [3rd] the "other Bedell." Later on our officers became "equal."]

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1250 | Ralph Piroun
Robert Gosnel |
| 1260 | Walter de Wells
Thomas le Bedel (c. 1270) |
| 1270 | Thomas de Tuddenham (c. 1270)
Walter de Oxford (c. 1270)
Walter le Bedel (c. 1279) |
| 1280 | { William Russell (c. 1287)
Robert the Bedell (c. 1287) |
| 1290 | Thomas de Watlington (c. 1290)
Robert Carless (c. 1290) |
| 1300 | Reginald the Bedell (c. 1300)
Christopher the Bedell (c. 1300)
Robert the Bedell (c. 1300) |
| 1310 | Thurstan de Huningham (c. 1315) |
| 1320 | Stephen de Eye (c. 1324) |
| 1330 | |
| 1340 | |
| 1350 | Henry the Bedell (c. 1350)
Adam de la More (c. 1350)
Richard de Betelle (c. 1350)
John de Arundel (c. 1355) |
| 1360 | { John de Wesenham (c. 1360)
William Wigmore (c. 1360)
William Physwick (c. 1360) |
| 1370 | |

1380

1390

1400

Richard Bristow (c. 1408)

1410

John Physwick (c. 1418)

1420

1430

1440

Robert Woodlark (c. 1440)

1450

William Bedell (c. 1450)

Christopher the Bedell (c. 1455) (?)

1460

{ Alan Semper (c. 1460)
 { William Dalton (c. 1460)
 { Thomas Bury (c. 1460)

1470

John Canterbury (c. 1470)

1480

1485

Laurence Bretherton (c. 1485)

1490

Carsey [D]

Morgan [A]

Bedford [3rd]

1495

1500

1505

P. Cheke (1509) [D]

Hobbs (1507) [A]

J. Clarke (1510) [3rd]

1510

1515

1520

Adams (1521, 2) [3rd]

1525

Sherwood (1529) [A]

1530

Urmston (1530) [D]

Mere (1530) [D]

1535

1540

1545

Fluyd (1549) [A]

Brunstead [A]

1550

1555

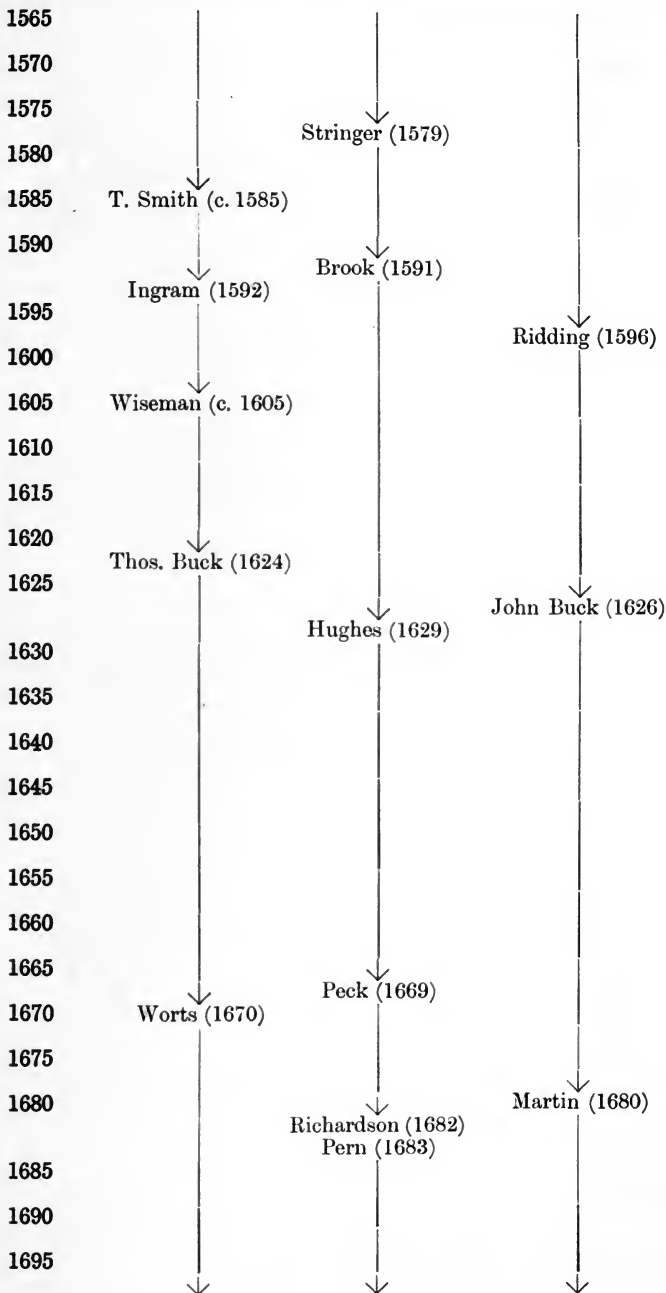
Stokes (1557) [D]

Muriel (1555) [3rd]

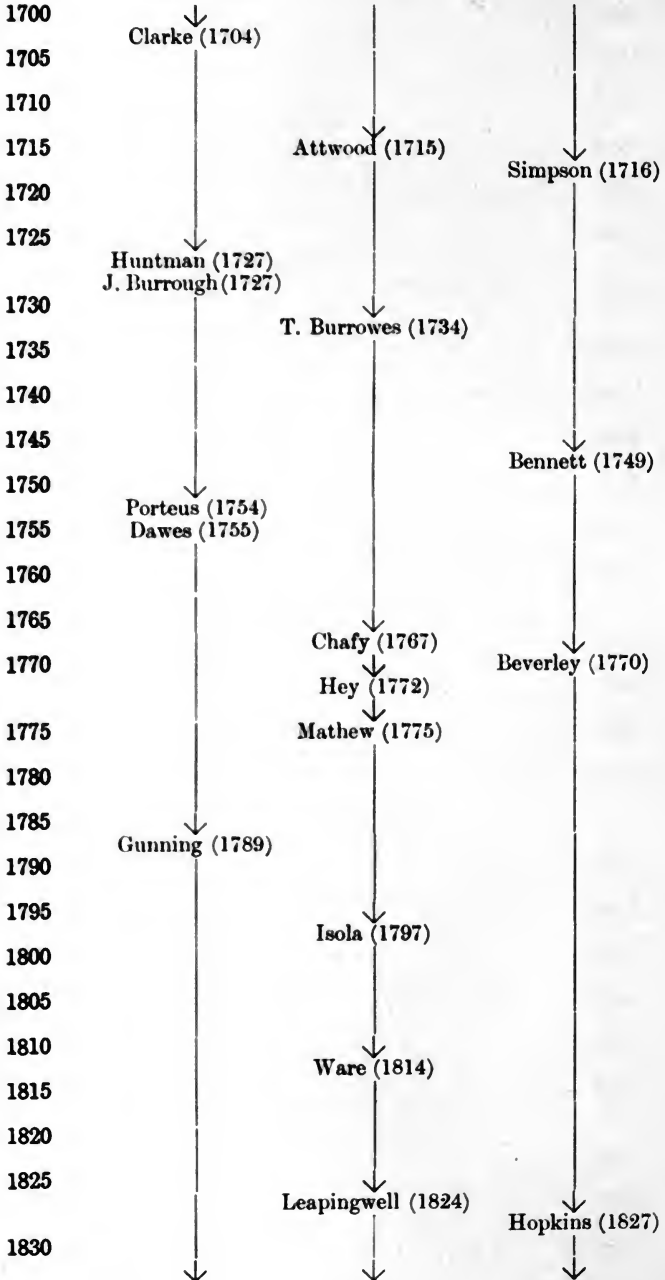
Baxter (1556) [3rd]

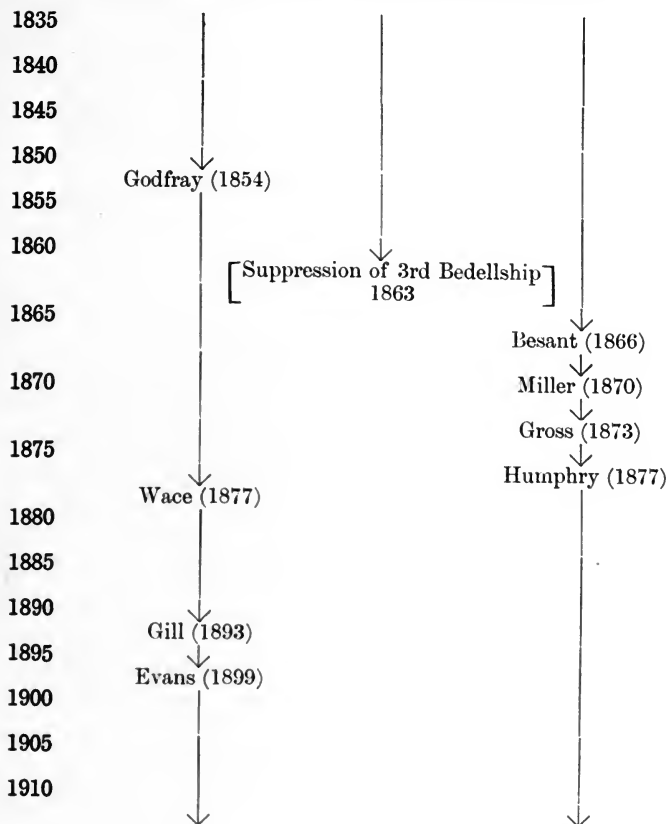
1560

Redmayne (1563) [A]



A CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF ESQUIRE BEDELLS





CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTORY.

FOR some seven hundred years the Bedells have been amongst the most useful and picturesque officers of the University of Cambridge. A record of their careers and of their many-sided activities will form quite an epitome of academical history.

In the following chapters a systematic account will be given of the titles, the duties, the mode of election, the stipends, the dress, etc. of the Esquire Bedells.

Then a biographical list of nearly one hundred of these officials will be recorded—and incidents connected with their lives will be noted which, all down these centuries, strikingly illustrate the ceremonies and the studies of the University.

Lastly a chapter will be added on the Inferior Bedells, whose not unimportant offices have, during the same lengthened period, sometimes been confused with those of the more distinguished Esquire Bedells.

It will be remarked that the important officials, with whom this work chiefly deals, were not—at first and for some generations—graduates or members of the University. But they were “privileged persons,” claiming—on account of their academic official position—exemption¹ from the jurisdiction of the town of Cambridge. The Bedells, from their wealth, their usefulness, and their loyal benefactions, gradually became identified with Alma Mater, and subsequently distinguished graduates competed for the post with its picturesque and dignified duties².

¹ The Bedells also had the privilege of borrowing from various University Chests, such as Billingford's (see *Masters's History of Corpus*, Appendix x.) and Bateman's (see *Cooper's Annals*, i. p. 100).

² Their duties sometimes involved collisions with the civic authorities and

Allusion has just been made to their benefactions; and it may be noted that it is to their generous gifts that—before the records of the University began to be systematically kept—we owe the remembrance of the names of many of the earlier officials.

One of the most interesting and curious old documents connected with our University contains a list¹ of “Benefactors” written early in the reign of Henry VIII. The roll includes about a dozen Bedells. These are their honoured names:

Ralph Piroun,
 Robert Gosnol,
 Walter de Welles,
 Thomas de Tudenham,
 Walter de Oxforde,
 Thomas de Watlyngton,
 Robert Carles,
 Stephen de Eye,
 Thurstan de Hunyngham,
 Adam de la More,
 and Richard de Betelee.

These had all passed away before the end of the fourteenth century, and no record remains, except in the case of the last mentioned, to give details of the benefactions for which a grateful University remembered them in prayer.

At the foot of the above roll (p. 28) there is added, by a later hand, another list of Bedells also to be honoured as Benefactors to the University:

John Carsey,
 John Bedford,
 John Clark,
 Peter Cheke,
 Robert Hobbs,
 and Thomas Adams.

the townfolk (as may be seen in the case of Wigmore and other Bedells), and sometimes in higher circles (as may be noticed in the affair of Henry de Harwedon, V.C.; see *Cooper's Annals*, i. pp. 86–89; *Commissioners' Documents*, i. pp. 89, etc.).

¹ See Stokes's *Book in the Registry*, pp. 24–29: “*Preces pro animabus Benefactorum.*” The writer desires to express his many obligations to the kindness and courtesy of the late Registry, Mr J. W. Clark.

All these held office during the first half of the sixteenth century, and are duly mentioned in the early Grace Books in connection with various official duties, though of the special form of their benefactions we have no record.

These lists, however, do not exhaust the names which might be given. For they do not include such Bedells as Robert Woodlark and his brother-in-law John Canterbury, and William Physwick of Hostel fame. These men were college, and therefore University, Benefactors.

And it may be added that many subsequent Esquire Bedells maintained the generous reputation of their predecessors—such were John Mere and Matthew Stokes in the sixteenth century, and Thomas Buck in the seventeenth¹.

A word of praise, too, must be accorded to several of those who have borne the honourable office, for the faithful way in which they have handed down the traditions² of their varied duties. Elaborate memoranda illustrating old customs and academic usages are in existence, penned by John Mere, Matthew Stokes, John Buck, Richard Attwood, Robert Simpson, Sir James Burrough and later Bedells.

¹ William Worts, the University Benefactor, was the son of the Esquire Bedell of that name.

² They were naturally consulted on any disputed question. See the opinion given by Mr Hobbs, in the year when Nicholas Ridley was proctor (1533-4); *Grace Book A*, p. 225; and notice the following record preserved in the Registry [Caryl, xv. 103(4)] "*Query*. At what time does the University year end? *Answered* by Bedles Hughes and J. Buck: that it ends on the Friday in Commencement week."

CHAPTER II.

THE TITLES OF THE BEDELLS.

THE title "*Esquire Bedell*" was not applied to the early officers mentioned in the Introductory Chapter. After what has been there said of their status, it would not be expected that the words "*Armiger Bedellus*" would appear during the 14th and 15th centuries. The first adjacent use of these words, which the writer has come across, occurs in a deed¹ referring to John Canterbury, dated 1473. The official thus designated and his brother-in-law, Provost Woodlark, were also apparently the first members of the University who held the post with which we are dealing. Canterbury was a fellow of King's, and married Elizabeth, sister of the Provost² of that College.

A description often used of the early *bedell* was "*Serviens Universitatis Cantabrigiæ*." Similarly at Oxford the corresponding official³ was often known as the *Serjeant* of the University.

The title *Bedellus*, however, naturally came to be the official title, though as we shall see various other terms are employed in certain deeds and documents.

Fuller, in his *History of the University of Cambridge*⁴, says, with a quaintness which is characteristic and with an inaccuracy

¹ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, p. 154. "J. Canterbury armiger et bedellus universitatis Cantabrigiæ."

² Provost Woodlark had, according to Harwood's *Alumni Etonenses*, p. 34, been "Beadle of the University." He also, probably, would claim to be styled "armiger."

³ See Robert de Avesbury's *History of Edward III* (ed. Hearne), Appendix.

⁴ Prickett and Wright's Edition, pp. 51 and 52.

which is not unusual,—when treating of the officers of the University—

“Behold...the complete body...with the Chancellor the head, the Regents and Scholars the heart, the officers the hands and feet.... Of the latter this composition [Bishop Balsham’s decision, 1276] expresseth by name, 1, Bedels, and these two in number, with the *virges* or wands, since, in many years, grown up to be staves, and these two doubled into four at this day [1654]. Some conceive Bedellus so called ‘quasi Pedellus, a pedo,’ signifying that ceremonious staff which they manage in their hands; whilst others with more probability derive it from beads (prayers in old English), it being a principal part of his office to give public notice of all conventions for academical devotion.”

Fuller goes on to treat of *Scriptores*, *Illuminatores*, *Stationarii*, and other officers.

In various statutes and deeds, the following titles are also applied to the Bedells:

Apparitor¹, or Stator
 Praeco²
 Viator³
 Serviens Universitatis⁴
 Caduceator⁵
 Accisus⁶
 Lictor⁷.

These and other terms which explain themselves remind us of the varied offices and duties which fell to the lot of the Esquire Bedell.

It should be noted that some of these titles are also used of the Inferior Bedell. When a qualifying adjective marks the

¹ Statute 72, *Comm. Doc.* i. p. 353, etc.

² Edward VI’s *Statutes*, Lamb’s *C.C.C. Documents*, p. 134; *Grace Book B*, pp. 161, 181, etc.

³ *Ibidem*, pp. 134, 294, etc.

⁴ See pp. 50, 129, etc.; *Rotuli Hundredorum*, ii. p. 384, etc. From the earliest times, these officers were “privileged” with regard to the town. Later on a curious dispute arose as to whether “squire beadelles should eche of them have one retheyned servaunt (being themselves but servauntes). The Town thinketh it inconvenient.” 1585. (*MS. Lansd.* xlii. art. 66; Cooper, *Annals*, ii. p. 404).

⁵ Caius, *Hist. Cant.*, p. 129.

⁶ *Ibid.* p. 49; *Annals* (ed. Venn); *C.A.S.* xl. p. 8.

⁷ Drake’s Parker, Appendix, p. xvii.

subordinate official, the distinction is obvious; but when the title, as it frequently does, stands alone without any *nota diminutionis*, it is necessary to consult the context¹ or adjacent items. It is then generally fairly easy, from references to the Leet, the Market, or the Fair, to recognise the Inferior Bedell.

NOTE ON "THE BEDELL OF GLOMERY."

In the early history of the University, we meet with an official who was known as *Bedellus Glomeriae*, to whom a passing reference must be made; although we need not here dwell upon the vexed question of the meaning of the term *Magister Glomeriae*. In the decision² given in the year 1276 by Hugh de Balsham, Bishop of Ely (with regard to the controversy which had arisen between the regents and scholars of the University and the Archdeacon of Ely with respect to jurisdiction), the following sentence occurs:

"Et quia in statuto universitatis ejusdem vidimus contineri, quod duo Bedelli universitatis intersint virgam deferentes omnibus vesperiis, Principiis, conventibus, defunctorum exequiis et in omnibus aliis convocationibus, nullo alio in praejudicium illorum virgam delaturo: Praecipimus quod Bedellus Glomeriae, in praedictis convocationibus et locis coram cancellario et magistris virgam non deferat. In aliis autem locis, quandocunque et ubicunque voluerit, et maxime pro expeditione officii sui, virgam libere deferet, licenter et quiete."

Dr Peacock³ strangely identified the Bedell of Glomery with the future "Yeoman Bedell"; but he gives no evidence in support of this conjecture. Nor is there any evidence to bring forward; for the *Bedellus Glomeriae*, with his *virga*, never appears again after 1276; and any reference to him must be mere guesswork, until some document leaps to light.

¹ It is also necessary to distinguish, from the Esquire Bedells, the deputies who were often appointed for short or longer periods to take their places in various duties and ceremonies. This renders uncertain the dates of the appointment of some Bedells. Quite a number of these deputies will be named hereafter; and quite a number of graces might be quoted authorising such appointments. See in *Grace Books* under the years 1604, 1624, 1626, 1645, 1646, 1664, 1671, 1677-79, etc.

² See *M.S. Hare*, i. 31.

³ *Observations on the Statutes*, Appendix A, p. xxxv.

CHAPTER III.

THE DUTIES OF THE BEDELLS.

THE duties of the Bedells may be gathered from the Statutes, from a consideration of the various titles by which they have been designated, either officially or familiarly, from various historical and biographical notices, and from memoranda of the Bedells themselves.

To take the last of the sources first; there are numerous records, official or private, remaining—many of them in print, others in manuscript—telling us, with curious and elaborate details, of the duties and the quaint ceremonies—many of them now obsolete—connected with the office of the Bedells.

John Mere left three *Diaries*¹, full of the most minute, personal facts, as well as other documents; Matthew Stokes preserved records² of singular interest and recorded facts illustrating the duties of his time; Thomas Buck³ left memoranda, and his brother John, in his old age and after half-a-century's occupancy of the office, compiled a series of notes entitled "*Consuetudines et Ceremoniæ Academiæ ab Antiquo Receptæ, usu præsentis continuatæ, Posterisque communicatæ*⁴ A^o 1665." Other Bedells, whose manuscript records may be seen in the collections of Baker or Cole, are Francis Hughes⁵, John Peck⁶,

¹ See *Grace Book A*, pp. 221-230; *Lamb's Documents from the MS. Library of C.C.C.*, pp. 109-120; 184-236; *Athenæ Cantabrigienses*, i. p. 175; ii. p. 110; *Nasmith, Cat. Lib. C.C.C.* cvi.

² *Athenæ Cantabr.* ii. 10; *Peacock's Statutes*, Appendix A.

³ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5843, pp. 201, etc.

⁴ *Peacock's Statutes*, Appendix B.

⁵ *Baker MS.*, University Library, 41, pp. 212, etc.; *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5843, pp. 201, etc.

⁶ *Baker MS.* 42, pp. 1-102.

Richard Attwood¹, Robert Simpson², and Sir James Burrough³, while Henry Gunning's *Reminiscences*⁴ may be consulted not only for remarkable stories of old Cambridge but also for living illustrations of the official customs and practices detailed in his editions of Wall's *Ceremonies of the University*⁵.

Peacock's printed Appendices⁶ and his accurate and suggestive comments and notes upon them make this section almost unnecessary.

Still certain points not referred to by him may present themselves in the following further remarks upon the duties of the Bedells as gathered from the Statute Books and other sources.

Among the *Statuta Antiqua*⁷ are six ordinances (nos. 71-75), *De bedellis et eorum officio*. The first of these about their election is given elsewhere; the last four are also quoted or commented upon in other sections. Statute, no. 72, "De officio bedellorum," sums up the duties upon which we are dwelling. It reads as follows:

"Duo tantum bedelli seu apparitores juramento astricti in ista universitate habeantur, quorum alter scholarum theologiae decretorum et decretalium maneat, alter vero omnium aliarum scholarum circa sedes, et alia onera subeat universa, semper parati mandata cancellarii adimplere: de praecepto cancellarii et magistrorum de causis cognoscentium convocationes, citationes et executiones faciant universas, nihil a pauperibus pro conventionem recepturi. Neuter eorum habeat substitutum comitem vel paedagogum nisi de licentia speciali cancellarii majoris partis et sanioris regentium interveniente, qui jurent coram universitate ad consilia universitatis celanda et eorum ministeria fideliter exequenda. Ingrediantur singulis diebus scholas singulas hora aliqua lectionum ordinarium; singulis etiam disputationibus aliqua hora intersint, bedellus theologorum et decretis-

¹ *Add. MS.*, British Museum, 5852, pp. 1-85.

² *Ibid.* pp. 85-96.

³ *Ibid.* 1741, etc.

⁴ Gunning's *Reminiscences of the University, Town, and County of Cambridge*, 2 vols., 1854.

⁵ Wall's *Ceremonies of the University of Cambridge*, edited by Henry Gunning. In the *Cambridge Portfolio*, ii. 526, Adam Wall is described as "late Esquire Bedell"; but this is a mistake.

⁶ Peacock, *Observations on the Statutes of the University of Cambridge*, with two Appendices, 1841.

⁷ *Commiss. Documents*, i. pp. 353-356.

tarum hora prima et hora disputationis eorundem, bedellus artistarum hora tertia qua ipsi disputare consueverunt. Campanas pulsare teneantur, tempora seu horas antedictas in unius favorem vel alterius praejudicium nullatenus anticipando seu prorogando. Intersint etiam virgam deferentes omnibus vesperis, praecipuis conventibus, defunctorum exequiis, et omnibus aliis convocationibus, ante magistrorum recessum non recessuri, nullo alio in eorum praejudicium virgam delaturo. Si vero negligentes¹ vel remissi circa praedicta et alia ad eorum officium pertinentia deprehendantur, communis collecta in scholis omnino denegetur eisdem, vel ab officio perpetuo seu ad tempus amoveantur, et alii idonei in loco eorum subrogentur, si delicti qualitas vel negligentia remotionem postulaverit."

Before proceeding to comment upon this *statutum antiquum*, it may be well to quote that part of the Edwardian and Elizabethan Statute², which has reference to the duties of the Bedells:

"Praecones armigeri tres aequale stipendium aequalem mercedem accipiant ad aequalem laborem ac diligentiam devincti. Stipendium his et merces proveniet quemadmodum decreto commissioneriorum nostrorum³ quid quisque gradus singulis ministris solvat constituetur. Horum trium et viatoris inferioris praeterea officium erit quotidie ac diligenter cancellario adesse eique in omnibus quae ad munus cancellariatus et ad illorum quoque officia spectabunt inservire et diligenter providere ne quando referat illos adesse absentes aut extra conspectum sint. Singulis singularum artium disputationibus duo aut ad minimum unus ex illis semper intersit si responsor⁴ supra gradum baccalaurei sit et responsorem⁵ domo ad scholas deducant iterumque a scholis domum reducant."

These Statutes—old and later—begin by stating the number of the Bedells. In the former, which dates back to the 13th century⁶, there are only two of these officers. When the number was, in those early days, increased to three is not known; but an indulgence⁷ granted by Pope Urban the Sixth in 1386, to "John Wesenham, William Wykmore, and William

¹ By the Old Statute passed in 1275, it was enacted or probably re-enacted that negligent bedells were to be punished by the *Rectors* (i.e. by the Proctors). See Old Statute 57; *MS. Hare*, i. 28; Peacock, *Observations*, etc., 23 n.; Cooper, *Annals*, i. 55.

² See Lamb's *Collection of Letters, Statutes and other Documents from the MS. Library of Corp. Chr. Coll.* pp. 135 and 295. For the first part of this Statute, see page 15.

³ "decreto nostro" (Eliz.).

⁴ "Disputator" (Eliz.).

⁵ "Disputatorem" (Eliz.).

⁶ *Commissioners' Documents*, i. p. 354.

⁷ *Baker MS.* xlii. p. 180; see p. 60.

Fisshewyke, married men, and bedels of the University," seems to imply that there were three men in office together at that date; and when the *Grace Books* begin (from 1454 onwards) there are apparently three Bedells—though this is a matter of conjecture. There were certainly that number throughout *Grace Book B*, from 1488 to 1544. Yet the Old Proctors' Book seems to have continued the reading "Duo tantum Bedelli" in Statute 72, and No. 75 (which by the bye is given as a grace in *Grace Book A*, under date 28 June, 1494) speaks of "Bedelli utriusque facultatis."

In Mere's *Third Diary*¹, on 1 February, 1556, there is a curious entry:

"Then we three bedles commaunded to departe, Mr Muryell commaunded to go furthe of both howses and Mr Bronsted and I continued in the non regent house; then the senior Proctor was commaunded to rede all the statutes concerning the bedells and that done after a lytle consultation with the Heddes and Doctors this Grace viz. *Plac. vobis ut tres sint bedelli non obstante statuto* was axed and denied in the non regent house.... It. Mr Muryell went home no bedle."

Dean Peacock² gives an explanation of this; but the following suggestion is here offered. It is well known that the Senate was angry that Mr Muryell had been thrust upon them on the death of Mr Adams. The next day, Candlemas, Feb. 2nd, they would have had to confirm his election, or offend the Court-party. They cleverly adopted the device of ordering the Proctor to read the Statutes relating to the Bedells, including No. 72, which begins, "*Duo tantum Bedelli*," but which was disregarded in practice, for there had been three Bedells for years. They then proposed that this old Statute should be overruled and three Bedells legally appointed. Not that the anti-Muryell party wished for the three (or rather not that they wished for three, which included Mr Muryell). The Court or pro-Muryell party were thus in a dilemma; they had lately revived the old Statutes; to vote for this Grace would be to disapprove of these old Statutes. So they voted for the *ipsissima verba* of No. 72; and Mr Muryell found no place!

¹ Lamb's *Documents*, p. 214. See p. 84. As to the date 1556, see *C.A.S.* iii. p. 7.

² *Statutes*, Appendix A, p. xii.

But soon afterwards in the same year, 1556—Mr Muryell and the Commissioners being out of the way—a new Grace¹ was proposed: “Conceditur ut eligatur tertius Bedellus in subsidium reliquorum duorum bedellorum.” This was carried, and Mr Baxter² was appointed³.

Henceforth, for 300 years, till the Statutes of 1858, or rather the death of Dr Leapingwell⁴ in 1863, there were three Esquire Bedells. Since then two only have served the ancient and honourable office.

In the old Statute one of the two is said to be Bedell in Theology and Canon Law, the other Bedell in Arts. When the third official was appointed he was sometimes called “Bedellus Subsidiarius⁵,” sometimes “the other Bydill.” When the study of Canon Law was abolished, the senior became simply the Bedell in Divinity. The change meant of course not only less work, but also less fees; and after a while—as in the later Statutes—more of equality was introduced as to labour and stipend. In later times, they were known as the Senior, the Middle, and the Junior Bedells.

The thousand and one duties that fell to them—which are only hinted at in these Statutes—may be gathered from numerous entries in the *Grace Books*, from the curious details of the *Appendices* in Peacock’s book so often quoted, and from various records and memoranda. It is impossible to go into detail as to their attendance upon the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor, as to their summonses⁶ to sermons⁷, to academical

¹ *Commissioners’ Documents*, i. p. 452; Grat. Δ. 48; see *Proctors’ Book*, f. 21.

² See p. 84.

³ Dean Peacock says (p. xii.) that Mr Muryell “was restored again, upon the accession”; this is a mistake in fact, and misunderstands the circumstances of the objection to that short-lived official.

⁴ See A. P. Humphry, M.A., *Maces, C.A.S.* xxi. pp. 208–9. See also a pamphlet, entitled “*A Plea for the Triumvirate of Esquire Bedells*, by Academicus (W. Nind, Peterhouse), 1852.”

⁵ Nasmith’s *Catalogue of MSS. in C.C.C.* cvi.

⁶ T. Randolph, with a Praevaricator’s licence, addresses them as follows: “Vestrum, Bedelli, officium est vocare nunc in memoriam totam jocorum congregationem” (*Randolph’s Works*, ed. Hazlitt, ii. 673).

⁷ Attwood the Bedell, in his *Diary*, p. 38, thus amusingly writes: “1709. Oct. 9. *Pridie termini. Concio ad Clerum* by Dr James. This day happened

congregations or disputations, as to their place in processions¹ and religious services for the living and the dead, as to their visitation² of the various schools, as to their quaint Latin and French sentences, their making "curtesyes"³ to the Fathers, their "bringing home" of the Doctors, and so on, and so on. These are illustrated on nearly every page of this work, and they may further be deduced (as we have seen in the preceding chapter) from a consideration of the titles accorded in official or in popular language to the Bedells.

The duties of these officers with regard to Stourbridge Fair⁴ would almost require a section to themselves.

Coming to later times, the following extracts from Gunning's⁵ gossiping *Reminiscences* may be added as illustrating the social side of the duties of the Esquire Bedells in the eighteenth century :

"I went the morning after my election to the rooms of my excellent to be on a Sunday, as did the 8th of May this year, when James was to Clerum too. Sometime before this day the V.C. sent him word, He expected a Latin sermon. The Bedle went to wait on him to the Schools. I'll have no Bedle, says he; away to St Mary's in his chariot, on go his robes, and up the pulpit goes he, before the V.C., without any Bedle: and what he said there, the Lord only knows. He pleaded president (*sic*) for it."

¹ At the funeral of Dr Clayton, Master of St John's College, in 1612, we are told that the Yeoman Bedell went before the Bachelors of Art, the Junior Esquire Bedell (Mr Wiseman) before the Regents, Taxors and Proctors, Mr Brook ("though he was the Senior Bedell") before the Representer of the deceased and the hearse, and before the Vice-Chancellor walked Mr Ridding, the second Esquire Bedell—this order of precedence being accorded to him on this occasion because he had been "an inward friend" of Dr Clayton "and of his old acquaintance" (from Pern's *Book*, C.A.S. xi. p. 139). To take another instance: at the laying of the Foundation Stone of the Library Front on April 30th, 1755, first went the Junior Bedell; then the Syndics; two and two, juniors first; then the other two Bedells, followed by the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Heads, the Doctors and the other members of the University in order of seniority, seniors first (Hubbard's *Journal*, p. 36).

² E.g. "Quod nomina Regis Richardi 3^{mi} ac Thomae Barowe per Bedellos, singulas scholas visitantes, singulis terminis coram Magistris legentibus palam et publice recitentur" (Dyer, *Privileges*, i. p. 155).

³ Peacock, *Statutes*, Appendix A, pp. xi, etc.

⁴ See the curious account of the quarrel with the Pewterers in 1550 (*History of Barnwell Abbey*, Appendix, pp. 28-31; Cooper's *Annals*, ii. pp. 48, 49).

⁵ Henry Gunning, Esquire Bedell from 1789 to 1854; author of *Reminiscences*, etc.

friend and colleague, William Mathew¹ (Senior Fellow and Bursar of Jesus College), to ask him to instruct me in the duties of my office. 'They lie in small compass,' said he, 'and are soon learned.' The art of *carving* we are required to understand *well*, being so constantly called upon to practise it. No man breathing is better skilled in this department than Beverley². He knows the best cuts in a joint, but cannot bear to send them *all* away: he therefore manages to be disputing with one or another during dinner-time, and as nothing puts him out of countenance, he laughs at all remarks, and puts the best slices on his own plate. He stood a little in awe of Dawes, but now that he is no more, he will help about half-a-dozen at the head of the table, and then put the knife into your hands or mine." Mathew then proceeded to state what he considered the most important part of our duty, viz. *punctuality*: "The Statutes of the University," he said, "enjoin the Respondent to dispute from the *first* to the *third* hour. The authorities consider the statutes to be complied with, provided the Disputant is in the box *before* the clock strikes two, and not to leave until after it strikes three. By the statutes," he added, "a person preaching *ad clerum*, must preach *a nonâ usque ad undecimam horam*. In point of practice, the statute is considered to be complied with if the Preacher be in the *Vestry* before the clock has actually struck ten. In the same way, a Congregation fixed for eleven o'clock is considered to begin at ten, at which hour the Congregation bell begins. There are other points of practice," he added, "which are soon learned,"—and, I very shortly discovered, were as soon forgotten. As most of these were founded *on a violation of the statutes*, I inserted them in a memorandum-book, and Matthew permitted me to copy from his book remarks he had previously made.

When I called upon Dr Pennington³ to thank him for the assistance he had given me, he asked if I had made myself acquainted with the duties of my office. I told him that my colleague, Mathew, had promised me assistance, and I hoped with that and my own observation to be soon acquainted with everything that was required. "Your duties," he said, "are threefold: attendance on the Vice-Chancellor, attendance on the University, and '*otium*': this he explained by informing me, that one

¹ William Mathew, Esquire Bedell from 1775 to 1797.

² John Beverley, Esquire Bedell from 1770 to 1827. [Here may be quoted from the *University Calendar* for 1797, Beverley's account of the Bedells: "They are officers for life, they must be men of learning, and have taken the degrees of A.M. They are chosen by the Senate, and have a stipend from the University. Their duty is to wait upon the vice-chancellor and senate upon all public occasions, and solemnities, who (*sic*) they precede with rods, which were originally white wands of wood, but are at present of silver, and have been much enlarged."]

³ Isaac Pennington, fellow of St John's; B.A. 1767, M.A. 1770, M.D. 1777; Professor of Chemistry 1773-1794; Regius Professor of Physic 1793-1817.

week in three I should have no duties at all. Agreeable as this information was to a man naturally indolent, I did not avail myself of it and although residing in the country, I made a point of being present on all occasions, that I might not lay myself open to the charge of living away from the University. I was never absent unless unavoidably prevented from attending¹."

THE NEW STATUTES.

Lastly, from the New Statutes, confirmed by the Queen in Council, on 27 February, 1882, may be quoted the section² relating to the

"Office of Esquire Bedell

"There shall be two Esquire Bedells equal in rank.

"They shall attend the Chancellor on all public occasions, and perform such other duties as may be defined from time to time by grace.

"Their punishment for neglect of duty shall be regulated by the same conditions as those by which the office of Orator is governed."

¹ Gunning's *Reminiscences*, i. pp. 131-133.

² *Cambridge University and College Statutes, under the Act of 1877. Statute A, Section 5 (p. 20); Reporter, 11 March, 1882.*

CHAPTER IV.

ELECTION OF THE BEDELLS.

LET the old Statute¹ (No. 71) be at once quoted: *De consuetudine eligendi Bedellos.*

“Item constitutio approbata est quod bedelli sint eligendi consensu duarum partium totius universitatis regentium et non-regentium, et quod singulis annis in festo Sancti Michaelis, quasi officium deponentes, virgas officii sui in manus procuratoris senioris in prima congregatione post eorundem procuratorum electionem tradere debent, qui diligenter inquirat a magistris de idoneitate bedellorum et eorundem excessu, quibus virgas suas statim retradere debet, nisi delicti qualitas vel eorum negligentia circa ea, quæ sua officia contingunt, dictorum magistrorum iudicio contrarium fieri exegerit: communis et collecta in scholis per certum tempus prætextu sui delecti est denegandæ, vel suspensio ab officio juxta formam statuti præmissi et delicti seu negligentia qualitatem est eis infligenda.”

Next may be quoted the Statute² of Edward VI referring to the Bedells, or rather that part of it which refers to their election:

“Tres erunt Præcones seu Viatores Armigeri pari loco ac munere et unus inferioris loci bedellus. Illorum si quando munus vacaverit cancellarius curabit congregationem regentium et non-regentium intra triduum in horam nonam subsequentis diei vocandam. Tum cancellarius et procuratores primo sua ipsorum suffragia scripta ferent deinde cæterorum præsentium omnium scripta suffragia accipient. Quibus palam ac separatim per seniores procuratorem lectis ille præco renunciabitur quem major suffragantium pars elegerit quem cancellarius jurejurando astrictum ad hoc munus admittet. Pecuniam autem aliquam aut munus aliquod neque cancellarius neque procuratores neque quisquam alius regentium aut non-regentium nec ante electionem nec post pro suo suffragio vel requirat vel oblatum accipiat sed eos ad ejusmodi munera sine ulla mercedis

¹ *Commissioners' Documents*, i. p. 353.

² *Lamb's Documents from the C.C.C. MS. Library*, p. 134.

expectatione aut acceptione eligent quos maxime idoneos atque aptos judicaverint. Et si quis contra fecerit perpetuo infamis jus suffragii amittat. Et quanquam volumus unumquemque præconum aut viatorum sic electum et admissum ad omne tempus vitæ suæ in hoc officio permanere nisi insignis aliqua culpa illius expulsionem atque ejectionem requirat quo diligentius in officio versentur iidem præcones aut viatores post festum sancti Michaelis prima illius termini congregatione baculos suos cancellario tradent qui cum procuratoribus secrete in quodam scrutinio a regentibus et non-regentibus quæret quemadmodum se gesserint num seduli et diligentes administri fuerint," etc.

[The Statute goes on to speak of the confirmation, or reproval, or dismissal of the Bedells; of their stipends; of their attendance on the chancellor, and at disputations, etc.]

This ordinance was repeated¹ almost verbatim in the Statutes of the first and twelfth years of Queen Elizabeth.

It will be noticed that in the later Statute more detail is given as to the mode of election². After the Edwardian Statutes had been delivered to the University—within about six weeks—on June 23rd, 1549, there was an election following on the resignation of William Sherwood. The new officer was chosen in accordance with the new Statutes, as may be seen from the following extract from Mere's *Second Diary*³:

"xxiii Junii. On the sonday they met nott. And at one of the Clocke in thawfter noone M^r Sherwood gave over hys offyce and M^r Flued was chosen by the more part of the Regentes and non regents the Vyc. and Proctors only being in the scrutanye every man gevyng his voyce in wrytyng and after his admission the bedells began equal divisyon."

¹ Lamb's *Documents*, pp. 294, etc., 335, etc.

² Attwood, in his *Diary* (pp. 101-102), gives the following account of his election: "1715 Jan. 11. Meeting of the Heads to prick a Bedle. The statute de Electione Præconum, statute de Electione Officiarorum, statute de Electione Procancellarii to Declaramus. Pricked and named to the office of Esq. Bedle of this University, Mr Richard Attwood, Mr John Oakely. The V.C. gave the paper to the Senior Proctor, with order to read it first next Convocation. Jan. 12th. Convocatio horâ nonâ. The Senior Proctor pricked and named ut supra. Statutes ut supra. To a scrutiny for electing an Esq. Bedle, votes: Mr Attwood, 82; Mr Oakely, 3. Subscription, Oaths of allegiance and supremacy, jurabis quod fideliter, etc. Dissolved." Mr Attwood goes on to say how he treated the members of the University, and of his own College. See p. 107.

³ Lamb's *Documents*, p. 115.

Under the old Statutes we have—during two or three centuries of the existence of the University—scarcely any records of the election of Bedells; during generations the post was held not by graduates, but by well-to-do privileged persons and, as we have seen, it often passed from friend to friend, if not from relative to relative. And even after it became customary for a graduate to be elected, there was still often a relationship between successive holders of the office.

One of the only references to a pre-Reformation election is contained in the Proctors' Accounts for the year 1464-5; where we read¹—in *Grace Book A* :

“Item pro expensis procuratorum in equitando cum literis domino Regi domino Cantuariensi et domino Cancellario anglie pro excusacione vniuersitatis pro eleccione bedelli...xxv^s viij^d.”

Although there are one or two other items under the same date that may refer to the same affair, there is nothing to indicate what had happened amiss at the election, nor who the Bedell was. Alan Semper had probably been in office for some time, and T. Bury and W. Dalton are both apparently mentioned as Bedells in the year 1465. Moreover there is a “Hugh the bedell” named on the same page, but he was doubtless a yeoman Bedell. The reference might be to him as “Chancellor's bedell,” but it is hardly likely so much stir would have been made about an Inferior Bedell.

If the appointment of the successor to Thomas Adams, who died at the beginning of the year 1555, took place under the old Statute—and the Statuta Antiqua had been restored at the beginning of Queen Mary's reign—it can only be said that the partiality of Gardiner², Bishop of Winchester, the Chancellor, for those whom he called “such as be catholique,” led him to override the Statutes of the University. For when the Senate, after three scrutinies, would not choose the Bishop's “old scholar and servant” William Muryell, whom he had recommended for election, Gardiner forced his candidate upon the University, declaring, “I entend by mine owne authority to appoynt hym to serve the rome.” In the biographical notice of William Muryell

¹ *Grace Book A*, p. 49.

² See Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 94-95.

on pp. 82—84, it will be seen that though the Senate temporarily accepted the Bedell thus thrust upon it, he was shortly afterwards dismissed.

Turning to the later Statute, we find a special instruction that at a vacancy the post should be filled up immediately—the congregation for the election¹ was to be called *intra triduum*, in *horam nonam subsequentis diei*. From the minute details of contemporary events given in Alderman Newton's *Diary*², we see how this direction was carried out. Witness such an entry as the following:

"1670. Thomas Buck bedel died at his house in St Edward's parish on Friday, March 4th, at 9 at night. On Monday, March 7th, William Worts of Cajus College and Vrlyne of Pembroke Hall were pricked for Beadle. March 8th, at a Consistory at a full Congregation Mr Worts was elected (Mr Worts 108, Mr Vrlyn 92)."

In the curious account, however, by Gunning in his *Reminiscences*³ of his own candidature and election as Bedell, we find that although the tragic death of his predecessor took place on September 29th, 1789, "the election was fixed for the 13th of October, the nomination necessarily taking place the morning before."

In the later Statute it will also be noticed that there is a particular paragraph against bribery of any kind. In connection with this instruction, it may be noted that, at the election of John Mere, on the last occasion previously to the date of the Edwardian enactment, the successful candidate "is said to have visited the Regents of custom, not by statute, at the expense⁴ of 27l. 6s. 10d."

In the quotations made above concerning the elections of William Worts and of Henry Gunning, two selected candidates

¹ See a form for admitting a Bedell in *Collectanea*, an. 1563 (Caius MS. 339, 604, pp. 228 b, 229). That curiously talkative Vice-Chancellor, Dr Buckmaster, tells us [Baker, 7041, p. 173] that, on 9 January 1529, he made the following speech: "Most wise and prudent senators, I have caused you to assemble at thys time to elect and chose a comen mynistr, called with us a Bedle, to supply y^e rome and sted of Peter Cheke late departed from y^e present Lyfe—on whose soule Jhū Christ have mercy etc."

² *Diary* (ed. Foster), C.A.S. xxiii. p. 56.

³ Gunning, *Reminiscences*, i. p. 142.

⁴ Masters, *History of C.C.C.*, Appendix, p. 46.

are said to have been *nominated* on the morning previously to the election. This practice grew out of the increasing power¹ of the Heads of Houses. The question came prominently forward at the election which occurred soon after the Restoration, when by the bye there had not been a vacancy in the Bedellship for some 40 years.

"A.D. 1669. On the death of Mr Francis Hughes, a contest² took place between the Heads and the Senate upon a power, the former claiming the *nomination* of two candidates for the post of Squire Bedell. The question hinged upon an interpretation of terms in the Statutes. The 38th Statute it was pretended was ambiguous, and then Dr Gunning, Master of St John's, drew up an interpretation which was signed by all except Dr Brady, Master of Caius College, and Dr Lightfoot, Master of Catharine Hall, who were absent, and Dr Pearson of Trinity College '*who³ suspended*' and Dr Boldero, Master of Jesus, '*Procancel, who declared before, that this right did not belong to the Heads.*'

The Candidates were :—

Marmaduke Urbin (*sic*), Fellow of Pembroke Hall,
John Pecke, Fellow of St John's College,
William Worts, Fellow of Gonville and Caius College.

The latter was the favourite with the Senate.

The Heads claimed the power to interpret under the 50th Statute, which certainly made them both parties and judges. The point was, the meaning of the term 'Bedellorum'; they said it meant Squire Bedells,—(1) because it is never used for the Yeoman Bedell or Dog Bedell but 'cum nota diminutionis,' (2) which was brought forward after the interpretation, that the Chancellor always nominated the Dog Bedell."

This account is said

"to have been written by Mr Parham⁴, who was of the deputation of the Senate. It gives a complete account of the strife; the dispute in the Senate, and the transfer of the contest to the arena of the King's Council,

¹ In a volume (No. 99) in the Registry there are preserved some papers referring to the election consequent on the death of Bedell Hughes. Certain doctors protested against "the Heads pricking for the election of a Bedell." On the other hand there are affidavits in which John Buck certifies that he, his brother, and Francis Hughes had been so "nominated and pricked," and that he had heard his predecessor Thomas Brook say the same of himself and his "two fellowe bedles."

² This account is taken from a volume in Jesus College Library, and is printed in the *Cambridge Portfolio*, i. 244-245.

³ The words in italics are erased in the MS.

⁴ Peter Parham, Caius, A.M. 1660, M.D. 1679.

which upon the day appointed was so full as it had never been so thronged at any hearing! A curious description is given of the speech of Mr Ayliffe, the Counsel of the Heads; it was so extravagant an abuse of his client's opponents, as to give strong presumption of the injustice of his case. The conclusion is plaintively related as having gone against the Senate: and there is a light censure upon the character of the policy that decided it."

In the Biographical Notice of William Worts, pp. 102, 103, is given an account of this election, of the support accorded him by the Senate, of the omission of his name in the nomination claimed and made by the Heads, of the reference to the King's Council, of the decision¹ in favour of the Heads and of the confirmation of the election of Mr Peck. It is also related how in the following year, when another election was expected, the King sent a letter mandatory to the Heads requiring them to prick or nominate Mr Worts on the next vacancy. The vacancy occurred immediately afterwards. The Heads obeyed the mandate, nominating Wm Worts and Marmaduke Urlin, with the result that the former was elected.

THE SURRENDER OF THE STAVES.

Both the old and the new Statutes contain provision for the annual² surrender³ of the staves of the Bedells—to the senior Proctor according to the Statutum Antiquum, to the Chancellor according to the later regulations. The following is an interesting example of the carrying out of this regulation. In Mere's *Third Diary*⁴, under date 27 November, 1556, is this entry:

¹ The Order in Council is given in full in Cooper, *Annals* iii. 538.

² A further Statute (No. 74, *Commissioners' Documents*, i. 355), which passed the Senate on 26 Oct. 1412, ordered the surrender of the staves "in cujuslibet termini medio, vel circa medium ejusdem."

³ A. P. Humphry, M.A., *On the Maces of the Esquire Bedells, C.A.S.* xxi. p. 208. A curious illustration of this "surrender of the Staves" may be quoted from Attwood's *Diary* (p. 27): "1708. Oct. 10. Beginning of the Oct. Term. The Bedles, when they laid down their staves, were excepted against by Dr Hutchinson of Trinity for extorting money from the Inceptors, when they read Greek. The Doctor urged the Statute which says they shall pay 5s. and 4d. *pro intr[ando] in Libros posteriores*. The Bedles custom of a shilling for glove money to be determined by the Heads."

⁴ Lamb's *Documents*, p. 184.

“Item after this congregatio regentium tum ex statuto pro Bedellis when the non regents were dissolved, and when we had delivered upp owr stavys the Senior Proctor demawnded of us whether we wolde submitt owr selves to the statutes and thereuppon took pen and inke and called a scrutiny of the regents who fownde Mr Muryell not mete to occupye thoffyce and therefore dismissed hym without his staffe.”

There is an echo of this custom, with a hint of its neglect, in the following incident recorded by Gunning in his *Reminiscences* (i. 154, 155):

“During the first year of my bedellship, a B.A. of St John’s (I think his name was Gardiner) called on me, and said he thought it right to inform me of his intention to be a candidate for my office, which he understood would be vacant the 10th of the following October. On my asking for an explanation, he informed me that several fellows of his college had told him that the election of the Esquire Bedell was annual; that there was always a resignation on the 10th of October, and it was their intention to oppose my re-election; and that he would have a very good chance of being elected into the vacant office. I saw at once that his informants had misunderstood, or had never read the statute applicable to the election of the Esquire Bedell. I thanked him for his communication, and told him, in case I was *turned* out, I should be happy to be succeeded by a man who had behaved so courteously towards me. It is scarcely necessary to remark, that nothing beside the usual proceedings took place on the 10th of October.”

The present University Statutes¹, approved in 1882, contain no regulation as to this annual surrender of the Staves.

There is, however, another custom of the surrender of the Staves—that which takes place on the occasion of a visit of the Sovereign. Thus when Queen Elizabeth came to Cambridge in 1564, we read in Matthew Stokes’s account²:

“When the Queens Majestie came to the west doore of the church [King’s College Chapel]...the Bedells, kneeling, kissed their staves, and so delivered them to Mr Secretary; who likewise kissed the same, and so delivered them to the Queens hands; who could not well hold them all. And her Grace gently and warily redelivered³ them, willing him and other

¹ *University Statutes* (1883), p. 20.

² Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 189.

³ We are told, later on (p. 192), with reference to the canopy borne over Elizabeth by the four doctors, that “the Queens footmen challenged the

magistrates of the University, to minister justice uprightly, as she trusted they did. Or she would take them into her own hands and see to it. Adding, that, although the Chancellor did hault (for his leg was sore); yet she trusted that justice did not hault."

So when Queen Victoria visited¹ the University in 1843, the *Vice-Chancellor* offered to the Queen the Staves of the Esquire Bedells, but her Majesty was pleased to order the Esquire Bedells to resume the same.

Canopie, as a duty for *delivering of the bedills staves*" (see Bishop Robinson's shorter English narrative of the visit).

¹ Cooper's *Annals*, iv. 662.

CHAPTER V.

THE STIPENDS OF THE BEDELLS.

No old custom of the University was more carefully handed down and jealously guarded than the *Visitatio Bedellorum*¹—the payment of the fees, statutory and otherwise, to the Esquire Bedells. Those officers themselves naturally were watchful of their rights. One Bedell reported to his successor such a remark² as this:

“Nota. Iff a Doctour do dyspute in Lent, he shall gyve to the Bedellys, besyde the Vysytatyon money of the Bachelor, ether the Dyners, or xii^d. in money”;

and so on.

The Senate also was keen to maintain these traditions, which were not merely retained in the *Statuta Antiqua*, but, if any new enactment was passed, such as *Statutum novum*³ de scientiis mathematicalibus legendis (No. 136), there was added:

“onere reliquo erga bedellos nihilominus pro consuetudine in pristino robore permanente.”

If a member of another university⁴ wished to be incorporated at Cambridge,

“Conceditur gracia Bedellis quod nullus cuiuscunque gradus fuerit alterius universitatis hic incorporetur nisi visitet bedellos secundum consuetudinem huius vniuersitatis.”

If a private grace⁵ made some concession to an individual student, it was noted: “sic quod visitet bedellos.”

¹ See Statute 73; *Commissioners' Documents*, i. p. 354.

² Peacock's *Statutes*, etc., Appendix A, p. xlix.

³ *Commissioners' Documents*, i. p. 383.

⁴ *Grace Book A*, p. 185.

⁵ *Grace Book A*, p. 44.

If the members of the University should become slack upon the question, there came to the rescue "*Regia Ordinatio*¹ super collectis in utroque jure, ordinario et bedellis solvendis" (3 Henry V).

The stipends thus safeguarded consisted of Fees, Fines², Dinners, Rewards, Bequests, etc. It will be remembered that the Bedells of old had different designations and different duties. There was the Bedellus Theologorum et Decretistarum and there was the Bedellus Artistarum; and when their number was increased to three, there was "the other Bedyll." Naturally, therefore, their fees, etc. differed. When for instance "the Whyte Chanons³" took their degree, we read:

"The Chanons shall on Saynt Gylbert Day gyve to the Bedellys vij^s. the Bedyll in Dyuytye to have iij^s. iiij^d. the Bedyll in Arte ij^s. and the other Bedyll xx^d.";

and there are entries in the *Grace Books*, etc. which record the payment⁴ of the fees "pro cathedra iuris canonici" and "pro cathedra iuris civilis" paid to the Bedellus in Theologia and to the Bedellus in Artibus respectively, no corresponding fee being assigned to the third holder of the office.

But the abolition of degrees in Canon Law in Henry VIII's time would of course make a difference⁵ in the income (and it may be added in the title) of the Bedellus theologorum et

¹ *Commissioners' Documents*, i. 356 (Statute 76). Fuller, following Caius, gives a very early date to this Royal Decree. He says "We find King Henry the First, in the second of his reign, by order commanding some civilians at Cambridge to perform their acts, and pay the beadles their fees, which they formerly refused" (Prickett and Wright, p. 11). But Caius (*Hist.* p. 125) evidently "mistook the writ of Henry V for one of Henry I" (Cooper, *Annals*, i. 24).

² In the Edwardian Statute *de Officio Procuratorum* referring to various fines, we read "Harum omnium mulctarum triens unus procuratoribus alter præconibus, tertius ærario publico dividatur." (Lamb's *Documents*, p. 131.)

³ Peacock, *Statutes*, etc., Appendix A, p. xlviij.

⁴ *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 168, etc.

⁵ In order to remedy these diminished stipends the following Order was made in Edward VI's time: "Decem minæ quæ propter Henrici septimi exequias academiæ persolvebantur post hac ad stipendia bedellorum augenda conferantur quæ nunc multum imminuta esse intelligimus et alia ratione refici nisi magno scholasticorum sumptu non possunt" (Lamb's *Documents*, p. 149).

decretistarum; and, in the time of the visitation of King Edward's Commissioners¹ on 23 June, 1549, when "Mr Sherwood gave over hys offyce and Mr Flued was chosen," we read that "after his admission the Bedells began equal divisyon." In the Statutes² issued by Edward VI that concerning the Bedells opens as follows: "Tres erunt præcones seu viatores armigeri *pari loco ac munere*," and the words are repeated in the *Statuta Reginae Elizabethae An. 1^{mo}. edita³, et An. xii^{mo}. edita⁴*.

Still, however, at least during the Bedellship of Matthew Stokes, there was at times a difference⁵ of fee to the Senior, Middle and Junior Bedells⁶; and, of course, in the question of Rewards, when perhaps only one of these officers might wait on some distinguished person, or be the bearer of some official document or message, the "Reward" would go to that bedell alone.

FEEES, ETC.

The following list⁷ illustrates the variety of payments made to the Bedells. It is taken from Matthew Stokes's Book in the Registry. The mention of the Commemoration of Mr Mere, who died in 1588, of course brings the list down to the reign of Queen Elizabeth⁸; yet it must be remembered that little variation was made in the fees paid to the Bedells. The New Statutes especially enacted that "the accustomed collection"

¹ Lamb's *Documents from the MS. Library of C.C.C.*, p. 115; *Grace Book* under date.

² *Ibid.* p. 134.

³ *Ibid.* p. 294.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 335.

⁵ *Add. MS. (B.M.)*, 5845, p. 376.

⁶ The question of the fees paid to the Bedells in connexion with Stourbridge Fair (see p. 78) need not be detailed. The following is an example: "J. Baxter, Bedell, gave a receipt in 1576 for £20 paid through the Vice-chancellor for expenses about Stirbridge matters" (Registry, vi. 51).

⁷ *Stokys Book*, in the Registry. There is also preserved in the same archives (vol. 99. 15) a similar and very curious "Reckoning of the 3 Esquire Bedells (Stringer, Smith and Brooke) with each other for degrees, exercises, compounders, etc. 1592."

⁸ See No. 49 of Queen Elizabeth's *Statutes*, with its details as to payments (*Commissioners' Documents*, i. p. 487).

and "the usual stipends" should be given to those officers. Indeed it was ordered¹ that

"if it shall happen that during any term there is an intermission of the business of the University on account of the severity of the plague, all those, nevertheless, whose business it would have been to have gone through any literary exercise shall be bound to pay to the servant of the University the fees accustomed to be paid during term-time."

Soluciones tantum Bedellis debite.

	Integr.	
	vij ^s . viij ^d .	ii ^s . vj ^d ob $\frac{2}{3}$
Questionista		
Introitus	5 . 4	21 ^d $\frac{2}{3}$
Inceptor in Artibus	8 . 4	2 . 9 $\frac{2}{3}$
Disputatio Magistrorum	5 . 4	21 $\frac{2}{3}$
Baccalaureus Theologie	16 . 4	5 . 5 $\frac{2}{3}$
Inceptor in Theologia	26 . 4	8 . 9 $\frac{2}{3}$
Baccalaureus in { Musica		
{ Medica	21 ^s .	7 ^s .
{ Jure Civili		
Inceptor in eisdem	42 . 4	14 . 1 $\frac{2}{3}$
Practicans in Chirurgia } et in Medica }	31 ^s .	10 . 4 $\frac{2}{3}$
Disputaciones extraordinariæ	12 ^d .	4 ^d .
Disputaciones in { Theologia		
{ Medica	12 ^d .	4 ^d .
{ Jure		
Conciones ordinariæ	xij ^d .	iiij ^d .
In Compositione	2 ^s .	8 ^d .
Pro quolibet Sigillo	12 ^d .	4 ^d .
In exequiis Magistri Meer	12 ^d .	4 ^d .
In exequiis Magistri Rede	18 ^d .	6 ^d .
Procurator in curia	12 ^d .	4 ^d .
Pro Cathedra Juris	6 . 8	2 . 2 $\frac{2}{3}$
Prandium Benedictum ²	4 ^s .	16 ^d .
Suspensiones Baccalaureorum	—	—
Absentie eorum et Scholarum	—	—
Omnes Doctores et componentes pro invitando Regentes xij ^d . pro Deductione ad Patrem in Vesperiis et pro Consilio in die Comitiorum xij ^d }	3 ^s .	12 ^d .

¹ Lamb's *Documents*, p. 138.

² The authorities of Corpus Christi College (formerly often known as St Bene't's), in the year 1548, applied certain moneys annually spent in connexion with Dirges, Exequies and Feasts, for the foundation of six new scholarships. They

We are also in the same MS.¹ told that *Compounders*, namely those "qui possint annuatim expendere xxvj^l. xiiij^s. iiiij^d., de consuetudine Universitatis dare debent Bedellorum cuique v. virgatas Panni pro Toga et Epomide²."

We also find from this MS. and from the Statutes³ of Queen Elizabeth, the following :

Stipendia solvenda annuatim bedellis ad quatuor anni terminos per academiam et reliqua collegia.

Academia ⁴ solvet annuatim	xij.	xvj ^s .	viiij ^d .
Collegium Regis		xx ^s .	
Collegium Trinitatis		xxij ^s .	viiiij ^d .
Collegium Johannis ⁵		xiiiij ^s .	iiiij ^d .
Collegium Reginale; Collegium Christi		vj ^s .	viiij ^d .
Aula Pembrochiæ		vj ^s .	
Collegium Petri		v ^s .	iiiij ^d .
Aula Claræ; Aula Trinitatis		v ^s .	
Collegium Corp. Chr.; Collegium Govv. et Caij ⁶ ;			
Collegium Jesu		iiiiij ^s .	
Collegium Magdalenæ; Aula Catherinæ		ii ^s .	

The religiosi doctores (monks and friars) also paid special fees; of which the following is an example :

"That a Religious man of the fower orders of Friars, if he commence Doctor, he shall on the Commencement Daye gyve for every Bedell for allowed, however, 4s. to the Bedells in lieu of their dinners, on the Sunday before or after the Circumcision and on Corpus Christi Day (Masters's *History*, p. 81).

¹ *Stokys' Book*, u. s.

² See p. 37.

³ *Commissioners' Documents*, i. pp. 489, 490.

⁴ In the Registry (vol. 99), there are a number of quarterly receipts for £3. 4s. 2d. signed by Elizabethan Bedells.

⁵ Mayor, Baker's *History of St John's*, ii. 590.

⁶ Venn, *Caius* iii. 161, has the following notes "Entry 1632: 'For the bedles their wages, and for setting the psalmes 5^s. 4^d.' The esquire bedells had, from very early times, attended certain Commemoration feasts, and like other attendants received a small gratuity; but we know nothing of their taking part in the service." "As regards 'their wages,' it may be mentioned that, by the Statutes of Elizabeth, each College contributed towards their stipends, our college paying 4s. a year. They also received a small stipend for every Act and Sermon performed by members of the College before the University. Thus in 1698 we have 'To the esquire bedells for a year's stipend, 4s.; and for four sermons at 8d. each, 2s. 8d.' Entries such as this continue till recent times."

Lyveryes, a Purse, a Gyrdle, and a payr of Knyves¹ (*Zonam, Bursam, et Par Cuttelorum*.)”

The allusions to the “Lyveryes” here, and to the “five yards of cloth *pro toga et epomide*,” in the old Statute and by similarity in the enactments of Elizabeth, open upon the question of the official dress of the Bedells; but this is dealt with² under another section.

Reference should also be made to the many pairs of gloves presented to the Bedells on various occasions—so many that, as Mr Stanley Leathes³ remarks, “they must have found it difficult to wear them out.” But these officers knew what they were about; they would demand the “Payre of gloves, or *ij^d. in money att the lest*.” So with regard to their Dinners, to which we are about to turn, in the case of individual donors, they would require “*ether the Dyners, or xij^d. in money⁴*.”

CHANGES IN THE FEES.

There have, of course, during the centuries been changes in the amount and in the kind of fees paid to the Bedells.

Some of these alterations have already been referred to; such as those which arose when the study of Canon Law was discouraged, and those which were made in Elizabeth’s reign.

It is not necessary, however, to give in detail all the alterations.

But brief reference⁵ may be made to the Grace passed on 24 October, 1800, when the following additions⁶ were made to the Bedell’s fees—for B.A., 1s. 4d.; for M.A., 2s. 8d.; for B.D., 5s. 8d.; for 10 year man, 5s. 8d.; for M.B. or LL.B., 8s.; for Doctor, 10s. 8d., etc.

The Graces passed on 20 May, 1858 ought also to be mentioned—which, at the time of the New Statutes, fixed the

¹ Peacock, *Statutes*, etc., Appendix A, p. xlv; *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5845, p. 371.

² See Chapter vi.

³ *Grace Book A*, Introduction, p. xxxviii.

⁴ Matthew Stokes *MS.*, Peacock, pp. li and xlix.

⁵ We learn from Attwood’s *Diary*, p. 14, that it was agreed in 1706 to pay a guinea to the bedells “for an extraordinary Congregation.”

⁶ See the *Cambridge University Calendar*, 1801.

salaries of the Bedells at £200, and gave compensation to those then holding office for any loss of fees or emoluments which they had been entitled to under the Elizabethan Statutes.

At the last vacancy in the office, a further reduction was made in the salary of future Esquire Bedells—in spite of a strong protest that the dignity of the post should be recognised financially and otherwise.

DINNERS.

Matthew Stokes in the MS. already quoted has an account¹ of “Certayne Dyners for the Bedells.” Many of these were to be given by those who took their degrees, etc.; e.g. alluding to the *Religiosi*, he says:

“in the Tyme of the Dysputatyon of Dyvynyte—the monkys shall gyve to the Bedellys for there Labours there Dyners the fyrst Sonday in Advent, and there Dyners in Quinquagesima, etc.”

Others were given to them in different colleges, on the days of Commemoration of their founders, or on the festivals of the saints, to which they were especially dedicated: thus the following are enumerated:

“In Exequiis Domini Harvey de Stanton 6 Nov. in *Ædibus Sancti Michælis*, nunc Collegio Sanctæ et Indiuiduæ Trinitatis. In Festo Sancti Nicolai, cum Hyeme quam *Æstate*, in Collegio Regio. In Festo Sancti Johannis Apostoli ad Aulam Clere. In Festo Innocentium, ad Aulam Regiam, nunc Collegium Sanctæ Trinitatis. In Festo²—Thome 30 Dec. ad domum Michælis, &c. In Festo circumcisionis in Aula Pembrok. Die Dominice precedente circumcisionem, in Collegio Corporis Christi, modo ille dies inciderit in aliquod convivium prædictorum collegiorum, secus in Diem Dominicum sequentem. In Exequiis Ed. 5th. 5 Maii in Aula Regia. In Exequiis Dominæ Margaretæ ultimo Junii in Collegio Christi. In annunciatione Beatæ Mariæ in Collegio Gonville et Caii. In Exequiis

¹ Cole *MS.* xiii. (B.M.), p. 353, quoted by Peacock, *Statutes*, Appendix A, p. xlviii.

² “It is worthy of remark,” Cole adds, “that Mr Stokys being a Catholic in his heart, left room for *Saint* to the name of Thomas Becket, on the 30th Dec. in case the times should turn again to that quarter, though he dared not do it in a reign that had expunged him from the Calendar.”

D. de Balsom¹ 15 Junii, in Domo Divi Petri. In Exequiis Dominæ Mariæ 11 Junii, in Aula Pembrok. Item quatuor Jentacula in 4^{or}. primis Sabathis Quadragesimæ.”

The interesting *Diaries* of Mr Mere, printed in *Grace Book A* and in Lamb's *Documents*, shew how much these dinners were appreciated. At certain functions and in the Schools also refreshments were provided. Thus²:

“Item all the Determiners dothe sytte in the New Chappel within the Schooles from one of the Clocke untyll fyve, upon Mondaye, Twesdaye, Wensdaye, and Thursdaye in the weeke before Shrove Sondag, abyding there examynation of so many masters as wyll repayre for that cause thether: and from three to 4 they all have a Potation of Figgs, Reasons, and Almons, Bonnes, and Beer, at the charge of the sayed Determiners, *whereat all the Bedells maye be present dayle.*”

Once, when Mr Mere was new to his work, he missed his share at a somewhat similar ceremony: he tells³ how his senior colleague

“Mr Sherewood hadde a pye and a quarte of Mawmesy sente. hyme when he sente for hytt. *I had nothing* but thai shewed me afterwarde⁴ yt was but forgotten.”

REWARDS.

When honorary degrees were conferred upon distinguished visitors, not infrequently the Bedells were “rewarded” by the

¹ The reference is of course to Hugh de Balsham, 10th Bishop of Ely, the founder of Peterhouse. It is not necessary to comment further here upon these interesting commemorations.

It may be added that there were later additions to these College dinners. For instance, the will of Dr Perse (dated 27 September 1615) enacted “I will that upon my mortuary day 40s. per annum be bestowed and allowed by my Supervisors on a dinner to be kept in Caius College Parlour, where I desire may be invited the Vice-Chancellor for the time being, the three Squire Bedells, etc.” (Cooper, *Annals*, iii. p. 98).

² Peacock, *Statutes*, Appendix A, p. xiii.

³ *Grace Book A*, p. 224.

⁴ To pass—with a long interval—to modern times, it will be remembered by older graduates of the University that—until about 30 years ago—the Vice-Chancellor was accustomed to give a dinner every Saturday evening, to which all M.A.'s were in turn invited. At these weekly dinners it was the privilege—or duty—of the Bedells to be present. Readers of Gunning's *Reminiscences* will remember the allusions to Beverley's carving at those dinners; nor will they forget the references to the dinner at Burwell on Mid-Lent Sunday.

personages. The following note¹, by one of these officials on such an occasion in the year 1595, records "the liberality of some and the meanness of others of the noble and worshipful visitors":

"My Lord of Essex gave unto the Bedells *v lib.*

My Lord of Shrewsbury gave the Bedells *v lib.*

Sir William Bowes, 30s.; Sir Edward Wooton, 20s.; Sir Robert Reed, 40s.

M^r Bromley, 20s.; M^r Elmer gave the Bedells, 18s.

Reliqui nihil. And so let them go."

Again when a Bedell was sent with an official message to some new Chancellor or other dignitary, he was often "rewarded." Thus when Richard Ridding went to London in 1626 to announce to the Duke of Buckingham² his election as Chancellor of the University, that unfortunate nobleman gave him a chain worth £100; and when John Peck in 1674 made to the Duke of Monmouth³ a similar notification, that also unfortunate nobleman gave him a "noble reward." So Mr Clarke, the Bedell, received ten guineas from Sir W. Dawes, Archbishop of York, to whom he carried a letter of congratulation from the University on his translation from Chester (see Attwood's *Diary*, p. 88). It is still the custom⁴ that, at his installation, a new Chancellor presents a chain of gold to the Senior Bedell.

BEQUESTS.

It should be added that a few small legacies were from time to time left to the Bedells. The reference is not to individual bequests, such as we shall record on several occasions in the Biographical Notices of the Bedells; but to such grants as that in Dr Perse's will⁵ in 1615: "Item to the 3 esquire Bedells, for the time being, to either of them 3s. 4d. yearly, for ever, 10s." Various small sums were also handed to these officers, in accordance with the benefactor's wishes, at certain Commemorations; see, for instance, Mr Mere's Easter Wednesday service at St Bene't's Church.

¹ Cooper, *Annals*, ii. p. 529.

² See p. 94.

³ See p. 102.

⁴ See p. 120.

⁵ Cooper's *Annals*, iii. p. 99.

Such were the varied fees, the numerous dinners or their monetary equivalents, the gloves and other extras, the occasional rewards and bequests from which the stipends of the Bedells were derived. When we also remember that the University¹ and the Colleges frequently granted leases of tenements and lands under favourable terms to these officers, we cannot be surprised that the Bedells often thrived upon their incomes. And though it is true that many of them were generous in their gifts and benefactions, yet we can hardly wonder that there were occasional grumbings among the members of the University at the long list of fees and the amount of some of the items. Among the manuscripts in the Parker Library at Corpus, for instance, there is a paper² containing "Complaints laid against the Bedells by the Regents at a Congregation Oct. 26, 1550, and the speech of Mr. Meres on the occasion." Among the archives of St John's College, also, there is a record³ of a dispute in 1634 as to the amount of fees claimed by the Bedell. In this case, although there was a compromise, the College was still called upon to pay no less than £83. 10s. 1d. to Mr Buck and Mr Tabor. Yet again, in the year 1708, Dr Hutchinson, of Trinity, formally opposed⁴ the re-election of the Bedells, on the ground that they were "extorting" money from the inceptors, etc. He especially objected to the shilling claimed for "glove money."

Nor need we be surprised if, in the licence allowed at times to the speeches of the Prævaricators, the Bedells and their fees occasionally came in for sarcasm and ridicule. In James Duport's celebrated speech⁵ in 1631, for instance, varying the question "Aurum potest produci per chymicam," after shewing in how many instances "Aurum produci non potest," he adds:

¹ The wine licences, which (as we shall hereafter see) were frequently granted to the Bedells, were sometimes a "very ample" source of income (see Caius *MS.*, 339; 604; pp. 228 b, 229; see also Graces, under dates June 4th, 1603, June 28th, 1605, Oct. 24th, 1612, etc.').

² Nasmyth's *Catalogue*, p. 105.

³ Mayor's notes to Baker's *History*, pp. 503, 505.

⁴ Attwood's *Book*, *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5852.

⁵ See Peacock's *Statutes*, etc., Appendix A, pp. xxvi and xxvii; see also Wordsworth's *Scholæ Academica*, pp. 274, etc.

In cæteris casibus quæstio tenet,
Aurum produci potest.

Ex generosi patris filio
Ex quadrato Patris pileo
Ex oblongo Bedelli bacillo
Aurum produci potest.

In a celebrated contest for the Public Oratorship in 1696, Mr Moss of Corpus only lost the appointment by four votes; and the defeat of the future Dean of Ely is said¹ to have been due to the fact that the three Bedells—Messrs Worts, Martin and Pern—voted against him. Dr Moss had offended these officers by his speech as Prævaricator in 1691.

It may be added that Oxford men made the same complaints. Writes Shenstone in his *Odes* (1765), p. 206 :

“When College Students take degrees,
And pay the Beadle’s endless fees.”

¹ Stevenson’s *Supplement to Bentham’s Ely*, 122; Cooper’s *Annals*, iv. 32, note (1).

CHAPTER VI.

THE DRESS OF THE BEDELLS.

IN the "Orders of Apparell for Schollers of the Universitie of Cambridge" made by the Chancellor, Lord Burleigh, in 1585, it is stated¹ that "the Bedells...may lawfullie weare such apparell as heretofore hath bene usuall for men of their condition and callinge."

At about this date, or, to be exact, in 1590, John Cobbould painted the remarkable picture² (illustrating certain University customs and costumes) which, perhaps retouched, still hangs in a room at the Registry. Here may be seen half-a-dozen figures of Bedells, wearing their special gowns and caps.

And shortly before this date,—in 1574,—Matthew Stokes, the donor of the painting, notes³, with reference to "Compounders," that at their Commencement, "de consuetudine Universitatis dare debent Bedellorum cuique v. virgatas Panni pro Toga et Epomide."

In this section an inquiry will be made into the dress worn by the Bedells.

But, first, it may be remarked, that in the University and College Statutes and records there are frequent allusions to the *Liveries*⁴ to be worn by the Masters and Scholars. In the

¹ Cooper, *Annals*, ii. p. 413.

² See p. 86.

³ *Add. MS.* (B. M.) 5845, p. 376.

⁴ Masters, *History of Corpus Christi College*, p. 52, is careful to note "This word must not be taken in its present common acceptation, but must be understood to comprehend such *Gowns* or *Wearing Apparel* in general, as were proper for the Masters, Fellows and Scholars, according to their respective ranks. See (he says) *Liberatura* or *Liberationes*, in the *Glossaries*."

*Calendar of Patent Rolls*¹, there are many references thenceforth to the payments ordered by royal authority to be made to the Warden of the King's scholars²—"8 marks yearly for two robes, one with fur, and one with linen." In the College records we find such entries as the following—taken from an old "Accompt Book³" at Corpus—"Porcio Magistri et cujuslibet sociorum pro ambabus *liberaturis*, xj^s. iiij^d."; and, in another year (1481), "Isto anno haberunt *vesturam* de ly mustyrd lywel" (whatever that may mean). So we meet with a sum allotted for suitable clothing by Dr Caius⁴ in his Statutes: "ad vestem solemnem emendam et utendam, quam vulgus scholasticorum *liberaturam* vocat." Many other instances might be given.

To turn, however, to our Bedells.

It may be noted that in the Tailors' Statute⁵ of Oxford (1358), the vestes of Masters and Bedells were to be wide and long as a distinction from the *Laity*.

In the representation of a Bedell on the seal of the old Cambridge *serviens Universitatis*, Walter de Oxonia, figured opposite to and described on p. 52, the dress is not so striking as the staff of the Bedell, who apparently wears a long gown bound round the waist by a girdle; and who has on his head a kind of skull-cap. He does not seem to have a hood over his shoulders.

Later on the Bedell certainly was entitled, and required, to wear a hood. We have seen that Compounders gave the Bedells five yards of cloth "pro Toga et Epomide⁶"; where the *Epomis*

¹ 12 Ed. III, Feb. 24th, 1337-8, etc.

² These payments were continued to the Wardens of King's Hall. It may be added, in the building of that College, the contractors, under date 1387, were each to receive a *tunic* and a *hood*; and we find in the accounts such entries as the following: "Item solutum principali lathamo pro liberatura sua...xiiij^s. iiij^d." (Willis and Clark, *Arch. Hist.* ii. 438, 444.)

³ See Masters' *Hist. of C. C. C.*, Appendix, p. 33. In the body of the work (p. 36) Masters says, under the mastership of Dr Billingford (1398-1432), that the college authorities were "such good oeconomists that we find them constantly laying in cloth for *Liveries* both of Fellows and Servants at *Stirbich Fair*, where they probably bought it upon the easiest terms."

⁴ Venn, *Biographical History of Caius*, vol. iii. p. 205.

⁵ Prof. E. C. Clark, *English Academical Costume*, p. 10.

⁶ p. 27.

seems to be the same as the *Caputium*. Statute 75¹ reads as follows :

“Ordinatum est et concessum per majorem partem regentium et non-regentium universitatis Cantabrigiensis vicesimo octavo die Junii quod *bedelli utriusque facultatis possunt uti chameleto in caputiis suis tempore æstivali.*”

Grace Book B, p. 67, under date 1494, gives the Statute with an addendum :

“Conceditur Bedellis utriusque facultatis pro eis et suis successoribus quod utantur tempore æstivali in eorum capiciis chamaletto *sic quod reliquo tempore anni ut solitum est penulis utantur.*”

This substitution of *chamelet* (a mixture of cotton and wool) for the *penula*² (or furred hood) which the Bedells wore during the rest of the year must have been a great convenience to those officials who had to appear in full academical costume almost all day long almost all the year round.

In the will of Juliana Bedel³, the generous wife of Richard de Betelle, there is a bequest⁴ to Robert Makesay⁵ of various articles of dress, including “*toga talaris cum capucio*,” “*penula*,” etc.—which were doubtless the official robes of her husband as Bedell.

The *Toga* or *Roba talaris*⁶ was the ordinary long gown worn by scholars. In Cobbould's painting⁷ the gowns are more elaborate, and were perhaps those used for special ceremonies. Here may be inserted a few allusions to such state occasions. When the University waited upon King Charles II in 1660 with a congratulatory address, one of the deputation tells us

¹ *Commissioners' Documents*, i. p. 355.

² See Prof. Clark, *English Academical Costume*, p. 19. For *Epomis*, see the same interesting treatise, on the preceding page.

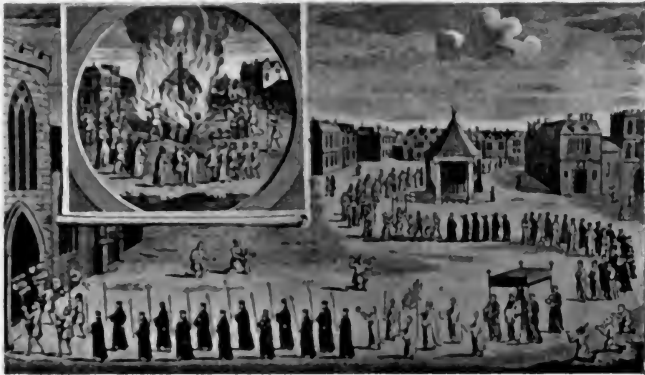
³ See p. 55.

⁴ “The robes appropriate to the degree, etc. were comparatively expensive, as is illustrated by the frequency with which they are specially disposed of by will” (Venn, *u. s.*). See so late an example as the will of Richard Attwood, Bedell from 1714 to 1734 (Baker *MS.* 36, 87).

⁵ Robert Makesay may have been a Bedell, but the writer has not met with his name elsewhere.

⁶ Prof. E. C. Clark, *Acad. Costume*, p. 9.

⁷ See p. 86.



A 16th CENTURY PROCESSION.

[From Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*.]

"All of us did meet at Mr Montague's House at 9 of the clock, where we put on *our Formalities*, viz. the D^{rs} their scarlet gowns, the Regents and Non Regents their Hoods and Habits, y^e Bedels their Gownes and velvett Capps¹."

A few years later, at the installation² as Chancellor of the Duke of Monmouth in 1674, we are told that

"the Junior Bedle Mr William Woorts went first in his Bedle's Gown Velvet Cap Gold Hatband and Regent's Hood, holding his Bedle's Staff the round End upward...The two other Esquire Bedles were habited as the former."

Here we see each Bedell wore "his Bedle's gown," which apparently was rather such an embellished and crocketed robe as Cobbould represents than the ordinary graduate's gown now worn by the Esquire Bedells. He had, however, "his Regent's Hood," which may or may not have been the same as the *Caputium* or *Epomis* formerly worn by the Bedells who had not taken a degree. The "Velvet Cap," which is so emphatically mentioned, would be the "beef-eater" kind of head-dress, with its golden cord and tassel, as shewn in the picture at the Registry, and as still worn by LL.D.'s and certain other doctors.

In Matthew Stokes's curious notes³ printed by Dr Peacock, in describing the proceedings on "Ashewensdaye," there is a special Memorandum: "The Bedels in the Tyme of thys Disputation ought to goe in *their Hoods and Quoiffys*"; and in the description⁴ by the same Bedell and Registry, of the elaborate academical functions at the visit of Queen Elizabeth, we read that

"in the time of this disputation [in Great St Mary's Church] the Bedells according to the Custome *put on their quoifs and hoods*, and so entred, and kneeled down. Unto whom, after she had for a little while looked upon their habit, she with her hand beckoned to stand up."

At the visit⁵ of the Chancellor (the Duke of Somerset) in 1717,

¹ Cooper, *Annals*, iii. p. 480.

² Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 561. Allusion in this instance is also made to *the gown of the Inferior Bedell*.

³ Peacock, *Statutes*, etc., Appendix, p. xiv.

⁴ Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 194, 196.

⁵ Attwood's *Diary*, p. 129.

“the 3 Bedles going before the V.C. in their tufted gowns, velvet caps and hoods, without their coifs, advanced to meet the Chancellor. After compliments, the Bedles turned their staves and preceded the Chancellor, etc.”

In the year 1753¹ a deputation from the University waited upon the then Chancellor (the Duke of Newcastle) at Newmarket; among them being Mr Burrough the senior Bedell “in his tufted gown, hood and coif (no staff).” In the same year, when the Duke visited Cambridge on June 15th, the three Bedells “all day appeared in their tufted gowns, coifs, and round caps.” On the following Sunday, however, we are told that “the Beadles were in their common habits.”

At the laying of the Library Foundation Stone on April 30th, 1755, “the beadles were in tufted gowns, coifs and caps, except Mr Porteus the junior beadle, who had on a Master of Arts’ gown.” The next day “the Beadles were in common gowns and without coifs.”

To take one more instance, when the same Chancellor visited the University in 1758, on Sunday July 2nd during the procession to Gt St Mary’s, “the Beadles went in tufted gowns, and coifs (except Mr Dawes who had no coif).”

The Bedell’s Gown and its trappings, the special Caputium and Epomis, the Quoif and the “beef-eater” hat² have however been discarded by the modern graduates who have held this ancient and distinguished office.

THE STAVES, OR MACES, OF THE BEDELLS.

Dwelling upon the complete constitution of the University as revealed in the 13th century “composition” effected by Bishop Balsham in the quarrel as to the authority of the Archdeacon of Ely, Fuller³—quaint as usual—says:

“Behold here the complete body of an University, with the Chancellor the head, the Regents and Scholars the heart, the officers the hands and feet thereof. Of the latter this composition expresseth by name, 1, Bedels, and those two in number, with the *virges* or wands, since, in many years,

¹ Hubbard’s *Journal*, pp. 36–38; 44; and 51.

² See Wordsworth, *University Society in the 18th century*, p. 512.

³ Fuller, *History of the Univ. of Camb.* (ed. Prickett and Wright), pp. 51, 52.

grown up¹ to be staves, and these two doubled into four at this day. Some conceived Bedellus² so called 'quasi Pedellus, a pedo,' signifying that ceremonious staff which they manage in their hands; whilst others with more probability derive it from beads (prayers in old English), it being a principal part of his office to give public notice of all conventions for academical devotion, etc."

Fuller here speaks of *Virges* or *Wands*, and of *Staves*; other names by which these insignia of office have been called are *Sceptres*, and *Maces*; with the Latin titles: *Virgae*, *Sceptra*, *Caducea*, and *Buculi*; names used on different occasions and at different periods.

Fuller's remark that the old "virges and wands have since, in many years, grown up to be staves" is strikingly borne out by comparing the wand of the seal³ of the 13th century Cambridge Bedell Walter de Oxonia with the elaborate staves in Cobbould's picture, or with the still larger maces of the present day.

The same historian towards the end of his work (p. 311) writing of the Duke of Buckingham⁴, elected Chancellor in the year 1626, says :

"This duke gave the bedells⁵ their old silver staves, and bestowed better and bigger on the University, with the King's, and his own arms, insculped thereon."

¹ In the 2nd *University Calendar* (1797), said to have been compiled by John Beverley, Esquire Bedell from 1770 to 1827, we read of the Bedells' "rods, which were originally *white wands of wood*, but are at present of silver, and have been much enlarged." No authority is given for the words here printed in italics; but the fact is likely enough, and is supported by the picture opposite p. 52.

² Modern etymologists agree that the word *Beadle*, and the archaic, official forms *Bedel* and *Bedell*, are derived from the Old English *béodan*, to announce, to proclaim. The mediæval Latin is *Bidellus* or *Bedellus*. See Skeat, *E.E.D.*; the *Oxford English Dictionary*; Hatzfeld's *French Dictionary*; Kluge's *Etym. Germ. Dict.*, etc. Rashdall says, characteristically, "It is derived, of course, from *pedum* (a stick)" (i. 193, 194).

³ See p. 52.

⁴ The *Cambridge Portfolio* (i. 245) speaks of the Duke of Buckingham, who was installed Chancellor in 1671, as the donor; but Fuller previously to this date names the former duke, and Cole pointed out his arms, crest and official device upon the maces.

⁵ Messrs Thomas Buck, John Buck and Francis Hughes were the Esquire Bedells at that date, and for nearly half a century afterwards.

It will be noticed that Fuller here speaks of the pre-Buckingham maces as "*silver staves*." The long wand represented in the 13th century Bedell seal was probably made of wood. How soon it was shortened into a mace and dignified with silver is not known; but it can hardly be doubted that some University benefactor—it may be one of the Bedells themselves—would at an early date present more worthy symbols of office. Certainly by Matthew Stokes's time silver or silver-gilt maces were in use; for though it may be true that the evidence of his picture—since retouched or repainted—cannot be relied upon for details, yet the arms of that distinguished Bedell—as seen in the said picture, and at King's¹ and Trinity Hall and at the Pitt Press—shew that somewhat elaborate silver maces were used by our officials.

In a Communication² made to the Cambridge Antiquarian Society in 1879 by Mr A. P. Humphry, the present Senior Esquire Bedell, a singularly interesting account of the Maces is given. This able paper enters with much detail into the history and uses, as well as the ornamentation and inscriptions of the maces, both of the two now in use, and of the two, till recently, preserved at the Registry and formerly assigned to the Senior Esquire Bedell and to the Yeoman Bedell.

It is not, therefore, necessary here to give any further details than may be gleaned from the following notes³ made by Cole the Antiquary under circumstances which he describes at the beginning of the extracts:

"Hearing that the 3 Silver Staves or Maces of the University were going to be melted down, and 3 new ones to be purchased, these being very old and almost worn out; one of them in particular being full of holes at the larger end⁴, I called on the Deputy Vice Chancellor on Friday

¹ See p. 88.

² "*On the Maces of the Esquire Bedells, and the Mace formerly borne by the Yeoman Bedell*," *C.A.S.*, No. xxi. pp. 207-219. The present writer thanks Mr A. P. Humphry for much kind help.

³ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5863, pp. 27 b, and 42 a and b.

⁴ [It may be remarked that the larger knob is carried in the reverse position before the Vice-Chancellor and generally rests downmost (see Humphry, p. 209); though before Royalty "the Bedelles carry y^e great end of y^e Staves upwards" (see Baker *MS.* 42, 140). The Bedell's Staff was carried round end upwards before the Duke of Monmouth in 1674 (see Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 561).]

September 4, 1778 to look at them and take a short account of them. They were given by George Villiers, the first of that name Duke of Buckingham, when he was Chancellor, as is evident from his arms on all of them, and the escallops on the plain part of the staff engraved very thickly in every part of it; they had been all gilt, but the gilding worn out: they are about 4 feet in length; the top part has the arms of King James the First with his supporters, and the upper ridge encircled by a coronet, but not bowed over. On the sides of the bowl part are 4 ornamental divisions and plain within them. From the top to the bottom they are divided into partitions by 5 ringlets ornamented, on 3 of which are little inscriptions on all of them. The rounded part at the bottom have all embossed ornaments and 4 shields

1st. The University of Cambridge;

2nd. The Arms of the Duke of Buckingham and coronet, viz. on a Cross 5 escallops;

3rd. His Crest, a Lion rampant;

4th. His Device as Lord High Admiral, an Anchor.

The tip of the bottom is somewhat pointed. On the 3 circles or rings of the First, which is plainer at top, between the divisions are these Mottos¹:

On the first is

PORTANS VIRGAM DEI IN MANU SUA. EXOD. IV. 20.

ANNON IPSE BACULUS MANUS NOSTRÆ. TOBI. V. 25.

[VIRTUTE DUCE COMITE FORTUNA. CICERO, EP. ad FAM. X.]

On the top of the others, between the 4 ornamental divisions, are a Rose, a Fleur-de-Lis, a Thistle, and a Harp, all crowned royally; and on the ringlets these descriptions, which I took in a hurry, as it grew late and duskish:

DUX TIBI SIT SEMPER TALIS ET ISTE DUI (*sic* for DIU). MART. LIB. 12. EP.

FACTÆ SUNT EI VIRGÆ SOLIDÆ IN SCEPTRA REGENTIUM. EZECH. XIX. 11.

DUX ERAT SUPER EOS JEHOVAH CUM EO. 1 PARAL. IX. 20.

¹ Considering the circumstances under which Mr Cole copied these inscriptions, his version of them is fairly accurate. He makes, however, several mistakes, which it is not thought necessary here to reproduce, the true words being supplied from Mr Humphry's paper. Perhaps, however, some of the mistakes may be correctly copied by Cole. This is not improbable, when we remember the curious mistake in the motto under the Duke's arms which on the maces is thus engraved FIDEI COLVICULA CRUX. This is copied, and learnedly explained, in the *Cambridge Portfolio* (pp. 245 and 528), but Mr Humphry quietly remarks that the ducal motto is "Fidei cotricula crux." That writer also adds an inscription omitted by Cole, and inserted above in brackets: "Virtute duce comite fortuna" (Cicero, *Ep. ad Fam.* x. iii. 2).

The Third has a plain top, with partitions ornamented, and these inscriptions on the ringlets embossed round the staves:

TOLLE VIRGAM ET CONGREGA POPULUM. NUM. XX. 8.

ME DUCE CERTUS ERIS. MART. L^{IB}. I. EP. 4.

VIRGA TUA ET BACULUS CONSOLANTUR ME. PSAL. XXIII. 4.

My Friend, Mr Kerrich of Magdalen, who is a good draftsman, was desired to give a new design for the new staves: but it did not please. The desire of the University was not to have them like those of the Corporation of Cambridge, which are extremely handsome, 5 of them, silver and gilt. [Mr Cole then adds what his design would have been, and concludes] I do not know what was the form of the old Bedells' Staves. Whatever they were, as those of the Duke of Buckingham are to be melted down, and with £70 more are to procure new ones, it seems right to have the Duke's memory...preserved on them, by having his arms still continued on them, etc."

It will be noticed that the maces are here said to have been "gilt," though the gilding has become almost worn off. Soone¹, writing in 1575, speaks of the Bedell's "gilded staff," and it will be remembered that in Duport's celebrated speech as Praevaricator in 1631, he made several punning allusions to the *golden* staves of the Bedells. One of these has been already quoted²; another was the following:

"Aureus nitor est in stellis
Aurei baculi sunt Bedellis."

With reference to the height of the maces, Fuller³ gives one of the proverbs he is so fond of quoting:

"They fright scholars of a low stature with a jocular tradition, 'that none are to *commence* which are not higher than the bedell's staff!'"

To turn from jest to fact, it has been quoted⁴ in the extracts from Cole that the maces were about 4 feet in length. Mr Humphry⁵ is more precise; he says—speaking of the two now in use—"they are from 4 ft. 4 in. to 4 ft. 5 in. in length, and the diameter of the staff itself is $1\frac{5}{16}$ in." Of the disused mace, formerly carried by Dr Leapingwell and his predecessors—we are told that it is "a little shorter than the others."

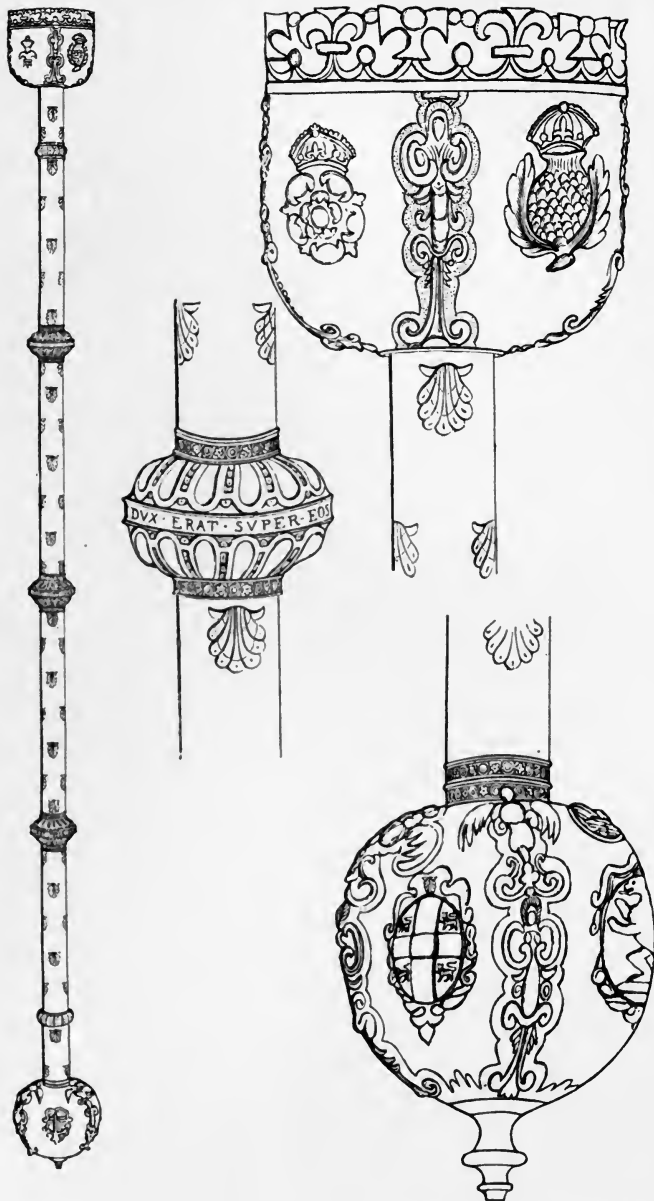
¹ Bruin, *De præcipuis totius universi urbibus*, lib. ii. 1; Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 330.

² See p. 32.

³ *History* (ed. Prickett and Wright), p. 119.

⁴ See p. 41.

⁵ A. P. Humphry, *On the Maces*, C.A.S. xxi. p. 209.



Eliz. Humphry, del.

THE MACE BORNE BY THE SENIOR ESQUIRE BEDELL.

[From Mr A. P. Humphry's Paper on *Maces*, 1879.]

CHAPTER VII.

OTHER OCCUPATIONS OF THE BEDELLS.

It is quite remarkable how, down the long list of Esquire Bedells, we find that they so often justified their selection to an office, which required tact and diligence, by shewing themselves keen men of business in other matters.

It has been pointed out on many occasions that they had a good deal to do with the management of property, being often owners or tenants of lands or tenements privately, or managing such for the benefit of the University or for Colleges and Hostels.

It has also been noted how they were frequently chosen to superintend the erection of new structures or the improvement of old buildings. Robert Woodlark¹ and his brother-in-law, John Canterbury, for instance were Clerks of the Works at King's College, and Alan Semper was *praefectus operis* in connexion with the building of the East Front of the Library Quadrangle; while Robert Hobbs and William Pickerell were Clerks of the Works at the re-building of Great St Mary's.

The mention of this Church is a reminder that several of our Bedells, who lived in that parish, were actively engaged in parochial affairs. In that very interesting volume², *The Churchwardens' Accounts of St Mary the Great, Cambridge*, there may be found the names of Bedells who either held the general offices of churchwarden or auditor, or (in pre-Reformation days) the minor wardenships of the crucifix-light, the rood-light, and so on.

¹ See the accounts of these Bedells in the Biographical List, Chapter VIII.

² Edited by Mr J. E. Foster; *C.A.S.* xxxv.

In other parishes, too, in St Edward's (which included the old printing house), in St Botolph's (with the later office), in St Bene't's (where John Canterbury and John Mere had their residences), we also find Bedells holding parochial offices, as well as managing public or private properties.

In early times, John de Wesenham was not only an active Bedell for many years; he not only acted as the agent of certain Colleges and Hostels in the acquisition and transference of property; but he also held the interesting office of University Stationer¹.

In later times, there was quite a succession of our officers who held the post of University Printer—Thomas Brooke, Thomas Buck and John Buck (as well as a third brother Francis), John Peck and Hugh Martin. It is true that some of these (as Mr Bowes² suggests) may have held the office as a sinecure, and have been nominated when a vacancy occurred in order to preserve the right of the University to appoint three printers; but others—Thomas Buck certainly—were keenly interested in the practical business.

To go back again to early times, Thurstan de Hunyngham was a *Capellanus*, while later Philip Morgan was both in Holy Orders and in practice as an M.D.

Thomas de Tuddenham, at the end of the thirteenth century, was a "Pourtrayour"; indeed his son, later on, is simply known as "Thomas Purtrayour junior."

The Pickerells³ seem both to have been engaged in legal affairs, and the younger one, John, took his LL.B. degree. The elder Pickerell was also "collector" for Jesus, and seems to have made the most of the College property. Other Bedells—like Stringer and Redman—were auditors or stewards of St John's. Several of our officers—Matthew Stokes, for instance, and Thomas Brooke, John Peck and John Pern—were notaries-public. Bennett and Mathew and Leapingwell also took degrees in law.

¹ For the duties of the "Bidellus" of the Italian Universities, as regards the hiring out of MSS., etc., see Putnam's *Books and their Makers*, i. 187, and 248.

² *Biographical Notes on the University Printers, C.A.S. Communications*, 5, p. 283.

³ See pp. 70, 81.

John Mere and Richard Ridding also held the post of Gauger to the University.

The occupation of Vintner—a valuable monopoly in the gift of the University—was bestowed, at times, on certain Bedells. Peter Cheke, for instance, and his widow after him, seem to have held the post. John Baxter and Philip Stringer were also *Ænopolæ*. Baxter was perhaps the Stationer mentioned in one of John Mere's *Diaries*.

Hobbs and Mere, Matthew Stokes and Thomas Smith were also Registraries of the University.

Later on, we come to Sir James Burrough, who as an Architect has left his mark on several buildings in the University or the Colleges, and to Thomas Burrowes, whom Cole laughs at in connexion with his appointment as Chimney Sweeper to His Majesty the King—though the monopoly was very acceptable to one who was an exception to the general rule that Bedells were good managers in financial affairs.

Henry Gunning tells us in his *Reminiscences*¹ that, in addition to taking pupils, he was “glad to earn an honest guinea in any other way that presented itself.” Accordingly on the appointment to an Irish Bishopric of Mr Bennett of Emmanuel, “who had been in the habit of taking the vacant Opponencies in the Divinity Schools,” Gunning “ventured to appear in the Opponent's Box.” There were certain Colleges for which Beverley [the Bedell colleague to whom Gunning had so great a dislike] was in the habit of keeping the Opponencies, and for others the Praelector always applied to the author of the *Reminiscences*.

In the volume, just quoted from, there is the following paragraph and letter about another Bedell—William Hopkins of Peterhouse—of whom Gunning writes :

“Soon after his election [in 1827] he commenced taking pupils, and his success as a private tutor has, probably been unparalleled. Being desirous of learning precisely the number of his pupils who had obtained distinguished honours on the Mathematical Tripos, he sent, at my particular request, the following reply to my inquiry :—‘Dear Gunning—From January 1828 to January 1849, inclusive, *i.e.*, in twenty-two years,

¹ *Reminiscences of the University, etc.* (1854), ii. 51.

I have had among my pupils 175 Wranglers. Of these, 108 have been in the *first ten*, 44 in the *first three*, and 17 have been *Senior Wranglers*. Yours very truly, W. HOPKINS. Dec. 4, 1849.”

When he received this letter, Henry Gunning had already been an Esquire Bedell for more than 60 years.

FAMILY CONNEXIONS AMONG THE BEDELLS.

Among the Bedells, especially from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries, there were often family relationships¹ which linked them together. This was not unnatural at a time when these officials were not necessarily graduates themselves, but ranked among those “privileged persons” whose interests were so bound up with those of the University.

They were generally men of substantial means, and their public and private dealings with lands and tenements would make the members of the University anxious to continue the connexion from father to son, or from relative to relative.

And the same held good after it happened—as was to be expected—that the younger generation became a member of the University, and the election of graduates became customary.

It is not unlikely that there were two Cambridge Bedells, named Walter de Oxonia, father and son perhaps.

John de Wesenham is so often and intimately associated with another well-known Bedell, William Physwick, that his daughter Johanna—whom we have seen linked with her father and mother in matters of property—may have been Johanna, William Physwick’s wife, whose name is connected with the Hostel bequeathed by and called after her husband. Further there was undoubtedly some family relationship between Johanna Physwick and another lady Juliana Betelle, who was also one of the owners and the benefactors of Physwick Hostel. This Juliana was the wife of another Bedell, Richard, who probably took his surname Betelle, or Bedelle, from his official

¹ For the various illustrations of these relationships given in this section see the several accounts of the Bedells mentioned, in the Biographical List, Chapter VIII.

position. Richard and Juliana Betelle were also benefactors to the University and its Colleges in connexion with the School of Divinity of St Margaret and with the Hostel of the same name.

William Physwick the Bedell, of whom we have been speaking, was doubtless the father of John Physwick who held the same office in the next generation; and Bryan, the son of John, was a well-to-do and useful member of the University later on.

John Canterbury "armiger et bedellus Universitatis Cantabrigiæ" was a fellow of King's, some of whose property descended to Peter Cheke the well-known Bedell and Agnes his wife, "the cousens and heirs" of Catharine daughter of John and Isabella Canterbury—the latter of whom, by the bye, was sister of Robert Woodlark, Provost of King's, and founder of St Catharine's College, who had himself been "a Beadle of the University" in his younger days.

Agnes Cheke, widow of "Peter the Bedell," speaks in her will of her "Sunn John Pyckerell," who in his will calls himself "LL.B. et bedellus Universitatis." It may be that Agnes, when she married Peter Cheke, was the widow of William Pickerell, also a Bedell—or at least a Deputy holding that office.

A curious illustration of the link which, on the above supposition, Agnes formed between Peter Cheke and William Pickerell, exists in the fact that Dr Caius, in his History¹ dealing with Great St Mary's (of which both these Bedells were churchwardens), calls the latter "*Petrus Pickrelle*."

Passing on, it may be conjectured from the intimate connexion between John Redman and William Sherwood—the former being apparently the guardian of the sons of the latter—that there was some family relationship between these two Bedells.

Again that John Redman's successor was Philip Stringer may be due to the fact that the latter had just previously to the change of bedellship married Maria Redman.

Stringer's successor was probably Thomas Brook, whose son-in-law John Buck held the bedellship for more than

¹ *Historiæ Cantabrigiæ Academiæ Liber Primus*, p. 90.

50 years, during the stirring times of Charles I and Charles II and the intervening days of the Commonwealth.

During the greater part of this long period, his elder brother Thomas Buck occupied the position of Senior Bedell; thus forming a remarkable illustration of those family relationships with which this section has been dealing.

CHAPTER VIII.

BIOGRAPHICAL LIST OF THE BEDELLS.

IN this section it is purposed to give a Biographical List—as complete as possible—of those who have held the office of Esquire Bedell to the University. It will be seen that, with a few exceptions, it is no mere record of names; but that the details of the careers of the officers here given shew how—for some six or seven hundred years—they have identified themselves with the welfare of the University; upon whose history the incidents here recorded again and again throw considerable light.

RALPH PIROUN¹. } These names of *quondam Bedelli istius*
ROBERT GOSNEL². } *Universitatis* occur first in order on
the very ancient list of Benefactors described on p. 2, as claiming the prayers of the members of the University. It is pleasant to begin our list with such a cordial recognition of the happy relationship existing between these officers and the Society which they served. But we shall see that they are the precursors of many Bedells who were inscribed, or deserved to be inscribed, in the Roll of University Benefactors. A consideration of the order in which these names stand compared

¹ There was a lane in St John Zachary's parish called *Peroune's Lane* (see Bateson's *Gilds*, p. 136—and for other forms of spelling see *Arch. Hist.* i. 335). Caius derives the name "a piro" (*Hist.* p. 68); but may it not have been called after our Bedell?

² In the Great Inquisition made at the beginning of Edward I's reign (1279), a certain message in St Bene't's parish is said—some time previously—to have been given by Robert Gosenol to his sister Margaret (*Rotuli Hundredorum*, ii. 379).

with the eight others given in this ancient list suggests that they lived about the middle of the thirteenth century.

WALTER DE WELLS, whose name stands third in the list referred to, is perhaps alluded to in the *Patent Rolls*¹, 9 Edward I, in the case of Richard son of Hugh le Caretter *v.* Walter le Bedel, or he may be the officer mentioned later on.

THOMAS LE BEDEL. This officer's name occurs as a witness to the deed printed on p. 131, where he is described as *Thomas serviens Universitatis*. This document is dated 1270. Four years later we meet with him in an affair² between John, Prior of Anglesey and *Thomas le Bedel of Caunterbr'* and Matilda his wife, in connexion with the Advowson of the Church of St Michael in Cantebr'. It may be added that in 1292, a Writ³ was issued, referring to a contemplated grant to the University by Matilda atte Wolde (or de Walda) of the Advowson of the same Church. This lady is also mentioned in the Great Inquisition⁴ of Edward I (1279) as holding (by inheritance⁵) the Advowson; so that she was doubtless identical with Matilda the wife of Thomas le Bedel⁶ with whom we are dealing.

In a Rent Roll⁷ of the Prior of Barnwell dated 1279, Thomas le Bedel is said to hold a void place in the Parish of Great St Mary in vico Glomere.

This Thomas is to be distinguished from Thomas de Tuddenham the next on the list.

THOMAS DE TUDDENHAM. The name of this Bedel occurs fourth in the ancient roll of Benefactors previously quoted. He and his wife Margaret are parties in a deed⁸ dated 1296; and there are allusions to this Bedell and his family in two

¹ See the 50th Report of the Deputy Keeper, p. 46.

² *Pedes Finium, Cambs.*, by Walter Rye, *C.A.S. Publications*, xxvi. p. 48; *The History of Bottisham*, by Edward Hailstone, *C.A.S.* xiv. p. 225.

³ *Cambridge Borough Rate Report* (C. H. Cooper), p. 56.

⁴ *Rotuli Hundredorum*, ii. 387.

⁵ See Cooper's *Memorials of Cambridge*, iii. 339, and Maitland's *Township and Borough*, pp. 175, 176.

⁶ See also Hailstone's *Bottisham*, p. 185, for reference to further properties belonging to Thomas and Matilda his wife.

⁷ Barnwell, *Liber Memorandum* (ed. J. W. Clark), p. 287.

⁸ "Thomas de Tudenham and Margareta his wife in Cantebrig and Wodditon." 24 Ed. IV. *Pedes Finium, C.A.S.* xxvi. p. 63.

documents¹ of a later date. The first of these deeds tells how *Thomas Purtrayur junior de Cantabrigia* granted

“Domino Bartolomeo Peryn et Johanni Vavazour Burgensibus Cantabrigiæ et eorum Hereditatibus, etc., totum jus meum etc. in illo messuagio etc. quod jacet in Vico Scolarum in Parochia Sancte Marie Cantabrigiæ inter tenement’ Scolarium aule Universitatis Cantabrigiæ et Nicholi Crocheman etc.” (1347).

In the following year, John Vavasour, sen., transferred this property to Robert de Brigham, etc. The message is here described as having formerly belonged to *Thomas de Todenham Purtrayour*, and the “aula Universitatis” is said to be “nunc vocata *Clarehalle*.” Here we see that the Bedell himself, it may be, and other members of the family assumed a patronymic, which suggests an artistic occupation. May it even be that the curious old portrait² of a University Bedell given on the seal of Walter of Oxford was the work of his brother official, Thomas de Tuddenham “Purtrayour”? The name of “Tho. Purtrayer senior” occurs in a *Bede Roll*³ connected with St Mary’s Gild.

WALTER OF OXFORD. Fifth in our Roll of Benefactors stands the name of Walter de Oxforde, to whom there are several references in documents during the second half of the thirteenth century. The earliest date at which his name occurs is the fifty-fifth year of King Henry III (1270-1), when William and Margaret Noloth transferred⁴ to him a plot of ground, with a house built on it, in Smith Row in the parish of Great St Mary. Walter of Oxford does not seem to have held the property for long, as in another deed⁵ (which is undated, but which is attested by several of those who witnessed the former document) he handed it on to a neighbour named William le Comber. It may be that he acted in some official, or semi-

¹ See *Add. MS.*, B.M., 5813, pp. 166, 167 and 176, 177.

² See p. 52. They are coupled together in a deed of Joanna de Beynwick in the *Otrynham Book*.

³ Bateson’s *Cambridge Gild Records*, C.A.S. xxxix. p. 19.

⁴ See the deed printed in Appendix A, p. 129. The writer is indebted to Mr Arnold Wallis, the bursar of Corpus Christi College, for permission to copy these deeds and the seal. He also desires to thank the Rev. W. G. Searle, for kind help.

⁵ See Appendix B, p. 131.

official, capacity in the transaction; and it has already been pointed out and will hereafter be seen that the Bedells were not infrequently employed as intermediaries in similar cases. Or it may be that it was a private business affair; and we shall afterwards see that the Bedells were again and again engaged in dealings concerning landed and house property.

The seal attached to the second of these deeds is of great interest. It depicts a man bearing a wand of office, and was doubtless used by Walter of Oxford in his capacity of a Bedell. The cap worn resembles that represented in the seal of the Chancellor of the University engraved in Drake's edition¹ of Archbishop Parker's *History*. It is apparently simply a round close-fitting cap. Whether it has an apex, or small point, as in the rebus² adopted by the Wesenhams can hardly be distinguished in the present state of the impression of the seal. This cap, certainly worn by doctors of the period, was perhaps allowed to the officer, who heralded them in processions. The dress, depicted in the seal, like the cap, was not so elaborate as that worn in later times by this official. It has been remarked that Walter of Oxford claims a wand of office. The virges were not yet, to adopt Fuller's words, "grown up to be staves."

In these deeds our Bedell is styled "*Serviens Universitatis Cantabrigiæ*," and so he is designated some eight or nine years later in the *Hundred Rolls*³, where we find two or three allusions to him; e.g. "Walterus de Oxonia serviens Universitatis Cantabrigiæ messuagium tenuit de Monialibus de Prato"; "Wakelinus le Barbur tenet unum Messuagium in parochia Beatæ Mariæ, et reddit dicto Waltero jd.," etc.

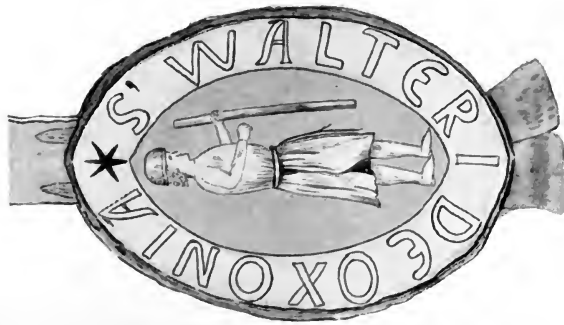
The same name is included in a roll⁴, preserved in the Archives of Corpus Christi College, of certain members of the old gilds which founded that Society; and one of these—a Walter of Oxford—has been identified with the Bedell whom we are recording; but, as the person prayed for is included in a list of those "dead of the plague and since 1349," the dates

¹ *De Antiquitate Britannicæ Ecclesiæ* (1729), opposite p. 8.

² Published in 1729.

³ *Rotuli Hundredorum* (1278-9), ii. p. 384.

⁴ *Camb. Gild Records, C.A.S.* xxiv. pp. 19, 21, 22, 24, 49, etc.



SEAL OF THE 13th CENTURY,
 shewing a Cambridge Bedell.
 [From the Treasury of C.C.C.C.]



A SEAL OF A 14th CENTURY BEDELL.
 [From the Treasury of C.C.C.C.]



ANOTHER SEAL USED BY
 THE SAME BEDELL.
 [From the Treasury of C.C.C.C.]

hardly admit of the identification. It may be, however, that a second Walter of Oxford held office as a Bedell; for, as will afterwards be pointed out, there were several instances of different members of a family holding this University appointment.

WALTER LE BEDEL, whose name is given on page 398 of the second volume of the *Rotuli Hundredorum* as receiving rent from Hugo de Brunn', may be the same University servant to whom the above paragraphs refer.

WILLIAM RUSSELL. Baker, in one¹ of the MS. volumes in the British Museum, quotes "ex carta veteri" a deed dated 15 Edward I (1287), executed during the Chancellorship of Stephen de Heppeworth, where "duo Bedelli" are mentioned, by name William Russell and Robert le Bedell.

ROBERT LE BEDELL. This official, whom we have just noted as serving the University in 1287, may be the same as Robert Carless, soon to be mentioned; or he may be identical with Robert the Bedell given below under dates 1309 and 1315. A Robert le Bedell is named in the Rent Roll² of Barnwell Priory, mentioned on page 50; and the same name (if not the same individual) paid rent³ to St John's Hospital at about the same date.

THOMAS DE WATLINGTON. Of this Bedell, who occurs sixth on the old list of Academiae Benefactores, we know nothing further; unless he be one of the same Christian name recorded above.

ROBERT CARLESS. The same may be said of this "quondam Bedellus istius Universitatis," who stands seventh in our roll.

STEPHEN DE EYE occurs eighth in the list of Benefactors. His name, with his official title as Bedell, is found in deeds of the years 1324⁴ and 1326-7⁵. He acted as Harvey de Stanton's agent in the transfer of some property to Michael House: "Ego H. de Stanton Clericus assignavi et attornavi loco meo

¹ *Add. MS.* 7046, 169 b (vol. xix.).

² *Barnwell Liber Memorandorum* (ed. Clark), p. 287.

³ See the *St John's Hospital Cartulary*.

⁴ Baker *MS.* 33-236.

⁵ *Ibid.* 33-412.

Stephanum de Eye Bedellum Universitatis ad liberand. plenariam seiam meo nomine Magistro et scolaribus Domus Sancti Michaelis Cantabrigiæ de duobus mesuagiis, etc.”

REGINALD LE BEDEL. This name, under date 1300, is inscribed in a volume¹ still preserved in the Library of Peterhouse.

The old Oxford Kalendars² shew that, at the sister University, a Reginald le Bedel was annually commemorated as a Benefactor on May 10th. It may be that the name in the Peterhouse book refers to that official.

CHRISTOPHER THE BEDEL. In an Inventory³ preserved in Great St Mary's Church is the following detail: “1 Psalterium de dono Chr' quondam Bedelli jam vestutate consumptum.” As this catalogue is dated “c. 1305,” the name ought perhaps to be placed much earlier in this list of Bedells.

ROBERT LE BEDEL. In one of Cole's MS. volumes⁴ in the British Museum, there is quoted a deed referring to “messuagium Roberti le Bedell in albo vico de Cantabrigia.” The document is witnessed by Simon de Repham, Mayor of Cambridge in the third year of Edward II (1309-10). The name probably of the same Bedell—“Robert le Bedel”—occurs in a Subsidy Roll of 1314-15, in the *Cambridge Gild Records*⁵ (Trumpington Ward).

THURSTAN DE HUNINGHAM. The name of this Bedel stands ninth in the document previously quoted—“Preces pro animabus Benefactorum”—used on the morrow of St Catharine's Day. He was one of the University Chaplains⁶, being doubtless identical with “Thurstanus bedellus capellanus,” mentioned in a Roll⁷ in the *C.C.C. Gild Records*, and with “Thurstan le Bedell,” in the

¹ Dr James's *Peterhouse Library*, p. 73.

² Anstey's *Mun. Acad.* vol. ii. p. 372; Wordsworth's *Ancient Kalendar of Univ. of Oxf.* pp. xiv, etc.

³ Caius Coll. MS. 204; Baker, iii. 507; Sanders, *Gt St Mary's, C.A.S. Publications*, x. p. 43.

⁴ *Add. MS.* 5813, p. 194.

⁵ Bateson, *C.A.S. Publications*, xxxix. p. 155.

⁶ See Stokes, *University Chaplains, C.A.S. Publications*, vol. xli. pp. 7, 81 and 82.

⁷ Bateson, *C.A.S. Publications*, vol. xxxix. p. 23.

same volume, in a Subsidy Roll¹ (1314–15). While twenty years later, we find from the *Calendar of Close Rolls*², that Robert de Cumberton, a burgess of Cambridge, and Thurstan, the University Bedell, secured a messuage for the enlargement of the house of the Austin Friars—where now the Examination Rooms stand.

THURSTAN THE BEDEL. It is, however, more probable that the last mentioned is a different person, and identical with "Thurstan Bedel of Cambridge," to whom letters dimissory³ as a sub-deacon were granted by Bishop Thomas de Insula of Ely on Jan. 8th, 1349.

HENRY THE BEDEL. In a deed, referred to by Cole⁴ in one of his British Museum volumes, under date 1348, occur the names of "Adam de la More bedellus universitatis Cantabrigiæ, et Henricus Bedellus predictæ Universitatis." Nothing further is known of the latter of these officers; but the former

ADAM DE LA MORE stands tenth among the Bedels in the roll of Benefactors.

RICHARD DE BETELLE. We come now to the last of the eleven Bedells who were commemorated in the ancient form so frequently quoted. His name is given in that list as Richard de Betelee. In a document⁵ in the *Catalogue of Ancient Deeds*, dated 1532, he is described more fully as Richard de Betelee de Lyng, and his wife Juliana is said to have been the sister of "Thomas⁶ de Lewes, rector of the moiety of Walpole Church for the portion of Lewes." They were interested in several properties in Walpole. One of these messuages was granted⁷ in the year 1368 "by Richard de Betelee, bedell of the University, and Juliana his wife to William de Gotham, Thomas

¹ *Ibid.* p. 153.

² *Calendar of Close Rolls*, Ed. III (1335), p. 511; see also Hare's *MSS.* vol. i. c. 1. in the University Registry.

³ *Register of Thomas de Insula, E.D.R.* February, 1893.

⁴ *Add. MS.* 5813, p. 122 b.

⁵ *Catalogue of Ancient Deeds*, vol. iv. A. 2917.

⁶ Thomas de Lewes, who was then in his 40th year, had 14 years previously been presented to his incumbency at Walpole by John Earl of Warren, to whom the King had granted certain advowsons belonging to the Convent at Lewes, during the wars with France (see *Ancient Deeds*, vol. iv. A. 2938).

⁷ *Catalogue of Ancient Deeds*, iv. A. 6300; A. 2935; etc.

March, John de Wysbech, clerks and William Fysshwyk, bedell of the University." Shortly afterwards, however, the property was retransferred to the Betelles. This transaction was doubtless some academic arrangement, for William de Gotham was a well-known member of the University who subsequently became Master of Michael house. In the same year, and perhaps in connexion with the same transaction, Richard and his wife Juliana granted¹ a building (purchased by them in 1354, and afterwards known as St Margaret's Hostel) to John de Burgh, who shortly afterwards granted it to Henry Granby (also a subsequent Master of Michael House) and John Wesenham (also a Bedell of the University). There is—if the dates given by Cooper are correct—a strange delay in connexion with this academical transaction; for we hear nothing more of the affair till—in 1391–2—Granby and Wesenham—with due formalities—passed on the building (St Margaret's Hostel) to the authorities of Michael House. "The King's licence is dated 26th April, 15 Richard II (1392). Juliana Bedell was commemorated as having given to this college [Michael House, afterwards connected with Gonville Hall, and subsequently absorbed into Trinity] St Margaret's Hostel and St Margaret's Schools, and Richard Bedell was one whose exequies were annually celebrated in this House." The Theological School of St Margaret, just alluded to, was situate on part of the ground where Cockerell's Building now stands. It had been sold by Richard and Juliana Bedell in 1368 to the same parties mentioned above, Henry Granby and John Wesenham; and was conveyed by them to Michael House after the long interval referred to—viz. in 1396. Juliana (whom we find from a deed² dated 1370 to have lost her husband) had also an interest in another building adjacent to St Margaret's Hostel. This tenement was given³ to Gonville

¹ For transactions in connexion with the transference of Juliana Bedell's property see besides the Deeds mentioned above, Cooper's *Borough Report*, pp. 33, 34; his *Memorials*, i. 105, 106; ii. 222, 223; Willis and Clark's *Architectural History*, i. 320; ii. 416; etc.

² *Catalogue of Ancient Deeds*, vol. iv. A. 6907. [See also *Memoranda from Charters in the Bodleian Library* classed as *Cambridgeshire Charters* and numbered 16–32, and 40; where many details are given of the properties held by Richard "le Bedele," and Juliana, and William Fishewyk.]

³ Caius, *Hist. Cantabr.* i. 48, 49; *Annals* (ed. Venn), *C.A.S.* xl. p. 8, etc.

Hall by William Physwick, one of the Bedells already mentioned in this section, who by his will dated 29 March, 1384, bequeathed the building (generally known as Physwick Hostel) to Gonville Hall subject to the life interest of his widow Joan and of Juliana Bedell. The latter lady, ten years¹ afterwards, conveyed the tenement to the master and the scholars of the said Hall.

To return to Richard Bedell, we have seen that he was engaged in transactions in 1368; but that his wife was a widow by 1370. We may therefore date his death in the year 1369. It should have been stated at the commencement of the section, that the first mention of this Bedell which the writer has met with occurs in a deed² dated 1347. In certain "*Proctor's Indentures*," preserved³ in the University Registry, there are, under date 1363, some interesting entries as to moneys which passed through the hands of "*Ricardus Bedel*."

JOHN DE ARUNDELL. A certain house, or houses, between what is now the east end of King's Chapel and the High Street, formerly went by the name of "Arundell's"; from the fact that John de Arundell, a University Bedell, was at one time the owner⁴. The conveyance to him is dated 27 April, 1355. His name also occurs under the year 1359 in some notes by Fuller⁵.

PETER DE BRAMPTON of Cambridge is noticed as an "apparitor" in the *Otryngham Book* (p. 125), but it is doubtful if this entitles him to be included in the list of Bedells.

JOHN DE WESENHAM belonged to a family which came, as so often happened in the history of Cambridge, from the Eastern counties. The "de Wesenhams" figure prominently in a delightful chapter on "Village Life [in Norfolk] 600 years ago" in Dr Jessopp's *The Coming of the Friars*. Roger de Wesenham and his friend Grosseteste were East Anglians who had studied and taught at Oxford; they both were raised to the episcopal bench, and both supported the incoming Franciscans.

¹ Cooper, *Memorials*, i. 105.

² *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, p. 180.

³ These precursors of the *Grace Books* (Univ. Registry *MS.* i. 2) will, it is hoped, eventually be printed. They contain much interesting information concerning early University matters.

⁴ Willis and Clark's *Arch. Hist.* i. 336.

⁵ Baker's *MS. B.*, p. 251.

"The names of several members of the bishop's family occur in the Rougham Charters as attesting witnesses," says Canon Jessopp, speaking of Roger de Wesenham, bishop of Lichfield. Bearers of the same name found their way to the Eastern University town; where we find in the rolls¹ of the Gild of Corpus Christi prayers asked "pro anima Eduardi de Wesenham," and in the records² of the estates of the Priory of St Radegund property belonging to Matthew Wesenham of Cambridge and Juliana his wife. To these was doubtless related John de Wesenham, the Bedell, with whom we proceed to deal. It has already been pointed out that the Bedells frequently held various other important positions—official or otherwise—in the University and town; and it must here be noted that John de Wesenham first comes before us as a Stationer of the University. In a document, dated 1361 and preserved in the Treasury of Corpus Christi College, among the witnesses occur "Johannes de Wesenham, Stationarius Universitatis" and "Mattheus de Wesenham Pannarius." The latter of these, the draper, was most probably the Matthew mentioned in the document at Jesus College quoted above.

A few years later, in 1368 and 1369, we find John de Wesenham, then described as a Bedell of the University, associated with Henry Granby (who afterwards became Master of Michael House) in purchasing certain scholastic buildings³, several of which were the property of Juliana wife of Richard Bedelle (or Betelle), whose name has already been mentioned as occurring in the old List of University Benefactors. These buildings—St Margaret's Hostel; St Margaret's Theological School, etc.—have been already dealt with, and so has the lady to whom the University was so much indebted. Here we are specially dealing with John de Wesenham, and his share in the transference of the property. The question is a most difficult one to unravel; for there are only a few allusions to the transaction. If the dates given by Cooper are correct, the properties

¹ *Cambridge Gild Records*, C.A.S. xxix. p. 19.

² *The Priory of St Radegund*, ed. A. Gray, C.A.S. xxxi. p. 89.

³ See Cooper's *Borough Report*, pp. 33, 34; his *Memorials*, i. 105, 106; ii. 222, 223; Willis and Clark's *Architectural History*, i. 320; ii. 416, etc.

which were acquired by Henry Granby and John de Wesenham in 1368 and the following year were not handed over to Michael House till 1396. Why was John de Wesenham concerned in the affair? Was he—as many another Bedell was—merely a useful and trustworthy official? And was he—as again other Bedells were—a University benefactor? Was Juliana Bedelle connected with—was she identical with—Juliana Wesenham mentioned above? And did Richard Bedelle and Juliana obtain their patronymic from the University office with which we are dealing? And have we here another instance of family connexions of University Bedells? As illustrating, and perhaps as touching, the last question, it may be remarked that, in a similar transaction¹—the gift of the house of William Fishewick (or Physwick) to Gonville Hall—the donation made by that Bedell was not to take effect till after the deaths of Joan his wife and of the aforesaid Juliana Bedelle. Again it may be asked—were Joan Fishewick and Juliana Bedelle connected with—were they identical with—Joan de Wesenham and Juliana de Wesenham whose seals we are about to describe?

These seals are attached to a deed preserved like those before mentioned in the Bursary at Corpus. This document² records the transference of a messuage, situate in Great St Mary's Parish and belonging to the college, to John Wesenham, Bedell, Alice his wife and Joan his daughter. It is dated September 16th, 1390, and is attested by Richard Masterman, mayor of Cambridge, and other witnesses. To it are appended the seals³ of the three parties concerned, as doubtless to the duplicate lease would be attached the college seal. The first of these seals shews a chevron between what are apparently three Doctors' caps, with the legend *S. JOH̄IS WESENHAM, BEDEL*; the second has some bird volant; and the third has a cap, similar to, but larger than, the caps in the first seal—surrounded with words which read like *CORDA (?) THEOLOGIE*. If, as is probable, we have here the representation of a doctor's cap, then doubtless, as suggested by Cole, John

¹ See p. 62.

² Appendix C, p. 132. See *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, p. 171.

³ See p. 133.

Wesenham, the Bedell of Theology, and his wife or daughter, had adopted a rebus for their seal.

In an old document¹ which formerly existed in the University Registry—a Bull of Urban the Sixth, dated 1386—it was granted by that Pope:

“Ut Jol Wesenham, W^{mo} Wykmore et W^{mo} Fysseywke uxoris et Universitatis Bedellis, plenarias de peccatis suis Indulgentias in mortis articulo tanquam beneficia supra omnem taxam, v: plenitudini potestatis singulariter reservatâ dignemini misericorditer concedere cum clericis optimis, ut in forma.”

This personal grant of plenary indulgence to the three Bedells is, in Cooper's *Annals*, i. 131, said to have allowed these married laymen “full power of granting plenary indulgence of sins at the point of death, as the best clerks”!

Whatever was the grant obtained from the Pope, we have here a proof of the substantial position of these officials. William Physwick (and Joan his wife) and William Wigmore (and Margery his wife) will be dealt with in the following paragraphs.

Wesenham seems to have held office for many years; for his name is found as a witness to a deed in 1358²; and we have seen that he was conducting public transactions in 1396³.

[A John Wesenham, vicar of Swaffham Prior, exchanged benefices with John de Corby, vicar of “Shenegeye,” on 30 Sept., 1385; but resigned Shingay during the following month (see the *Register* of Bishop Arundell, quoted in the *Ely Diocesan Remembrancer*, no. 130, p. 49).]

WILLIAM WIGMORE. The second of the names mentioned in the above Papal indulgence⁴ was William Wigmore; who first appears as a Bedell at the admission by the Bishop of Ely⁵ of John Donwyck, Chancellor of the University, on 7 May, 1374. Ten years later his name occurs on a similar occasion, when

¹ See Baker *MS.* xlii. pp. 180, a, b.

² *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, p. 177. He gave £13 to the Ely Chapter towards the purchase of the manor of Mephale in 1361 (see Stubbs's *Ely Cathedral*, p. 156).

³ Cooper's *Memorials*, ii. 223.

⁴ See preceding name.

⁵ Bishop Arundel; see Baker *MS.* 40, 204.

John de Burgh¹ took the oath on 24 Nov. 1384. But Wigmore is chiefly remembered in connexion with his terrible experiences during the notorious riot of 1381. That outburst of the Town against the University is so well known, that allusion need only be made here to Wigmore's share in the proceedings. The words of Caius² may be quoted:

“Die sequenti nocte intempesta, ad sonitum campanæ S. Mariæ maioris, in prætorium conuenitur. Inde ad ædes Gulielmi Wigmori universitatis bedelli proficiscitur. Eas incendunt, omnia auferunt, et edicto promulgant publico, ut qui Gulielmum comprehenderent, eum trucidarent; etc.”

A similar account from “an ancient Manuscript” is thus translated in the Preface³ to Richard Parker's *History*:

“Item, the next Sunday after the aforesaid Festival, the Mayor and Bailiffs, and Commonalty of the Town, about two Hours before Midnight, caus'd the great Bell in St Mary's Church to be rung; at the sound whereof, they assembled in the Town-Hall, and after Proclamation made, they went to the House of *William Wigmore*, then Beadle of the University, destroy'd and burnt the same, conveying away his Goods. They also proclaim'd, That the first that could light on the said *William*, should kill him.”

The obnoxious Bedell, however, did not fall into the hands of the mob, and he doubtless obtained compensation for his losses. Where his residence was is not stated, but it was perhaps at “a messuage in St Andrew's between a messuage of the Prior of Ely and Hangmaneslane⁴, abutting on Preachoure Streete”; for a charter⁵ preserved in Jesus College tells us that “Will de Wykmer, University bedel” hired this house in 1373. His widow Margery passed this on to the Nuns of St Radegund, nearly 50 years afterwards, in 1420; and they the next year let part of the property to their Ely neighbours. The portion leased is described as “a void place in St Andrew's parish lately held by Will. Wygmer, University bedel, of the Nuns for a rent of 8s.”

¹ Baker *MS.* 40, 233.

² *Hist. Acad. Cant.* i. 96-99.

³ *History and Antiq.* vii-x.

⁴ *Hangeman's Lane* is now Christ's Lane; and *Preachers' Street*, St Andrew's Street.

⁵ Gray's *St Radegund* (*C.A.S. Publications*, xxxi), p. 104.

A "William Bedell" was present in Little St Mary's Church at the inquiry¹ as to the tithes payable in connexion with the *Stagnum sive Piscaria vocata Milnedum juxta Cantab.* 1379. This may have been the Bedell with whom we are dealing or it may have been the following.

WILLIAM PHYSWICK. We come to the third, and the best-known, of the Bedells mentioned in the Papal indulgence of 1386. We meet with his name, very variously spelt, in certain old documents; for instance, he appears as a witness to a deed² in 1375, where he is described as "Willielmus Ffysshwyche, Clericus, Linc: Dioc:." As we have seen³ when dealing with Richard de Betelle, Physwick was very active in matters academic; he was one of the agents in the series of negotiations by which St Margaret's Hostel and St Margaret's School were transferred to Michael House and Gonville Hall respectively. In the latter case there is (as recorded above) an unexplained delay in the proceedings⁴. To the last-named college Physwick was himself a benefactor, for by his will⁵ dated March 29th, 1384, he left his house to the masters and scholars thereof, subject to the life interests of his wife Joanna and of Juliana Bedelle. Ten years later, as we have seen, the last-named lady granted the house, afterwards celebrated as Physwick Hostel, to Gonville Hall. Caius, in his *Annals*⁶, describes the benefactor as "*Willelmus fisshewicke universitatis Cantabrigiæ accisus seu bedellus.*" He was also possessed of property⁷ in other parts of Cambridge, having, for instance, a house in St Andrew's Street near that of his fellow-bedell William Wigmore. This was afterwards the residence of his son John Physwick, whom we shall also meet with later on as a University Bedell. The father was also part owner⁸ of

¹ Peterhouse Register, p. 33.

² Bp Arundel's Register, pp. 33 b, 34 a, 35, etc.

³ See pp. 58 and 59.

⁴ Cooper's Memorials, ii. 223.

⁵ Cooper's Borough Report, p. 33.

⁶ C.A.S. Publications, xl. p. 8 (ed. Venn); he uses the same expression in his History, p. 49.

⁷ Willis and Clark, Arch. Hist. ii. 189, 190.

⁸ Ibid. i. 123.

a message called "Cosyn's Place," now included in Pembroke College; but whether he¹ was concerned in this estate privately or in some official capacity is not certain.

It may be added, that an entry in the *Corpus Gild Records*², under date 1357 (?), tells us that "Ric. Fizwyche et Elizabeth uxor ejus...intraverunt fraternitatem ex gratia speciali." These may have been the presents of William Physwick.

There are various references to official acts of our Bedell—such as his witnessing the admission³ as Chancellor of Richard le Scrope on 23 April, 1378; but these need not be given in detail.

RICHARD BRISTOW. Baker in one of his London volumes⁴ quotes, "ex carta veteri," an allusion to Richard Bristow as a Bedell when Richard Derham was Chancellor of the University in 1408.

JOHN PHYSWICK. About the year 1418, the mayor, burgesses and commonalty of Cambridge

"presented a petition⁵ to the King's Council, setting forth that Thomas Cressale, Prior of the order of Friars-Hermits of St Augustine, Henry Stokton Friar of that order and Vice-chancellor of Henry Rykingale, Chancellor of the University, Thomas Markaunte and Thomas Thurkell clerks late Proctors, John Fyskwicke bedel, and John Duke⁶ sub-bedel of the University, with many other scholars unknown by their excitation adhering to them, by colour of their grants, unjustly disturbed the petitioners in the use and exercise of divers liberties, &c."

The University sent a detailed reply, in the course of which it was remarked

"that at the time in question, Fishwycke was at York and Markaunte in London, etc."

Allusion has already been made⁷ to the property held by John Physwick⁸ in Preachers' Street. This consisted of two

¹ "Wm de Ffyshewyk, bedel of the University, and his wife Joan, with others, had a grant of the Jesus Brewhouse near Magdalene College till 1384, 5" (*Jesus College Register*, vii. 4).

² *C.A.S. Publications*, xxxix. p. 57.

³ Baker *MS.* 40, 217.

⁴ *Add. MS.* 7046, p. 169 b.

⁵ Cooper's *Annals*, i. 159, etc.

⁶ See p. 125.

⁷ See pp. 1 etc.

⁸ In *Grace Book A* (p. 28), under date 1460, 1, there is a payment to

tenements with gardens, separated by another tenement. Both houses were purchased for the college known as God's House, which was afterwards enlarged into Christ's. The purchase took place in August 1468, the owner being Brian Fissshewyk¹, heir to John the Bedel, who in a deed of 1446 is said to have been the *former* owner. We may, therefore, perhaps presume that John Physwick was dead before that date.

ROBERT WOODLARK. Dr Robert Woodlark, the well-known Provost of King's College and Founder of St Catharine's, is said—in Thomas Harwood's *Alumni Etonenses*²—to have been at one time "Beadle of the University." No authority is given for the statement; but it may well be correct, for his brother-in-law, John Canterbury³, also a member of King's, was certainly an Esquire Bedell; though there may be some confusion between the brothers-in-law. Assuming the accuracy of the statement, we have in the future Provost of King's the first instance of a member of the University who held the office of Bedell. As a former Communication⁴ to this Society contains an elaborate paper—by Mr Charles Hardwick—dealing with Dr Woodlark, it is unnecessary to do more than quote the summary of his career given by Harwood⁵:

"Robert Woodlarke [3rd Provost of King's], May 17th, 1452, Hen. VI. 31. S.T.P. He was born at Wakerly, in Northumberland, and was the last [Fellow] the Founder placed in this College. He remained Provost 27 years, in which time he was twice Chancellor of the University, in 1459 and 1462. He was Chancellor of the Diocese of Canterbury. He bought three tenements in Miln Street, and, by a mortmain procured from Edward IV, erected Catharine Hall, constituting a Master and three Fellows. He had been Clerk of the Works at the building of King's College, and Beadle of the University."

"fyschwyk." This seems rather late for John Fishwick. A third official of the family may be thus revealed.

¹ The will of John Grenelane (1 Feb. 1431) directs his executors to find an honest chaplain to celebrate for him in St Andrew's Church for 10 years after his decease, preference being given to Ds Brian Fissshewyk [A. Gray, *The Priory of St Radegund*, p. 81].

² *Alumni Etonenses* (1797), p. 34.

³ See pp. 4, 67 etc.

⁴ *C.A.S. Communications*, No. viii. pp. 329-339.

⁵ *Alumni Etonenses*, pp. 33, 34.

Among the records at Jesus College is a deed¹ by which Robert Woodlark transferred a certain tenement in the parish of St Giles, to which is attached his seal—a lark rising above trees, with the name “Robert.” In Woodham’s *University Heraldry*², another seal is assigned to the founder of St Catharine’s Hall.

[We have thus only been able to recover the names of some two or three Bedells during the first half of the fifteenth century. From 1454 onwards we have the help of the *Grace Books*³.]

WILLIAM BEDELL. Corpus Christi College leased about 1459 to a William Bedell⁴ a piece of ground, upon a portion of which the Civil Law School was afterwards built. Whether this individual was one of the University Bedells is not known. We have seen how often these officials were called only by their Christian names, and we shall notice the same practice well into the sixteenth century. But *Bedell* may have been his surname; if so, however, it would suggest family connexion with the class of officials with whom we are dealing.

CHRISTOPHER. In *Grace Book A*, p. 7, among the payments made by the proctors in the academical year 1455-6, was the following: “Item pro cera rubea empta per Christoferum...jd.” This careful expenditure occurs among the expenses connected with the Schools and the New Chapel. So, a year or two later (p. 13), we find a similar payment: “Item pro stramine scolarum *per bedellos* et mundacione capelle...xijd.” Christopher may, therefore, as the Index suggests, have been one of the University Bedells.

ALAN SEMPER. *Grace Book A*, from the year 1458 onwards, contains a number of references to this Bedell whose name is spelt in various ways. Such an allusion is the following under date 1474-5 (p. 107): “Item solutum Alano Sempar bedello pro mundacione vicorum scolarum...ijd.” There are, in

¹ *The Priory of St Radegund* (ed. A. Gray), C.A.S. xxxi. p. 126; *Communications* (Hardwick), viii. p. 337.

² Woodham’s *Applications of Heraldry to the University*, C.A.S. i. 55.

³ *Luard Memorial Series*, C.A.S.

⁴ Willis and Clark, *Arch. Hist.* iii. 3.

particular, references to payments made through him towards the expenses of the building of the East Front of the Schools Quadrangle, which the University owed to the generosity of Dr Rotheram, then Bishop of Lincoln, and afterwards Archbishop of York. Indeed, in one instance, the Bedell himself makes the entry as follows:

“Memorandum quod ego Alanus semper Recepi xxvij^o die Junii anno regni regis Edwardi iiii. xv. de pecuniis Ciste Communis Summam xiiij^l soluendam de primis recipiendis a domino Cancellario, etc.” (p. 108).

We learn from a MS.¹ in Corpus Christi College that

“Mr D. Stoyle et Alanus Semper Bedellus perfecti fuerant operis.”

In another Corpus deed² we are told, that “while he lived” Semper had a garden next to a tenement called *le Bell* in Petty Cury in St Mary’s parish. Our Bedell died in 1488, and there is a record³: “Alanus Seymper Bedellus bury’d in St Marie’s before the Image of St Margaret, where Margaret his first wife lay.” In the senior proctor’s accounts⁴ for the year in which Semper died, there is the following payment: “Item pro asportacione scamnorum a domo vxoris semper ad ecclesiam beate marie solui...iiijd.” It may be added that one of the entries⁵ in a similar *computus* some 12 years before was: “Item prefato alano pro stipendio carpentarii in libraria emendantis sedilia pro scolis...viijd.”

[HUGH the Bedel. On pages 48 and 49 of *Grace Book A*, in the accounts for the year 1464–5, there are two payments to Hugh the Bedell in connexion with a journey to the Bishop of Ely. As however there are two other Bedells, W. Dalton and T. Bury, mentioned in the same year, and as we have just seen that Alan Semper was in office as an Esquire Bedell at that date; it is probable that Hugh was the Inferior Bedell. And this suggestion is supported by the wording of the second entry: “Item Hugoni bedello pro conduccionne equorum

¹ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 7046, 94 b.

² *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, 167.

³ Wren, quoted by Baker, *MS.* 42, 204.

⁴ *Grace Book B*, i. p. 11.

⁵ *Grace Book A*, p. 112.

equitando versus ely...viijd." There will be a section on the Inferior-Bedells.]

W. DALTON. The entry¹ preceding that just quoted reads as follows: "Item pro expensis W. Dalton versus Ely bina vice ...iijjs iiijd." A comparison of the two entries suggests that Mr Dalton was one of the Esquire Bedells; and other notices in *Grace Book A* confirm the suggestion. Large sums of money passed through his hands (see page 55); and he was responsible for some expenses with regard to the Schools (see page 72).

THOMAS BURY. This Bedell, who is bracketed with Dalton on certain occasions, also had important financial dealings on behalf of the University, and he is generally dignified with the prefix *Magister*. He is very likely identical with "Thomas Bedellus" mentioned² under date 1477-8, in connexion with a payment always made by some important official.

JOHN CANTERBURY. The official, whom we now meet, is the first who is definitely called an "Esquire Bedell." In a deed dated 4 April, 1473, and preserved at Corpus, relating to Dr Botwright's gift of lands at Over to the college of which he was the seventh Master, the feoffees were Walter Smyth, rector of St Bene't's, and John Canterbury, who is described as "*Armiger et Bedellus Universitatis Cantabrigiae*."³ Our Bedell, who was a native of Tewkesbury, was a fellow of King's⁴, and was one of the clerks of the works⁵ in connexion with the building of that College. He married Isabella⁶, the sister of Robert Woodlark, the Provost, himself formerly an Esquire Bedell. They dwelt in a house at the south-east corner of Plottes Lane; which tenement was in 1479 given by Mrs Canterbury to her brother's foundation, St Catharine's. It was afterwards sold, but again came into the possession of the College, being bequeathed to it by Catharine, widow of

¹ *Grace Book A*, p. 49.

² *Grace Book A*, p. 122.

³ *Add. MS. (B.M.)* 5813, 154.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 169 (b). See also Mr J. W. Clark's *Communication to the C.A.S.* (Vol. iv. No. xxii, p. 356).

⁵ *Masters, Hist. C.C.C.*, p. 57; Willis and Clark, *Arch. Hist.* i. 470.

⁶ Bishop Browne, *History of St Catharine's College*, pp. 27, 28.

William Myles and (according to Masters¹) daughter of John and Isabella Canterbury. If the authorities of St Catharine's College did not fulfil the conditions of the will, the property was to pass to Corpus. The Bedell's "attachment to the latter society probably arose from his being their tenant in the Rectory of Grantchester²." It is interesting to notice, and it shews the intimacy between various Bedells, that Isabella Canterbury was commemorated annually at St Bene't's Church, the arrangement about the funds being made by another Bedell, Peter Cheke, and Agnes his wife, Isabella's "couzens and heirs." Further it may be noted that the property mentioned above subsequently passed into the hands of yet another well-known Bedell and Benefactor, John Mere. John Canterbury and Isabella his wife were buried in St Bene't's Church—for we read in Dowsing's *Journal* of the defacement there of certain "curious ingravings: one was to pray for the soul of John Caunterbury and his wife." These were no doubt brasses; but nothing is known of the monuments specified³.

Grace Book A contains notices of various payments to John Canterbury, in connexion with his official duties as Bedell. Among other expenses repaid to him were those he incurred on a journey⁴ to London in 1482, 3.

LAURENCE BRETHERTON. *Grace Book A*, p. 202, in the University accounts for the year 1485–6, contains the following entry: being a memorandum by the senior Proctor, W. Fitzjohn: "Item ego deliberavi laurencio Bretherton bedello pro mundacione scole et pro renouacione liminis diuersis temporibus in capella et aliis...ixs ix d." But the writer has not met elsewhere the name of this Bedell.

JOHN CARSEY [c. 1485—c. 1508]. The paragraph, succeeding the quotations just made, introduces us to a Bedell who held office for many years. Fitzjohn continues⁵: "Item ego deliberavi Johanni Caresey bedello pro mundacione scolarum curie et platearum circa scolas et vehicione fimi ab inde...xxd." From

¹ *History of Corp. Ch. Coll.* p. 57 n.

² Masters, *ut supra*.

³ *Transactions of the Monumental Brass Society*, xvii. p. 251.

⁴ *Grace Book A*, p. 170.

⁵ *Grace Book A*, p. 202.

the same *Grace Book* (A), p. 219, we learn that payment was made in 1487–8, and “bedello Karsay pro ejus expensis quando vendidit domum apud bury”; while the next *Grace Book* (B, 1), p. 12, under the same or the following year, tells of expenses, like the above, for the cleaning of the schools: “et pro missis in universitate celebratis...xxiid.” Such payments are continued for more than 20 years; the last notice¹ being dated 1507–8. Shortly afterwards the name of “Peter the Bedel” apparently takes his place. In the 1503 list² of “Privileged” persons appears the name John Kersey.

It may be noted that to the list of Bedells given in the ancient roll of University Benefactors already frequently quoted there are added certain other names, *quae uncis alia manu in margine*. They are the following—*olim Bedelli Universitatis*—John Carsey, John Bedford, John Clark, Peter Cheke, Robert Hobbs, and Thomas Adams. This brings the manuscript down to the date of its former possessor, Matthew Stokes, a Bedell who likewise maintained the generous reputation of his fellow officials.

It should be added that John Carsey was a member of Corpus Christi College³, having been admitted in the year 1480.

PHILIP MORGAN [c. 1490—c. 1507]. This well-known Bedell came up from Eton⁴ to King’s in 1471, and proceeded M.A. in 1478. He seems to have been successful with his scholars; and was senior Proctor in 1481–2. The date of his appointment as a Bedell is not known, but he perhaps succeeded Laurence Bretherton. There are many references to his official occupations and expenses in *Grace Book* B, i. from 1492 onwards. He went to London in 1496 about the controversy between the University and the Town, and he visited Lord Oxford at Hedingham in the same year about the “new waytes and mesures.” In 1500–1, when he obtained a special grace about proceeding to his M.D. degree, and when he seems to

¹ *Grace Book* B, i. p. 230.

² Cooper’s *Annals*, i. p. 270.

³ Masters’s *History of C.C.C.* (ed. Lamb), p. 461.

⁴ *Athenæ Cantabrig.* i. pp. 17, 18.

have been absent from Cambridge, a payment was made to the vicar of Trumpington: "pro littera missiua matri domini regis de concessione pensionis M. Morgon." He did not commence M.D. till 1506-7. Meantime we sometimes find a deputy acting for our Bedell—as in 1502-3, "Willelmus pekerell pro magistro morgon"; and sometimes we read that he is casual in performing his duties—as in 1504-5, "receptum a doctore Morgane pro una tarditate...xd.," and again in the same year, "ex tardo adventu doctoris Morgane...xd." What was the result of the application to the Lady Margaret we do not know; but the doctor (as we see he was called even before he had fully qualified) was appointed physician to that distinguished Countess. He was afterwards instituted to various clerical appointments in Lincolnshire, Hertfordshire, and Cambridgeshire; dying, in 1516, rector of Toft in the last-named county.

WILLIAM PICKERELL [c. 1500—1505]. We have seen that W. Pickerell was at times acting as deputy for Dr Morgan. Whether he was ever actually appointed a Bedell in his own right is uncertain; though he is definitely called "Willielmus Pykerell Bedellus," in *Grace Book B*, i. p. 150, under date 1500-1. Dr Morgan had not, however, resigned at that date; though he was apparently absent from Cambridge. Numerous payments are recorded in the *Grace Book* as paid to him; but they may be classed under different headings—some are certainly for Bedell's expenses, some are lawyer's fees, and some are connected with the funds for the rebuilding of Great St Mary's Church. For Mr Pickerell was an active and useful man; he was one of the early fellows¹ of Jesus College and collector of the rents for that society (1497-8); he was Superintendent² of Great St Mary's works; and he held other important posts.

After Philip Morgan actually became M.D. in 1506-7, we find no further allusions³ to him or to William Pickerell in

¹ Gray's *Hist. of Jesus College*, pp. 36 and 40.

² *The Churchwardens' Accounts of St Mary the Great, Cambridge* (ed. Foster), C.A.S. xxxv.; Index.

³ He is mentioned in connexion with certain legal transactions in the year

connexion with the duties of Bedell; and at about that date Robert Hobbs appears upon the scene. Before, however, we chronicle the successor of Dr Morgan, we must allude to Mr Bedford, who had been appointed a Bedell some years previously.

William Pickerell's will¹, dated 24 January 1512, leaves the bulk of his property to his wife, and to his son John who was under age. We shall afterwards² see that his widow seems to have married Peter Cheke, and that John Pickerell like his father acted as a deputy Esquire Bedell.

JOHN BEDFORD [c. 1495—1510]. We have seen that Mr Bedford was one of the second list of Bedell Benefactors; though we do not know in what special form he benefited the University. He seems from the notices³ in *Grace Book B*, i. to have been active in his official duties; his name occurring from the year 1495 to the year 1509. It appears from an old deed⁴ that John Bedford was living in Trumpington Street in 1507.

ROBERT HOBBS [c. 1505—1530]. A native of Peterborough, Robert Hobbs passed from Eton⁵ to King's College in 1495. According to *Grace Book B*, he took his B.A. in 1499—1500, and his M.A. three years later. He was shortly afterwards appointed Bedell of Arts, and in 1506⁶ he was by grace nominated to the new office of Registrary. Both these University appointments he held for many years; as may be seen from the usual payments, etc., recorded in the *Grace Books*⁷. It will suffice to refer to one special function in which he played a prominent part. When Dr Clyffe had been excommunicated by the Vice-Chancellor and had appealed to Cardinal Wolsey, the name of

1507—8 (*Grace Book B*, i. p. 231). In the *Churchwardens' Accounts of St Mary the Great* (see Index) there are several allusions to a William Pickerell as late as 1538—9, but this cannot be the lawyer dealt with above.

¹ Preserved at Peterborough.

² See pp. 47, 74, etc.

³ *Grace Book B*, i. pp. 96—219.

⁴ Baker MS. 42, p. 204.

⁵ *Athenæ Cantabr.* i. p. 83.

⁶ Baker MS. 31, p. 167.

⁷ In *Grace Book F*, p. 63, under date 1508, we read: "Item conceditur magistro Hobbys ut possit co-opertus incedere etiam in congregationibus et omnibus actibus scolasticis propter egritudinem quam habet in capite."

Robert Hobbs is specially mentioned¹ among the Bedells in the records of the proceedings. This was towards the end of the year 1529. Soon after this he seems to have resigned the office of Bedell, for in 1530-1 his name is mentioned without the official designation, and in the following year he is styled² "M. hobbis nuper bedellus." Two or three years afterwards, we learn, from John Mere's *First Diary*³, that the opinion of "Mr Hobbys" is listened to with great respect on some disputed question in the old Senate House. He was also for many years keenly interested in the affairs of his parish; the Churchwardens' accounts⁴ of Great St Mary's Church shew him to have been liberal in his gifts and to have held various posts—such as superintendent of the works during the rebuilding, auditor, custodian of certain church goods, and of the chantry chest, etc. Robert Hobbs, who is said to have died about 1543, has his name enrolled in the *Missa pro Benefactoribus*.

PETER CHEKE [c. 1509—1530]. Under the familiar and oft-repeated designation of "Petrus Bedellus," this official is first⁵ mentioned in 1508-9; one proctor always uses the spelling "Petrus Pedellus"; another styles him "Magister Petrus"; while later on he is called "Magister Cheke," or "Cheyke." He was the son⁶ of Robert Cheke of Motston in the Isle of Wight. The following extracts from the *Grace Book* illustrate certain of the extra duties which sometimes fell to his lot as a Bedell: "Item solutum petro bedello⁷ misso domino cardinali et cancellario cum literis pro operibus lutheri...xx⁸"; "Item to maister cheke⁸ for his costes to newmarkett to knowe y⁶ owre of the Kynges commynge and the maner of his receuyng...ij⁴ viij^d." The following extract⁹ shews our Bedell of Divinity¹⁰ in a curious light. It is taken from certain "Articles

¹ Fiddes' *Life of Wolsey*, Appendix, p. 48; *C.C.C. MS.*, cvi. 45.

² *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 171.

³ *Grace Book A*, p. 225.

⁴ *Churchwardens' Accounts* (ed. Foster), *C.A.S.* xxxv. Index.

⁵ *Grace Book B*, i. p. 237.

⁶ *Athenæ Cantabrig.* i. p. 39.

⁷ *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 90.

⁸ *Ibid.* p. 107.

⁹ Cooper's *Annals*, i. 333.

¹⁰ That P. Cheke was a Bedell of Divinity is stated in his will, and is evident

of wrong and usurpation done and committed" by the members and officials of the University—according to the complaints of the Town authorities:

"Item, where of late one Peter Cheek, and other certain persons artificers dwelling in the said town, were indicted before the Kings justices of his peace, at the Sessions of peace holden within the same town, for using of unlawful games, and other misorders, contrary to the Kings statute, proclamations, and ordinances; The said Vicechancellor, at the procurement of the said Peter and others, called the said mayor before him, for violating his oath and breaking the privilege of the University, whereby they remained unpunished, to the great boldness of all other offenders."

The Bedell, thus we hope unjustly accused, led a busy life¹, like his friend and fellow, Mr Robert Hobbs, being churchwarden of Great St Mary's Church², auditor, custodian of certain properties during the rebuilding, etc., as well as a liberal contributor to the funds thereof. Indeed he was active to the last, for there are entries in the *Grace Book*³ not long before his death; which event took place soon after the signing of his will on 7 January 1529–30. This document and the will of his wife Agnes are given in Bowtell's MSS.⁴, and printed in the second volume of Cooper's *Annals* (pp. 135, 6). They supply interesting details of their family. We have already seen⁵ that they were connected with John Canterbury, Esquire Bedell, and Isabel his wife. Their only son was afterwards the distinguished Sir John Cheke, but the father did not live to see his success, for the future Orator had only just taken his B.A. degree⁶ when the death of "Magister Petrus" occurred. One of the daughters married William Cecil⁷, from the payments he received in connexion with the chair of Canon Law (*Grace Book B*).

¹ His signature may be seen in the archives of Trinity Hall, in connexion with the benefactions of Master Puregold, whose executor he was. Baker MS. 27, p. 328. *Warren's Book*, edited by A. W. W. Dale, M.A. p. 233.

² See the Index of Foster's *Churchwardens' Accounts*, etc., C.A.S. Publications, xxxv.

³ *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 152; see also p. 43.

⁴ Bowtell, MS. vi. 2153, 2155.

⁵ See p. 68.

⁶ *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 156.

⁷ From Mrs Cheke's will may be extracted the following reference to Thomas, her grandson, afterwards Earl of Exeter: "Allso I bequeyeth to Thomas Sysell

afterwards Lord Burghley, another was the wife of John Blythe, Regius Professor of Physic. Both Mr and Mrs Cheke left legacies to John Pickerell, Esquire Bedell; and Mrs Cheke¹ calls him "my Sunn John Pyckerell," to whom she bequeathed a considerable estate. If we may infer from this that William Pickerell, the elder, Esquire Bedell or deputy at the beginning of the century, was her first husband, we have another instance of the intimate relationships between various holders of the office with which we are dealing.

Peter Cheke by his will (Cooper's *Annals*, ii. p. 135) ordered his "body to be buryd in St Mary Chyrche before Sent Poll." He was one of the Bedells commemorated in the List of Benefactors mentioned above; and so was

JOHN CLARK [1510—1521], who was a native of Potton. He took a law degree from King's College. He is first mentioned as a Bedell in the year 1510. There are the usual allusions to his official expenses, etc., in the *Grace Book*; as well as to his position as a Churchwarden, etc., of Great St Mary's—for, like the last two or three Bedells, whom we have chronicled, he was most useful in parish matters. He did not enjoy good health, and *Grace Book* Γ, under date 1517-8, records the following grace passed in his favour:

"Conceditur Magistro Clerke Bedello ut possit incedere capite cooperto temporibus hiemalibus et aliis temporibus frigidis, ac etiam temporibus quibus eum egrotari contingit, propter diversa incommoda et egritudines quæ perveniunt sibi ex frygiditate accepta in capite."

He kept, however, to his official duties to the last, for we my new Fether Bed with the Bowlster to be fylled with fethers and one pelow, one pelowbere, one payre of Shettis, and my Coverynge of polam worke, the colours thereof, red blew and yelow, and a sparver frynged with sylke. And I wyll all the foreseyde things be kept safely in the hands of my Executors untill the sayd Thomas shall come to Schole to Cambrygg, and then immediately to be delivered unto the said Thomas" (Bowtell, *ut supra*).

¹ Thomas Baker, in his *History of St John's College* (p. 105, edn Mayor), allows his prejudice to make the following remark with reference to the parentage of Sir John Cheke—"which was mean enough, his mother sold wine in St Mary's parish, Cambridge, in which quality she may be met with upon the college books." This, I suppose, may be taken to mean that Mrs Cheke retained after her husband's death one of the valuable wine monopolies granted by the University. Baker does not mention the official position of "Magister Petrus."

note, shortly before his death, the following entry¹: "Item Magistro Clarke excogitanti proclamacionem in nundinis stirbridge...iiij^d." He died in 1521, and was buried in St Mary's Church; in the wardens' book of which we find this note²: "Item resceyued for the buryell of Mr John Clerk Bedill within the Chirche...vj^s viij^d."

THOMAS ADAMS [1521—1555]. To Mr Clark succeeded Thomas Adams, payments to whom commence at once in the *Grace Book*—see the accounts³ for the academic year 1521—2. Such entries continue for more than 30 years; but, as they are very similar to those already quoted in connexion with other officials, examples need not be given. Nor is there much to chronicle with regard to his private career. In Mr Mere's first *Diary*⁴, it is noted, under date 1533—4:

• "At that forsayde congregation [on the next fryday after hallowmesse] & att Michælowse dryrge was no bedle present but only I. Mr Sherwood was not then cum from lundon & Mr Adams has buried one of hys howse."

Mr Adams himself died at the opening of the year 1555⁵. His name is the last of the seven Bedells added "in another hand" in Matthew Stokes's *Missa pro Benefactoribus*. His will⁶ was dated 4 January 1555, and proved 8 February following. He left considerable property to his only son John; and amongst the smaller legacies was "an angell" to each of the other two Bedells, Messrs Mere and Bronsted. He also bequeathed a house in Jesus Lane to Catharine Hall for the term of 20 years for a mass and dirige to be said for him.

JAMES URMSTON [1530]. In the chapter on the fees, etc., paid to the Bedells, it has been noted⁷ that the Bedell of Divinity

¹ *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 93, 94.

² *Churchwardens' Accounts of Great St Mary* (J. E. Foster), p. 44.

³ *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 101.

⁴ *Grace Book A*, p. 227.

⁵ See Bishop Gardiner's letters as to his successors (Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 94, etc.).

⁶ See Baker *MS. B*, p. 235; and Bowtell *MSS.* 5, 1091. He ordered "his body to be buried with his fathers in All Hallowes Church." The archives of Jesus College shew that he held other properties in Jesus Lane.

⁷ See p. 26.

was entitled to the sum of six shillings and eight pence from the payments made in connexion with the Chair of Canon Law. Between the death of Peter Cheke and the appointment of John Mere, this payment was on two occasions¹, viz. in 1529–30, and 1530–31, paid to Mr Urmston, who may therefore be included among the Bedells. He took his B.A. in 1517–8, and his M.A. in 1521–2; and was in residence² afterwards.

WILLIAM SHERWOOD [c. 1529—1549]. On the resignation of Mr Hobbs about the year 1529, William Sherwood, of St John's, was appointed Bedell of Arts. He had taken his B.A. degree in 1521–2³; had been appointed to a fellowship⁴ at his college on 15 March 1524; and shortly afterwards took his M.A. Mr Hilliard, who had been appointed a fellow at St John's about the same time as Sherwood, was surety for him with regard to the required *caution*⁵. He held office as a Bedell for 20 years, during which time there are often evidences of active service. Like many of the Esquire Bedells, he owned or managed a considerable amount of property in the town or neighbourhood of Cambridge. For instance, he rented for some years the Chamber⁶ over the Almshouses in the Churchyard of Great St Mary; he hired the Pascall Yard⁷; he was responsible for certain tithes⁸ in connexion with the same Church, holding 10 acres under King's Hall; he bought after they had passed through one or two hands the ground and buildings formerly belonging to the Black Friars⁹, and subsequently acquired for Emmanuel College; and from his own college¹⁰ he leased several properties, the "Harlston landes" in Cambridge and Coton and "the ferme of the great barne" at

¹ *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 158, 162.

² *Ibid.* pp. 64, 65, 98, 119.

³ *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 99.

⁴ Baker-Mayor, i. p. 282.

⁵ *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 126.

⁶ *Churchwardens' Accounts* (ed. Foster), pp. 90, 92, 115, etc.

⁷ The Pascal Yard, where the tennis court of Pembroke afterwards stood, belonged to a Chantry of Great St Mary's Church, and passed on its dissolution to Dr Wendy [Masters, *C.C.C.* p. 81]. See also *Com. Doc.* i. 284.

⁸ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5810, p. 40.

⁹ Shuckburgh's *Hist. of Emmanuel College*, p. 3. According to Fuller's *History* (Prickett and Wright, p. 278), he resided in part of these buildings. See *Arch. Hist.* ii. 688.

¹⁰ Baker-Mayor, i. pp. 354, 365, 382–4, and 443.

the north end of Cambridge, "nigh unto the Stone Cross in Huntingdon waie and the chalke pittes there." He seems, however, to have had certain financial difficulties, for during his lifetime the Johnian property was transferred to his sons George and Reuben¹ and to John Redmayne, afterwards a Bedell; and after his death Mr Redmayne² was granted a lease of certain holts in Trumpington on his undertaking to pay the late William Sherwood's debts to the College. Like several of the other Bedells Mr Sherwood held certain official positions³ in connexion with the parish of Great St Mary. In the second of the Diaries⁴ kept by his Fellow-Bedell, John Mere⁵—that which describes the visitation of King Edward the Sixth's Commissioners—we read, under date 23 June 1549: "At one of the Clocke in thawfter noone Mr Sherwood gave over hys offyce and Mr Flued was chosen, etc."; and, on July 4th, "they delivered a byll to Mr Sherwood of his pensyon." This transaction is thus recorded in the *Grace Book*⁶ (known as Stokes's, see f. 243):

"An order of the King's visitors for Mr Sherwood to have 3l. 6s. 8d. for life, for his surrendering up his office of *Bedel*, to the end, the equality of the stipends might be afterwards had among the Bedels: with a copy of his Patent for the said allowance; July 1549 (3 Edward VI)."

How long he enjoyed the pension is not known, but we have seen that he was dead before⁷ Elizabeth came to the throne.

¹ Reuben Sherwood, who was born at Over, passed from Eton to King's College, of which he became a fellow in 1561. He was afterwards Master at his old school; but subsequently practised medicine, taking his M.D. in 1581. He died in 1598 (see *Ath. Cant.* ii. pp. 269, 270, 551).

² In Mr Redmayne's connexion with Mr Sherwood, we have another illustration of the intimate relationships between certain of our Bedells.

³ *Churchwardens' Accounts*, Great St Mary's Church (ed. Foster); see Index.

⁴ Lamb's *Documents from the MS. Library of C.C.C.* pp. 115, 119. On page 112, a Mr Sherwood "made sute for ther ferme" from Jesus. If this was our Bedell, he was then a member of that College.

⁵ In Nasmith's *Catalogue of the MS. Library of C.C.C.* p. 85, in the manuscript-title: "Litteræ attornatus sub sigillo academïæ, nominantes W. Thywood et J. Meer bedellos, attorn. in causa contra majorem et ballivos 25 Hen. VIII," *Thywood* is, of course, a mistake for *Shywood*.

⁶ See Caius *MS.* 339-604, pp. 228 b, 229; Ashton, *MS.* Cole 5853, p. 372.

⁷ Baker-Mayor, p. 384.

JOHN MERE [1530—1558]. The Esquire Bedell, whom we now meet, is one of the best known of the whole series; for he was very fond of his pen, and, living as he did for nearly 30 years in the centre of University life, he was continually making notes of what he saw and heard. Three of his *Diaries* remain, and have been printed. One was inserted on some pages in *Grace Book A*¹; two others—accounts of the visitations² of the Commissioners appointed by Edward VI and Mary—fell into the hands of one of the supervisors of his will, that careful preserver of manuscripts and books, Archbishop Parker.

Born at Mayfield in Sussex³, he passed from Eton to King's in 1521, was "admitted to the question" a year before he took his B.A. in 1525-6⁴, and proceeded M.A. in 1529. In the following year he was chosen Bedell of Divinity. At his election "he is said to have visited the Regents of Custom, not by Statute, at the expense of £27. 6s. 10d."⁵ He held other University appointments, being one of the Appraisers⁵, succeeding Mr Hobbs as Registry in 1543, and obtaining a patent for the Gaugership⁶ in 1550. He was made Public Notary by Royal Authority in 1547, and by that of the Pope ten years after. There are many allusions to his official duties in the Grace Books and in the papers preserved among the Parker manuscripts; there are also records of certain legal transactions in connexion with University disputes or with his private property. One such transaction had to do with certain goods seized by him and Mr Sherwood, acting as "searchers at the fayer" at Stourbridge⁷. His expenses in this case were paid jointly by the University and the Town. Among the Corpus MSS.⁸ is

¹ *Grace Book A*, pp. 221-230.

² Printed in Lamb's *Documents from the MS. Library of Corpus*.

³ See Masters's *History of Corpus Christi College*, Appendix, p. 46; and Cooper's *Athen. Cant.* i. 174.

⁴ *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 122, 126, 131, 150.

⁵ "Payed to Mr Meres and James Goldsmyth for yer paynes in prasyng y^e churches stuff...iiij^s iiij^d" (Trin. Coll. Jun. Burs. Accounts, 1550-51; *Archit. Hist.* ii. 561).

⁶ See also Lamb, *u.s.*, p. 145, etc.

⁷ *History of Barnwell Abbey* (*Bibl. Topograph. Brit.* v. 28); Cooper's *Annals*, ii. 48, 49.

⁸ Nasmith's *Catalogue*, cvi. 345.

one containing "Complaints laid against the bedells by the Regents at a congregation, Oct. 26, 1550, and the speech of Mr Meres" on the occasion. In 1548 he bought the Hostel of St Nicholas from Queens' College¹, and in 1556 he purchased from St Catharine's² "the White Horse" and other property, including the house where John Canterbury formerly lived. His relationship to this Esquire Bedell has already been noticed³. He and the authorities of Michael House entered into a covenant⁴ about the building of a wall between their properties. He had a large circle of friends, to several of whom he acted as executor of their wills—as, for instance, to Nicholas Pilgrim the stationer⁵ and to Dr John Edmundes⁶ the master of Peterhouse. In the days of Queen Mary, although he retained office, he not only maintained friendship with Dr Matthew Parker and other honoured friends in England, but he seems to have helped certain Protestant friends who had fled from the country. He tells us in his *Third Diary* ⁷:

"It. the Datary had privat talke with me sayinge that there were greater complayntes made of me to them [the Commissioners] for heresy and mayntayninge heretykes beyonde the sea."

¹ Searle, *History of Queens' College*, i. 238.

² Willis and Clark, *Arch. Hist.* i. 347, 348; ii. 73.

³ See p. 68.

⁴ Nasmith's *Catalogue*, cxxii. 11.

⁵ See Mr G. J. Gray's *Stationers*, p. 66.

⁶ Some years afterwards (1586) in the records of a quarrel between the University and a Mayor of Cambridge named John Edmundes, it was stated that "the saide John Edmundes was the son of Mr Dr Edmundes...oftentymes Vice-chancellor of the Universitie....Mr John Mere then one of the bedells, whose wife being the sister to the mother of the saide John Edmundes, did bring upp the saide John from his childhoode; Whereupon the saide John was called only and knowne by the name of John Mere, untill now of late he was called John Edmundes....The said Mr Mere bedle did give to the saide John Edmundes now Maior, soe many shredes and copes and vestementes as were esteemed worth aboute the somme of iij^l vj^s viij^d, etc." The document goes on to complain of the ingratitude and objectionable conduct of the Mayor towards the University (Cooper's *Annals*, ii. 426, etc.).

⁷ Lamb's *Documents*: Queen Mary's Visitation, p. 221. The comparative "greater" in the quotation looks back to the previous sentence: "It. my L. of Chester [Cuthbert Scot] told me that the keepers of the hutches [University Chests] made greate complaynte of me for not paying my monye to the same." It may be added that a Corpus MS. records a "Bond given by John Meres and others for payment of money to the common chest" (Lamb, cvi. 101).

He died on the 13th of April, 1558; and in his will—which bears date a few days before his death—he ordered his body to be buried in St Benedict's Churchyard by that of his late wife; where it was laid accordingly under a monument long since destroyed, with this inscription over it:

“Here lyeth the body of John Meres one of the Esquier Beadles of this University, who gave an^o 1558 his two Dwelling Houses¹ in this Parish to this University, and a remembrance to the Vice-Chancellor and all the officers of this University here present upon the day of his Commemoration² in this Church.”

Masters (*Appendix*, p. 46), from whom the preceding sentences are quoted, gives interesting extracts from the will—which, among other gifts, bequeathed “to two of the Bedles [i.e. to the other two Esquire Bedells, Messrs Brumsted and Baxter] 6s. 8d. each, and to the third [i.e. the Inferior Bedell, Richard Robinson] 3s. 4d.” He also left to the University “many valuable Collections made by him and bought, consisting of 11 Volumes and 2 Bundles, to be preserved in the Register's office.” He was also a benefactor to Corpus Christi and King's Colleges³. In a letter printed at the end of Ascham's English works by a schoolmaster of Hoddesdon named Bennet⁴—written from Louvain, on 6 Oct. 1551—occurs the following sentence:

“As we entered into our In, the Vice-Chancellor, with his bidels, came out of one Inn, the Vice-Chancellor being more like in apparel and porte to our priest of Horningsie, than to the comeliness of Mr Dr Parker, and the bedels more like Harry Barber⁵ and Augar than Mr Adams and Mr Meyres.”

It looks, says Cole⁶, as if John Mere were a portly, jolly man as well as his brother Bedell Mr Adams.

¹ These are now appropriated to the Lady Margaret's Professor of Divinity.

² His death-day (the Wednesday in Easter week) is still commemorated by a University Sermon preached in St Bene't's Church. In Mr J. W. Clark's *Endowments of the University of Cambridge*, pp. 19–21, is given the Indenture drawn up between the executors of Mere's will and the University. Among the gifts specified is one to “the iij bedilles etche of them iiij^d.”

³ Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* i. 175.

⁴ Bennet's *Ascham*, quarto, 1766, p. 371.

⁵ Harry Barber is paid for the bell-ringing at St Bene't's in *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 101, etc.

⁶ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5814, 189 b.

JOHN PICKERELL [1537—1539]. In *Grace Book B*, ii.¹, under date 1537—8, there is a payment “Magistro pykrell preconi...vj^d.” Just before, in the same year, Mr Adams is paid for his duties as a Bedell, and, just afterwards also under the same date, the proctor’s return “expences laid owt for the vniuersite by Mr Sheyrwodde and Mr Meris the beddylles.” Mr Pickerell was a graduate² in law, and was certainly not “the Chancellor’s bedel”; so that, doubtless, like the elder Pickerell³, he was a deputy during the absence of one of the three above-mentioned Esquire Bedells. In the order for the administration of his goods⁴, dated Oct. 1539, he is described as “Johannis Pickerell Bedellus et in Legibus Bacchalaureus.” We have seen that he inherited considerable property from Mrs Cheke⁵, the widow of “Peter the Bedel,” and that lady spoke of him as “my Sunn John Pyckerell.” In the *Thin Red Book*⁶ in the archives of St John’s College, there is a Patent, dated 28 Oct. 29 Hen. VIII (1538), to Jo. Pykerell of the office of auditor at a salary of 40s. with allowances. The following entry, in *Grace Book B*, under date 1539—41, is apparently entered after the death of the younger Pickerell: “Item idem M. mere pro cautione D. pecarell...xiiij^s iiij^d”; for this debt (for which Mr Mere had made himself responsible when John Pickerell appeared in the list of Bachelors in Civil Law in the year 1532—3), though it occurs several times in the proctors’ lists, does not reappear afterwards.

WILLIAM FLUED [1549—c. 1550]. In Mere’s *Second Diary*⁷, that which records the visitation of Edward the Sixth’s Commissioners, we read—on June 23, 1549—

“On the sonday they met nott. And at one of the Clocke in thawfter noone Mr Sherwood gave over hys offyce and Mr Flued⁸ was chosen

¹ *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 179, 186, 215—217, 229.

² He proceeded LL.B. in 1533 (see *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 178, 179); a curious grace being granted *Joanni Pykerell uxorato* in *Grace Book I*, p. 268.

³ See p. 70.

⁴ Baker *MS. B*, pp. 224, 225 : see also pp. 231, 232.

⁵ See p. 74.

⁶ Baker’s *History of St John’s College* (edn Mayor), i. p. 352.

⁷ Lamb’s *Documents from the MS. Library of Corpus*, p. 115.

⁸ In a receipt, preserved at the Registry (vol. 99, 2), our Bedell spells his name “*Fluyd*.”

by the more part of the Regentes and non regents the Vyc. and Proctors only being in the scrutanye every man gevyng his voyce in wrytyng and after his admission the bedells began equal divisyon."

This last sentence perhaps means that when Mr Flued was appointed to succeed William Sherwood, he was not styled "Bedell of Arts," but simply one of the Bedells, and that the various special payments to the Bedell of Divinity, the Bedell of Arts, etc., were pooled and equally divided. Flued, who only held office for a short period, was, perhaps, the Mr Flowed whose name appears in the list¹ of Bachelors in Civil Law in the year 1537-8.

WILLIAM BRONSTED [c. 1550—1563]. The successor to Mr Flued was William Bronstead, of Peterhouse², who in 1530-1 figures among the 38 "determinatores huius anni," with the following note³: "d. Bronsted cuius admissio [erat] pro completo gradu." In 1533-4, he is entitled "Professor Artium." In the records⁴ of the visitation of Queen Mary's Commissioners he is often alluded to by Mr Mere his brother Bedell; for instance, on the day after Christmas 1556, when "the iij bedelles [and others] dyned at Peterhowse, none played cardes but Mr Bronsted," and four days later "Mr Bronsted...and I with our wyvys dyned with Mr Vic. at Peterhouse." On one occasion Mr Bronsted gave a party at which at least 19 sat down to dinner. Twice he went to London on University business. In 1562, there is in the *Grace Book* a record of moneys laid out by him in University matters. Like Mr Mere he was regarded with some suspicion by the Commissioners. William Bronsted died⁵ in office in the year 1563.

WILLIAM MURYELL [1555—1556]. On the death of John Adams in the beginning of the year 1555, Bishop Gardiner⁶, the Chancellor of the University, wrote urging the appointment to the vacant Bedelship of his "old servant and scholar" William Muryell. His nomination was supported by "such as

¹ *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 213.

² *Lamb's Documents*, p. 190.

³ *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 160, 164 and 187.

⁴ *Lamb's Documents* pp. 194, 195, 197-9, 214, 219, 227, etc.

⁵ Romilly, *Graduati Cant.* p. 493.

⁶ Cooper's *Annals* ii. 94, 95.

were catholique." After three scrutinies, however, he failed of his election; whereupon Gardiner, on March 24th, wrote another letter¹, saying "I entend by mine owne authority to appoynt hym to serve the rome." In November of this year 1555 Gardiner died, shortly before Queen Mary's Commissioners visited Cambridge. On the 20th of that month the Lords of the Council wrote to the Vice-Chancellor saying that the Bishop had "in his latter time" required them to intercede for Muryell's continuance in the office of Bedell; they therefore requested "he might be stayed in that room." Mr Muryell also obtained the support² of the new Chancellor, Cardinal Pole.

In Mr Mere's *Third Diary*³, under date 27 November 1555, we read:

"It. After this congregatio regentium tum ex statuto pro Bedellis when the non regents were dissolved, and when we delivered upp our stavys the Senior Proctor demawnded of us whether we wolde submitt our selves to the statutes and thereuppon took pen and inke and called a scrutiny of the regents who fownde Mr Muryell not mete toccupe thoffyce and therefore dismissed hym without his staffe."

The next day, however,

"after masse and sermon the Vic. consulted with all the heads in the quere and commanded that Mr Muryell shuld have his staffe delivered and continue in offyce untill candlemass."

"Muryelle's matter" is mentioned again⁴ on Dec. 15th and on January 22nd. On the 29th there was

"A Conference amongst the Heddes for Mr Muriells office but neyther Grace asked for hym nor election made nowe."

On the day before Candlemas (February 1st), Mr Mere gives an interesting and circumstantial account of the final dismissal of his brother Bedell:

"At x congregatio Reg. et non and all the Heddes warned to be there....Then we three bedles commawnded to departe, Mr Muryell

¹ Lamb's *Documents*, p. 170.

² Baker *MS.* xxxiv. pp. 335, 336.

³ Lamb's *Documents*, pp. 184, etc.

⁴ There is a curious entry in the *Diary* (Lamb, p. 188), on Dec. 9th.—"It. at iii Mr Muryell was called before the Mayre and Aldermen who charged hym with his othe made to the towne etc."

commawnded to go furthe of both howses and Mr Bronsted and I contynued in the non regent house ; then the senior Proctor was commawnded to rede all the statutes concerning the bedells and that done after a lytle consultation with the Heddes and Doctors this Grace viz. *Plac. vobis ut tres sint bedelli non obstante statuto* was axed and denyed in the non regent howse....It. Mr Muryell went home no bedle, for after the congregation ended he offered himself to go before¹ the visitors and my L. of Lynkolne² said unto hym you may put uppe your staffe and thereuppon he departed home."

A few incidental allusions are all that we hear of Mr Muryell after this. During his brief Bedelship, he had been on friendly terms with his brother officers—witness Mr Mere's entry on 3 January 1556: "It. Mr Muryell and his wyffe dyned with me." Those who know John Mere, know that he must have given them a good dinner.

[We learn from *Grace Book Δ*, f. 48, that in 1556 the following Grace was passed: "Conceditur ut eligatur tertius Bedellus in subsidium reliquorum duorum bedellorum."]

JOHN BAXTER [1556—1596]. To the office thus so soon revived John Baxter was appointed. He was a graduate of the University, and a member³ either of Corpus Christi or of St Catharine's. If he was Mr Baxter the stationer, both he and his wife had been examined before Queen Mary's Commissioners and had been cautioned⁴. He was subsequently appointed a Vintner to the University⁵. We have seen that Mr Mere in his will⁶, dated 1 April 1558, remembered his fellow-Bedells, Messrs Bronsted and Baxter. There are various allusions to his official duties—he was one of the Esquire Bedells during the celebrated royal visit of 1564, and Queen Elizabeth took especial note of the quaint costume which they

¹ There is an interesting entry on Jan. 16, 1556, where Mere, after a visitation at King's College, says: "So I had my L. of Chester (Cuthbert Scot) to Xts' College and Mr Muryell had the other Vsytyors to trinitie Coll. *throwghe the fylde.*"

² Dr Watson, the Bishop of Lincoln (late Master of St John's College), was one of the Visitors.

³ Romilly, *Grad. Cantab.* p. 493; *Masters's Corpus* (edn Lamb), p. 457. "Admitted 1544."

⁴ Lamb's *Documents*, pp. 219, 223.

⁵ Cooper's *Annals* ii. 415.

⁶ See p. 80.

wore¹. As a vintner he was engaged in two or three legal controversies², and he was privately on certain occasions in financial difficulties³. In the Churchwardens' Accounts for Great St Mary's Church, there are numerous entries referring to his holding office in the parish as churchwarden, auditor, elector, etc.; to his gifts to the church; to payments made to him as a vintner; and to payments made by him when, for many years, "as on of ye beadells," he presented B.A.'s "as comenssers of asheweadensdaye⁴." He held office for 40 years, dying in 1596⁵. It may be added that his son John was, in May 1584, appointed by a Grace to act as his deputy. A number of receipts may be seen in a volume (No. 99) in the Registry, in which Baxter and the other Bedells acknowledge the quarterly contribution from the University. Our officer generally spells his name "Bacster," and places a large star or asterisk * after his signature. This also appears on his seal.

MATTHEW STOKES [1557—1585]. This celebrated University official and benefactor was the son of Robert and Elizabeth Stokes of Eton. From the school there he and his brother John proceeded to King's, Cambridge. John afterwards held the appointment of University Orator; Matthew, who became a scholar of his college in 1531 and a fellow in 1534, took his B.A. in 1535—6⁶, and commenced M.A. in 1539⁷. Mr Cole gives the following notice⁸ of him: "Matthew Stokys, M.A., formerly fellow of King's College was born at Eton and was steward to the Lord Paget and afterwards [being elected⁹ on

¹ See p. 37.

² Cooper's *Annals*, ii, pp. 415, 453.

³ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5829, p. 223 b, etc. In a volume in the Registry (99), there is preserved an acknowledgment that Baxter borrowed £20 from Vice-Chancellor Whitgift (28 Nov. 1573).

⁴ *Churchwarden's Accts* (ed. J. E. Foster), *C.A.S.* xxxv. See Index.

⁵ Romilly, *Grad. Cant.* p. 493. Romilly says "obiit 1596 vel 1597." But as Ridding was certainly in office as a Bedell in December 1596 (see p. 94), Baxter's death doubtless occurred in that year.

⁶ Cooper, *Ath. Cant.* ii. 109.

⁷ *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 219; Baker *MS.* 30, p. 128.

⁸ Cole, *Brit. Mus. MS.* xiii. p. 215; Peacock, *On the Statutes*, App. p. iii.

⁹ Cooper, *u.s.* ii. 109. But Mere seems to be still holding office at the time of his will, April 1st, 1588; as he speaks of his "fellows in office." Brunsted and Baxter.

3 July 1557, probably in succession to John Mere] one of the Esquire Bedells of the University and Registrary¹ of the same. He spent much time in collecting a Catalogue of the Chancellors, Vice-Chancellors, Proctors and other officers of the University². He gave a curious picture of all the habits of the several degrees and officers of the University to be hung up in the Consistory where it remains³, or rather a newly painted copy⁴ of it with his arms upon it, to this day. He likewise gave to King's College a fine draught of the same as it was designed by the founder, which used to be hung up in the inward Library. In 1585 he built and endowed an Alms-house⁵ in Wall's Lane between the backsides of Sidney and Christ's Colleges in Trinity Parish, for six poor maids or widows, allowing them 9d. per week and a gown annually: it is under the jurisdiction of the Vice-Chancellor who fills up the vacancies

¹ He became Registrary in 1558, *Grace Book A*, p. 51 (b); having, it would seem (Cooper, *Ath. Cant.* ii. 109), for several years previously assisted his predecessor John Mere in the performance of the duties of that office. He was also Registrar of King's College from 1569 to 1576.

² This book still exists in the Registry of the University; and is known as *Statutes, Letters—Stokys' Book. A Catalogue of the rectors and chancellors of Cambridge, from Mauritius in the time of Constantine the Great, to the year 1585*, by Matthew Stokys, beadle and register, was printed by Thomas Thomas, 1585. (See Mich. *Hist. Lib.* Hearne's *Sprott*, p. 240. Gough, *British Topography*, p. 219.) This may have been a flysheet.

³ In 1856 it was removed from the Public Library to the Registry. One of the inscriptions on the picture says: *Mattheus Stokys Windesorius, nuper unus ex armigeris Bedellis & hujus Almæ Academiæ Registrarius, quibus officiis summâ cum fide & omnium bonorum Commendatione per 30 plus minus annos perfunctus est, hanc quam cernis tabulam priori illi longè ampliorem multis in locis auctam & emendatam arte Joh. Corbould pictoris haud vulgaris illustrari curavit & inter cætera grati sui animi in Academiam testimonia eam tanti amoris sui symbolum dictæ Univti. dedit 1 Apr. 1590.*

⁴ See Cole *B. M. MS.* xiii. 215.

⁵ On the front is the following inscription on a plate of brass:

Matheus Stokys nuper unus armigerorum bedellorum almæ universitatis Cantebrie has ædes Christo servatori suo & sex pauperibus viduis in perpetuum dicavit die xvij^o mensis Decembris Anno Domini 1585. Si quis has ædes in alios usus transferre attentet, anathema sit a Christo. Amen.

He also gave the university leasehold estates in Chesterton for the maintenance of the almshouses, subject to certain annuities. He ordered "good and easie staires (to be made in the almshouses) for ould and impotent folke."

as they fall. He bequeathed four nobles annually for a Commemoration Sermon to be preached on the 12th of May in St Botolph's Church¹ with some other expenses there. The University Register from 1531 is wrote by him: most probably he wrote it for John Meers, Esquire Bedel from 1523, when he was a scholar of King's. In 1559 he put up a monument for his brother John Stokys, Public Orator of the University, in King's College Chapel on the South side by the South door. By all which testimonies it evidently appears that he was not only a good scholar and antiquary but also a most generous and public-spirited man and one much devoted to the honour of his mother University."

Fuller says of him—*Worthies of Buckinghamshire*²—

"A Register he was indeed both by his place and painful performance therein: for he (as the Poets fain of Janus with two faces) saw two worlds, that before and after the Reformation. In such junctures of time, so great the confusion and embezzling of records, that had not Master Stokes been the more careful I believe that though Cambridge would not be so oblivious as Messala Corvinus who forgot his own name, yet would she have forgotten the names of all her ancient officers. To secure whose succession to posterity, Mr Stokes with great industry and fidelity collected a Catalogue of the Chancellors, Vicechancellors and Proctors. He was a zealous Papist (even unto persecution of others), which I note, not to disgrace his memory, but defend myself, for placing him before the Reformation, though he lived many years in the reign of Queen Elizabeth."

It will be noticed that in the 1585 Almshouse inscription he is styled *nuper* bedellus; indeed it was in that year that he resigned the Bedelship, which he had held *per plus minus annos*. His death took place on 16 Nov. 1591, and he was buried on the 18th at Great Staughton³ in Huntingdonshire. His will was dated 17 Nov. 1590, and (as may be seen from Cooper's quotations⁴ from Bowtell's MSS.) it gives interesting details of the bequests of his large property to his sons and granddaughters, to the University and to Queens', Corpus

¹ He was twice married. His two wives—Elizabeth Parker and Catherine Chambers of Royston—were both buried at St Botolph's.

² Fuller's *Worthies*, Nuttall's edition, vol. i. p. 205.

³ Cooper, *Ath. Cant.* ii. p. 110.

⁴ *Ath. Cant.* ii. 110; *Annals*, ii. 508—510.

Christi, and St Catharine's Colleges—though the last remainders did not take effect. His son Matthew¹ became a Fellow of Caius College.

In 1558 Matthew Stokes lived in the corner house² in Silver Street, fronting the great gate of Queens' College. This house was afterwards occupied by Thomas Brooke, one of the Esquire Bedells, and subsequently by certain of the University printers—Mr Bentham, for instance, being allowed to reside in it after he had retired from office. His own and his two wives' arms impaled by his in separate shields were formerly in a window in this house. His arms were also on wood, with the date (1588) and initials (M. S.) carved above the shield *in rilievo*; this used to hang over a chimney-piece in a large parlour in this house. It is now preserved in the Pitt Press.

"His Arms: Argent on a Bend engrailed Sable. 3 Dolphins embowed Or. The Crest: Out of a ducal coronet Or, an arm embossed, rested Gules, Cuff Argent holding barwise in the hand, proper a staff³ (or mace) of office of the second, ensigned by an imperial crown of the first."

These arms may be seen in the University Printing Press; in a window in the celebrated President's Gallery at Queens'; in a window on the north side of King's College Chapel, within the third little chapel, reckoning from the west end; in a window of the Library of Trinity Hall⁴; etc. The arms may also be seen in MS. 541, Caius College Library—the Rolls of Arms belonging to the Visitation of Cambridge; and again in MS. 542 (1619). These were those of the son Matthew, Fellow of Caius. In the crest, the Bedell's staff is replaced by a spear-head.

¹ Matthew Stokes, jun. by his will left bequests to each of the three Esquire Bedells (Caius, *Annals*, pp. 386, 387).

² Bowtell MS. vii. 2692; *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5845, 214–216.

³ The mace is held barwise in the picture in the Registry (see the illustration facing this page); but upright in the window in King's Chapel. In the picture it is crowned at both ends.

⁴ These arms are thus described by Warren, in his *Book* (ed. Dale, p. 23): "Argent, on a Bend Ingrayl'd Sable 3 Dolphins embow'd of y^e Field. For y^e Crest, on a Helmet mantl'd Gules, Doubl'd Argent, a Dexter Arm Gules, Cuff'd at y^e Wrist argent, proceeding from a Crown and holding a Mace Or." Warren adds: "The same arms are in y^e University Consistory by y^e name of Stokys."



THE ARMS OF AN ESQUIRE BEDELL (MATTHEW STOKES).

Shewing a Mace held bar-wise.

[From a Picture, c. 1590, in the Registry.]

JOHN REDMAN [1563—c. 1579]. "9 July 1563. Mr Jo. Redmayn¹ electus Bedellus in locum Magistri Brumsted nuper mortui." Mr Redman, who was a member of Peterhouse², was, like many other of the Bedells, much concerned with tenements and lands. We learn, from the details of a dispute³ as to the tithes of Great St Mary's, that he farmed certain acres belonging to that church, some of which had been held by Mr Sherwood, one of his predecessors in the Bedelship. He also, in conjunction with the sons of Sherwood, had the lease of an estate, called the "Harleston Landes," in Cambridge and Coton; and he was granted by St John's College⁴, the owners of that property, the lease of certain holts in Trumpington on his undertaking to pay the late William Sherwood's debts to the college. This was in the first year of Elizabeth's reign, and before he had been appointed a Bedell. In a licence, dated 1529, permitting him and Mr Sherwood's sons to alienate the lease of the Harleston lands, Mr Redman is described as "of Gamlingaye." Mr Redman also leased from St John's College "the Burbolt" with three tenements and a garden all in St Andrew's parish. He also was the tenant of certain University property⁵, which was afterwards held by Mr Philip Stringer, who succeeded him as Bedell and who married Maria Redman⁶. As in the Burbolt lease of 1578 he had been styled "of Cambridge" while in the Harleston licence (1579) he is described as "of Gamlingaye," we may presume that the date of his resignation of his Bedelship was 1578, 9.

PHILIP STRINGER [c. 1579—1592]. In the *Athenæ Cantabrigienses*⁷, many details are given of the life of this Bedell, who

¹ *Grace Book* Δ, p. 72 b, where the form of admission is given. Baker *MS.* 42, p. 133 b. In the receipts preserved in the Registry (vol. 99), our Bedell always spells his name "Redmayne."

² Romilly, *Grad. Cant.* p. 493.

³ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5810, p. 40.

⁴ Baker's *History of St John's College*, pp. 382, 383, 399; 384, 392, 399; 402; 404.

⁵ See Stokes's *Univ. Chaplains, C.A.S.* xli, pp. 38, etc.

⁶ See p. 91.

⁷ *Ath. Cant.* ii. 438, 439. In the *C.A.S. Communications*, vol. i. no. ix. p. 356, Mr C. H. Cooper, in notes on the Actors in Legge's *Rich. III.*, also gave details of the life of Philip Stringer.

was a scholar and afterwards a Fellow of St John's College. Philip Stringer, of Buckinghamshire, proceeded B.A. in 1567-8, and commenced M.A. in 1571. In 1579-80, he personated the character of the Duke of Buckingham in Dr Legge's Latin tragedy of *Richardus Tertius* at his College. He was appointed Bedell in or before 1579, holding the post for some 13 years¹. He twice visited Oxford to report on the royal receptions there in 1592 and in 1605; and he published accounts² of these events. In 1601 he was appointed Registrar of the Archdeaconry of Peterborough. He was solicitor to the University and a justice of peace for the town of Cambridge. To these facts recorded by the Messrs Cooper, it may be added that he married Maria Redman on 24 June 1579; and that it was doubtless about this date that he succeeded John Redman both as Bedell and as tenant of certain University property. He was auditor and steward³ of his College, St John's; from whom in 1580 he received a letter of attorney⁴ to take possession of Hedcorne parsonage and to eject Mr John Culpepper. He occupied a garden close to St Clement's Vicarage. In 1583, there is a curious reference to Mr Stringer in Dr Worthington's *Diary*⁵. On 3 June 1584 a Grace was passed appointing him one of the University Vintners. In connexion with this appointment he and his fellow Bedell (who was also *oenopolarum unus*) had to encounter certain legal proceedings. His second official visit to Oxford took place in August 1605 and

¹ In a volume (99) in the Registry, there is preserved a very curious "Reckoning of the 3 Esquire Bedells (Stringer, Smith and Brooke) with each other, 1592." It may be that this account was made just at the time when Brooke was succeeding Stringer, and when Smith was near his resignation. Or it may be that there are some mistakes in the chronological order suggested in the context of this work. For it ought to be stated that some of the successions here given are conjectural.

² Baker *MS.* xvii. 195, etc.; 201, etc.; Nichols's *Prog. James I.* i. 530-559.

³ There seem to have been some difficulties in getting in certain rents, and the College passed a resolution about the debtors to Mr Stringer (Baker-Mayor, i. p. 549). He also seems to have had private financial difficulties; for, in the accounts of the Neale and Fenn Chest for the year 1614, it is stated: "Mr Stringer's bond not found, thought to bee in y^e Vicechancellors hand, and supposed a desperate debt" (*Camb. Univ. Registry* i. 2).

⁴ Baker's *History of St John's*, pp. 405 and 430.

⁵ *Harl. MS.* 7033; see Cheetham Society's edition.

his report was written almost immediately. He did not long survive this effort; for his burial is entered in the registers of St Edward's Church under date 27 Oct. 1605¹. His first wife (Maria Redman) predeceased him; he married again, however, and his widow Agnes² survived him for some 14 years.

THOMAS SMITH [1585—1592]. Mr Thomas Smith, a fellow of St John's, seems to have succeeded as Bedell when Matthew Stokes resigned that post about 1585, and as Registrary³, when that distinguished official died in 1591. Smith, who was born in Northamptonshire⁴, entered at Trinity, but afterwards migrated to St John's, where he obtained a fellowship in 1580. He had proceeded B.A. in the previous year, and he commenced M.A. in 1583⁵. On his appointment as Registrary he appears to have resigned the Bedelship. In 1596 the details of a quarrel⁶ between the University and the Town were laid before the Lord Keeper Egerton and Lord Burghley. Among the signatures attached to the University statement was that of Thomas Smith, who rather elaborately described himself as "Notarius Publicus, Registrarius Academicæ Cantab." Among the articles submitted by the Town was the following:

"Item, a forreyner keepinge open shopp contrarye to the order of the towne, and the lawes of the land, sent for before the Maior, did promesse to shutt his wyndowes untill he might get leave, yet afterwarde by the counsell of Mr Smyth, late Bedle of the Universitie, he would not: whereupon the Maior commanded a Constable to shutt downe the wyndowes, which the Constable did in quiet manner, yett that constable was presentlie by said Smithes means committed to pryson by the Vice-chancellors deputyes, and afterwarde was condemned in x^{li} by the sayd deputye for shuttinge downe those wyndowes....And that forreyner was made a Schollars Servaunte, onely to crosse the Maior and to prevent the Masters, as Mr Smith the late Bedle of the Universitye confessed."

On the appointment of Sir Robert Cecil to the Chancellorship in 1601, there was drawn up probably for his guidance

¹ Cooper's *Memorials*, iii. 280.

² *Athenæ Cantabrigienses*, ii. 439.

³ He had previously acted as Deputy Registrary, see under date 21 March 1589, *Grace Book Δ*, f. 160 a.

⁴ Baker's *History of St John's College* (ed. Mayor), i. 290.

⁵ Cooper, *Athen. Cantab.* ii. 309.

⁶ Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 557-561.

a very elaborate "*Projecte*¹, *conteyninge the state, order and manner of governmente of the University of Cambridge.*" This was, doubtless, the work of Smith, who in the list of officers at the end of the document includes among "the Chief officers of Ministerial Use," "The Register, Mr Thomas Smith, an anciente Master of Arte; and the Three Esquire Bedells, Mr Thomas Brook, Mr William Ingram and Mr Edward² Reading, being all Masters of Arte."

Like so many of the Bedells and Registraries, Mr Smith was concerned with various leases and financial matters, especially with his own College under whom he held the following properties³: A tenement, known as St John's Brewhouse, in St Clement's parish; Hilton Manor⁴, in Huntingdonshire; "The Stone House," in St Sepulchre's parish on the N. corner of St John's Lane; and a messuage in Newnham, with land in Newnham, Cambridge and Grantchester. Mr Smith was appointed auditor⁵ of his College in 1605; before which date he had apparently resigned the office of Registrary.

THOMAS BROOK [1591—1629]. Thomas Brook, M.A., of Clare College⁶, was probably appointed a Bedell in the year 1591, in succession to Stringer; though there is an allusion⁷ to him as a Bedell in 1589; *but this may be as a deputy*. He held the office for some 40 years; but considering the length of his tenure there are comparatively few allusions to his name; which, as we have already seen, occurs in various lists. For some years he held the appointment⁸ of Printer to the University. His son Thomas was in 1618 appointed to a fellowship⁹

¹ This manuscript was communicated by Mr Thomas Astle to Professor Lort, who printed it in 1769. It is reprinted in Cooper's *Annals*, ii. pp. 602—611.

² This is apparently a mistake; Mr Ridding's Christian name was Richard.

³ Baker's *History of St John's College*, pp. 441, 445, 446, 453—6.

⁴ Parts of this house were used by members of St John's in times of sickness, etc.

⁵ Baker-Mayor, i. p. 457.

⁶ *Addl. MS.* (B.M.) 7046, p. 81.

⁷ See *Acta Curix*, vol. i. under date (Univ. Registry).

⁸ See *Grace Book E*, p. 209; and *Notes on University Printers* (R. Bowes), C.A.S. xxvi. p. 298.

⁹ Masters's *Hist. of Corpus Christi College*, ed. Lamb, p. 346.

at Corpus—"prelectus in Socium Mr Thomas Brooke Trinitatis ad requisitionem Regis," says the College Order Book. This young man died a fellow in July, 1521, and was buried in St Botolph's. His will¹ was proved in the following September, his goods being left to his father. Thomas Brook, sen., and his two brother Bedells, Ridding and Wiseman, were executors to Dr Perse's will² in 1615. Mr Brook died in 1629, and was laid by his son Thomas in St Botolph's. His will was proved³ in the September of that year, the property being left to another son, named John.

At one time it had been proposed that Brook (on account of whose ill-health certain graces were passed) should resign in favour of James Tabor, M.A., of Corpus, the Registry; but the plan fell through; although a rough draft thereof is preserved in the Registry⁴ (vol. 99, 17); where also may be seen bonds made by Brook to the Senior Proctor (1613), for the performance of certain Disputations in Philosophy.

WILLIAM INGRAM [c. 1592—c. 1605]. William Ingram, of Magdalene College⁵, was chosen a Bedell soon after Mr Brook's appointment. He commenced M.A. in 1589. As we have seen⁶ from the *Project* presented to Sir Robert Cecil in 1601, he was then Middle Bedell. He probably remained in office till the appointment of John Wiseman; but there are not many allusions to his doings.

RICHARD RIDDING [1596—1626]. Richard Ridding, of the county of Yorkshire, described in the register of St John's in 1589 as "now poore scholler," was in that year admitted to a newly founded Heblethwaite scholarship in that college⁷.

¹ Baker *MS.* 26, p. 151.

² Cooper, *Annals*, iii. p. 93.

³ Baker *MS.* 26, p. 166.

⁴ The accounts of the Neale and Fenn Chest preserved in the Registry (i. 2; 5; etc.) shew that Mr Brook held certain bonds in the year 1601. These were not discharged till more than forty years afterwards. On 6 November, 1654, there is a note on the final settlement, by Thomas Buck. It will be seen that the Bucks were connected by marriage with Brook.

⁵ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, pp. 168-170.

⁶ See pp. 90, 91.

⁷ Baker's *History of St John's College*, ed. Mayor, i. p. 432. Ridding, at the funeral of Dr Clayton, the Master of his College, in 1612, was accorded the place

He commenced M.A. in 1594. He had succeeded John Baxter in 1596, when as junior Bedell he signed the Petition¹ against the Mayor. He occupies the same position in the University Report² of 1601, though his Christian name is there given as "Edward." He was Middle Bedell in John Scot's *Tables*³ in 1618 and 1621. The same records speak of him as "Gager to the University." In the year 1625, he paid the Midsummer Bachelors' fees at Great St Mary's⁴. In the year 1600 he was granted a lease⁵ by St John's of Kirekbye's Manor at Ashwell—at which house (as at Hilton) the college had a reservation in time of sickness and necessity. In the last year of his life, 1626, Richard Ridding went to London to announce the tidings of his election as Chancellor to the Duke of Buckingham who rewarded him with a chain worth £100⁶. About this time the following Grace⁷ was passed;

"Cum fidelissimus vester Bedellus Magister Ric. Ridding, non sua voluntate profectus, sed a Regiâ maj: super necessariis vestris negotiis evocatus, ad Baculum suum deponendum, una cum reliquis, juxta statutum atque morem adesse non possit: Placeat vobis, ut socius ejus magister Thomas Buck baculum suum pro illo exhibeat et recipiat, et ut hujusmodi exhibitio et receptio, in omnibus et per omnia, eundem habeat effectum, ac si ipse presens exhibuisset et recepisset."

Richard Ridding died in 1626, his will⁸ being dated September 19th and proved on November 28th of that year. He left his goods generally to his son Amyas, the well-known fellow of St John's College, among the special bequests being rings of 10s. to Thomas and John Buck.

of honour as an Esquire Bedell, being "an inward friend and of his old acquaintance," J. E. B. Mayor, *C.A.S.* xi. 139.

¹ See p. 91.

² See p. 92.

³ See MSS. in the University Library and in various Colleges.

⁴ See *Churchwardens' Accounts of St Mary the Great, Cambridge* (J. E. Foster, M.A.), *C.A.S.* xxxv. p. 397.

⁵ Baker-Mayor, i. p. 450.

⁶ Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 195.

⁷ Baker *MS.* 42, p. 142, 143.

⁸ Baker *MS.* 26, 165. Ridding had resigned his office three days previously to the date of his will; see Registry, vol. 99, 22. His wife, Amy, died about a year previously, being buried at St Sepulchre's on the 30 September 1625 (Bowtell *MS.* 5. 1044).

The memory of Mr Ridding was honoured by Milton, who was in residence at Christ's as an undergraduate when our Bedell died. In his *Elegiarum Liber*, the second elegy, written "anno ætatis XVII," is entitled "In Obitum Præconis Academici Cantabrigiænsis." Thus it begins:

"Te, qui, conspicuus baculo fulgente, solebas
Palladium toties ore ciere gregem;
Ultima præconum, præconem te quoque sæva
Mors rapit, officio nec favet ipsa suo."

Then follow allusions, with characteristic classical parallels, to the white hairs¹ of the Esquire Bedell; to his gracefulness in summoning "the gowned tribes" (*acies togatas*); and to his helpful labours. The elegy concludes:

"Vestibus hunc igitur pullis, Academia, luge,
Et madeant lachrymis nigra feretra tuis.
Fundat et ipsa modos querebunda elegiæ tristes,
Personet et totis nœnia mœsta Scholis."

JOHN WISEMAN [c. 1605—1624]. John Wiseman, M.A., of Jesus College² succeeded Mr Ingram as Bedell. He was junior Bedell³ in 1612, figuring in the funeral procession of Dr Clayton, Master of St John's. A bond, dated 1613 and signed by him, for the performance of certain Disputations, is preserved in the Registry⁴. We have seen that with his fellow Bedells he was an executor to the will of Dr Perse in 1615; and that his official position is stated in John Scot's *Tables* in the years 1618 and 1621⁵. He resigned the post of Bedell on 7 January 1624; but revoked⁶ the resignation the next day. However, he appears actually to have given up office not long afterwards; for Thomas Buck was appointed in that year and in Wiseman's will⁷ (to which a codicil was added on June 2nd of the following year (1625) and which was proved on the 20th

¹ This may be poetic licence, for Mr Ridding does not seem to have been an old man at his death.

² *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, p. 168 b.

³ See *C.A.S. Communications*, no. xi. p. 140, where Mr Brook is senior and Mr Ridding 2nd Esquire Bedell.

⁴ See Registry, vol. 99, 18.

⁵ See MSS. in University Library and in various College Libraries.

⁶ Registry, vol. 99, 20 and 21.

⁷ Baker *MS.* 26, p. 153.

of that month) he is styled "nuper unus Bedellorum." He left his property to Frances his wife, and John his son. John Wiseman held the appointment of vintner, which he resigned on 2 June 1625.

THOMAS BUCK [1624—1670]. Thomas Buck, who succeeded John Wiseman as Esquire Bedell in 1624¹, was the eldest son of Thomas Buck of Oakley², in the county of Essex. He entered at St Catharine's and having taken his B.A. was elected a fellow on March 16, 1616. He was Steward and Bursar, and was very energetic in extending the buildings and area of his college, for which purpose he both gave and advanced³ considerable sums of money. The year following his election as Bedell he was, by a Grace dated 13 July 1625, appointed one of the University Printers, being required to deposit a bond of £200. Mr Bowes, in his *Biographical Notes*⁴, gives many facts as to Thomas Buck's long and vigorous connexion with the Printing Press; dwelling upon his quarrels and partnerships with Leonard Greene, with his brother John Buck, with Roger Daniel, etc. Leonard Greene asserted that "Mr Bucke was inexperienced, haveing lead a students life," and that he had set up a printing press—"the Angell"—in his own name. John Buck, who had also been appointed a University Printer, made an agreement with his brother on May 15, 1632, by which he assigned his printing patent to Thomas for seven years for a payment of £56 a year, and agreed to execute his brother's duties as Bedell during that period. Differences, however, arose between them before long. Roger Daniel, who had been appointed⁵ a Printer to the University on 24 July, 1632, agreed with Thomas Buck to take the tenement called the Augustine Friars⁶, wherein the said Thomas

¹ Bishop Browne's *History of St Catharine's College*, pp. 95, 132.

² *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5822, p. 21.

³ Browne, *History of St Cath.* pp. 95 and 132; and Willis and Clark, *Arch. Hist.* ii. p. 74, etc.

⁴ R. Bowes, *Biographical Notes on the University Printers*, C.A.S. xxiv. pp. 283, etc.

⁵ In succession to Francis Buck, a third brother, who had only held office for about two years.

⁶ Thomas Buck purchased this property from Mrs Beck, the sister of

Buck dwelt together with the printing house, etc., for six years at £190 a year. Thomas, however, had his differences with Daniel. The eldest Buck seems to have been more or less actively connected with the printing press almost till the date of his death in 1670.

There can be no denying that Thomas Buck was from a financial point of view very successful in his printing and other undertakings; there can also be no doubt that he was very generous with the money which he obtained. It has already been noted how liberal he was to his own College¹; it may be added that he was one of the largest contributors to the repairs effected at Jesus College² after the Restoration; while in his will³ these two Colleges received further benefactions from him.

And as against the complaints brought against him by his printing partners, may be set⁴ the following extract from Barrow's *Prefatory Oration* in his *Mathematic Lectures* (p. xvi):

"Idem ille, cujus quotidie vestris oculis augusta species corporis et oris veneranda dignitas observatur cujus indies promptissimam humanitatem persentiscitis, cujusque toties in procurandis gravissimis negotiis vestris, asserendo honore, commodis provehendis gnavam, fidam, prosperamque operam experti estis. Vir sane qui cum omnibus bonis artibus haud mediocriter excultus sit, cum prudentia et fide, so often tried he yields to none, and in industry excels all. He, with the loss of his health and money, took the greatest care of the University Press, out of regard to the honour of it: and with what types he printed, especially the sacred writings, all posterity will admire. And it was amazing that a man of his years and little health could do what a younger and stouter man could hardly perform in this way: so much was he concerned for the honour of the University."

Dr Perse, in 1536. The above transaction, however, shews that he must have leased the buildings some years before. See also Fuller, *History of Cambridge* (ed. Prickett and Wright), pp. 66, 67; *Warren's Book* (ed. A. W. W. Dale, M.A.), p. 117.

¹ See p. 3.

² Willis and Clark, *Arch. Hist.* ii. 143; it may be added, that it was through Mr Buck's agency that the buried plate at Jesus College was brought to light in 1652 (Gray's *History of Jesus College*, p. 118).

³ Baker MS. 26, p. 226.

⁴ See Cole, 5863, 42, whose curious lapse into translation is here followed. See also a tribute paid to Buck as a Bookbinder (in connexion with the work at Little Gidding) by Mr Davenport, *C.A.S.* 5 Feb. 1906.

This allusion is occasioned by the fact that Mr Thomas Buck was one of the executors of Mr Henry Lucas in establishing the Professorship of Mathematics, of which Isaac Barrow was the first holder. He and Francis Hughes, who was for so many years a Fellow-Bedell, were also the University executors to the will of another great Benefactor, Mr Crane¹.

Many interesting records of his official duties during the long period—with its historical changes—might be quoted; such as his arrest² of Mr Nathaniel Bernard in 1632; his dispute³ with St John's College as to certain fees in 1634; his opposition to the Fen-draining scheme⁴ when he represented both the University and the Town, in 1651; his delegation from the Senate against the proposed Durham University in 1659; his efforts with regard to Dr Holdsworth's library in 1665, etc. Towards the end of his career, he and his colleagues (his brother John and Mr Francis Hughes) were allowed to pay a deputy on account of age. On 5 Dec. 1664, the following Grace⁵ was passed:

“Cum magistri Thomas Buck, Johannis Buck, Franciscus Hughes Bedelli, pene senio confecti nequeant munia sua, sicut soliti fuerant, praestare: Placeat vobis, ut in commune levamen, aliquem in Artibus Magistrum impensis suis conductum subornent, ne forte requiratur, qui Bedelli officio, cum res exigit, fungatur.”

“Magister Mathæus (Whinn), vel alius aliquis in Artibus Magister,” was proposed as a deputy; and the Registry accordingly for some time performed also the duties of a Bedell.

Mr Thomas Buck married three times⁶, but left no children. He resided, as we have seen, in the former Priory of St Austin. Cole, in some of his volumes in the British Museum, has left a sketch⁷ of part of the old building (as it was in the days⁸ of

¹ Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 452.

² Baker MS. B, p. 205.

³ Baker's *History of St John's College*, edn Mayor, i. 503-5.

⁴ Cooper, *Annals*, pp. 435, 444, 455, 473, etc.

⁵ Baker MS. 42, p. 134 b; *Grace Book H*, p. 353.

⁶ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5822, p. 21; Baker MS. 26, 226-8; his third wife, who survived him, being Elizabeth (the widow of a Mr) Thompson.

⁷ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5843, p. 261. The arms were “Buck, v. a Bend Erm. between 2 Bucks seiant Arg.” (See Blomefield, *Collectanea Cantab.* p. 81.)

⁸ The Curator of the (Old) Botanic Garden then lived in it.

Tyson, the amateur Corpus artist), of the arms of the Buck family, etc.; together with a chart of their pedigree. The residence¹ being in St Edward's parish, Thomas Buck had a place² (by the courtesy of the Master and Fellows of Trinity Hall) in a special "pewe" in St Edward's, and in that church he was buried. "He died³ at his residence on Friday, March 4th, 1670, at 9 at night." His will⁴, which was dated 21 September, 1667, was proved 17 June, 1670. He left the bulk of his property to his nephew, Thomas, son of his brother Francis; there being, as before noted, legacies to St Catharine's and Jesus Colleges.

It should be added, as illustrating the confidence with which he was regarded by the authorities, that in 1641-2, when there was "a loud report being brought to Dr Ward, then pro-Vice-Chancellor, that the stock of the University would be plundered," £160 was taken out of the Neale Chest and entrusted to Thomas Buck. This sum was handed by our Bedell towards the building of the Vicar's house at Burwell on 20 July, 1652. (See a letter from Dr Brownrigg, Bishop of Exeter, to Dr Seaman, V.C., 21 October, 1654. University Registry, i. 2, p. 10.)

JOHN BUCK [1626—1680]. John Buck, who was also a member of St Catharine's College⁵, was born in 1597, being four years younger than Thomas, whom he survived ten years. Appointed Bedell in succession to Richard Ridding in 1626, he held the office till his death in 1680, a period of 54 years. We have seen that he (*ætate confectus*) was latterly allowed a deputy⁶; thus in 1671, in connexion with the election and installation of the Duke of Buckingham as Chancellor, we read the following item⁷ in the Proctors' Books: "To Mr Whinn

¹ Bowtell MS. 6, 2430.

² Baker MS. 25. 388. Alderman Newton (*Diary*, C.A.S. xxiii. p. 38) speaks of "old Mr Buck," on Christmas Day, 1668, as "receiving the holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper," at his parish church.

³ Alderman Newton's *Diary* (edn J. E. Foster), C.A.S. xxiii. p. 56. For an allusion to his tombstone, see *Warren's Book* (ed. Dale), p. 123; see also Blomefield's *Collectanea Cantab.* p. 81.

⁴ Baker MS. 26, p. 226.

⁵ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, p. 168.

⁶ See p. 98; *Grace Book* Θ, p. 132.

⁷ Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 547.

Deputy Bedell and Mr Peck 4th. etc." Matthew Whinn¹, M.A., of St John's College, was the Registry of the University, and had been for nearly 30 years, when he thus acted in the stead of our aged Bedell. In the same year (1671), John Eade, of Emmanuel, was appointed Deputy to Mr Buck by a Grace² (Oct. 25th). Allusion has already been made to his tenure of the office of University Printer, to which he was appointed on 16 December, 1625, and to his agreement and disagreement with his brother Thomas as to the printing-business³.

A curious book⁴ of the duties of a Bedell, etc., was written by John in the year 1665, when he was aged 68, extracts from which have been printed by Dean Peacock as *Appendix B* to his work on the *Statutes of the University*.

John Buck is another example of the intimate relationship that existed between many of the holders of the office with which we are dealing; for he married Ann Brook⁵, the daughter of a former Bedell. They lived in St Botolph's parish⁶; two of their children, Samuel and John, were baptized in that church, where the latter—as an infant—and Mrs Buck, the year before her husband, were buried. Mr John Buck died⁷ on 22 October, 1680, at the age of 83, having held the Bedelship since 1626.

FRANCIS HUGHES [1629—1669]. From 1680 we must go back more than half a century to 1629, when to Thomas Brook as Bedell succeeded Francis Hughes, M.A., a member of Trinity⁸, to which College he had been admitted Westminster Scholar,

¹ In the Registry (vol. 99) there is preserved a curious collection of memoranda as to the performance of certain duties of the Bedells, sent from time to time from Buck to Whinn. "Notes in the time I executed Mr Buck's place," the Registry calls them. This volume also contains legal "opinions" of Sir Thomas Exton and Dr Boord that John Buck had no authority to appoint a deputy without a Grace of the Senate.

² *Grace Book* Θ, p. 57.

³ See p. 96.

⁴ "Collections of some material Things who doe concern both the Corporations, viz. the University and the Town of Cambridge, but especially the University, etc. by John Buck, etc."

⁵ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5822, p. 21.

⁶ Bowes, *Biographical Notes*, C.A.S. xxvi. p. 304.

⁷ Alderman Newton's *Diary* (edn J. E. Foster), xxiii. p. 81: "at his son Thomas Buck's house at Westwick."

⁸ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5813, p. 169.

on 12 March, 1616¹. He also held the office² for a long period—40 years. Allusion has already been made to certain of his official acts in connexion with his long-contemporary colleagues. He also was the compiler of a manuscript book³, with notes on University proceedings. “He died⁴ at his lodgings in Trinity Hall between 7 and 8 on 30 October, 1669; he made and sealed his will dated the 21st October 1669, he was buried in St Botolph’s Church on All Saints’ evening.” There is an interesting memorandum in a volume⁵ in the Library of Jesus College—*Egidius Romanus de Regimine Principum*—which contains the following inscription: “17^o Decembris 1633. Franciscus Hughes unus ex Armigeris Bedellis Amicissimus vir et benefactor dono dedit Amoris ergo.”

JOHN PECK [1669—1682]. On the death of Mr Hughes, a curious dispute took place in connexion with the choice of his successor, an account of which is given in the chapter on the Election of Bedells⁶. The Candidates were Marmaduke Urlyn, of Pembroke, William Worts, of Caius, and John Peck, of St John’s. A majority of the Senate voted for Mr Worts, but the Heads⁷ refused to nominate him, and Mr Peck, receiving more votes than Mr Urlyn, was declared to be elected. Mr Worts appealed to the King in Council. Mr Peck was, however, “continued in execution of his charge.” The new Bedell, who was a Staffordshire man⁸, took his B.A. in 1659, was elected to a *Beresford* fellowship at his college (St John’s) on April 10th of the following year, and commenced M.A. in 1663. His Bedelship lasted for about thirteen years, from 1669 to 1682. He is specially mentioned⁹ in connexion with the installations

¹ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5846, p. 261.

² Among the earliest references to his work as a Bedell is one to his collecting the shares paid by the Colleges in connexion with Comedies played before Charles I at his visit in 1632. (*Hist. MSS. Comm. Appendix 2nd Report*, p. 123.)

³ Baker *MS.* 41, 212–218, 42, 73b; Cole *MS.* 42, 65, etc.

⁴ Ald. Newton’s *Diary*, C.A.S. xxiii. p. 53.

⁵ Dr James, *Jesus Library MSS.*

⁶ See pp. 19 and 20.

⁷ *Camb. Portfolio*, i. 244; Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 537–8. See various entries, under date, in *Grace Book* Θ.

⁸ Baker’s *St John’s Coll.* (ed. Mayor) i. 298.

⁹ Cooper, *Annals*, iii. pp. 547, 560–2.

of the Dukes of Buckingham and Monmouth as Chancellors of the University in the years 1671 and 1674 respectively; in the latter case the notification of the election was made by John Peck and John Moor, a fellow of Clare, to whom the Duke of Monmouth gave "a noble reward." Peck is said to have been "an able Civilian¹, and well versed in the Customs and Statutes of the University"; and, like the last two Bedells, whom we have chronicled, he left a manuscript book² on the duties of his office. He was also one of the University Printers³; the Grace for sealing his Patent being dated 20 October, 1680.

WILLIAM WORTS [1670—1704]. We have seen how an Order in Council dated 8 December, 1669⁴, had confirmed John Peck in the Bedelship to the disappointment of William Worts. Old Mr Thomas Buck, who had been a Bedell for more than half a century, was evidently failing, and on 1 March following the King sent a letter mandatory⁵ to the Heads requiring them to prick or nominate William Worts, M.A., fellow of Caius College, on the next vacancy in the office of Esquire Bedell. The design of this mandate is thus stated :

"Our aime herein is not so much to repair and salve the particular unhappiness of him the said William Worts, whereby he may have fallen under your displeasure, as to reunite and cement the affections of all parties in that our University and to reestablish a good understanding and concord between the Head and Body."

The letter had hardly reached the University before "Thomas Buck died⁶ at his house in St Edward's parish, on Fryday March 4th, about 9 at night." On March 7th the Heads "pricked for Beadle" Messrs Worts and Urlin, and on

¹ Baker *MS.* vol. 42; which is described as having been originally Peck's property.

² *Ibid.* pp. 1-102.

³ Bowes, *Biographical Notes on the University Printers, C.A.S.* xxvi. p. 309.

⁴ See p. 101.

⁵ Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 540. Later on in the same month, after the death of Mr Buck and the appointment of Mr Worts, the King recommended for the first vacancy in the Bedelship, Christopher Barker (apparently the third printer of that name). The same individual was also recommended at the end of 1675, both by the King and by the Duke of Monmouth, "a Bedell being ready to die." See *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic*, under date.

⁶ Ald. Newton's *Diary, C.A.S.* xxiii. p. 56.

the following day "at the Consistory at a full congregation" the former was chosen; the votes being William Worts 108, and Marmaduke Urlin 92. The new Bedell¹, a fellow of Caius (1668-1676), was the son of a former fellow of the same college (1635-1641). He married a Cambridge lady, named Mary Day, and their son (afterwards well known as a benefactor) bore the same name as his father and grandfather, William Worts. Mr Worts held office for over 30 years as junior Bedell, etc. In that capacity, he took part in the installations of the Dukes of Buckingham and Monmouth as Chancellors. In the latter case in 1674 we have an elaborate picture of him, in London :

"Four or five of the King's Life Guard well mounted going before to make way through the Crowd (which was very great) the Junior Bedle Mr William Woorts went first in his Bedle's Gown Velvet Cap Gold Hat-band and Regent's Hood, holding his Bedle's Staff the round End upward. After him followed the Regents etc."²

As senior Bedell, he pronounced³ the proclamation of King James II on 9 February, 1685, "the vicechancellor dictating; both standing upon the steps of the Cross and afterwards in the middle of the Market Hill."

Mr Worts seems to have resided⁴ in the old Priory of the Austin Friars, in succession to his predecessor Thomas Buck. He died on 6 March, 1704, "between the hours of 7 and 9 at night," as Alderman Newton (*Diary*, p. 114) tells us with his usual detail, adding: "and buried in Great St Maryes Church on the Fryday following being the 10th March 1703 between 6 and 9 at night." It was not he (as is often stated) but his son William, of St Catharine's College, who is commemorated by the University for his Benefactions. With regard to the orthography of the name, Mr Romilly⁵, the Registry, remarks: "Ipse subscripsit Woorts, filius autem ejus Worts."

HUGH MARTIN [1680-1716]. Three days after the death of old Mr John Buck, there was an election for the vacant

¹ Venn's *Biographical History of Caius*, vol. i. pp. 291 and 404.

² Baker *MS.* xxxi. 274.

³ Baker *MS.* xlii. 151.

⁴ Bowtell *MS.* 6, 2430.

⁵ *Graduati Cantabrigienses* (1856), p. 493.

Bedelship, the candidates¹ being Hugh Martin, a fellow of Pembroke, and Richard Nurse, a fellow of Trinity. The former was successful, obtaining some seven score votes, while Mr Nurse received between fifty and sixty. Mr Martin had taken his bachelor's degree in 1671, and his master's in 1675². On 9 December, 1682, he was appointed University Printer³. Alderman Newton (*Diary*, p. 86) gives the following account of his marriage:

"Hugh Martin one of the Esquire Beadles of the University of Cambridge and Mrs Mary Simpson were married in Emanuel Colledge Chappell by Dr Bolderston Master of that Colledge, on Tewsday morning being the 5th February 1683 betweene the houres of 9 and 10, Dr Nathanael Coga Master of Pembroke Hall gave him in marriage present then onely Dr Bolderston and his wife, Dr Coga and mee Samuel Newton, it was a fine sunshine morning the great frost which had continued above 2 months breaking or thawing that morning."

Like his predecessors, Thomas Buck and William Worts, he seems to have resided⁴ at the old house of the Augustine Friars.

His death is thus recorded by the diarist Newton⁵: "Munday about 10 in the morning [Aug. 6th] dyed Mr Hugh Martin Esquire Bedle and was buried on the Wednesday night following in St Edward's Church further north Chancell being the 8th of August 1716." He was 68 years old at his death. (See Blomefield's *Collectanea Cantabrigiensiæ*, p. 83.) Warren, however, says 66 (*Book*, p. 123).

PURBECK RICHARDSON [1682—1683]. The successor to John Peck was a fellow of Trinity College, who had proceeded B.A. in 1672⁶ and had commenced M.A. four years later. He only held office as a Bedell for a short period, and all that has to be recorded of him is his melancholy end. To quote the entry from Alderman Newton's *Diary*⁷: "Purbeck Richardson on Munday morning March 26th 1683 between 8 and 9 of the

¹ Newton's *Diary*, p. 81.

² *Graduati Cantab.* (1823), p. 313.

³ Bowes, *Biog. Notes, C.A.S.* xxvi. p. 310.

⁴ Bowtell MS. 6, 2430.

⁵ Alderman Newton's *Diary*, p. 127. See also Edward Rud's *Diary (C.A.S. 8vo Publ. v. p. 17)*, "Aug. 6, Mr Martyn the Beadle dyed of the strangury."

⁶ *Graduati Cantab.* (1832) p. 395.

⁷ Newton's *Diary* (edn Foster), *C.A.S.* xxiii. pp. 84, 85.



A VICE-CHANCELLOR, preceded by 3 ESQUIRE BEDELLS. 1690.

[From Loggan's *Cantabrigia Illustrata*.]



A COMMISSARY,
preceded by a YEOMAN BEDELL.

[From Loggan's *Cantabrigia Illustrata*.]

clock shott himselfe with a birding peice; he did it wilfully but the Jury of the Coroner found upon their enquiry he was not *compos mentis*." His death having taken place in his rooms in Trinity College, he was buried at St Michael's two days later, being described in the Burial Register¹ as "Purback Richardson student."

JOHN PERN [1683—1715]. In the place of the unfortunate Purbeck Richardson was chosen John Pern, a fellow of Peterhouse. He was born in 1644; proceeded B.A. in 1661, being then a member² of St John's; was elected to a fellowship at Peterhouse; and commenced M.A. in 1665. He was a great-nephew of the well-known Dr Andrew Pern, who passed from St John's to Peterhouse in the sixteenth century; as did another Andrew Pern in the eighteenth. He held office from 1683 to 1715³, early in which year "on Fryday January 7th in the evening he dyed." He signed himself⁴ "John Pern, M.A., Esquire Bedell and Public Notary." He was engaged, personally or officially, in several law-suits⁵. In one of these, John Pern claimed from William Worts, son and executor of the Bedell of the same name, certain moneys arising out of a partnership in connexion with the sale of wines, etc. This partnership had been concealed from the University authorities. Pern had paid £700 into the business, and had received from time to time sums amounting to £875. Lord Chancellor Cowper, on 2 May, 1707, gave judgment in favour of Pern, and the judgment was confirmed on appeal.

EDWARD CLARKE [1704—1727]. To William Worts in 1704 succeeded Edward Clarke⁶, a fellow of Clare, who had taken his B.A. in 1680 and his M.A. in due course. At the election there was a close contest⁷ between Mr Clarke and Mr (afterwards Dr)

¹ *St Michael's Register* (edn Venn), C.A.S. xxv. p. 128.

² *Grad. Cantab.* (1823) p. 367.

³ *Newton's Diary* (C.A.S. pp. 85, 156); *Rud's Diary* (C.A.S. Oct. Publications, v. p. 13). His name occurs among the Benefactors of his College.

⁴ *Cooper, Annals*, iv. p. 74.

⁵ See Josiah Brown's *Reports* i. 196-199; Leach's *Modern Reports*, x. 125, 156, etc.; Attwood's *Diary*, pp. 79-86.

⁶ *Grad. Cantab.* (1823), p. 99. He had been Proctor the year before (1703).

⁷ *Registry*, vol. 99, 49.

Wm Willymott, a fellow of King's. The most remarkable event in his career¹ as a Bedell was his attempt to arrest Dr Bentley, the Master of Trinity.

In his "Deposition"² we have a curious account of how, on 23 September, 1718, and on subsequent occasions, "this zealous Lictor" endeavoured "to have the glory of *hooking the Leviathan*³, as he termed it." He was not successful. Indeed on one occasion he was himself "imprisoned," being locked in a room in Trinity Lodge "for two hours at the least." And when Dr Bentley consented to surrender, it fell to the lot of Mr Attwood, another Bedell, to receive him, Clarke being then "himself arrested by a severe fit of the gout." At the visit of the Chancellor in the following month, Attwood, in his *Diary*, under date Oct. 12th, 1718, tells us that "Robin Grove [the Registrary] acted as Bedell for Ned Clarke, who had the gout still."

Edward Clarke was deputed by his college (Clare) to superintend the completion of their buildings⁴. He died on 13 January, 1727⁵; and "the Society agreed to accept a sum of £360 (£300 towards the Chapel and £60 for an annual commemoration of Dr Blythe) in lieu of all its claims upon the estate of Mr Edward Clarke, sometime fellow of the College." Mr Clarke, by his will, left £100 towards "the New Building" (the Senate House), "£5 a year being to be paid to his sister during her life." There is a long and elaborate inscription⁶ for his tombstone in St Edward's Church, given by Warren.

¹ He carried a letter of congratulation from the University to Sir Wm Dawes, on his translation from the see of Chester to the Archbishopric of York. (See Attwood's *Diary*, p. 88.)

² Middleton's *Proceedings against Dr Bentley*, iii. 273; Ed. Rud's *Diary*, C.A.S. Oct. Publications, v. p. 21; Cooper, *Annals*, iv. 150, etc.

³ Monk's *Life of Bentley*, ii. p. 50; where much curious information is printed from the *Diary* of Richard Attwood, the Bedell to be chronicled in the next paragraph.

⁴ Wardale's *History of Clare College*, pp. 81, 88.

⁵ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5805, p. 41. Some fifteen or sixteen years earlier, on May 5th, 1711, it was reported that Mr Clarke had died of small-pox. But Alderman Newton, who entered the rumour in his *Diary* (p. 123), subsequently added: "This was a false report, he is recovered and very well in health."

⁶ Warren's *Book* (ed. Dale), pp. 123-9.

Mr Clarke was also a benefactor to Peterhouse, of which his father, James Clarke, had been a fellow¹.

RICHARD ATTWOOD [1715—1734]. At the election² on January 12, 1715, caused by the death of John Pern, 82 votes were recorded for Richard Attwood, a fellow of Pembroke, as against only 3 for John Oakley, a fellow of Peterhouse. The successful candidate tells us: "I invited the whole University next day to a glass of wine at the Mitre, except the Heads. I treated the whole College on Saturday the 15th." The new Bedell had taken his B.A. in 1699³ and his M.A. three or four years later. He was elected to a fellowship at his college in 1703. It was to him, as pointed out under the last paragraph, that Dr Bentley surrendered in the year 1718. Like several other Bedells, he left a written account of his official experiences and duties; a copy⁴ of which may be seen in one of Cole's volumes in the British Museum. In the same volume are a number of poems written by Attwood. So in the University Library⁵ at Cambridge, in one of Baker's MSS., there is *An Imitation of Milton*, composed by our Bedell. It has been described as "a humorous poem not remarkable for refinement." He also left a collection of *College Memoranda*. There was formerly, in St Bene't's churchyard⁶, a very curious inscription by him on Nathaniel Bacon. Mr Attwood died in the year 1734; and, in his will⁷, which was dated 5 August, 1732, and proved 18 May, 1734, he shewed himself a public benefactor to

¹ Blomefield, *Collectanea Cantab.* p. 1 . . .

² See p. 16; and *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5352; Ald. Newton's *Diary* (*C.A.S. Oct. Publications*, xxiii. p. 126); Ed. Rud's *Diary* (*C.A.S. Oct. Publications*, v. p. 13). At the pricking by the Heads the voting was more equal (Registry, vol. 99, 49). It may be added that Mr Attwood had previously acted as Deputy Esquire Bedell (see *Grace Book* Δ, and Whiston's account of his trial before the V.C. and the Heads—*Appendix to Historical Preface*, p. 1, *sub anno* 1710). Indeed his *Diary* doubtless implies that he had acted as Deputy since the year 1706.

³ *Grad. Cantab.* (1823), p. 16.

⁴ Cole *MS.* 5852, pp. 1–85.

⁵ Univ. Libr. Mm. vi. 42 (14).

⁶ Le Neve, *Monuments*, ii. 285; Blomefield, *Collect. Cantab.* p. 48.

⁷ Recorded by his friend, T. Baker; *MS.* 36, p. 87. He had, during his lifetime, made liberal gifts to the College. See Willis and Clark, *Arch. Hist.* i. 148; Dyer, *Privileges*, ii. 40.

his college. In one of the private bequests he wrote: "I give John Howard all my wearing apparell, Bedle's gowns excepted." He also left to his fellow Bedells a ring each.

ROBERT SIMPSON [1716—1749]. In the year (Aug. 10th, 1716) following the appointment of Mr Attwood, Robert Simpson was chosen¹ a Bedell in the room of Hugh Martin, deceased, for whom he had previously acted as Deputy². Mr Simpson, who held office from 1716 to 1749, was a fellow of Caius College³, and had proceeded B.A. in 1709 and M.A. in 1713. A copy of a manuscript by him follows the similar production by his fellow-Bedell Attwood, in the British Museum volume⁴ just mentioned. "The Deposition⁵" of Mr Clarke the Beadle, tells of Robert Simpson's share in the proceedings against Dr Bentley in 1718.

By a Grace passed on 1 November, 1749, Thomas Bennet, of Queens', was appointed Deputy Esquire Bedell, but Mr Simpson died⁶ in London at the end of the month, and was buried at St Edward's, Cambridge, on December 6th of that year. He bequeathed £300 for the benefit of his college.

THOMAS HUNTMAN [1727, Jan. to Dec.]. Six days after the death of Edward Clarke on 13 January, 1727, Thomas Huntman (B.A. 1714, M.A. 1718), a fellow of Trinity College⁷, was chosen in his stead. He had previously, since the year 1724, acted as deputy for Mr Clarke⁸; but he did not hold the Bedellship long, for he died⁹ on December 10th of the same year.

¹ Alderman Newton's *Diary* (C.A.S. xxiii. p. 128). See also Edward Rud's *Diary* (C.A.S. Oct. Publications, v. p. 17), "Aug. 9th 1716 Mr Simpson of Caius and Mr Thiriby of Jesus were prick'd for [Mr Martyn's] Beadle's staff. Aug. 10th Mr Simpson was chosen Beadle by 124 votes against 66."

² Attwood's *Diary*, Jan. 15th, 1715.

³ *Grad. Cantab.* (1823), p. 428. He held his fellowship from 1711 till his marriage in 1739. After the death of his wife, he again took up his residence in college. See Dr Venn's *Caius*.

⁴ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5852, pp. 86-96.

⁵ Cooper, *Annals*, iv. 153.

⁶ Cole, *MS.* 5852, p. 86.

⁷ *Grad. Cantab.* (1823), p. 253.

⁸ Attwood's *Diary*, under date, May 18th, 1724.

⁹ *Simpson's Book*, u. s.

[SIR] JAMES BURROUGH [1727—1754]. The fourteenth of December saw the second election¹ of a Bedell in the year 1727, the successor to Thomas Huntman being Mr (afterwards Sir James) Burrough, a fellow of Caius, who received exactly 100 votes, his opponent Hickle Scarfe, a fellow of Pembroke, obtaining 85 suffrages. Burrough (B.A. 1712, M.A. 1716) held his Bedellship 26 or 27 years, until his appointment² as Master of his College. His career³, especially as an amateur architect, is so well known, that reference need only be made to the *Biographical Records* of Dr Venn and to the *Architectural History* of Willis and Clark.

His knighthood was conferred upon him, soon after his disappointment at the rejection of his scheme with regard to a southern wing to the University Library which should correspond to the position of the Senate House.

Cole (*Add. MS.* 5852) gives extracts from a Note Book on University proceedings said to have been compiled by Sir James Burrough; but Dr Venn points out that the notes are continued after the death of the Bedell-Master.

He was doubtless one of the three corpulent Bedells alluded to in Kit Smart's characteristic extempore spondaic⁴:

Pinguia tergeminorum abdomina Bedellorum.

¹ *Simpson's Book, Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5852, pp. 86, etc.; see also paper preserved in the University Registry (vol. 99, no. 49).

² In a poem by Nicholas Hardinge, of King's (c. 1748), *on the Statue of Academic Glory*, a Beadle is made to say: "Why may not I...for a Headship change the Beadle's Mace?" (Nichols's *Illustrations of Literature*, i. 66).

³ See *Dictionary of National Biography*, vii. 445.

⁴ *Dyer's Privileges*, ii. Appendix, p. 49, where is the following rendering:

"Three Bedells sound, with paunches fat and round."

Dr Bentley, at the trial of Tinkler Ducket, of Caius, enquired: "which was the atheist?" and on Ducket being pointed out, who was a small and spare personage, he exclaimed: "What, is that the atheist? I expected to have seen a man as big as Burrough the Beadle." Monk, who relates this anecdote, adds: "I cannot determine whether the character in this jest was Mr Burrough, or his brother-mace Mr Burrowes, not knowing which was the larger man; the truth is that the portly appearance of the three Esquire Beadles of that day did much credit to University cheer. They were described by Christopher Smart in a copy of Latin verses, by the periphrasis" (quoted in the text). Monk, *Life of Bentley*, vol. ii. pp. 394, 395.

THOMAS BURROWES [1734—1767]. The similarity of name¹ between this Bedell and the official whom we have just chronicled—"his singular brother"—must have been confusing, during the 20 years that they held office together. Thomas Burrowes², the successor (in 1734) to Mr Attwood, was a fellow of Trinity, who had proceeded B.A. in 1728 and commenced M.A. four years later. It is perhaps hardly fair to quote the following characteristic effusion from the pen of Cole³, who wrote of Thomas Burrowes:

"Jovial and sociable, and marrying a lady of Cambridge of the name of Yardley, by indolence and carelessness, they eat and drank their fortune almost all up: so that they were always in the utmost distress. The Duke of Newcastle got him a place of about £100 per annum; I think it was Chimney Sweeper to the King, which was of great use to him. His wife was one of the most slatternly, bad-housewifely women he could have met with; always lolling her head out of window, if the season allowed it. They had a son of Trinity College [B.A. 1768] who was very wild and extravagant, and what was left of the estate at the father's death he soon made an end of."

They lived on the west side of Trinity Street⁴, in part of what had been St Catharine's Hostel. This is in the parish of St Michael's, and the Registers⁵ of that church have many entries referring to Mr and Mrs Burrowes and their eight children, one of whom (Elizabeth) lived to the age of 74, and was buried on January 6th, 1826. The lady who is, it is hoped, unfairly described in the above quotation died in August, 1757; and the Bedell 10 years later, being buried in St Michael's on 13 August, 1767. Some sixteen months before his death, a

¹ Indeed, in the nomination paper preserved in the Registry (vol. 99, 49), the name is spelt Burrough. He obtained 90 votes; while Mr Richard Dawes, a fellow of Emmanuel, who was *pricked* with him, was accorded 12. Scarfe, who had been defeated by the other Mr Burrough, received 7 votes, while Mr Sandys Hutchinson, a fellow of Trinity, obtained only 2.

² *Grad. Cantab.* (1823), p. 78. He was proctor for Dr Bentley in his action against Colbatch (see *Monk's Life*, pp. 388-9).

³ *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5863, p. 11 b.

⁴ Carter's *History of Cambridge*, p. 16. Mr Bowtell, the Hospital Benefactor, and the writer of the MSS. which he bequeathed to Downing College, afterwards lived, and had his place of business here.

⁵ *St Michael's Registers* (ed. Venn), *C.A.S.* xxv. See Index.

Grace¹ was passed (21 March, 1766) appointing William Chafy, of St John's, Deputy Esquire Bedell—owing to the infirmity of Burrowes and of the officer next to be named.

THOMAS BENNETT [1749—1770]. The successor to Mr Simpson in 1749 was Thomas Bennett², of King's College, who had taken his LL.B. in 1727, and who for about a month had been acting as Deputy Esquire Bedell. He was in his 50th year, when he was appointed to the full office, and he held the post for a little over 20 years, dying on March 15th, 1770, aged 70 years. He was interred in St Botolph's³, near his wife Catharine, whom he had buried 40 years before. Four of their children were also interred there. As we have seen, during the last four years of his life, William Chafy, of St John's, acted as Deputy to Bennett and Burrowes.

BEILBY PORTEUS [1754—1755]. When James Burrough was appointed Master of Caius in the year 1754, Beilby Porteus succeeded him as an Esquire Bedell. This distinguished man⁴ was the eighteenth child of a Virginian planter who had returned to England and settled at York. Born in 1731, he entered at Christ's in the summer of 1748, exchanging a sizarship for a scholarship at that college later on in the year. He was 10th Wrangler in 1752, obtaining also one of the Chancellor's medals in the first year of the institution of those classical prizes. He was elected to a fellowship shortly afterwards; and two years later was appointed a Bedell, the other candidate nominated being Humphry Senhouse, B.A., of Christ's College, afterwards a fellow of Pembroke. Porteus only, however, held this office for about a year, resigning his post on 2nd July, 1755⁵. His subsequent career belongs to general, social and ecclesiastical history. He was appointed Bishop of Chester in 1776, and

¹ See *Grace Book* under date.

² *Grad. Cantab.* (1823), p. 39. He was proctor for Dr Colbatch in his controversy with Bentley (see *Monk's Life*, pp. 388-9).

³ Cooper's *Memorials*, iii. 258. Cole, *MS.* 5809 (B.M.), p. 21b, has an interesting quotation from the *Cambridge Chronicle*, March 16th, 1770, on the parentage, life and sudden death of Mr Bennett; with comments of his own.

⁴ See the *Dictionary of National Biography*, xlv. 195; and Dr Peile's *History of Christ's*, pp. 237-9.

⁵ *Registry*, vol. 99, 49.

translated to the see of London eleven years later. His name is enrolled among the benefactors of Christ's College.

FRANCIS DAWES [1755—1789]. To Porteus in 1755 succeeded another young man, Francis Dawes, a junior optime of the preceding year, who was a fellow¹ of Peterhouse. He held the Bedellship for 34 years, his long term of office terminating in 1789² by a tragic event, of which Gunning, his successor, gives the following account :

“ During this year a circumstance occurred, which caused considerable consternation in the University. Francis Dawes, Esq. was Senior Fellow and Bursar of Peterhouse ; he was also Senior Esquire Bedell. He was a man of social habits, and of a most convivial disposition ; he had an extensive circle of acquaintances both in the county and University, and being possessed of good property, was better able to indulge his fondness for society. It was during this period that Stourbridge Fair was in all its glory ; and the theatres, which were temporary ones (there being generally two,) always attracted a crowded audience. The members of the University were frequently in the habit of coming up, ten days or a fortnight before the beginning of Term, for the purpose of seeing the theatrical exhibitions, with which the greater number of them were but little acquainted. On the 29th September, Mr Dawes had prepared a very sumptuous dinner for several county families, consisting of the Hattons, Cottons, Serocolds, Pembertons, etc., and in the evening all the party were to visit the theatre. Dinner was to be served at three o'clock. Mr Dawes was in the habit of making many little preparations for his dinners, and always decanted his wine, generally performing these offices immediately after breakfast. His servant was much surprised at his master not making his appearance, and became alarmed when he learned that he had not been seen since breakfast ; and it was imagined he must have expired somewhere in a fit. Search was made in the garden, the grove, etc., but without success. The clock struck three, and several of the guests (more punctual to the hour of dinner than in modern times) had arrived ; their concern and consternation were great, and the search was renewed. At

¹ He had been educated at Charterhouse ; and was, previously to his election to a fellowship, a fellow-commoner at Peterhouse. Dr Walker conjectures that he was one of the practical jokers who drove Gray the poet across to Pembroke. Long extracts from the private accounts of Mr Dawes are printed in Wordsworth's *University Life in the Eighteenth Century*, pp. 135, 473, etc.

² In the preceding year, Dawes, who was the senior fellow, had taken part with Bishop Yorke in an attempt to override the other fellows in the election of a new Master. This proceeding (says Dr Walker) “ must have placed Dawes in awkward relations to the other fellows, and may have a bearing on his otherwise inexplicable suicide.”

length some one went to the old tower, which is now visible, but was at that time concealed by dilapidated buildings; there the Bursar was found hanging, and must have been so many hours, being quite cold. It is very extraordinary that no person could give any probable conjecture as to the cause of this rash act, and it has always remained an equal mystery."

WILLIAM CHAFY [1767—1772]. On the death of Thomas Burrowes in August, 1767, William Chafy, of St John's, was elected¹ an Esquire Bedell. His name appears in the Mathematical Tripos of the preceding year. Shortly afterwards he obtained a fellowship² at Sidney, commencing M.A. in 1769. He resigned his mace in 1772. He subsequently held a minor canonry at Canterbury, and various incumbencies in that neighbourhood. His eldest son went up from King's School in the metropolitan city to Corpus Christi, Cambridge, in 1796; but, like his father, he afterwards passed to Sidney College, of which eventually he became the Master. The Kent clergyman lived a long and honourable life³, dying in the year 1826.

JOHN BEVERLEY [1770—1827]. On the 23rd of March, 1770, there was an election of an Esquire Bedell, in the room of Thomas Bennett of Queens', whose death had occurred five days before. The only candidates were John Beverley, B.A.⁴, of Christ's College, who polled 98 votes, and Richard Hey, B.A., of Sidney, who obtained 68 votes. The latter, whom we shall meet again, was the more distinguished scholar; but the influence of Lord Sandwich⁵ obtained the election of the former. Readers of Gunning's *Reminiscences* will remember in how many pages

¹ At the nomination by the Heads, John Wise, a Johnian, who had recently graduated, received equal votes, and was *pricked*, with William Chafy (Registry, vol. 99).

² His brother John was a fellow of King's.

³ See *The Gentleman's Magazine*, 1826, i. 180 and 1843, ii. 213; *D.N.B.* ix. 436.

⁴ Beverley's name was inserted by the Proctors in the Tripos List of 1767 (Wordsworth's *Scholæ Academicæ*, p. 359).

⁵ Among Dr Webb's *Collections* in the University Library are some curious verses "Sung at Lord Sandwich's," from which the following may be quoted:

"John Beverley long had been Fiddling the Bass,
But his Fingers so long seldom hit the right place;
So the great double Bass to take up he did beg,
Where he measures the Stops by the length of his Leg."

of those entertaining volumes John Beverley is pilloried. William Cole, in his MSS., adds to the list of scandals. It should be remembered, however, that the two Bedells—Beverley and Gunning—took opposite sides in politics and on various public questions—such as the proceedings against William Frend—in connexion with which Beverley took part as a proctor in the Vice-Chancellor's Court as well as in his official position as a Bedell. Beverley published two accounts of the trial. He was also the author of several other University pamphlets; including an *Account of the Academic Ceremonies*, certain *Poll Books*, and two of the early numbers of the *University Calendars* (1797 and 1803).

Beverley held the Bedellship for many years. When he had completed his fiftieth year of office, a stipend (£100) was provided by the Senate for the appointment of a deputy, and John Smith, B.A., of St John's, was chosen (23 March, 1821). Gunning gives a most curious account of this individual, who during the three years he held office published an edition of *Pepys's Diary*, a *Poll Book*, and a *Transcription of the Subscriptions of the Officers of the University*. He acted as deputy until 24 March, 1824, when George Leapingwell (B.A., Corp. Ch. Coll.) was appointed in his place.

John Beverley¹ died in the year 1827, having been an Esquire Bedell² for the long period of 57 years.

The *Gentleman's Magazine*³ (1781) has some satirical verses entitled "The University Maces," too long to be quoted, with very free comments on the habits, pecuniary and otherwise, of the Bedell whom Gunning's *Reminiscences* have made so notorious.

¹ See *Dictionary of National Biography*, iv. 450.

² The following description of an Esquire Bedell, in the second *University Calendar* (1797), written by John Beverley, may be quoted here: "The Bedell's are officers for life, they must be men of learning, and have taken the degree of A.M. They are chosen by the Senate, and have a stipend from the University. Their duty is to wait upon the Vice-Chancellor and Senate upon all public occasions and solemnities, who (*sic*) they proceed with rods, which were originally white wands of wood, but are at present of silver, and have been much enlarged."

³ *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1781, p. 532.



AN ACADEMICAL PROCESSION (1809),
passing Christ's College.

[From Harraden's *Cantabrigia Depicta*.]

RICHARD HEY [1772—1775]. The candidate, who had been defeated when John Beverley was chosen in 1770, was on the resignation of William Chafy two years later elected Esquire Bedell, defeating Richard Colston. Like the retiring Bedell, Richard Hey was a member of Sidney College, and so was his opponent. Hey had taken a good degree, having graduated as 3rd Wrangler and Senior Chancellor's Medallist in 1768. At that time he was a Magdalene man, but he soon afterwards migrated to Sidney, where one of his distinguished brothers was tutor. He only retained the Bedelship for three years, and during the second of these, when he was Moderator, Stephen Elleray, B.A., of Emmanuel, was appointed, by a Grace, to act as his deputy. His subsequent career¹ need not here be dwelt upon, except to remark that he issued various prize essays and other publications, and that he returned to Magdalene as fellow and tutor.

WILLIAM MATHEW [1775—1797]. On the resignation of Richard Hey in 1775, William Mathew, LL.B., a fellow of Jesus, was chosen as his successor, defeating William Eamonson², a Trinity Inceptor in Arts, who obtained a fellowship at St Catharine's College in that year. It is a pleasure to find Gunning³ speaking in high terms of Mr Mathew⁴, who became senior fellow and bursar of his college. He was one of those who joined in the condemnation of William Frend. Having held the Bedelship for 22 years, Mathew died in the year 1797, being buried in his college chapel⁵ on May 23rd of that year.

HENRY GUNNING [1789—1854]. On the tragic death of Francis Dawes in 1789, Henry Gunning was elected, and for no less than 65 years—till his decease in 1854—he held office as an Esquire Bedell. In his *Reminiscences* he has left a detailed

¹ See the *Dict. Nat. Biog.* xxvi. 314.

² Registry, vol. 99, 49. The name of Edward Balme, a fellow of Magdalene College, had also been submitted to the Heads. The voting was as follows: Mathew 54, Eamonson 50.

³ *Reminiscences*, i. 143, etc.

⁴ Among Wall's MSS., in the University Library, are a few notes on University proceedings, by Mr Mathew (Mm. v. 44, p. 155).

⁵ Bowtell MS. (extracts from the Registers of All Saints Church), 5, 1089.

account of his candidature, nomination and election. The other candidates were two medical men (Thomas Emly, a fellow of King's, and William Lambe, a fellow of St John's) and Wm Eamson, the unsuccessful applicant at the last election (fourteen years before). The last mentioned and Gunning found equal favour¹ with the Heads, and were nominated, but at the election the Christ's man was chosen by 112 votes to 64. The new Bedell, who was a member of Christ's College, had graduated as 6th Wrangler in the previous year (1788), at the age of 20. His *Reminiscences*² are so well known that it is not necessary to do more than refer to his quarrels with Beverley and Ware, to his pronounced political opinions, to his long-continued services to the University and to the Town of Cambridge—on the Council of which he sat for some years in his old age. Three times, as Senior Bedell, he received the gold chain customarily given by a new Chancellor of the University—from the Marquis Camden (1834), the Duke of Northumberland (1844) and Prince Albert (1847). In the last named year, he met with a serious accident, slipping on a piece of orange-peel and dislocating his hip. The old gentleman, who was in his eightieth year, was rendered permanently lame; but he continued to hold office for some six or seven years longer till his death in 1854. Besides the well-known autobiography to which allusion has several times been made, Gunning published two or three editions of Wall's³ *University Ceremonies*, and a pamphlet on *Compositions for Degrees* (1850).

CHARLES ISOLA [1797—1814]. A few days after the death of William Mathew in 1797, there also passed away another well-known resident in Cambridge, Agostino Isola, a greatly respected teacher of Italian, who had numbered among his pupils William Wordsworth and other distinguished men.

“There was a great desire amongst the members of the University, particularly amongst those of his own college, to do something for his son—Charles Isola, B.A., of Emmanuel—who was a man of inoffensive

¹ Registry, vol. 99, 49.

² See also *Dict. Nat. Biog.* xxiii. 344.

³ In the *Cambridge Portfolio*, ii. 526, Adam Wall, tutor and bursar of Christ's College, is spoken of as an Esquire Bedell. But this is, of course, a mistake.



AN ESQUIRE BEVELL (1803).

[From Harraden's *Costumes*.]

manners, and had not, I believe (the quotation is from Gunning¹), an enemy in the world; but his shyness and reserve were so great that it pained him to mix in society."

At the election² Isola was chosen by a large majority, the numbers being 94 for the Emmanuel man and 42 for John Ellis, M.A., a fellow of King's.

"We held office together (continues Gunning) for sixteen years in the most perfect harmony. I found him kind and accommodating, and ready to undertake all the duties that did not include the necessity of dining in a large party, to which he had an insuperable objection."

On March 1st, 1803, Charles Isola married Miss Mary Humphreys—and to them in 1809 was born Emma Isola³, a name dear to the hearts of all lovers of Elia. It is difficult to resist the temptation to dwell upon Charles Lamb's connexions with Cambridge, upon his adoption of Emma after the death of her father the Bedell, and upon that young lady herself—to whom poems were addressed by Landor and Bernard Barton and Moxon as well as by Charles and Mary Lamb, and in whose celebrated Album more great poets wrote than in any other book in the world's history—but our theme is the Esquire Bedells, and it only remains to add that Charles Isola died in the year 1814. "It was with great regret that I followed him to his grave," says Gunning⁴.

GEORGE WARE [1814—1826]. "And sorry was I," continues the author of the often quoted *Reminiscences* (p. 76), "to discover, a few days afterwards, that George Ware M.A., of St John's College, must inevitably be his successor, as there was no other candidate; and such was the disesteem into which the office had fallen from Beverley's conduct, that the Heads were under the necessity of requesting Mr (afterwards Dr) Haviland to allow his name to be returned to the Senate in conjunction with Mr Ware." George Ware, who entered⁵ at

¹ *Reminiscences*, ii. 75.

² Among the names, submitted for nomination to the Heads, were those of Mr Eamson who had been unsuccessful at the two previous elections, and Mr Ware, who was more fortunate on the next occasion (*Registry* 99, 49).

³ See works on Charles Lamb by Ainger, Lucas, etc.

⁴ *Reminiscences*, ii. 76.

⁵ Information kindly supplied by Mr R. F. Scott, Master of St John's College

St John's in 1790 (probably from St Paul's School), graduated in 1794. He took his name off the books shortly afterwards; but was subsequently readmitted, proceeding M.A. in 1797. He held the Bedelship from 1814 till his death, which occurred "on 25 July 1826 at Pentonville after a few hours' illness, aged 67."

GEORGE LEAPINGWELL [1826—1863]. Gunning must again be quoted (p. 358):

"Having most acutely felt the degradation of being obliged to associate with men whom I blush to recollect as my Colleagues, I have a proud satisfaction in being able to record the entire restoration of the respectability of the office of Esquire Bedell, by the appointment in 1826 of George Leapingwell, M.A. of Corpus (the son of my old college friend, with whom, in my undergraduateship, I had passed so many merry hours), and of William Hopkins, of Peterhouse, who was elected the following year. To these kind friends I am indebted for their considerate and generous conduct, in discharging between them the duties of the office, from the time I became so entirely incapacitated by my accident."

Mr Leapingwell had graduated in 1823 and in the following year, as we have seen¹, he was chosen deputy to John Beverley. He proceeded M.A. in the year (1826) in which he was appointed² Bedell, on the death of George Ware. He was called to the Bar, and acted as a law coach; being the author of a *Manual of the Roman Civil Law*, etc. He proceeded LL.D. in 1851; and acted as deputy Recorder of Cambridge (for Mr Serjeant Storcks) and as deputy Professor of Political Economy (for Mr Pryme). Dr Leapingwell was a Whig in politics. He was noted³ for "his tall, spare, dignified form"; and for many years he was a Captain of Volunteers. He died⁴ towards the end of the year 1863, and was buried, with military honours, in the churchyard of St Mary the Less on the Christmas Eve of that year, having held the Bedelship for 37 years.

¹ See p. 114.

² Registry, vol. 99, 49 (1). The other candidate was Arthur Leapingwell, B.A., of Peterhouse.

³ *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1864, i. pp. 264, 400.

⁴ Obiit Geo. Leapingwell 24 Dec. 1863, *neminem habens successorem*, quia statuta anno 1858 confirmata duos tantum bedellos Academiae concedant (H. R. Luard, *Grad. Cant.* 1884).

WILLIAM HOPKINS [1827—1866]. The other Bedell, whom Gunning welcomed, was William Hopkins, of Peterhouse, who succeeded Beverley in 1827, Arthur Leapingwell being again a candidate. The new official, though 34 years old at the time of his election, had only just graduated as 7th wrangler. He had been engaged¹ in farming his father's land, before he entered the University. He became a very successful private tutor; and a record² of his memorable successes has already been quoted on p. 45. He subsequently made some remarkable investigations in Geology, publishing several treatises in connexion with that science, as well as various mathematical works. He was elected President of the Geological Society, and in the year 1853 he presided over the annual meeting of the British Association. He retained the Bedelship for nearly 40 years, until his death in 1866; though during the last year of his life Mr Besant had been elected Assistant Esquire Bedell, with a salary of £100, paid from the Common Chest (Graces, March 9th, 1865, etc.).

HUGH GODFRAY [1854—1877]. When the lengthened career of Henry Gunning terminated in 1854, he was succeeded³ by Hugh Godfray, of St John's, who had graduated as 3rd wrangler two years before. Mr Godfray was the author of a treatise on the *Lunar Theory* and of other mathematical works. He held office till his death in 1877; but owing to ill-health, he had for three or four years been allowed a deputy, paid at the rate of £120 per annum. The Vice-Chancellor was authorized to make the appointment, which was held by Mr Greenhill (Emmanuel) 1874-5 and by Mr Beck (Trinity Hall) 1876.

WILLIAM HENRY BESANT [1866—1870]. To Mr Hopkins in 1866 succeeded (without a contest) W. H. Besant, a fellow of

¹ See the *Dictionary of National Biography*, xxvii. 339, which gives the date of his birth as 1793; but the Register of Peterhouse gives his age at the date of his admission into college in the year 1823 as 37 (Dr Walker). He would, according to this entry, be 41 when he took his degree.

² See Gunning's *Reminiscences*, ii. p. 359.

³ At the nomination, H. Godfray received 8 votes; J. Roberts, a fellow of Magdalene, 7; Mr (afterwards Dr) Westmorland, 6; Mr (afterwards Sir J. B.) Phear, 5; etc. At the election Mr Godfray obtained 155 votes, and Mr Roberts, 127 (Registry, vol. 99, 49-50).

St John's, who was Senior Wrangler in 1850, and who, as we have seen, had already acted as *Subbedellus* for more than a year. This distinguished mathematician only held office for three or four years, resigning in 1870 owing to his engagements as a private tutor, etc. Several mathematical treatises have proceeded from his pen. He was approved as a D.Sc. in 1883.

ROBERT KALLEY MILLER [1870—1873]. The last-named Esquire Bedell was followed by¹ a young fellow of Peterhouse whose name occupies an unique position in the University Calendars. At the time of the 1867 Mathematical Tripos Examination, R. K. Miller was prevented by an unfortunate accident from more than qualifying for an *Ægrotat* degree; but as a commencing Bachelor of Arts he obtained the First Smith's Prize. Like Dr Besant, however, he did not long retain the Bedelship, resigning on 20 September, 1873.

EDWARD JOHN GROSS [1873—1877]. To Mr Miller succeeded² E. J. Gross, 8th Wrangler in 1866 and a fellow of Caius. Mr Gross, however, did not hold the post for long, as his remarkable powers of organisation have for many years been requisitioned by his college and the University. For more than 30 years he has been one of the secretaries of the Oxford and Cambridge Examinations Board. He is the author of certain mathematical text-books.

ALFRED PAGET HUMPHRY, M.V.O. [1877—]. Mr Gross's successor³ (a son of Professor Sir George Humphry) is celebrated for his triumphs at Wimbledon and his counsels at Bisley. He graduated in 1873 and proceeded M.A. and LL.M. three years later. When the 8th Duke of Devonshire succeeded his father as Chancellor of the University, Mr Humphry received the

¹ Among the candidates were E. B. Prest (Trinity), J. Dunn (St John's), R. Wilkinson (Jesus), and R. Leeson (Downing). At the nomination Mr Miller received 13 votes and Mr Leeson 8; and at the election the former obtained 113 votes and the latter 77.

² Among the candidates were Messrs W. H. H. Hudson (St John's), R. Leeson (Downing), and E. S. Shuckburgh (Emmanuel), who withdrew before the nomination.

³ The candidates also included T. O. Bonser (Clare), Aubrey Stewart (Trinity), F. C. Wace (St John's), and C. W. Hitchins (Sidney). Mr Wace and Mr Humphry were nominated by the Council; and at the election on May 1st, 1877, the former obtained 167 votes, and the latter 203.

usual gift of a gold chain of office. The present holder of the Senior Esquire Bedelship has already occupied that picturesque position for more than 30 years.

FREDERICK CHARLES WACE [1877—1893]. At the election¹ which followed Mr Gross's resignation, Mr. Humphry's unsuccessful opponent was F. C. Wace, a fellow of St John's, a distinguished Wrangler 19 or 20 years before. The death of Mr Godfray, during the same year (1877), however, gave Mr Wace a more successful opportunity. He held the Bedelship for some 15 years; broken only by his acceptance of the office of Mayor of Cambridge for the civic year 1890-1. While the maces of the ancient borough were being carried before the academic chief magistrate, a deputy² carried the University symbol of office before the Vice-Chancellor. Mr Wace died on 25 January, 1893, at the age of 56.

WILFRID AUSTIN GILL [1893—1899]. On the death of Mr Wace in January, 1893, W. A. Gill, a fellow of Magdalene, was elected³. This good classical scholar, in the midst of much useful work for his college and University, was cut off at a comparatively early age on 7 December, 1899. During his long illness, A. Gray (Jesus) had been appointed Deputy Esquire Bedell.

ARTHUR HUMBLE EVANS [1899—]. Mr Gill was succeeded⁴ by A. H. Evans, of Clare College, a successful private tutor, who has published several interesting works on Ornithology.

¹ Among the candidates were J. H. Taylor (Trinity), C. W. Hitchins (Sidney), and Aubrey Stewart (Trinity).

² Mr C. Geldard, of Trinity College (see Grace, May 2nd, 1889, "On the nomination of Mr Wace, and with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor").

³ The voting was 317 for Gill and 305 for C. Geldard (Trinity).

⁴ Mr Evans obtained 229 votes against 60 recorded for H. G. Comber (Pembroke).

CHAPTER IX.

THE YEOMAN BEDELL.

A SECTION may be added upon the Inferior Bedell, both because this useful official played his part for some hundreds of years in the history of the University, and also because some who have not carefully discriminated in the use of the word Bedell have occasionally confused this individual with those important officers, the Esquire Bedells.

It has been observed that the title *Bedellus* is never used for the Yeoman Bedell, but *cum nota diminutionis*.

An enumeration of the names, by which this subordinate has been called, either officially or casually, will suggest some of his duties and conditions.

Such titles¹ are the Yeoman Bedell, the Inferior Bedell, the Sub-bedell, the Under Bedell, the Chancellor's Bedell, the Vice-Chancellor's Marshal, the Dog Bedell, the Bachelor's Bedell, the Collector, the Proclamator, Clamator or Præco, etc.

Some of these designations suggest their own meaning; others need some words of explanation.

One other title may be alluded to in passing—and this the more, because the holder of it has been supposed—quite unwarrantably—to be the original of our Inferior Bedell. Dean

¹ See the following paragraphs, where these designations are quoted. Perhaps the expression "the Vice-Chancellor's Marshal" ought not to be included, for (as will be seen below) it is a somewhat free translation of the Latin term "*Stator*," which is casually used in Soone's description. It may be added that the duties of the Yeoman Bedell had certain points of similarity with those of two other subordinate officers, the Marshal and the School-keeper.

Peacock¹, dealing with the question of the "Master of Glomery," says (which is true) that he was attended by his proper Bedell, and goes on to add (what is without any foundation) that this latter official is "*now said to be the yeoman bedell.*" Dr Peacock is generally so accurate in his facts and so acute in his deductions, that it is a matter of surprise to find him make such a statement. The spheres in which the Bedell of Glomery and the Bedell of the Leet Court moved were quite different, and no proof of any kind is given to shew that they had any point of tangency, still less that they became identical.

The Yeoman Bedell had certain duties in connexion with the University general ceremonies. He was a somewhat picturesque figure in processions and in proclamations. This may be seen from the account of the Deputation which waited upon the Duke of Monmouth at his Installation² as Chancellor of the University in 1674—where we read: "Next to these went the two other Esquire Bedles habited as the former, the Yeoman Bedle going in his Gown at some little distance before them to make way through y^e Crowd." Again, but one hundred years before, in an interesting description³ of Cambridge written by a distinguished foreigner, William Soone, who for a while had been Regius Professor of Civil Law in the University, we find these remarks on the academical officers:

"The Apparitors (*Viatores*), commonly called Bedels (*Pedelli*), have all titles, except one, who is the Vice-Chancellor's Marshall (*Procancellarii Stator*)....When the different ranks are assembled in the senate house, which is done by the Marshall going round to all the colleges and halls, and standing in the court with his gilded staff in one hand and his hat in the other, and with a loud voice proclaiming the day and hour of the congregation, you would think the wisest and gravest senators of some great republic were met together."

Here we have "the Bedels with titles," i.e. the Esquire Bedells, and "the Vice-Chancellor's Marshall," i.e. the Yeoman Bedell; but in the account of the proclamations in the courts

¹ Peacock's *Statutes, etc.*, Appendix A. p. xxxv; Humphry, *Maces, C.A.S.* xxi. 208.

² Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 561.

³ Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 330.

of the colleges, there may be some confusion of memory between the duties of the superior and inferior officers.

For the chief duties of the Yeoman Bedell, as a *Proclamator* or *Præco*, were in connexion with the Leet Court and with the official opening of the fairs and markets. In the *Grace Books* there are frequent entries of payments¹ "pro communi proclamacione in foro," "proclamatori tempore nundinarum," etc., the name² of the crier being often given. One of the most important functions of the year was the Magna Congregatio, commonly called the *Black Assembly*, to which not only members of the University and Privileged Persons were summoned, but also the Mayor³ and other chief townsmen. At this gathering, the Yeoman Bedell was in evidence—among his duties being the "warning" the Privileged Persons, and "ye callyng euery man by hys name," as may be seen in an elaborate description of this often quarrelsome meeting by John Mere in his first *Diary*⁴ in 1533, and in John Buck's memoranda⁵ in 1665.

Turning to the University Courts—with regard to the Common Court, we are told, in the *Projecte*⁶ of the University drawn up for the benefit of Sir Robert Cecil in 1601, that the Esquire Bedells had to summon "Masters of Arte and such as are of superior degree" and that there is "one Inferior Bedell, chosen by the Chancellor, unto whom it belongeth to summon⁷

¹ The fees payable to the Inferior Bedells were formerly fairly large; but they gradually fell off. On 1 November, 1769, a Grace was passed for allowing the Yeoman Bedell £3 annually in addition to his stipend (then only 40s.), the fees of his office having greatly decreased (*Grace Book K*, p. 496). In 1785 Loughton the Yeoman Bedell received a yearly stipend of £8. On 10 December, 1856, £25 per annum was granted to John Crouch on account of diminution of his income by the Cambridge Award Act, which abolished the University power of licensing alehouses.

² *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 199, etc.

³ See the curious picture in Hare *MS.* i. clii. representing the Mayor taking the oaths before the Vice-Chancellor.

⁴ *Grace Book A*, pp. 225, 226.

⁵ Peacock's *Statutes*, etc., Appendix B, pp. lix, lx.

⁶ Cooper, *Annals*, ii. pp. 602–611.

⁷ For an instance of the payment of the Inferior Bedell, as an officer of the Vice-Chancellor's Court, see St John's Audit Book, 1602–3, quoted in Willis and Clark's *Arch. History*, ii. p. 258.

all such into the Courte as are thither to be called, being under the degree ut supra¹; and dureing the time of the Courte to attend the service thereof." With regard to the Steward's Court or Leet—"kept according to the Charter and Custom therein used"—the document just quoted informs us that "it belongeth unto the same Inferior Bedell, to call before the Commissary all such as are deficient in any of the premisses within the said Faïres; and before the Vice-Chancellor all such as are deficient in the Marketts kept within the Towne." "The Consistory Courte of the Commissary unto the Chancellor sat as well in the University as in Midsummer and Sturbridge Faïres," the Inferior Bedell being always in attendance.

These Courts were naturally unpopular among the Townsfolk, and the office of the Chancellor's Bedell must have had its unpleasantnesses. In the complaints² made by the University, in the time of Henry V, against John Bilney the Mayor and other burgesses, it was alleged that "he refused to allow the bedels to collect amerçiements in the leet of the chancellor; and when Thomas Wering bedel took a distress for such an amerçiement³, he took it away, and threatened Wering with indictment." This particular quarrel continued for some years; and during the course of it the townsmen complained of the conduct of John Duke, "sub-Bedell of the University," who was probably either the predecessor or the successor of Thomas Wering as Yeoman Bedell.

It will be noticed in one of the extracts quoted above that

¹ What disagreeable tasks sometimes fell to the lot of the Inferior Bedell may be seen in the accounts of how John Standish was called upon in 1581 to arrest a "bereward," and how nearly he fell into the clutches of the infuriated bear; and again of how the same official was ordered in 1585 to take down a certain sign, and how from a window above he was nearly "skalded" with hot water (Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 383, 405). In Dec. 1677, an undergraduate, Leigh of Trinity, was expelled from the University, and Titus Tillet, the Yeoman Bedell, at the command of the Vice-Chancellor, "did pull of his gowne and take away his Capp" (*Acta Curia*).

² Cooper, *Annals*, i. pp. 164, 160, etc.

³ There is a long and very interesting paragraph on the fees and "on-reasonable amerçiements" in connexion with the Leets and the Chancellor's Bedell in the Complaints of the Mayor and other burgesses presented to certain Judges in 1503 (Cooper, *Annals*, i. 352).

the Inferior Bedell is said to be "chosen by the Chancellor¹." In the records of the *Grace Books* the occasional description of this official as *Bedellus Summi Cancellarii* sounds so imposing that he has sometimes been classed as one of the Esquire Bedells. But an examination of the context will generally reveal some connexion with the Leet Court or the Market or the Fair, and then our official may be recognised. For instance, in *Grace Book B*, ii. p. 58, occurs the entry:

"Item prior de barnewell debet pro nundinis sancti Johannis baptiste vocatis mydsomer feyer pro undecem annis quolibet anno vj^s viij^d ultra xij^s iiij^d receptos annuatim a thoma barber bedello summi cancellarii. Summa debiti eius...ij^h xij^s iiij^d."

Here Thomas Barber², being the Yeoman Bedell, is not dignified with the prefix *magister*. This paragraph just quoted shews that our official was not unnaturally sometimes called³ the *Collector*.

The designation "Dog Bedell⁴" has perhaps its explanation in a popular expression similar to that applied to the attendants of the modern Proctors.

We have just mentioned the names of Thomas Wering and John Duke in the beginning of the fifteenth century, and of Thomas Barber at the commencement of the sixteenth. The *Grace Books* and other University records supply us with the names of many other of these officers—such as Hugh the Bedel⁵, in *Grace Book A*; Thomas Bracebridge, Robert Legert, John Keyll, Sanderson, and Christopher Wrytynton, all mentioned in *Grace Book B*, ii. sometimes simply as Bedells. John Standish⁶ and Benjamin Prime⁷ held office for many years in the reigns

¹ The Inferior Bedell, John Crouch, who held office from 1831 till its suppression in 1858, had patents from the following Chancellors—the Duke of Gloucester (1831), the Marquis Camden (1835), the Duke of Northumberland (1844), and H.R.H. Prince Albert (1847). See Registry, vol. 99.

² See also *Grace Book B*, pp. 8 and 65.

³ See "The Statute for the Payment of the King's Leet by the Proctors (1541)" (*Commissioners' Documents*, i. 441). On the question of the salary of the Chancellor's Bedell, see a Grace passed in 1535 (*Doc. i. 435*).

⁴ See the *Cambridge Portfolio*, i. 245.

⁵ *Grace Book A*, pp. 48, 49; *Grace Book B*, ii. pp. 11, 134, 161, 163, 176, 181, 182, 199, 207, 237, etc.

⁶ See p. 125; *Add. MS.* (B.M.) 5829, 223 (b).

⁷ Searle, *Queens'*, ii. 394; Bowtell *MS.* 2766; Perse's Will; Willis and

of Elizabeth, James II or Charles. We have already seen how useful a servant to the University Standish was; while to Prime there are so many allusions that it would not be difficult to write a biography of him. He resided in a house on the old Austin Friars estate; he it was who carried to the Vice-Chancellor in 1626 the fish with a book in its mouth. On his behalf the Senate passed, on 7 Nov. 1606, a Grace¹ to relieve him from an imprisonment to which he had for some months been subjected. John Houlden², who was Yeoman Bedell in Cromwell's time, saw the royal arms on the top of his staff effaced, and saw them renewed when the Commonwealth gave place to the Restored Monarchy. Houlden combined with his Bedellship the business of a stationer. We learn from the *Acta Curiae* that William Watkins was appointed as his deputy on August 6th, 1660, and that Titus Tillett³ was similarly nominated on August 16th, 1667. The latter, who seems eventually to have succeeded him, held office for many years and is frequently mentioned. When the Duke of Monmouth was deprived of the Chancellorship in 1785, his portrait at the University was ordered by the Senate to be burnt, and Titus (who by the bye had marshalled the procession at the installation of the duke) was sent as

a lictor

To vent his loyal malice on the picture.

The beadle's wife endeavours all she can

To save the image of the tall young man⁴.

Clark, *Arch. Hist.* ii. 238 and 258; Baker *MS.* 27. 1; Cooper, *Annals*, ii. 596, iii. 196; etc.

¹ In this Grace Benjamin Prime is thus described: "humillimus vester et fidelissimus Bedellus." Baker *MS.* 27, p. 1; Cooper, *Annals*, p. ii. 596. In 1719 the University similarly came to the rescue of Alexander Norfolk, their Yeoman Bedell, who had been arrested (see Attwood, *Diary*, pp. 158, 159).

² Humphry, *Bedells' Maces*, *C.A.S.* xxi. p. 217; Registry, Drawer B; Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 416. The *Acta Curiae*, preserved in the University Registry, tell us that he was sworn in as Inferior Bedell on April 19th, 1642, apparently in succession to Cuthbert Acroyd.

³ Ald. Newton's *Diary*, *C.A.S. Oct. Publications*, xxiii. p. 36; Cooper, *Annals*, iii. 531, 611, 612; Titus Tillett is called a public notary in the dispute as to the fees payable by St John's College to Tabor and Buck (see Baker *MS.* 27, p. 107).

⁴ George Stepney's *Poems*.

In the Registry may be seen a volume (no. 99), at the end of which are certain memoranda referring to the appointments of the Yeoman Bedells (for whose office there was often keen competition) down to the year 1834 when John Crouch succeeded to the post. He still held office in 1858, when on May 20th a Grace was passed that the Inferior Bedellship should cease at the next vacancy. Crouch died before the year was out; and his staff¹ rested in peace in the Registry during the remainder of the nineteenth century.

At the installation of Lord Rayleigh to the Chancellorship in 1908, the mace of the Yeoman Bedell was borne by Alfred Brockett, the University Marshal, who has since that date carried it in Academical Processions.

¹ For a description of this mace see Mr A. P. Humphry's paper so often quoted (*C.A.S.* xxi. p. 213).

APPENDIX A.

DEED No. 940 IN THE TREASURY OF CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

Sciunt presentes et futuri quod ego Willelmus Noloth filius Rogeri Noloth de Canteburgia et Margareta uxor mea dedimus concessimus et hac presenti carta nostra confirmavimus Waltero de Oxonia servienti universitatis Canteburie unam placeam terre cum domo desuper edificata in Canteburgia que jacet inter terram Willelmi Le Combere et terram Roberti Wytesmith in longitudine et a cimiterio beate Marie ad vicum qui vocatur Smitherowe in latitudine.

Habendum et tenendum totam predictam placeam terre cum predicta sua domo et pertinenciis de nobis et heredibus nostris vel assignatis dicto Waltero et heredibus suis vel cuicumque et quodcumque dictam placeam terre cum dicta domo et suis pertinenciis dare vendere assignare vel quocumque modo alienare voluerit : libere quiete bene et in pace jure hereditario inperpetuum.

Reddendo inde annuatim dominis feodi tres solidos ad duos anni terminos videlicet ad festum sancti Michaelis decem et octo denarios, et ad Hokeday decem et octo denarios. Et ecclesie beate Marie quatuor denarios ad dictos terminos videlicet ad festum sancti Michaelis duos denarios et ad Hokeday duos denarios.

Et mihi dicto Noloth unam rosam in die Sancti Johannis Baptiste pro omnibus serviciis consuetudinibus et temporalibus exactionibus et demandis ad dictam terram pertinentibus. Ita tamen quod dicta Margareta ibit cum dicto Waltero coram judiciariis cum sederint Cantabrigie vel Londonie ad cultus (?) (costs ?) dicti Walteri ad cyrograffandam presentem cartam in nostre vendicionis majorem securitatem.

Et nos dicti Willelmus et Margareta et heredes nostri vel assignati warrantizabimus acquietabimus et diffendemus totam predictam placeam terre cum dicta domo et pertinenciis suis predicto Waltero et heredibus suis vel assignatis contra omnes homines et feminas inperpetuum per predictum servicium. Pro hac autem donacione nostra concessione

warantizazione et huius carte confirmacione et sigilli nostri impressione dedit nobis predictus Walterus decem solidos sterlingorum in gersumiam (*sic*).

Hiis testibus Johanne Martine tunc majore Cantebrigie
 Willelmo Elyot
 Erneys mercatore
 Osberto ferrur
 Henrico Nadon
 Rogero de Ely
 Ricardo Bateman
 Roberto de Maddinggele
 et aliis.

Data anno regni regis Henrici filii Regis Johannis quinquagesimo quinto. [28 Oct. 1270—1271.]

1. "S. Wilelmi Nolote."
2. "S. Margarete Letere"?

Endorsed: Carta willelmi noloth et Margarete uxoris eius facta Waltero de Oxonia de quadam placea cum una domo superedificata in vico fabrorum. Et debet per annum .iij. solidos .iiij. denarios et finis inde levatur.

St Mary's.

55 Henry 3.

APPENDIX B.

DEED No. 939, CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Walterus de Oxonia serviens universitatis Cantebri^g'—concessi remisi et omnino pro me et heredibus meis quietos clamavi

Willelmo le Comber de Canteburgia
et Matilde uxori sue

et eorum heredibus et assignatis totum jus et clameum quod unquam habui vel in posterum habere potui in illa placea terre quam habui ex dono et feofamento Willelmi Noloth filii Rogeri Noloth et Margarete uxoris sue filie Alicie le Milkest' jacente in parochia Sancte Marie de Canteburgia in Smithrowe inter terram dictorum Willelmi le Comber et matilde uxoris sue ex una parte et terram Roberti le Witesmith ex altera. Ita tamen quod [nec] ego Walterus nec heredes mei nec aliquis pro me vel per me vel nomine nostro aliquid jus vel clameum in dicta placea decetero imponere clamare vel vendicare poterimus in perpetuum nisi unam rosam annui redditus in festo sancti Johannis Baptiste.

Pro hac autem mea concessione remissione et quieta clamacione dederunt mihi dicti Willelmus et Matilda uxor sua viginti solidos pre manibus in gersumam.

In huius rei testimonium huic presenti carte sigillum meum apposui.

Hiis testibus Magistro Thoma de Luda
Henrico Nadon
Errnisio mercatore
Thoma serviente universitatis
Rogerio de Ely
Ricardo Bateman
Roberto Witesmithe
Roberto de Malverne
et aliis.

1. "S. Walteri de Oxonia."

Endorsed : Carta Walteri de Oxonia.
Willelmo le Combere.

APPENDIX C.

DEED No. 892, CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE.

Hec indentura testatur quod magister et scolares domus Corporis Christi et beate Marie Cantabrigie dimiserunt ad firmam

Johanni Wesenham bedello
Alicie uxori ejus
et Johanne filie dicti Johannis

unum mesuagium in parochia beate marie Cantabrigie situatum inter tenementum dicti Collegii quod Johannes Ramesey barbour tenet ex una parte

et tenementum dicti Johannis quod Thomas ffloure tenet ex altera, et abuttat ad altam stratam

Habendum et tenendum dictum mesuagium prefatis Johanni, Alicie et Johanne filie dicti Johannis

ad totam vitam eorum et uniuscuiusque eorum diucius viventium de predictis Magistro et Scolaribus et eorum successoribus

Reddendo inde annuatim eisdem Magistro et scolaribus et eorum successoribus quatuor denarios vel duo paria cirotecarum durante vita dicti Johannis et Alicie uxoris sue ad festa Michaelis et Paschæ equis porcionibus. Et post decessum eorundem Johannis et Alicie uxoris sue annuatim viginti solidos ad eosdem terminos et nihilominus faciendo capitalibus dominis feodi illius servicia inde debita et consueta et subeundo omnia alia onera ad dictum mesuagium medio tempore incumbencia.

Et predicti Johannes Alicia et Johanna omnes domos muros et parietes nunc ibidem existentes seu in futurum faciendos quociens et quando-cunque necesse fuerit sumptibus suis in omnibus reparabunt manutenebunt et sustentabunt et unusquisque eorum qui diucius vixerit manutenebit et sustentabit et in adeo bono statu dimittent seu dimittet eorum unus quam illud receperunt nec prædictum mesuagium dimittent nec aliquis eorum dimittet alicui sine consensu expresso prædictorum Magistri et Scolarum vel eorum successorum. Et si aliquod novum fecerint vel aliquis eorum ibidem fecerit illud non ammovebunt nec aliquis eorum ammovebit seu faciet amoveri.

Volunt eciam et concedunt prædicti Johannes Alicia et Johanna quod si prædictus redditus per unum mensem post aliquem terminum prædictum

in parte vel in toto a retro fuerit non solutus, vel si prædictos domos parietes et muros in forma predicta non reparaverit et sustentaverit aut in aliquo articulo predictarum convencionum defecerint vel aliquis eorum defecerit quovismodo: tunc bene liceat magistro et scolaribus et eorum successoribus in prædictum mesuagium cum omnibus pertinentiis suis reingredi et illud cum omnibus bonis suis et catallis in eo inventis absque reclamacione aliquali prædictorum Johannis Alicie et Johanne vel alicuius nomine eorum retinere imperpetuum dimissione prædicta non obstante. Ac eciam in omnibus aliis terris et tenementis dictorum Johannis Alicie et Johanne cum omnibus bonis suis et catallis ubicunque inventis distringere et tanquam propria bona sua abducere et retinere quousque eisdem magistro et scolaribus et eorum successoribus de areragiis dicti redditus dampnis et expensis universis qua ex fraccione alicuius articuli prædictarum convencionum sustinuerint plenarie fuerit satisfactum. Et predicti Magister et Scholares et successores eorum predictum mesuagium prefatis Johanni Alicie et Johanne ad totam vitam suam et eorum uniuscuiusque diucius viventis pro predicto reddito in forma predicta contra omnes gentes warantizabunt. Post decessum vero predictorum Johannis Alicie et Johanne predictum mesuagium prefatis magistro et scolaribus et eorum successoribus integre revertatur et remaneat in perpetuum.

In cuius rei testimonium presentibus indenturis tam sigillum commune dicte domus quam sigilla ipsorum Johannis Alicie et Johanne alternatim sunt appensa.

Hiis testibus: Ricardo Masterman tunc majore ville Cantebrie
 Johanne Cotton
 Johanne Blaunkpayn
 Ricardo ffouke
 Johanne Herry
 et aliis.

Datum apud Cantebriam die Veneris proximo post festum (8 Sept.) Nativitatis beate Marie anno regni Regis Ricardi secundi post conquestum quarto decimo (22 June 1390—1391).

1. "S. Joh̄is Wesenham bed."
2. Pelican.
3. "Sorta [*or* corda] theologie." upside down.

No endorsement.

The duplicate lease had the seal of the college.

St Mary's.

14 Richard 2.

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