

A JOURNAL OF EXCURSIONS  
THROUGH THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK  
1823-1844



The Interior of Rumburgh Church in 1849.  
Watercolour by Henry Davy (B.L.)

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1823-1844

David Elisha Davy

*Edited by*  
John Blatchly

with very best wishes  
from the Editor John Blatchly  
1 Oct 82

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Dr. Whaley, Keeper of Manuscripts at the British Library, arranged for me to read Davy's Out-county Journal before it was permanently accessioned and generously gave the Society permission to reproduce the watercolour of Rumburgh Church as frontispiece and jacket illustration, and other items from Davy's own collections on pages 9 and 121. Mr. M. A. L. Borrie, Assistant Keeper, sent me details of the purchase of Davy's MSS. by the Museum in 1852.

The Curator of Ipswich Museums and Adrian Parry kindly allowed their watercolours to appear on page 53, and that on page 94 is reproduced by permission of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

Many kind friends have helped with special knowledge of their own part of the County, with the loan of books and plans, and the fruits of their own research: George Arnott, Alan Barker, Alan Bottomley, Joan Corder, Simon Cotton, R. John Day, Gwenyth Dyke, John Fitch, Mollie and Geoffrey Smith, Sir John Gooch, Bt., Paul Grinke, Birkin Haward, Seymour de Lotbiniere, Edward Martin, Lionel Mizon, John Page-Phillips, Joy Rowe, Margaret Statham and Richard Wilson. David Smee's are the comments on Davy's botanical sightings. To all of them my thanks, also to the many incumbents who have patiently dealt with time-consuming requests for information.

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Finally I would like to thank Maureen Bailey for her typescript of the whole, bravely tackling the text with a magnifying glass, and my wife for many hours of patient work on draft and proof checking, and for assisting at innumerable visits to churches where in 'just a few minutes' I could take a photograph or note an inscription.

Ipswich School  
March 1982

John Blatchly

## Editorial Note

Davy's spelling is preserved throughout save for obvious errors on his part, as is his punctuation except where the meaning would be obscured. His generous use of commas is unaltered, as are his abbreviations, odd though they often seem. Place-names in the Journal, are as he spelt them, inconsistencies and all but the Index of Places has modern versions. Omissions in the Journal are supplied in square brackets, and to Davy's dates of entries are added days of the week.

## Abbreviations

R.	Rector	succ.	succeeded
V.	Vicar	patr.	patron
C.	Curate	prop.	proprietor
P.C.	Perpetual Curate	mont.	monument
inst.	instituted	aet.	<i>aetatis suae</i>
B.L.	British Library		
S.R.O.	Suffolk Record Office (at Ipswich and Bury St. Edmunds)		
N.N.R.O.	Norfolk and Norwich Record Office		
N.C.C.	Norwich Consistory Court		
<i>D.N.B.</i>	<i>Dictionary of National Biography</i>		
<i>Gent. Mag.</i>	<i>Gentleman's Magazine</i>		
<i>P.S.I.A.(H.)</i>	<i>Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology (and History)</i>		
<i>M.B.S.Trans.</i>	<i>Transactions of the Monumental Brass Society</i>		
<i>M.S.</i>	Mill Stephenson's <i>List of Monumental Brasses</i> , 1926		

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## Introduction

The publication of the recently discovered Journal kept by David Elisha Davy during the latter half of his working tours in Suffolk provides an opportunity for the first proper appreciation of the most devoted historian the county has had, I almost dare say the most thorough any county can boast. Davy was the most careful and persistent collector of materials, and these he organised flawlessly. His search for books and manuscripts took him to public and private collections where he abstracted charters, deeds, terriers and registers, and the notes of his predecessors in the field, but, most important, he visited every corner of the county, often returning more than once to record interesting features of churches, ancient buildings and sites. It has to be admitted, of course, that the fruits of all this labour remain unpublished, but no one who has examined the extent of the work would be surprised or disappointed. The important thing is that the 170 folio volumes he put together are available to all in the British Library, and that microfilms of his Collections for the Hundreds of Suffolk are in the Suffolk Record Office. The prefatory notice to the short County bibliography at the end of Shoberl's Suffolk volume of *The Beauties of England and Wales*, written in 1810, only about five years after Davy and his first collaborator Henry Jermyn started their tours, shows how early it became apparent that the work was to grow beyond publishable size:

The history and topography of Suffolk, projected and begun by Messrs. Davy and Jermyn, both residing in the county, will, it is understood, be so voluminous, that its appearance must necessarily be deferred to a very distant period.

Davy's aim was to amass all that could be had, conscious that some evidence would not survive indefinitely. If he had a weakness it was that he did not digest it all or comment on points of variation in conflicting sources. It was not his talent, or within his scope or power, to fashion his materials into a finished account, solving problems on the way. We who profit by his immense labours need not complain, for so often he gives us almost all we need to draw a subject which interests us to a satisfactory conclusion. We should rather be grateful that he kept up his pedigrees, notes from newspapers and records of church improvements and additions almost to the date of his death, and regret that no one came after to maintain them, particularly the church notes throughout the heyday of the Victorian restorer.

My discovery of Davy's Journal on a North Norfolk bookseller's shelves in October 1979 was, I like to think, providential. Its beginning coincides with that of its author's exile from his inherited estate and home, The Grove, Yoxford. He had not kept a diary during the years of his travels with Henry

Jermyn of Sibton, and the preface written in 1823 tells of a conscious decision that this little book should be 'a Companion in my Excursions' so that 'many little matters will then be preserved' which would not otherwise find a place in his Collections. And so it accompanied him for more than 4,000 miles. Davy was not one to allow personal preference or opinion to intrude into his formal work, but the Journal is quite different; private feelings are not excluded and we are permitted more than a glimpse of a man who, after his resignation from public office, lived very privately. In reading the Journal we are far from feeling that we are trespassing, but we do gain a revealing insight into his methods of work and travel, his family and friendships, and the reception he enjoyed from acquaintances. We learn much, too, about the temperament and manners of this gentleman antiquary whose work should and may still earn him greater fame than hitherto; his reticence only is to blame for any neglect heretofore.

The first question the reader will wish answered about the Journal is why it is the only MS. volume of Davy's not in the British Library collections. David Elisha had a younger sister Lucy Elizabeth who, as we shall see, though widowed in 1830, outlived him, dying at the age of 92 in 1862. When Davy died intestate in 1851 she was his natural heir and had as her only guidance to the disposal of his collections the brief note he wrote to her in October 1844, a few months after the last Journal entry, and which was found folded into the pages of the Journal. It is characteristically brief and precise:

As I have been at great trouble expence and time in making collections towards the History of Suffolk, I should be very sorry that they should be dispersed at my death. If my sister survives me she will of course be heir to all I possess and therefore while she lives, I have no occasion to make a Will, as the law will make it for me. She will therefore do what she will with my MSS. but if she should not ever be in need of the value of them, which I cannot suppose will ever be the case, I should be very glad if she will present the whole to the Trustees of the British Museum. I include in my Collections all my MSS. and books containing my notes, all Prints, drawings, rubbings from brasses, MSS. not written by me, all pamphlets relating to Suffolk, or written by Suffolk Authors, which are either bound up in Vols. or not, MSS. letters, which however ought not to be opened to the public for some years after my death.

D. E. Davy

My dear Lucy

You will remember the conversation which passed between us some time since on the subject of my collections, and when I mentioned my *wishes* not *injunctions* upon the subject, you requested that I should leave such wishes behind me on paper. I have above complied with your request; but I do not desire to have you do anything on this point, should your interest be found materially to interfere with my request.

D. E. Davy

Ufford Oct. 18. 1844

Perhaps she found the note in the Journal and left it there; how else should it have been there still in 1979?

My guess is that she was told to find it there, and it may well have set her reading the account of his last journeys, on which his companion was the much younger, but asthmatic, Ellis Wade, son of a school friend of Davy's. Just a few parishes remained to be visited and Wade offered to take the ageing antiquary to them. The Journal tells the full story, and Lucy must, surely, have been impressed with the kindness Wade showed her brother despite his own disability which came near to preventing success at the last. What is certain is that she gave the Journal and the letter to Wade, no doubt in gratitude, and that it passed from him before his death in 1864 to his daughter Sarah Elizabeth, who in 1866 married Robert Ledger of Blackheath. The only inscription on the flyleaf must be in her hand: 'Sarah Elizth. Ledger from her Father — Ellis Wade 1864', and must have been penned retrospectively. From Blackheath the book found its way to an Antiquarian Book Fair in Canterbury in 1979 and thence, missing Suffolk, came to Norfolk. Unfortunately, it had been very recently rebound, so that the evidence of wear and weathering it sustained so honourably on those many journeys is lost.

If any justification is needed for publishing the text *in extenso*, it may be claimed to be by any standards an unusually complete diary of an antiquary's travels over more than 20 years. Besides, it is strongly autobiographical and contains much local and topical information, as well as contemporary comment and criticism, of value for itself. We are admitted to a life little known otherwise, and into a scholarly, mainly clerical, antiquarian circle, typical of many elsewhere, but none better chronicled.

Questions left unanswered by the Journal have directed me to read much of the correspondence Davy received, which he had bound in 29 volumes among his 170. From these, matters of wider interest and particular importance emerge. As I shall detail, Davy is anonymously responsible for the text of many previously unattributed Suffolk books of the period, and was concerned in almost all the topographical and historical work proceeding in the County for nearly half a century. The Journal is still written with a great deal of reserve, and it is only clues and hints that the reader finds. Davy was almost pathologically shy to own his work — was it modesty, fear of criticism, or snobbery? Some answers can be found, again, in the correspondence. The Journal gives little indication either of the tirelessly generous help he was prepared to give to others seriously pursuing his own studies. He shared his knowledge with close collaborators and acquaintances alike. Now, for the first time, and this I suspect would not please him greatly, a proper assessment can be made of his contributions, published and unpublished, to the topographical literature of the County of Suffolk.

## David Elisha Davy, his Life and Work

### *The first thirty years*

At least three generations of David Davys, father, son and grandson, farmed at Rumburgh and no doubt David Elisha, born to the third in succession on 16th June 1769, would have been a farmer too had not his much grander uncle Eleazar Davy of Ubbeston Hall needed an heir. Eleazar, fourteen years junior to his brother David, the boy's father, married Mrs. Frances Anne Wilson, the widowed daughter of George Evans, second Baron Carbery of Cork. Davy was made Sheriff of the County in 1770, and in 1772 bought the Grove estate, south west of Yoxford church, and during the next seven years built himself a fine house on the site of an older one there.

Eleazar undertook the whole education of the young David Elisha; perhaps it was in return that the elder David Davy acted as steward at the Grove during its building and after. He came across regularly from Rumburgh to supervise planting operations and manage the livestock; he also dealt with many pressing creditors while Eleazar, his wife and stepdaughter enjoyed London or Bath society. David Davy's letters to Eleazar show him to have been capable and dependable, loyal and pious, but of modest education; he wrote as one self-taught.

David Elisha was sent first in 1778 to Bungay grammar school where he was one of about 20 boarders under the Revd. Thomas Reeve, the successful acting Master since 1772. In 1782, Mr. Samuel Forster settled at Elmsley, a pleasant house now called Yoxford Place, at the Peasenhall end of the village. Here he took pupils at £50 *per annum*, and David was soon sent to him there. It may be that boarding did not suit him (he was delicate in his youth), or that Eleazar wanted closer oversight of his nephew's upbringing. As Davy was the last owner of Elmsley it may have been his idea that Forster should set up a seminary in Yoxford. The lad was at Bungay long enough, however, to make several strong friendships, particularly with Thomas Sherlock Gooch, son of Sir Thomas, Baronet, of Benacre, and Mark Farley Wade of Raydon in Orford whose son Ellis was so helpful to him 60 years later.

A strange letter from Forster at Yoxford to the boy's uncle in London, dated March 1784, shows that master and pupil had undertaken some planting at the Grove while father Davy had been unfit to attend to it. He writes:

We are happy to see Mr. D. Davy so much better as to pay us a visit. He has been so good as to express himself very much pleased with what we have ventured to do [in the gardens]. I shall be glad to hear from you & receive any commands you will honour me with. Your Nephew is very well, & as I do not think him an Hypocrite, very happy.

When in the autumn of 1785 Samuel Forster was chosen to succeed the great Samuel Parr as Headmaster of Norwich grammar school, he took Davy with him and other Yoxford pupils, including the Badeley brothers from Walpole. In February 1786 Forster reported to Eleazar that 'David is grown a full foot,' and Robert Parr in his MS. history 'Yoxford Yesterday' quotes D.E.D. as finding 'Forster's teaching and treatment very agreeable both at Yoxford and at Norwich'. The fact that Forster left Norwich with only eight pupils in 1810 hardly mattered to the Davys, for he had successfully prepared David to enter Pembroke Hall as a pensioner in April 1786, an admission in which William Wyatt, Rector of the rich college living of Framlingham seems also to have had a hand. During September 1786, Wyatt invited Eleazar to stay at Framlingham to meet William Skeeles (Fellow of Pembroke the next year) to discuss his nephew's future; as a first step David Elisha took his degree in 1790 as sixth senior optime having been elected to scholarships annually each May. But from letters to his uncle we gather that David found Cambridge life no compensation for being away from Yoxford and out of Suffolk. In March 1787 he wrote:

I believe there is no vast quantity of Magnetism in me, but there is such a wonderful repulsive force in this place, & such an attractive power in the Grove, that it hurries me along whether I will or not.

Like so many of his school and college friends, and doubtless encouraged by Forster and Wyatt, Davy next read for orders. He was ordained deacon in London on the 3rd June 1792 by the new Bishop of Norwich, Charles Manners Sutton, in a large group of ordinands including four whose names will recur: George Capper his closest Cambridge friend, George Clarke Doughty, another, Peter Eade and Christopher Smear. Davy was licensed to the curacy of Theberton with an annual stipend of £30; he had been officiating there since April during an interregnum of the living, and Wyatt was waiting to be instituted to the Rectory, to be held in plurality with Framlingham, of course. The new Vicar of Yoxford, John Cutts Lockwood, was pleased to find Davy curate there too when he arrived in May 1793, where Davy's first office had been to bury the late Vicar, Daniel Copland. The patron, Sir John Rous, had in 1788 married Eleazar Davy's stepdaughter Frances Wilson (she died only two years later), so there were already strong links between Henham and the Grove. Davy served at Theberton for 18 months and at Yoxford for two years, but for some reason the church was not to be his career as it was for his life-long friend and successor as curate at Yoxford, Charles Brooke of Ufford.

### *Public Service and inherited liability*

In June 1795 William Pitt signed the Commission making David Elisha Davy Receiver General of Transferred Duties for the Eastern part of the County, and thus it was that Davy was involved in the collection of Land Tax and the disbursement of large sums of official money. For example, in February 1803, he was ordered to be reimbursed nearly £3,000 which he had paid out for horses for the Suffolk Yeomanry Cavalry and for the relief of families of men serving.

In January 1803 Eleazar Davy died aged 79, just six months after his wife Frances. His personal possessions were not sufficient to cover his debts and legacies, and David Elisha immediately found it necessary to borrow from his bankers, Messrs. Gurney of Norwich, to avoid selling property. It was also unfortunate that land recently acquired at a high price lost much of its value in the slump following the final defeat of Napoleon.

Nevertheless, in March 1804, Davy, already a member of the Commission of the Peace in the County and an acting Magistrate, was made a Deputy Lieutenant, and in April it was announced that Capt. Davy of the Yoxford Volunteers (75 men) was promoted Lt. Colonel and Commandant of the Blything Hundred Volunteers. At the same time his friend Henry Jermyn, Captain in the Sibton Volunteers (76 strong), was promoted Major and Davy's second-in-command. No doubt Sir Thomas Gooch whose 1792 proposal to government led to the founding of volunteer forces in districts and counties, and Sir John Rous (later 1st Earl of Stradbroke), also much involved, were responsible for the enlistment and promotion of Davy and Jermyn.

It is however in their partnership in the entirely peaceable pursuit of collecting materials for a County History that we know most of these two young men, and from 1805 they made regular expeditions together throughout Suffolk in search of antiquity. If this activity seems strange at a time when there was nationwide preoccupation with the threat of invasion, the two men, their volunteer duty done, were only carrying on as their fictional contemporaries appeared to act in the novels of Jane Austen.

Jermyn was educated for the law but had the means to enjoy his father's estate, occasionally undertaking a certain amount of counselling locally. In 1810, Jermyn and Davy issued a printed double folio sheet of queries (almost an exact copy of those Nichols circulated in Leicestershire) to send to the nobility, gentry and clergy in each parish. They kept almost identical sets of notes, transcripts and observations so that, when Jermyn died in 1820, Davy was concerned at the prospect of his friend's work, to which he had contributed so much, being sold, possibly to a publisher. Jermyn, had he lived,



*Henry Jermyn of Sibton 1767-1820*



*'Grove Yoxford — Davy, Esq. 1801 C. Varley'*

would never have published anything himself, if we are to believe what William Miller (a day-boy school friend of Davy's at Bungay) wrote in his *Biographical Sketches* in 1826:

Jermyn's habits were too indolent for the constant research necessary to so laborious an undertaking. His progress was slow; he had neither the piercing stimulus of pecuniary want, nor the ardent enthusiasm and industry of a true natural-born Antiquary. The undertaking lingered during his life, and died with his death.

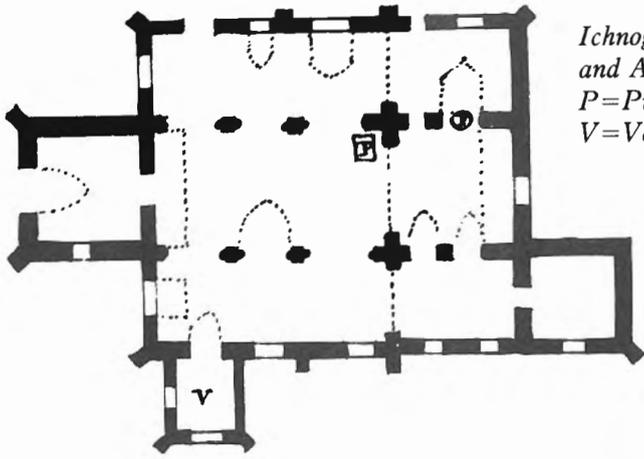
If Davy had not gone steadily deeper into debt since Eleazar's death, he would no doubt have bought Henry's collections himself. Instead he was forced to make certain claims on the estate of his departed friend, and in doing so fell foul of James Jermyn of Southwold, both cousin and son-in-law of Henry, and his heir. The disagreement lasted several years and James Jermyn eventually published a pamphlet claiming that Davy had defrauded him and his late cousin of some of their rights. The only surviving copy was Davy's own and his marginal comments refute all the charges absolutely. It is inconceivable that one of Davy's character and position would have cheated another, least of all the friend of whom he wrote:

He was for many years the sharer of my topographical and historical labours, & [he] having been one of my earliest & firmest friends, few felt his loss more seriously than I did.

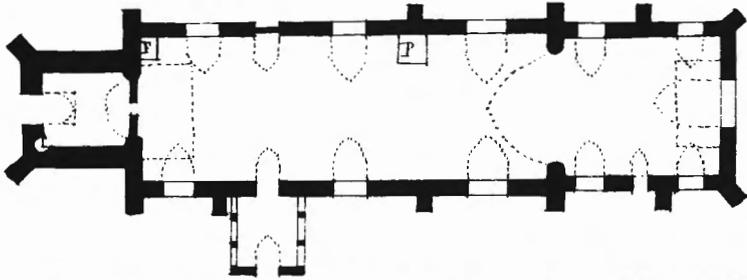
Henry Jermyn's collections were eventually bought by Hudson Gurney, Esq. and in 1830 presented by him to the British Museum.

Jermyn's death was a bitter blow to Davy, and it came at a time when he felt forced to put the Grove into the hands of Gurney's Bank as security for further advances he needed. It was clear to him that he could no longer afford to occupy the place in county society for which he had been groomed; he resigned his Receiver Generalship and decided to leave Yoxford rather than live among those who had been his social inferiors and would never be his equals intellectually.

His friend Charles Brooke, having served his curacy at Yoxford, had in 1803 been instituted to the living of Ufford and succeeded his father in the Ufford Place estate. Here at Brooke's suggestion Davy made his home for the last part of his long life, nearly 30 years from 1822. For many years Brooke lived at the Rectory and let the Place, but he put at Davy's disposal a pleasant house and garden just to the north of the drive from Ufford church into the Place grounds, a house now extended and known as Ufford House, and hence the new series of county excursions recorded in the *Journal* commenced the following March.



*Ichnographies of Acton  
and Alpheton Churches*  
P=Pulpit F=Font  
V=Vestry



*Ufford House, Davy's home 1823-1851*

*Antiquarian author anonymous*

In his *D.N.B.* article, H. Manners Chichester notes that Davy's only appearance as author in the *British Museum Catalogue of Printed Books* is in respect of *A Short Account of Leiston Abbey* (London 1823). There is nothing in the pamphlet to tell us, as the *Catalogue* does, that James Bird of Yoxford was the editor, and that Davy had contributed the ten page historical account which precedes poems by Barton, Bird and Fletcher. The Advertisement hints in Davy's direction:

A more detailed account of the monastic and architectural remains, as well as a more general history of the County of Suffolk than has hitherto been published, is 'a consummation fervently to be wished', and the editor of the following slight *brochure* is not without a hope that, at no very distant period, this *desideratum* may be supplied from the pen of a gentleman, whose talents, eminently qualified for the subject, have long been devoted to the task of arranging materials for a history of his native County.

In a letter of the 6th August 1823 Bird thanks Davy for his kind assistance in the prose part of the pamphlet and asks to be forgiven for the discreet hope he expressed for a future publication.

We have to go back, further even than 1810 when Shoberl, already quoted above, was predicting long delays before a History of the County would appear, to find what may have been behind Davy's apparent lack of desire to publish. It was in 1807, only a year or two after his tours with Henry Jermyn began, that the two men made an approach to Craven Ord to help by giving them access to his celebrated collections for the County. Two intermediaries were used: Davy's schoolfriend Thomas Sherlock Gooch, M.P., heir to Benacre Hall, and Dr. John Ord, Rector of Fornham St. Martin and brother of the antiquary. What the reply was we shall see; what seems to be of greater significance is how Davy remembered it when writing to Dr. George Bitton Jermyn (Henry's nephew) in November 1835 or 1836. A rather vague request for help had come to Jermyn and he passed it on to Davy, who wrote:

As to your friend Mr. Smith's letter of inquiry, I know not what to say to it; it reminds me much of an answer your uncle & I received from the late Craven Ord. Soon after we began our collections, we applied thro' the present Sir Thos. Gooch to that gentleman, for assistance, being well aware of the riches of his Suffolk stores: His answer was, I know nothing of the plans of the two gentlemen; or of their qualifications for becoming the Historians of Suffolk: but if they will take a district, a Hundred, or even a parish, & publish an account of it, I shall then be able to judge of their fitness for the task, & shall assist them or not as shall appear expedient.

Davy goes on to say that if Mr. Smith's request were more particular it would be easier to help him. His memory of Ord's reply did not make him

less willing to help others, far from it; he supplied information generously to all who sought it. But the imagined rebuff from the well known antiquary left its mark and, I suggest, accounts, in part at least, for his reluctance to publish, other than anonymously, so that from the early days of making collections he knew that they would remain for ever in manuscript.

It is interesting to see what in fact Craven Ord did write to Gooch on 18th November 1807; the letter is preserved in Davy's collected correspondence, sent on to him by Gooch:

I should be much gratified in shewing attention to the wishes of yourself and my Brother, but as I know not the plan upon which Mr. Davy proceeds, (whether only an enlarged edition of the Suffolk Traveller, or a work in folio to include the Natural History, Descent of Property, Antiquities, with Church Notes throughout the County ) you will I am sure see the propriety of my withholding for the present the few MS. Collections that have fallen into my possession, but could Mr. Davy be prevailed on to publish proposals for a County History, and you Sir with the Principal Gentlemen of the County convene a Meeting at the next, or Summer Assizes, to consider of the Plan, I have no doubt that with such Patronage, Materials of every description would be communicated & I am inclined to think from conversation I had with the Duke of Norfolk on the subject last Summer, that his Grace's valuable MSS. of Taxations, Inquisitions, & collections made by Beckham, and Blomefield, would be at the service of the Public.

From other letters in the same volumes we learn that Davy's hand is to be found in most of the Suffolk publications of the next twenty years. In 1817 he revised Shoberl's 1810 *Suffolk* volume for *The Beauties of England and Wales* for Grieg and Higham's *Excursions in Suffolk* 1818. Davy's job was, according to Higham, 'to strike out what was unnecessary or uninteresting' in Shoberl when the editor, Mr. Reid, would 'shorten it further'. The first volume was to commence with Ipswich, but as Mr. Reid, against instructions, began with Bury, Davy had to revise Reid's draft. The Norfolk volumes were to be produced in the same way with Dawson Turner, at Davy's instigation, the local revisor. Most of the plates in the new works were by Thomas Higham, including one of 'The Grove, Yoxford, the Seat of D. E. Davy Esq.', but two were engraved after drawings by Henry Davy, no doubt an arrangement made through his namesake. The two Davys were not related despite their origins in almost neighbouring parishes (Rumburgh and Westhall) but they enjoyed a long and valuable association as will be seen. Higham and Grieg were slow to pay Henry Davy for his contributions and he asked David Elisha to hasten matters, for they were at the time collaborating over Henry Davy's first production *A Set of ten Etchings illustrative of Beccles Church, and other Suffolk Antiquities* 1818, David Elisha supplying the text. Henry Davy was owed £5 15s. 6d. for the two drawings for *Excursions* and a set of his own etchings. He fumes in a letter about Grieg's 'ungentlemanly conduct' and writes 'I must consider both Grieg and Higham two complete shufflers.' For

the *Lives of Eminent and Remarkable Characters*, 1820, Davy lent Grieg portraits from his collection and was invited to suggest further Suffolk subjects for inclusion.

Ten years later Henry Davy had ready sixty new plates covering the architectural antiquities of the whole county and again the other Davy contributed the letterpress (the draft MS. survives), but no acknowledgement was made of the fact. He also helped the artist by soliciting subscriptions from his friends and correspondents. It seems unlikely that D. E. Davy received any payment for his help other than a copy or two of the book with proof plates. He did, however, have some arrangement with Henry Davy to have the sketches and some finished drawings and watercolours of the buildings he drew for his own collections; the volumes BL Add. MS. 19176–19181 contain many hundreds of them. Perhaps it was out of loyalty to Henry Davy, or just a preference for his style of drawing which caused him to ignore Isaac Johnson's offer of illustrations for his collections. There are only two examples of the Woodbridge artist's productions in the six volumes just mentioned. Johnson wrote, unsolicited it is true: 'I have now by me two or three hundred sketches taken in the Co. of various subjects in Antiquity which I can put into your possession for a trifle. Mr. Loder can pick out any for you if requested.'

The third Henry Davy work, *Views of the Seats of the Noblemen and Gentlemen in Suffolk*, also published in 1827, had accounts of the houses by David Elisha as usual, based on drafts, varying drastically in quality, sent in by the owners of the houses included. The Leiston Abbey pamphlet of 1823 has already been mentioned; it was dedicated (by Bird or Davy?) to Nathan Drake, Esq., M.D., of Hadleigh, a friend of Davy certainly. In 1826, John Loder, the Woodbridge bookseller and publisher, was, with the author's knowledge and approval, sending Davy the proofs of Hugh McKeon's first pamphlet on the Charities of Lavenham, and asking that Davy should later vet appendices McKeon had in preparation.

The Suffolk section of H. G. Bohn's 1839 edition of John Sell Cotman's *Engravings of Sepulchral Brasses in Norfolk and Suffolk* has on the page after the Suffolk title page: 'to D. E. Davy Esq. of Ufford, his [Bohn's] acknowledgements are especially due for the letter press in general.'

Twenty-eight pages of descriptive writing accompany the 47 plates, 5 plates more than were issued by Cotman himself in seven parts of six plates each in 1819, but with no text whatever. We only know of Davy's involvement in the original edition by the note he wrote at the front of his own bound set of proof plates, now in the collection of Miss Joan Corder:

The greater part of these etchings were from rubbings, in pencil, made by me; & as they were at various times struck off, Mr. Cotman sent me impressions of them. They were not published in a regular form by Mr. Cotman, it having been

his intention, at a convenient time to enlarge the number of them; this time, however, never seems to have arrived; & it was not till the year 1838 that the plates coming into the possession of Mr. Henry G. Bohn, he published them as they now appear. Some trifling alterations were made in the insc<sup>ns</sup>. on them, according as they became better understood. D. E. Davy

The total number of proof plates in Miss Corder's volume is 66 and includes 19 duplicates, and a discarded version of the military brass at Gorleston. Twenty-eight of them have dates in 1816 (21 May, 6 and 17 Sept.) when Cotman sent them to Davy. When he returned the rubbings themselves on 4th June 1817 Cotman wrote: 'My very sincere thanks for the loan of them as well as for the assistance & information you have at different times favoured me with.' Of the 1839 edition, only the plate of Sotterley M.S. VI (XXIX) is missing in Davy's set.

In 1937, Ralph Griffin published a small pamphlet on the 1819 edition of the Suffolk plates. He could find only one complete (Cambridge University Library) and one imperfect copy (now in the British Library) and he lists the amendments and improvements made between 1819 and the reissue of the plates in 1839.

What emerges is that Davy was not sent the plates for comment or correction, but for his collection. His proof plates are annotated in his hand, however, and they led him to recommend improvements (not just corrections, but new attributions, mostly correct) in time for the Bohn edition. They were made wherever erasure and re-etching was not inconvenient. Cotman was still alive in 1839, but the hand of the corrections does not resemble his.

The introductory material to Bohn's edition of Cotman is therefore the only openly acknowledged piece of writing Davy produced for publication. His many contributions to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, of which his friend John Mitford was Editor, were signed D.A. Y., the terminals of his names, as were the articles of an unfinished series on the Sepulchral Monuments in the Churches of Suffolk, by Hundreds, which he contributed to Nichols' *Topographer and Genealogist*, the first in 1843.

We read in the Journal of his meeting in 1833 with John Deck who came over from Bury to Ipswich to discuss the publication of a County history once more. It rather sounds as though this was the last of many attempts to persuade Davy to draw his materials together for publication. 'After talking the matter over, but coming to no conclusion, I had 3 or 4 hours leisure before the coach returned again in the evening . . .'

We can only speculate on the effect on Davy's published output had he not over-reacted to Ord's letter to Gooch. My feeling is that it did nothing to lessen his industry, but a great deal to mar his confidence. To judge from the anonymous writing we can now attribute to Davy it is clear that on the whole we gain from his using his time and energy for collecting materials. This he did

superbly. He was not skilled as a collator; perhaps few antiquaries of the period were. For example, too seldom did he correct errors in Shoberl for *Excursions*. His text for Henry Davy's etchings is not very informative; in *Views of the Seats* he is rather too intent on flattering the owners of the houses. In his 'Sepulchral Monuments' the coverage from church to church is very variable. Not so in his MS. Collections, for there the monuments in every church are completely detailed down to the date of the last visit he made. This is the great treasure store in which Suffolk historians will continue to dig, their efforts amply rewarded. Some idea of the detail to be found in the Collections can be gained from Davy's notes on some dozen churches which the Revd. F. G. Haslewood edited for *P.S.I.A.* between 1886 and 1895.

H. Manners Chichester comments that Davy 'does not appear to have been a member of any learned society'. Was it unwillingness to stand or lack of sponsors which prevented his becoming a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries? He was gracious enough when he wrote to G. B. Jermyn in 1836 'I am very glad to have my name enrolled in the list of members of the Swaffham Natural History Society' and sent thanks and 'very hearty wishes' for its continued success and prosperity. Perhaps he was feeling too old to join the short lived Ipswich-based Suffolk Archaeological Association in 1846. The only printed list is such a short one that it may represent merely the founder membership as launching publicity. In 1848 the Bury and West Suffolk Institute was founded, but so far as we can tell Davy was not involved, as no doubt he would have been when younger. Whether or not he was a member, the secretary of the Committee of the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland made it clear in 1848 that he would be very welcome at its meetings.

#### *The Journal Period: the second series of tours*

From Ufford as we have seen, or from the houses of friends with whom he stayed more or less regularly, began more antiquarian excursions. Davy now set himself stricter rules about the details he would note: inscriptions on table monuments and some headstones, then, from 1826, plans of churches (which he called Ichnographies). How useful these pre-restoration plans are today, ingeniously showing as they do the shapes of door and window heads and other features liable to change. Although the main objects of his observations are historical, he displays a knowledgeable interest from time to time in botany, geology, agriculture and the landscape. He has clear notions of taste in buildings and in monuments and a distaste for anything at variance with the accepted natural order. He complains about the overbuilding of rectories, and often expresses amazement at the situation of gentlemen's houses in what to him seem outlandish tracts of country.

For two or three years he worked alone, occasionally riding, but never driving. He was happy when necessary to be driven in the gig of his host. He never complained when, surprisingly often for that far-off day from our own, he had difficulty in obtaining entrance to locked churches; at least 50 in the course of his travels were closed when he called. All he asked of inns was cleanliness, civility and plain food. He seemed quite surprised when he realised that in one busy fortnight's tour he had only made time to dine twice. In August 1825 he met the Revd. John Wareyn Darby for a week's tour in the Hadleigh area. This was to be the first of eighteen such excursions with Darby over the next 14 years, and they spent as many as four weeks together in 1829. Darby lived at Framlingham where he held the Readership endowed by Sir Robert Hitcham at his Almshouses, occupying in consequence a fine house in Castle Street. In this he succeeded the Revd. Charles Barlee, elder brother of Davy's brother-in-law William Barlee; Charles was also Rector of Worlingworth. It seems likely that Darby did the duty in return for residence even before Charles Barlee left the Readership vacant when he died in 1831. Darby's own living from 1823 was the vicarage of Wicklewood near Wymondham, and he was also at various times Curate at Bedfield, Cransford, Hacheston and Parham, in each of which churches he set up painted shields bearing coats of arms of families prominent in the history of the parish. Today these and other improvements, where they have survived, not always so indicated (but recorded in Davy's notes on the church) are the hallmarks of Darby's generosity and antiquarian zeal. When the two men worked together, Darby's main concern was to note all the monumental inscriptions inside and some out. Davy's more exhaustive searches left him comparatively short of time, but there is never a note of dissent in the *Journal* on that score. Davy permits himself just one criticism of Darby in the *Journal*, when in 1832 he imported assorted oddments of domestic woodwork into the chancel at Shottisham, having succeeded his uncle as Rector. In retrospect Davy wrote: 'He has been a useful coadjutor, & a pleasant companion in the Excursions we have jointly made . . .'

About once a year Davy stayed with his only sister Lucy Elizabeth at Wrentham where her husband William Barlee was Rector from 1788 until his death in 1830. In 1811 he and his brother Charles changed their surnames from Buckle to Barlee on the death of their half-sister Catherine, when they were her heirs. She had also been the patron of their livings, and made it a condition of their inheritance that they took the maiden surname of her grandmother Katherine, daughter of Haynes Barlee of Clavering, Essex. Lucy was William Barlee's second wife and thirteen years his junior when they married in 1813. The marriage was childless. At William's death Lucy moved to Yoxford where her stepson George Barlee was an attorney, and lived in various places there for the rest of her life: in 1841 next door to Satis House to the northwest, and in

1851 next door to the Griffin Inn in Redwald, now Magnolia House. Brother and sister obviously got on well — even collaborating over the collections, particularly his Arms of Suffolk Families in which Lucy drew and emblazoned hundreds of coats.

Other regular visits were paid to George Turner at Kettleburgh, George Capper at Wherstead Vicarage, George Doughty at Hoxne, and the Mills at Stutton Rectory before and after the untimely death of Mrs. Ann Mills, a keen antiquary herself. The Rector of Holbrook, J. B. Wilkinson (another Bungay scholar) gave him a port of call, as did John Longe at Coddenham, a fellow antiquary. It appears that he was very generally welcome in parsonages, but seldom a guest at grander houses, other than at Benacre Hall, Darsham House and Thorington Hall. He stayed occasionally with George Capper's unmarried sisters at Beacon Hill House, Martlesham. They and Ann Mills are almost the only women to feature in his Journal; he was probably a little in awe of the fair sex, and without doubt found bachelor life most congenial.

### *Journal of Tours in other counties*

For out-county tours David Elisha kept a separate journal and in it recorded seven excursions made between 1823 and 1831. The preamble is written with greater relish even than that to his Suffolk pocket book:

And so at the age of 54, I am come to the resolution of commencing a journal, & of my travels, forsooth. At a time of life, when it might naturally be supposed, that I should be glad of peace and quiet in a snug retreat, it may appear singular that I should be looking forward to the possibility of wandering about my own or foreign countries; & yet such a thing is not unlikely; my time, from circumstance, is now become more my own, & whatever inclinations may hitherto have been, they may now perchance take a different turn, & I may become much more locomotive. Still I expect to make excursions, & those short ones; & yet, the circumstances under which I may undertake them, may afterwards be well worth the recollection, & I shall therefore detail them as they occur.'

Nothing in the event took him further than Portsmouth or longer than a fortnight! Two to Wilby in Norfolk are also calendared briefly in the Suffolk journal. There his host was the curate, Frank Beatty, whose wife Anne was William Barlee's only daughter. He once went with Barlee to visit his Essex estates at Manuden and Clavering, and twice stayed with Lockwood, the vicar he assisted at Yoxford thirty years before, now at Croydon, and Coulsdon Rectory. He was friendly with Vice Admiral Sir Henry Hotham, younger brother of the Vicar of Dennington, mainly through Lady Frances Hotham who was Lord Stradbroke's eldest daughter, often in her youth a guest at the Grove. The Hothams entertained him at their Chertsey home, Silverlands, and again, with George Capper, on board H.M.S. *St. Vincent* for a farewell dinner to family and friends before the Admiral sailed to take command of the

## Mediterranean Fleet.

This second and shorter compilation (129 pages of manuscript compared with 255 pages in the Suffolk volume) only came to light in 1981, and is now Add. MS. 61,946 in the British Library. As Davy had filled the book and it is marked '1' on the spine it is just possible that he may have written a second out-county record. Against that, he gives a fairly full account of his Cambridge visits with G. B. Jermyn in 1831 and 1832 in the Suffolk Journal.

## *The Jermyn Letters 1821-1841*

A long standing friendship and correspondence between Davy and the Revd. Dr. George Bitton Jermyn, seems to stem from the death of the latter's uncle Henry. Dr. Jermyn held curacies successively at Hawkedon, Littleport and Swaffham Prior, and had strong links with several Cambridge Colleges (he had been a member of Caius and Trinity Hall). His main antiquarian interest was nevertheless in Suffolk genealogy, and the two men corresponded and visited regularly for at least twenty years. Seventeen of Davy's letters to Jermyn (dated 1830-1840) and the copious extracts from his collections enclosed with them are preserved in Suffolk Record Office. More of Jermyn's letters to Davy, covering the whole period, are bound in Add. MS. 19220, 25, 27-31 and 40. The correspondence ended abruptly when Jermyn followed his daughter Turenne abroad. He seems not to have returned and died in Sardinia.

Davy's letters give far more away than the Journal, and from them we can complete our picture of him, particularly his prejudices. A staunch Churchman, he had little time for Nonconformists (the quaker Alexanders from Needham also offended by claiming the arms of the Badingham Alexanders) and Evangelicals who, like Mr. Wilcox of Stonham Parva, were too enthusiastic.

His true feelings about the contemporary church are well expressed in the comments he made after praising the sermon preached at Chertsey on the first Sunday of his visit there in 1823:

Perhaps the chief fault of the present race of Preachers, is a want of animation; a little more soul infused in the delivery of discourses from the Pulpit would not have the effect of rendering them less impressive, tho' I would by no means recommend

'the attitude, & stare

And start theatric practised at the glass.'

I would on no account however be considered here as joining in the senseless cry against the clergy for want of effect in their exertions, by the over righteous, the evangelical, or the dissenter. I am of opinion that as a body, the clergy were never on higher ground than they are at this moment, never was more attention paid by the younger members of the church to the duties of their station than at present, or more zeal or abilities shewn in defending the cause of religion, whether we are to consider ourselves indebted for these advantages to the Dissenters, whose

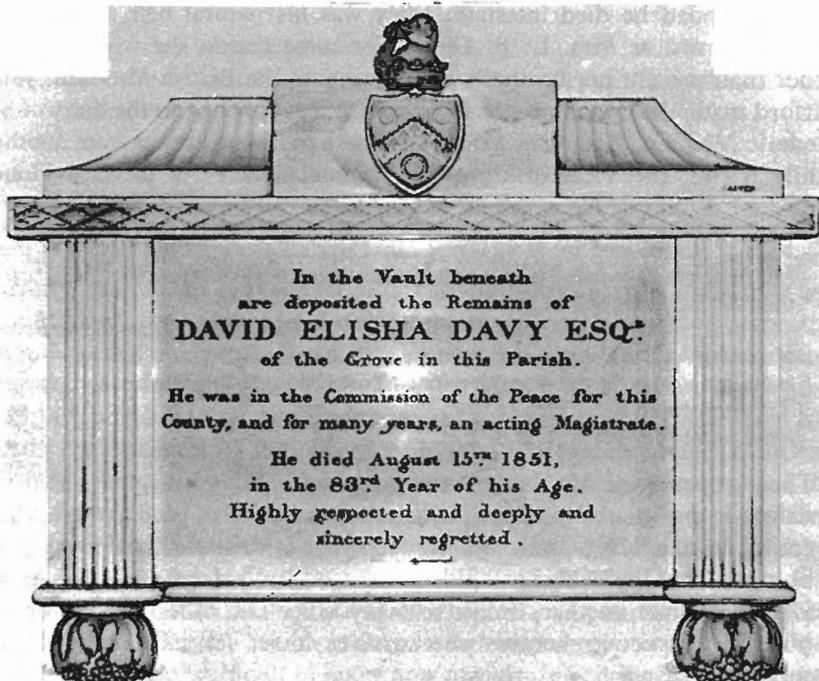
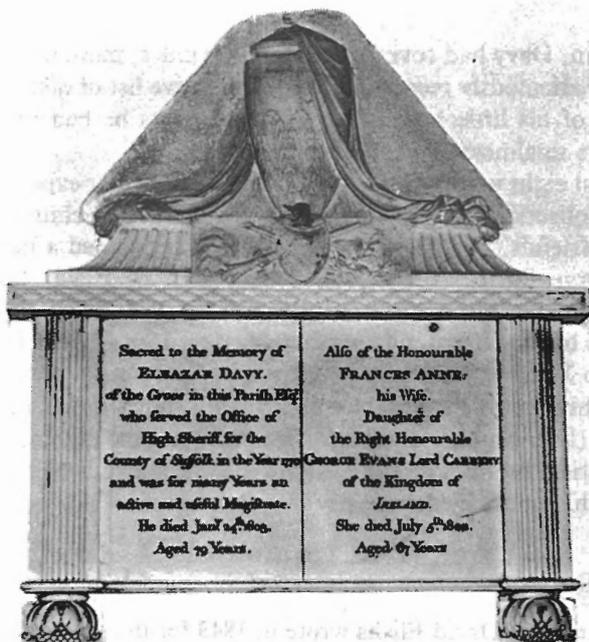
unremitted exertions in their endeavours to undermine the Church, have stimulated Churchmen to equal exertions to frustrate them, I shall not determine; the effect is very evident, & being so well satisfied with the effect, we may well be excused if we decline the loss of our time in endeavouring to investigate the cause.

From his letters to Jermyn we see how Davy deplored those who lived above their means or married beneath their station; he was mainly interested in those whose residence in the County was based on land ownership. A firm Tory at heart, he disliked Radicals, but took no part in politics. 'I shall be glad of Prof. Henslow's autograph altho' a R....l', he wrote. Ipswich families were fortunate to receive notice in his pedigrees, whatever their station. (To G.B.J.: 'Cobbold of Ipswich and the whole fry of that name must be had, though which individual would be likely to give best information, I know not. Perhaps one of the Rectors of Melford or Wortham.' and 'Catchpole *alias* Scratchpole. There are numerous C. in the county . . . but I am doubtful whether any worth enquiring after.') Lawyers he was particularly down on, but occasionally allowed that one was 'honester than the generality of that order'.

He did have a sense of humour, but not one strongly developed. He most enjoyed a pun or a rhyme: 'Frost, — v. common in the cold parts.' 'Cream of Melford . . . I suspect it is only skimm'd milk.' 'Lugg. Mrs. Lugg lies very snugg in Sternfd. ch.yd. & more I know not.' On one occasion he took Jermyn to task for his careless writing: 'I regret you write with such very bad ink; your MSS. I am afraid, will not be legible 20 years hence.' A fair criticism.

### *The end of the tours*

Although we notice a gap in the Journal between 1839 and 1843 we could only guess its cause. Davy's letter to Jermyn on 10th April 1839 admits 'I have not been quite well all the winter, tho' I have not lain by; I hope I shall be myself again when the summer arrives . . .' Small wonder, for he had turned 70 and was just as active in his MS. compilations as ever for another ten years, his hand clear and firm to the end. He walked fewer than 30 miles a year to churches from 1832 onwards, driving less, too, from 1835. Reference to the Collections show some church visits made between 1839 and 1843 which he did not write up in the Journal. For example, he took notes at Felsham and Gedding in July 1840. There remained, however, several places he much wished to visit, and the opportunity arose when Ellis Wade, Rector of Blaxhall, offered his services as escort on expeditions to cover the remaining churches. The much younger man (47 to Davy's 74) suffered badly from asthma and this affliction almost prevented success; the Journal tells the story best. When in June 1844 the last church was visited, and Wade was taken



On the north aisle wall at Yoxford

home ill again, Davy had covered nearly 4,400 miles, more than a quarter on foot, as he meticulously recorded in the cumulative list of distances travelled in the back of his little book. In twenty one years he had recorded in his Journal visits to almost 500 churches in Suffolk.

For the last eight years of his life we know of no further expeditions, except that in his Collections he did enter notes of later visits to churches very close to home or friends. Friends with whom he corresponded a good deal then include George Carthew of East Dereham and the Revd. John Mitford, Rector of Benhall. Although the Grove was his again from about 1843, he continued to live at Ufford, and when he died on 15th August 1851, his body was taken to Yoxford for burial in the family vault on the north of the nave. His plain white marble wall tablet presumably shows us his ideal in monumental taste (he must have given strict instructions as to design); it underlines his conservatism by its close similarity to the one above, which he must have ordered for his uncle Eleazar nearly 50 years before.

### *The fate of Davy's Collections*

We have seen what David Elisha wrote in 1843 for the guidance of his sister. As he intended he died intestate; Lucy was his natural heir and thenceforward known as Mrs. L. E. Davy. For some reason she wished to sell rather than present her brother's manuscripts to the British Museum. John Mitford made the first approach in March 1852, according to the diary of Sir Frederic Madden, Keeper of MSS., and there followed a letter from another family friend, the Vicar of Ubbeston, Samuel Badeley of the Red House (Elmsley), Yoxford. He wrote on 13 April:

I am commissioned by Mrs. Davy, Mr. Davy's Sister, into whose hands these Manuscripts have fallen to mention £500 as the sum which she hopes the Trustees may not be unwilling to give.

It was the wish of Mr. Davy that these Manuscripts should go to the British Museum — it is also the wish of the person to whom they now belong — at the same time, should the sum mentioned be considered too much, she hopes the Trustees would so far deviate from their rule [not to offer a price for MSS.], as to *name* what they are willing to give.

The Keeper evidently thought the price too high and recommended the Trustees to decline the purchase, which they did on 12th June. After further negotiations the 170 bound volumes, together with the collection of brass rubbings and many bound pamphlets, changed hands for £200 in November 1852. How fortunate that, unlike so many other fine collections, this most important and comprehensive one survives intact for us and for future generations of Suffolk historians.

A Journal  
of Excursions through  
the County of  
Suffolk,  
in Search of Materials for  
a History of  
that County

Commenced in 1823

1823

I now regret very much that when I commenced my Topographical Enquiries in Suffolk, I did not at the same time commence a Journal of my Travels through the County in search of information. A thing of this kind, I now find, would have been a very useful book of reference to me, & on many occasions, would have saved me much trouble, prevented a considerable deal of writing, & greatly facilitated my researches. As however, it is not yet too late to adopt such a plan, & as I propose to continue these researches, I shall now have better opportunities, I hope, & more leisure to prosecute them. I shall from this time keep a regular Register of my Motions, the Parishes which I may visit, a note of the particular information obtained, & *memoranda* of omissions & *desideranda*. With this as a Companion in my Excursions, I shall be able to avoid a repetition of information before collected, & I shall be better enabled to pick up any little matters before omitted, when I pass through Parishes a second time. Besides which, many little matters will then be preserved, which it would be difficult to know how to class, & to comprehend under the general arrangement which has been adopted in forming Collections for the general History of the County.

1823

*Fri. March 14th*

Being this day on a visit to my sister at Wrentham, I walked over to Covehithe, for the purpose of obtaining a copy of the Terrier. I was not however successful; the churchwarden, having left the Parish at Mich'mas last, & having neglected to give up the Parish Books & Papers. I obtained a promise from the person who was to succeed as Churchwarden, that as soon as he could procure it, he would forward it to me. I took a rough admeasurement of the old church, by pacing, & examined the church chest, but found nothing therein. Distance from Wrentham & back about 5 miles.

*Sat. March 15th*

Walked to South Cove, 2 miles, to procure the Terrier; but after some trouble in obtaining the key of the church chest, I found it quite empty. I took however, a copy of some of the verses on the head stones in the churchyard, & made a rough sketch as well as I could of the door from the Porch into the church, which is Saxon.<sup>1</sup> The Terrier not forthcoming.

*Mon. March 17th*

I left Wrentham at 10 o'clock to walk to Kessingland, as I wished to extend my church notes there, which were taken before rather carelessly; & to obtain a sight, if possible, of the Parish Registers. These, I found, were kept by the Rector, Mr. Lockwood,<sup>2</sup> at his house, in Lowestoft, & I was disappointed in obtaining the information I wanted. Having, however, procured the key of the church, I employed near 3 hours, in taking a full description of it, both inside & out, copied all the inscriptions within, those on the Bells, & took down all the verses on the head stones in the churchyard, which I had not seen elsewhere; & in short, got all the information requisite, as to the church. I afterwards visited the Parsonage House, & examined the ruins about it; returning back to Wrentham about half past 3. Distance from Wrentham to Kessingland near 5 miles.

<sup>1</sup> Readers will notice that Davy comes to our use of 'Norman' at S. Elmham, Mettingham and Redisham in May 1830 and thereafter until he entered Kirtling church under a fine 12th century 'Glory' in June 1834 and unaccountably lapsed to 'Saxon'.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Lockwood, V. of Lowestoft, and R. here from 1804, patr. the Bp. of Norwich. He died aged 69 in 1830. Between the church and the Parsonage, which was burnt down in 1833, as Davy recorded, were a flint wall 40 yards long and a buttressed house. Collectively these buildings were known as 'The Nunnery', but although Edw. III gave the impropriation of the church to the London Minoreesses of St. Clare there is no record of a convent here. See Suckling, I, 252.

NB. I shall in future, when I have time & as I have opportunity, copy the verses on the head stones in the churchyards I may visit. Some may be worth preserving from their singularity, tho' few, I am afraid, from their intrinsic worth. I shall not, however, copy a second time, those which may be met with in almost every well peopled churchyard.

*Fri. March 21st*

Copied all the Verses on the Head Stones in the churchyard of Wrentham, where I was still staying. There appeared to be nothing in the church, which was not there when the church notes were taken before.

*Sat. March 22nd*

Still at Wrentham. Walked to Mutford Church, 4 miles. Copied the Verses &c. on the Head Stones in the churchyard. Nothing new in the church, since I was last there. Found the Registers in the Iron Chest in the church, the keys in the Clerk's hands; took full Extracts from them; the Terrier being in the hands of the churchwarden, I was obliged to defer copying it to another opportunity, not having time to go to Mutford Hall. Revd. ——. Bond,<sup>3</sup> Vicar, Revd. Dr. Owen<sup>4</sup> of Beccles, the present Curate.

*Mon. March 24th*

I this morning walked from Wrentham to Gisleham, 5 miles. I hoped to have found Mr. Anguish<sup>5</sup> at home, & to have been able to examine & make extracts from the Registers, & obtain a copy of the Terrier. Mr. A. however being out, I went into the church, took further notes both there & in the churchyard, & rubbed off the brass to the memory of Adam Bland.<sup>6</sup> The church notes here, are therefore compleat to the present time.

<sup>3</sup> W. Bond, inst. 1789, also to C. of Barnby and R. of Wheatacre All Saints, all Caius livings, succ. 1832.

<sup>4</sup> Hugh Owen, LL.D., R. of Beccles St. Michael from 1823.

<sup>5</sup> George Anguish (1764–1843), Prebendary of Norwich, R. from 1797, a Royal living. He could well afford to renovate the Parsonage for he had inherited the Somerleyton estate from his brother, and there improved Hall and grounds too. His sister Catherine was Duchess of Leeds; her son was heir to Somerleyton.

<sup>6</sup> Shield and inscription only. Bland, of the City of London, was Sergeant to Her Majesty and d. 1593.

The Parsonage at Gisleham, which adjoins the churchyard, has been within a few years, repaired, improved, & fitted up by the present Incumbent, the Revd. Geo. Anguish, & is one of the neatest, & prettiest houses, I have ever seen.

On my way back, I went into Henstead churchyard, & took copies of the head Stones, & sketched the door ways which are Saxon. There seemed to be a newly erected Monument against the East end of the chancel, but I had not time to go for the key to examine it.

*Tues. March 25th*

Walked again to Henstead Church: & finding the clerk there, went into the church; when I ascertained that the Monument which I supposed yesterday, was one very lately erected, was that in memory to the second wife<sup>7</sup> of Mr. Sparrow. I observed nothing new since I was last there, except that the church had been paved last year. The Clerk informed me that there was a Vault of a considerable size not far from the West end of the church for the Families of Bence & Sparrow; a stone with the word "Vault", upon it marks the mouth of it.

From Henstead, I walked to Benacre Church, into which I went; copied the Inscription on the late Lady Gooch<sup>8</sup> in the church, & lines on one or two head Stones in the churchyard.

Distance from Wrentham to Henstead 2½ miles, to Benacre Church 1½, & from Benacre Church home 2 miles.

*Weds. March 26th*

Walked in the Evening to Frostenden Church; did not go in, but copied an Inscription on a Table Monument<sup>9</sup> lately erected, & the lines on a few head Stones.

There and back 2½ Miles.

*Thurs. March 27th*

Walked to Sotterley Church, 2½ Miles from Wrentham. Took copies of

<sup>7</sup> White marble mural mont. to Mary, dau. of the Revd. Brock Rand, of Hardwick, Norfolk. She died, aged 63, in 1809.

<sup>8</sup> Dame Anna Maria Gooch, d. 1814, *aet.* 72, wife of Sir Thomas Gooch, Bt. who d. 1826, *aet.* 81.

<sup>9</sup> To the family of William Crisp, gent., d. 1816, *aet.* 67.



*Gisleham Rectory: 'neatest and prettiest'*

*Witnesham Rectory: 'most convenient and appropriate'. See p. 89*



verses &c. in the churchyard, & rubbed off the brass in the church of a Man & Woman, without Inscription. Took a note of the present distribution of the 11 brasses still remaining in the church, which appear to have been altered since I was first there. There are still several brasses which I have not rubbed off, but I could not then do them, because I had not with me a list of those I had already taken, & I did not care to do them a second time. Against I come again into this neighbourhood, I must be prepared with a list of them which I have done.

Observed in the Park, an artificial mound<sup>10</sup> of considerable age, if we may judge from the appearance of the trees growing upon it. Q? if a tumulus?

*Fri. March 28th*

Mr. Anguish sent me to Wrentham, the Parish Register & Terrier, 1813,<sup>11</sup> of Gisleham; from the former of which I took full Extracts, & copied the latter.

*Sat. March 29th*

Barlee sent me in his gig to Pakefield Church, 6 Miles. I there took some additional Notes both in the church, & churchyard, copying the Verses in the latter, & rubbing off the two brasses still remaining in the former. I had not time to examine the Registers; but completed the church notes for this Parish.

*Mon. March 31st*

Anguish dining this day at Barlee's, I returned him the Register & Terrier of Gisleham, which he had sent me on the 28th.

*Tues. April 1st*

Walked to Shaddingfield Church 4½ Miles, & copied the Verses &c. in the churchyard: but did not go into the church. Passed within a short distance of

<sup>10</sup> The mound is situated at TM 454851 next to a grotto, and is thought by Edward Martin to be ornamental and 18th cent. in origin; the Hall was built c.1744, embodying a core of Jacobean work, and with later remodelling. Similar ornamental mounds may be seen at Helmingham and Theberton.

<sup>11</sup> NNRO PD115/1 is the Register to 1812. New volumes for Baptisms (PD 115/2) and Marriages (PD 115/4) were begun in 1813.

the Hall, but did not observe any remains of ruins.<sup>12</sup>

*Thurs. April 3rd*

Walked from Wrentham to Carlton Colville, 5½ Miles. Copied Inscriptions in the churchyard. Called upon Edward Jermyn<sup>13</sup> the Rector, to enquire after the Registers. Finding him engaged, I could not look thro' them, but he told me that the old ones had been burnt in a fire<sup>14</sup> which consumed Carlton Hall in 1735, & the oldest now in being commencing in 1710. I did not go into the church, as he told me there had been no Monuments or Inscriptions placed there for some years, & the Clerk who kept the key living in a distant part of the Parish.

Jermyn also informed me that the Great Tithes & Glebe are now divided into two parts one of which is in the hands of the Rector, & the other of the Lay Impropiator; they having belonged formerly to the Abbey of Walsingham in Norfolk. I must enquire further into this.

On my way back, I went into Rushmere Church yard, & took some mem'da there, but did not go into the church.

I must not forget on some future occasion to look at the Registers of Carlton Colville, nor to go into the church, the notes formerly taken there, being, as I suspect, very slight & insufficient.

*Fri. April 4th*

Walked from Wrentham to Stoven Church, 3½ Miles; took further notes there, Verses on the Head Stones, & sketched the two Saxon door ways, but did not go into the church. Notes here compleat.

Proceeded afterwards to Uggeshall Church 1 Mile. Copied the Head Stones &c. in the churchyard, but did not go into the church. Found on the West

<sup>12</sup> Davy was looking for traces of the old Hall demolished about 1814 by the then Rector, H. Hodgkinson, who built the present grey brick house nearby. The fine earlier building is shown facing p. 73 of Suckling, I.

<sup>13</sup> Edward Jermyn (1772–1848), inst. 1806, patr. Revd. George Anguish. He was a first cousin of Henry Jermyn.

<sup>14</sup> The calamity is recorded in a Parish Register: 'On Sunday, April 18, 1736, Carleton Hall, bake-house, barn, and stables were burnt down by a foul chimney taking fire. John Crettan, Tenant.' Suckling, I, 238–9.

<sup>15</sup> Below the west window of the truncated tower in black letter: '*Orate pro animabus Joh'is Jewle et Marione ux' ejus.*' No Jewle will survives, but the tower was in construction in 1532.

side of the remains of the Steeple an Inscription,<sup>15</sup> of which I took a copy. It appears to commemorate the builder of the Tower. Back to Wrentham 3 Miles.

*Mon. April 7th*

Walked to Easton Bavent,<sup>16</sup> to that part of it marked on the Map as the Scite of the old church; but could find no remains nor had a Servant of Mr. Hart's, of whom I made enquiries, ever heard of any. Returned by the Sea shore, through Covehithe to Wrentham.

To Easton 3½ miles, to Cove 3, & to Wrentham 2½.

*Tues. April 8th*

Went from Wrentham by the Mail Coach to Kirkley, where I took full church notes, not forgetting to examine the church chest, which I found the key of. Did not meet with the Registers, & had not time to enquire after them.

Went again into Pakefield Church to compleat rubbing off the brass<sup>17</sup> of J. Bowff, which I had before left incompleat: So that I shall not have occasion to visit this church again.

Walked back to Wrentham. 7 Miles.

*Thurs. April 10th*

Walked from Wrentham to Brampton Church 4 Miles. Went into the church, took some few notes, before omitted, & from the head stones in the churchyard:

Returned by Uggeshall 1½ Mile, to look again at the inscription on the Steeple, & to see whether I had copied it correctly. To Wrentham 3 Miles.

*Sat. April 12th*

Walked from Wrentham to Wangford 3½ Miles. Looked into the church, but found nothing new. Copied the head Stones &c. in the churchyard; &

<sup>16</sup> Neither Kirby 1735 nor Hodkinson 1783 mark the former St. Nicholas church on their Maps. It was standing in 1638, but lost to the encroachments of the sea soon after. Between 1815 and 1844, 510 acres of this parish were lost, leaving a mere 260.

<sup>17</sup> John and Agnes Bowff, both died 1417.

examined the remains of the Priory.<sup>18</sup> The Clerk could give me no account of the Terrier.

*Mon. April 14th*

Walked from Wrentham to Sotherton Church, which I went into, & took there some few further Notes, as also in the churchyard: 4½ Miles.

*Thurs. April 17th*

Went from Wrentham by the Mail Coach to Kirkley, 6 Miles; walked from thence by Mutford Bridge to Oulton Church, 3 Miles; Took full notes there, both inside & out, & rubbed off the three brasses<sup>19</sup> in the Chancel, in completing which I was near 5 hours employed. Had not time to enquire after the Registers & Terrier. In my way through the Village of Oulton, I observed on a low building on the left hand side of the way a shield of Arms<sup>20</sup> cut in stone, but they seem to have been lately coloured over with black & white, & I took no account of them. These must be examined & enquired into, when I go after the Registers & Terrier. They probably belong to some School or Almshouse.

Walked back to Wrentham, 8 Miles.

*Fri. April 18th*

Went in Barlee's gig with my sister to Southwold, & took the opportunity of being there, to copy the Inscriptions on the Head stones in the churchyard. I had intended to go into the church to take some further notes there, & to rub off again the brass there, that which I now have, been very imperfect, but I had not time.

*Mon. April 21st*

Walked to Covehithe Church, & took correct measures of the different parts

<sup>18</sup> Wangford Priory, a cell of Thetford Priory for Cluniac Monks was dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul. The chancel of the parish church served as their church.

<sup>19</sup> The Bacon and Fastolf brasses were stolen in February 1857, but are now replaced by fibre glass replicas made possible by the survival of rubbings made by Davy and other early visitors.

<sup>20</sup> Unfortunately he did not on his return record this shield.

of the old Building, & made a rough plan of it. Afterwards went down to the beach, to see whether there were still any remains of buildings, or of certain wells there, which Mr. Riches<sup>21</sup> informed me had become visible from the high tides washing away the cliff during the last winter, to the number of 5 or 6. I saw nothing of them; but observing in a low part of the Cliff, a red streak, about 2 feet below the present surface, resembling the foundation of some old building, I with the end of my umbrella grubbed into it, & brought out a kind of bill hook, about 14 or 15 inches long, with a short thick handle, and very wide at the upper end; but so eaten with rust, as to make it difficult to ascertain its precise shape, or to say what it really was intended for. It was lying upon the red streak which had much the appearance of burnt earth. Remains of pottery, tho' in no great quantity, appeared in different parts of the cliff.

*Thurs. April 24th*

Went by the Southwold Coach to Lowestoft, where I arrived soon after 9 o'clock in the morning. Went immediately to the church where I remained till ½ past 4; & tho' I lost no time, was able to do no more than take notes of every thing in the church, except the Bells; & to rub off 3 or 4 of the smaller brasses;<sup>22</sup> those I took were, one at the foot of the Stairs to the Pulpit, being part of a Canopy; a shield on a stone near the former; the 3rd, a merchant's mark on a stone just below & in front of the Pulpit, & the 4th the Inscription on Mary Wylde.

The churchyard is full of Monuments & heads, some of the former handsome ones, & will require some time to compleat.

The distance on foot, 3 Miles, by Coach 14, backwards & forwards from Wrentham.

*Mon. April 28th*

I went again to Lowestoft in the same way, in full expectation of being able to compleat the church notes there; but not having with me sufficient paper proper for the purpose, I was obliged to defer the rubbing off of the two brasses which lie in the South Isle. Finished every thing else there both in the

<sup>21</sup> Daniel Riches, Esq., farmed at neighbouring Frostenden and his son and namesake (only 20 in 1823) became, by 1844, shipowner, surveyor and land agent. Either could have been Davy's informant.

<sup>22</sup> Davy's rubbing of the oldest brass in the church, made that day, now BL Add. MS 32484, f. 67, shows much now lost. One of the ancient descents from High St. to the beach is still called Wylde Score.

church & churchyard, taking all the Altar Tombs & Head Stones, which offered anything worth notice. Was employed from ¼ past 9 till 5. Same distance.

*Weds. April 30th*

I walked again to Covehithe, & going along the Beach, I passed three wells laid bare during the last winter, by the inroad of the Sea, which is gaining very fast here; in one of these the Vat was still remaining; & Mr. Riches told me this was the one which supplied the Farm House, lately occupied by Mr. S. Candler, & which Sr. Thos. Gooch<sup>8</sup> was under the necessity of pulling down. These wells appeared nearly on a level with the sea at low water, & had no appearance of having been bricked; they were in the beach, below high water mark. I could see no vestiges of buildings in any part of the cliff.

*Tues. May 6th*

Being on a visit at Major Purvis' at Darsham,<sup>24</sup> I walked to Westleton,<sup>25</sup> & took some Notes in the churchyard, but did not go into the church. I afterwards walked up to the heath<sup>26</sup> near the Mills, where I found that one or two of the Barrows which were there, have lately been carried clean away. Two only now remain, one a large one, which appears to have been, at some former period, not very distant, opened; the other is at this time a very small one, having apparently been much lessened, by the earth of which it was composed having been carried away for agricultural purposes. Distance about 3 miles there and back.

*Weds. May 14th*

Major Purvis going to Bungay Fair,<sup>27</sup> I accompanied him in his gig, & while

<sup>24</sup> Major Charles Purvis, later Lt. Col. of the Royal Dragoons, was of the sixth generation of his family to occupy Darsham House. He succeeded his father, who was High Sheriff in 1794 and 1808, and died aged 83 in 1839. For the elder Purvis, Davy preached the Bury Assize sermon in March 1794.

<sup>25</sup> D. E. Davy and Henry Jermyn were bequeathed the advowson of Westleton with Fordley and Middleton for the express purpose of inducting Harrison Packard to the livings in 1820.

<sup>26</sup> The 1946 O.S. map shows two windmills near the crossroads on Westleton Common. There are no records of barrows here, nor of early 19th cent. digs by amateurs.

he was in the Fair, I went into the Trinity Church, & found sufficient time to take all the necessary church notes, both within the church, & in the churchyard; except rubbing off the small brass plate in the Isle of Prioress Dalinger,<sup>28</sup> for which I had no paper at hand, & taking the Arms on the Steeple, some of which I could not without a glass make out. 15 Miles.

*Thurs. May 15th*

Walked over to Middleton, where I took some few further notes in the church, & on the outside of it, & copied the verses on the head Stones in the churchyard.

*Fri. May 16th*

Walked to the intrenchment<sup>29</sup> on the Farm belonging to Sr. Chas. Blois,<sup>30</sup> in Westleton, late in the occupation of J. Bedingfield, & now of ——. Syer & took a rough plan of it, with its dimensions, in paces. A cottage has been built within it, since I was last there. Two Miles.

On my return I went into Darsham church yard, & took a few slight notices from headstones.

*Sat. May 17th*

Having occasion to see Mr. Robinson,<sup>31</sup> I walked to his new House on the Heath, which he has lately built in a most singular situation. It stands in Dunwich, on the bare heath, about a quarter of a Mile from the Sea, & on so

<sup>27</sup> Bungay fairs were held on May 14th and Sept. 25th but in earlier time on May 3rd and Sept. 14th, both festivals of the Holy Cross to which the Nunnery was dedicated.

<sup>28</sup> The inscription to Dame Margaret Dalenger, prioress, d. 1497, lay in the south aisle; it is now fixed to a pew-end there.

<sup>29</sup> The double moated enclosure at Lymball's Farm (TM 425708) is probably a medieval site, though Davy looked for earlier origins.

<sup>30</sup> Sir Charles Blois, 6th Bt., of Cockfield Hall, Yoxford, 1766–1850.

<sup>31</sup> Francis Robinson's trees at Cliff House (which is now less than one eighth of a mile from the sea) did survive according to Pigot: 1830 'plantations that have a pleasing effect,' and 1839 'the cliff has been crowned with flourishing plantations.' The estate is well wooded today and Mr. Robinson's elegant cast iron urn and pedestal memorial stands just N. of the Leper Chapel ruins.

bad a Soil & so bleak a spot, that none of the trees, of which he had planted many, have hitherto grown. From thence I went to Dunwich, & took a few notes, all that were necessary, of the remains of All Sts. Church there. Distance there & back 8 Miles.

*Weds. May 21st*

Walked from Ufford to Melton church yard, & took the head Stones there, but did not go into the church.

*Fri. May 23rd*

Walked to Rendlesham 2½ Miles, & went into the church; took further notes there, & in the church yard.

*Tues. May 27th*

Walked to Bredfield, & went into the church, where I took a few notes, & also in the churchyard, 2 Miles from Ufford.

From thence went to Debach Church, which I took full notes of, as well as in the churchyard. I did not see the Registers which are kept by Mr. Reynolds<sup>32</sup> the Rector at his House. 2½ Miles.

On my return, went into the church of Boulge, where I got all I wanted, except the Registers, which are also in the custody of Mr. Reynolds.

*Thurs. May 29th*

Walked to Petistre, where I got further notes, both inside & outside the church. I was there informed that a Monument to be erected in the church to the Memory of the late Mr. Whitbread,<sup>33</sup> was daily expected. 1½ Mile.

From thence I walked to Dallingho Church 2 Miles: did not go into the church, but took the head Stones &c. in the churchyard.

<sup>32</sup> O. S. Reynolds was instituted to the family livings of Hoo and Letheringham in 1808 and Boulge with Debach in 1817. Debach church was rebuilt by R. M. Phipson in 1853.

<sup>33</sup> Jacob Whitbread, Esq., grandson of Samuel the brewer, purchased the estate in 1792, was High Sheriff in 1796 and died in 1821, *aet.* 72. It was he who dismantled the church ruins in front of Loudham Park in 1793. Davy came again in May 1824, but did not record the monument (which replaced one put up earlier to Whitbread's second wife Eleanor) until his 1834 visit.

1823

*Fri. May 30th*

Walked from Ufford to Wantisden, in expectation of being able to take off the 2 brasses in the church, & to take such other notes as might before have been omitted: when I got there, after a walk of near 5 miles, Mr. Edwards the Churchwn. whom I accidentally met in the churchyard, informed me that Mr. Henley<sup>34</sup> the present Curate, had last Sunday taken home the key with him, in order to have another made for his own use, as he had found it in several instances very inconvenient to get at the key, when he had occasion to go to the church, as the Clerk lives in a distant part of the Parish. I took however a rough sketch of the door way on the S. side, which is Saxon, & rather unusual. The whole church appears antient, & curious.

*Sat. May 31st*

Walked to Eyke, & went into the church, where I took some further notes, as also the Head stones in the churchyard. The inside appeared very damp, the Walls in places being quite green. 1½ Mile.

*Thurs. June 12th*

Having occasion to return a call from Major Moor,<sup>35</sup> I this morning walked to Bealings 4 Miles; & having paid my Visit, set off with Major M. from his house to look into the church. Before we had passed out at his gate, we met a man whom he informed me was a Poet; I took him at first for a Beggar, but he soon made the matter clear to me by stating that it was Jas. Chambers<sup>36</sup> the Itinerant Poetaster as he calls himself. Instead of the squalid misery, I had heard him described as living in, I found him decently, & even cleanly clothed. Major Moor entered into conversation with him, & upon asking him if he had written any verses lately, he took out of his basket a bundle of dirty

<sup>34</sup> Cuthbert Henley, P.C. at Wantisden from 1823, and R. of Rendlesham, a Royal living, from 1816 to his death in 1830, succeeded his father Samuel who held the living at Rendlesham from 1782.

<sup>35</sup> Edward Moor of Bealings House (1771–1848) sailed to India to join the H.E.I.C. before he was 12. About 1800 he was invalided and settled in his native Suffolk to write and publish works on Hinduism. His stone and cement pyramid, still in the grounds, includes oddly assorted millstones and sculptured Indian figures.

<sup>36</sup> James Chambers (1748–1827) lived mainly around Haverhill, later in Woodbridge and Earl Soham. There is a portrait and a 13 pp. life of the poet at the front of *The Poetical Works of James Chambers, Itinerant Poet* (Ipswich 1820); the poems throw bright shafts of light on the social scene in Suffolk at the time.

papers all fully written upon, most of them in his own hand writing a very vulgar, & almost illegible one, but some copied as he told us, by Mr. Cordy.<sup>37</sup> I asked him whether he was now stationary, & where he lived, & he informed me he had a comfortable residence upon the barrack ground in Woodbridge. Majr. Moor gave me a short history of his later proceedings: that he had been taken up by some gentlemen at Woodbridge, who had put him into his present house, had hired a woman to live with & take care of him, & made him a weekly allowance for his support. Altho' he seemed very grateful for the kindness he had received, it was very evident he was living under considerable restraint, & was by no means thoroughly satisfied with his present situation. He had a dog with him, & had just received a pitcher of milk, which he said was now his chief support. He talked of printing another volume of his poems, if he could find the means; & upon asking whether the former publication of his writings had answered his purpose; I found that to have been a job of the Ipswich Booksellers,<sup>38</sup> who, as Major M. informed me had printed 1000 copies of them, but had given no part of the profits to the Author, nor had, even, given him a few copies to carry about the country for sale & for his own benefit. He appears, tho' of an advanced age, to be still hearty, & spends chief of his time in wandering about the neighbourhood.

After leaving this singular being, we walked towards the church,<sup>39</sup> & just before we reached it, turned to our right thro' a farm yard, & walked up a considerable hill,<sup>40</sup> which appears, from the old Chestnut, Walnut, & Mulberry trees scattered over it to have formerly been part of the park or enclosed ground belonging to Bealings Hall. From this hill, a very extensive prospect opens over the Valley to the S. & W. towards Playford, Grundisburgh, &c. & affords a very pleasing view of the country, which undulates very prettily on all sides, & is well wooded & inclosed.

The church stands just below this hill on the S. but at near an equal distance from the meadows below; On the N. side of it is a long row of lime

<sup>37</sup> In 1810, John Cordy of Worlingworth appealed in the *Ipswich Journal* for subscriptions in support of Chambers; among those who responded were the Duchess of Chandos and the Countess of Dysart. A cottage was rented with the money, but Chambers stayed only two months, preferring a miserable shed 'at the back' of Framlingham. See *Suffolk Garland* 1818, 331.

<sup>38</sup> The names of J. Gissing, C. Ragan and J. Roe each appear as Editor and Publisher of the *Poetical Works* on the title pages of different copies of the work.

<sup>39</sup> Great Bealings.

<sup>40</sup> Moor and Davy must have stood where today the house Wintons enjoys the same unspoilt prospects.

trees, & at the East end, a return of them in a double row, which was the avenue to the Old Hall now entirely demolished.

No memorials have been added since I was here in 1810, but I took a few memoranda both within & without the church, & rubbed off two shields of arms, one of them on a stone in the chancel, the other loose in the church chest.

I found the Iron chest open & some of the Registers in it: the oldest, beginning in 1539, & ending in 1695, & the modern Marriage Books: but that between these dates was missing.<sup>41</sup> The old one was extracted in 1810.

The country about Bealings is very pretty; the land various, well wooded, & rich.

Major Moor presented me with his late Publication<sup>42</sup> on Suffolk Words.

*Sat. June 14th*

Walked to Dallingho Church which I went into, & took a few additional Notes. The Registers are kept by Mr. Browne,<sup>43</sup> the Rector, at his House; tho' I found in the Chest, a small Book<sup>44</sup> of Burials from 1719 to 1787, to be seen & allowed by the Magistrates; from this I took a few notes.

From Dallingho I continued my Walk to Charsfield. I went into the church, where I noted such alterations as had taken place since I was last there. I took also the Letters &c. on the Steeple & Porch, & the Verses on the Head Stones. I could not get up the Steeple, to take the Inscriptions on the Bells.

Distance to Dallingho Church 2½ Miles, & from thence to Charsfield, 1 Mile.

In my way to Dallingho Church, I past the Moat House, a Farm belonging to Mr. I. Clarke, of Woodbridge, of which I took a rough ground plan.

I did not enquire about the Registers, but I conclude they are in the custody of Mr. Browne the Curate.

<sup>41</sup> SRO FC 31/D1/1 etc. seem now to be complete.

<sup>42</sup> *Suffolk Words and Phrases, or an attempt to collect the Lingual Localisms of that County*, Woodbridge, 1823.

<sup>43</sup> William Browne was at various times incumbent at Charsfield, Marlesford and the Glemhams, but Curate here and not Rector, as Davy rightly records at the end of the entry.

<sup>44</sup> This book is not with the Registers in SRO.

1823

*Mon. June 16th*

Walked to Bromeswell church, & took a sketch of the Porch Door.<sup>45</sup>

*Weds. June 18th*

Walked to Hasketon; went into the church; took notes of what was new since I was there last, & copied the Verses &c. in the Churchyard. The Registers are kept in the iron chest in the church, but the Clerk would not let me see them without the consent of the Rector.<sup>46</sup> 3½ Miles.

*Tues. July 29th*<sup>47</sup>

I this morning walked over to Wickham Market from Ufford, with an intention of correcting the Notes I had taken in the church in 1805, & of adding such as I had then omitted; but having taken all the Table Monuments & Head Stones in the churchyard, I found the time would not allow of my going in search of the key of the church, which I heard was kept at a distance, & my completing an account of the inside; I was therefore obliged to defer this to another opportunity.

As I walked thro' the fields past Ufford Mill, I observed in a piece of Clover, a considerable quantity of *Orobancha cerulea*;<sup>48</sup> I had a few days before in walking thro' Lowdham Park, observed the same plant in the same kind of situation, in the greatest profusion.

*Weds. July 30th*

I this morning called upon Mr. Henley<sup>49</sup> at Rendlesham, where I found the Registers of Wantisden are kept, he being perpetual Curate of that parish.

<sup>45</sup> He must mean the 'Saxon' doorway within the porch.

<sup>46</sup> H. Freeland was, since 1817, the incumbent here whose permission was needed.

<sup>47</sup> The first excursion in the Out-county Journal (see Introduction p. 16) was to Silverlands, Chertsey between 28 June and 7 July.

<sup>48</sup> Now called *O. purpurea*, Purple Broomrape, none now in Suffolk, and only four stations in Norfolk. Here Davy collected a four-leaved clover and slipped it into the book.

<sup>49</sup> Cuthbert Henley's account of Rendlesham church and parish in 1821 was published in two parts in *Gent. Mag.*, pp. 9-10, 105-7.

<sup>50</sup> There are no earlier Registers in SRO.

They are but modern,<sup>50</sup> beginning in 1708. Took Notes out of them, & learned from Mr. H. that there is no land but the churchyard belonging to the curate, & of course he never heard of any Terrier.

Mr. Henley gave me a Drawing<sup>51</sup> by Johnson of Woodbridge of the Monument in the N. wall of Rendlesham Chancel, & lent me a small 4to. book of Accounts, & a deed of feofft. of the town lands in the parish of Snape, both belonging to the parish of Rendlesham. I first looked at the Registers of Rendlesham, which I find I must reexamine, & also the old Terriers.

From Rendlesham I walked to Wantisden Church, having borrowed the key of Mr. Henley. Here I took further notes, & rubbed off the two Brasses. It will not, I think be necessary for me to visit Wantisden again.

*Thurs. July 31st*

Walked after dinner to Wickham Market, & going into the church, took full notes of everything there. The Clerk shewed me into the church Chest, where I found the Terriers, & some old Deeds which I shall apply to the Churchwardens for leave to take home with me for examination. I find also that the Notes from the Registers which I copied from H. Jermyn's papers are very deficient, & I must take another opportunity of going thro' them again. The Clerk also told me he had at his house some papers which he would at any time shew me.

*Fri. August 8th*

Being on a visit at the Miss Cappers'<sup>52</sup> at Martlesham, I walked to the church, for the purpose of seeing the new fencing just put up on the W. side of the churchyard. I examined both inside & outside of the church, & took all such Notes as appeared necessary in both parts. I could not get up the Steeple, not having inquired for the key thereof, when I got that of the church at the Clerk's, who lives opposite the Red Lion on the Turnpike road. The Terrier also I did not see; I must take another opportunity of settling these two points. The Miss Capper's house is about a Mile & half from the church.

<sup>51</sup> The drawing on f. 241 of BL Add. MS 19178 is not the one given to Davy on that visit. Unaccountably, on 29 Feb. 1824, Henley sent him another by Johnson in exchange.

<sup>52</sup> Miss Elizabeth and Miss Mary Capper lived at Beacon Hill House, which they built in 1820, until their deaths in 1838 and 1834 respectively. They were sisters of George Capper of Wherstead and Charlotte Brooke of Ufford (both *q.v.*). Mary's hatchment hangs in Martlesham Church.

*Mon. Septr. 1st*

I walked this evening to Bromswell again; & having obtained the key of the church chest, I took full Extracts from the Registers, but had not time to examine two Feoffment Deeds relating to Town lands & the Terriers, of which there were 3 or 4. These must therefore be for a future more convenient opportunity.

*Mon. Septr. 8th*

Walked to Marlesford, & called upon Mr. Browne,<sup>53</sup> who was kind enough to shew me all the Registers, &c which he had in his house, & to allow me [to] bring home with me whatever I chose of them. I made a large parcel, which I was determined to take with me, but they were much heavier than I expected, & more than I shall on a like occasion, care to be the porter of, for such a distance. They consisted of the Registers of Dallingho, Marlesford & Charsfield, the Terriers of Marlesford & Dallingho, & the deeds of Sr. Walter Devereux's Charity<sup>54</sup> to the Poor of Marlesford with a Book containing the mode of its distribution. I afterwards went into the church, where I got full notes.

Mr. Browne, who has lately obtained the Living of Marlesford, has laid out a considerable sum of money about the Parsonage, which he has made very neat.

Distance from Ufford to Marlesford 4½ Miles.

*Weds. Septr. 10*

Brooke<sup>55</sup> carrying me this day in his carriage to Aldeburgh, I took the opportunity of returning to Mr. Browne, all the Books &c. which he lent me on the 8th except the Terriers of Dallingho.

NB. These last I sent a few days after to Mr. B. by Brooke.

<sup>53</sup> Mr. Browne had come to the Rectory here that year. (See Note 43.)

<sup>54</sup> Sir Walter Devereux in 1611 left to the poor a yearly rent charge of £6 out of a house and land here called Mapes's.

<sup>55</sup> Charles Brooke (1765–1836), of Ufford Place, was R. of Ufford from 1803 and of Blaxhall from 1798. His wife Charlotte was a sister of George Capper, and their son Francis Capper Brooke (1810–1887), a notable collector and antiquary and one of Davy's younger friends.

<sup>56</sup> T. G. Ferrand, patron and R. of Tunstall from 1814.

1823

*Mon. Sepr. 22nd*

Walked in the evening to Sutton Church, & had but just time to take the verses on the head stones, which indeed was all I wanted.

*Thurs. Sept. 25th*

Walked to Tunstall 5 Miles & ½. Went into the church, took additional notes there; rubbed off the brass in the Nave, but did not see the new Bells, the key not being in the church. Took Notes in the churchyard, & compleated all there, except the Bells, on which the Clerk told me pretty nearly what was inscribed. I had not time to call upon Mr. Ferrand<sup>56</sup> for the Registers & Terrier, which must be the work of some future day.

*Tues. Sepr. 30th*

Being upon a visit for a few days with Geo. Capper<sup>57</sup> at Wherstead, I rode with him to Freston to look into the Church & to enquire after the Registers & Terrier. The morning having been very wet, we did not set off till late in the afternoon, & I had not time to take notes.

*Weds. Oct. 1st*

The morning very wet, but the weather clearing up about 3 o'clock, I walked to Freston, & went into the church, & had just time to [take] what notes there I had occasion for.

*Thurs. Oct. 2nd*

Capper being engaged to shoot with Mr. Berners<sup>58</sup> this morning I accompanied him to Woolverstone, where I found the Registers & Terriers provided for me; having abstracted the former & copied the latter, I walked to the church, where I took full Notes of all that was necessary.

<sup>57</sup> George Capper, R. of Gosbeck from 1813 and V. of Wherstead and R. of Little Blakenham from 1815, was the son of the Revd. Francis Capper, R. of Earl Soham. He married Anne, dau. of George Reid, Esq., and died s.p. in 1847, *aet.* 79. For his closest friend of Cambridge days, Davy wrote an obituary in *Gent. Mag.*, Aug. 1847, describing his life of public service and pastoral care.

<sup>58</sup> Charles Berners, Esq., grandson of the builder of the Hall in 1776, died unmarried, *aet.* 64, in 1831 and was succeeded in the Woolverstone estate by his brother, Henry Denny Berners, Archdeacon of Suffolk and R. of Harkstead and Woolverstone with Erwarton.

1823

I afterwards rode to Chelmondiston Church, & had just time to take the Inscriptions &c. in the church, but not to do quite so much in the church yard, as I wished. I did not see either the Registers or Terrier.

On my return I found the Registers & Terriers of Freston had been left at the Parsonage at Wherstead, & I employed my leisure time, in taking full Extracts & copying them.

*Fri. Octr. 3rd*

George found up for me an older Register of Wherstead than I had before seen, together with the Terriers, & an old account Book of the Parish, & the Deed of Exchange of the Parsonage & Glebe, & c.

Rode with him, to Freston Tower, & went up to the top of it. Rode afterwards to Shotley Church, after calling upon the Rector, Dr. Forster;<sup>59</sup> took full notes of the church &c. & tho' I had obtained from the Clerk the keys of the church Chest, from a misunderstanding, I could not find that which opened the iron chest, in which the Registers are kept; this therefore must be a future consideration. This is a very handsome<sup>60</sup> church, & I was much surprised to meet such a one, in so very retired a spot.

Rode afterwards to Erwarnton Hall, which I first looked into: afterwards looked into the church, & was so struck with it that I determined to go there again tomorrow.

Distance to Shotley Church 7, back by Erwarnton, about 8.

*Sat. Octr. 4th*

Rode over again to Erwarnton Church, where I employed 4 hours & a half in taking notes. I had just time sufficient to finish the church & churchyard, & tho' I found the Registers in the iron chest, I had no time to look far into

<sup>59</sup> Dr. Samuel Forster was born at Halesworth in 1752 where his father Thomas was Rector. He was educated at Eton and St. John's, Cambridge. He was Headmaster of Norwich Grammar School for 25 years from 1785. For some years he was tutoring, amongst others, the son of the Marquis of Bristol, from whom in 1826 he obtained the livings of Quarrington, Lincs., and Shotley. For some time before his death in 1843, aged 91, he was too blind to carry out his parish duties. A mezzotint portrait is illustrated in S. H. A. Hervey's *Shotley Parish Records* 1912, facing p. 335.

<sup>60</sup> Handsome because the chancel was rebuilt in 1745 by the then R., the Hon. Henry Hervey (later Aston). But Davy wrote in his collections that day: 'The report in the parish is that he forgot nothing to make the church very neat and handsome, but he forgot to pay for making it so.'

them. They begin in 1558.<sup>61</sup>

Distance from Wherstead to Erwarton 6 Miles.

Mr. Berners has authorised Mrs. Mills<sup>62</sup> of Stutton to employ proper persons to clean the monuments in the church. They are in a wretched state from the continued coats of white wash, with which they have been daubed over.

While at Wherstead, I got from Capper Copies of the Terriers of Blakenham parva & Gosbeck, of both which Parishes he is Rector.

*Tues. Octr. 28th*

Walked from Ufford to Wickham Market, & having obtained from the churchwardens access to the chest in the church, I examined the Contents of it, & took home with me the Terriers, & certain Deeds, Papers &c. relative to the charities belonging to the Parish, for which I left a Receipt.

*Fri. Octr. 31st*

I again walked to Wickham for the purpose of returning the Terriers & other papers &c. which I had borrowed on the 28th. & had my Rect. returned by the Clerk, to whom I delivered the Papers.

*Thurs. Nov. 6th*

Walked over to Rendlesham, & calling upon Mr. Henley, obtained from him some copies of the Terrier, & a Survey of the Parish.

*Fri. Decr. 26th*

Having learnt from T. Higham,<sup>63</sup> that some carvings<sup>64</sup> in wood had been removed in the course of some repairs done to the church of Eyke, & were in the possession of a wheelwright there, I this morning walked to look at them. Some account of them will be found under the head of church notes in that parish.

<sup>61</sup> FB 185/D1/1 in SRO begins in 1558.

<sup>62</sup> Ann Mills (née Barnardiston) was wife of the Revd. Thomas Mills (1791–1879), R. of Stutton for 58 years from 1822 and Chaplain in ordinary to the King. Beginning in 1816, she made extensive collections for a history of the County, illustrated with her own drawings, but died in 1827, aged only 31. There are in Stutton Church a hatchment, a tablet and a window in her memory. Thomas Mills, as we shall see, carried on her work after her death.

Weds. Decr. 31st

Being upon a visit at Martlesham, I walked this morning to Playford Church. In my way I passed Col. Pogson's<sup>65</sup> house at Kesgrave, which stands in a very retired situation, on a ledge just above the marshes dividing Kesgrave from Playford, & very near a considerable mere. I made some memoranda respecting the church & churchyard of Playford, but did not look into the church. The Clerk living at some distance from it, & not expecting to find any thing new there, I determined to go further.

I set off therefore for Culpho, which I found to be barely a Mile from Playford church. As soon as I ascended the hill from Playford, I came upon high land, but unlike that about the latter, flat & wet. When I got to Culpho church, I found I had nearly a mile to the Clerk's house to get the key, & when I had obtained it, the information obtained by it, was by no means adequate to the trouble. I took such notes as I thought necessary about the church, but could not get up the steeple, the door to which was locked. I did not see the Clerk, but his wife told me she knew nothing of the Registers &c. & that Mr. Carthew<sup>66</sup> of Woodbridge was the Curate. I concluded therefore, that they are in his Custody. There was no iron chest in the church.

In my way home I passed thro' Little Bealings, & went into the church yard, where I took a few additional Notes, but I had not time to look again into the church.

Distances as follows — To Playford Church 2½ Miles, to Culpho, 1. to L. Bealings 2, to Martlesham 1½.

<sup>63</sup> Thomas Higham (1795–1844), son of a Bramfield butcher and apprenticed to John Greig, was an artist and line engraver whose work in Suffolk appeared in the *Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet*, the *Antiquarian Itinerary*, *Excursions through Suffolk* and various ladies' annual pocketbooks. His drawings were of far greater artistic merit than those of most of his contemporaries.

<sup>64</sup> The receiling of the nave would have covered this carved wooden cornice with six carved angels kneeling on one knee, hands raised, wings displayed, and so it was taken down and sold.

<sup>65</sup> The family of Col. Thomas Pogson (1764–1835) has a memorial and a vault in Kesgrave Church. He bought Kesgrave House from George Thomas Esq. in 1812 and demolished and rebuilt it immediately. The new mansion was itself taken down soon after it was sold in 1841, and Nekemere (can this be Domesday: *Necchemara?*), the detached portion of the parish on which it stood, was in 1882 incorporated with Playford. (*The Story of Kesgrave* 1981, by G. & M. Ponting).

<sup>66</sup> Thomas Carthew was P.C. of Woodbridge, a living in his own gift which he held from 1791 until his death in 1831, *aet.* 77.

1824

*Fri. Jany. 2nd*

I this morning walked from Martlesham, to Waldringfield Church 3½ Miles. I went into the church, & made notes of such alterations as had taken place since I was last there, also in the ch.yd. I found a farmer near the church manuring his land for barley with sprats & was a good deal annoyed by the smell: 20 bushels an acre considered a fair coat.

Upon enquiry of Mr. Dunnett the churchwarden of Martlesham, I was very much surprised to find there was no Terrier in the Parish; he told me he had been several years in the parish, acting as Churchwarden, but had never delivered in a Terrier, nor had ever seen or heard of one. There is however a Parsonage House adjoining the churchyard, & about 10 or 12 acres of Glebe Land. Mr. Dunnett told me he knew of no land belonging to the Parish or to the Poor, but that the latter had the privilege or right of cutting turf, furze, & heath, upon Martlesham Heath. I must enquire of Doughty,<sup>67</sup> who can probably give some information on the subject.

*Tues. Jany. 27th*

Having obtained Mr. Chilton's<sup>68</sup> consent, to borrow any Deeds, Papers &c. which I might find in the chest in Bromswell Church, I this day walked over, & brought back with me 3 deeds of Feoffmt. relating to the Town land, & 3 Terriers, being all that I found there. I also took several Rects. for Quit Rents for land holden by the Feoffees of the Manors of Melton with Ufford, & Kettleburgh Ufford.

*Thurs. Jany. 29th*

Walked to Bromswell, & took back, & replaced in the church chest, the Deeds Terriers & Papers, I had borrowed on the 27th inst.

<sup>67</sup> George Clarke Doughty (1768–1832) of Theberton Hall, V. of Denham with Hoxne from 1794 and R. of Martlesham from 1798, a living in the giving of his mother's family; he lived at Hoxne and was buried there.

<sup>68</sup> Jacob Chilton, R. of Eyke since 1776, was C. of Bromeswell whose R. was Charles Cooke, R. of Semer. The involved consequences for those clergymen whose prospects depended on Chilton's death (in October 1828) are detailed by Canon Fitch in *Suffolk Review*, 2, 99–118.

1824

*Weds. March 10th*

Being upon a visit at Kettleburgh, I walked to Brandeston, & called upon Mr. Broadhurst<sup>69</sup> the Vicar, who lent me Copies of two Terriers<sup>70</sup> of his Parish, one for 1719, the other for 1813, which I left in Turner's<sup>71</sup> hands who promised to let Mr. B. have them again.

*Thurs. March 18*

Being at Martlesham, I again walked to Bealings pva., with the expectation of getting a sight of the Registers & Terrier; I went into the church, but found little or no alteration since I was there before. As the day was very fine, & I was disposed to extend my walk, I deferred a Visit to Mr. Grimwood the Curate, in whose Custody the Registers &c. are, & walked on to Playford; went into the church there, & though I had access to the Iron Chest, I found it contained nothing but the modern Marriage Register; the others being kept by Mr. Meadows<sup>72</sup> of Bealings mag. the Curate. In an old wooden chest however, among some parish Bills & other loose papers, I found some fragments of the brass inscriptions & ornaments on the Stones of Sr. George Felbrigg,<sup>73</sup> & Thomas Sampson.<sup>74</sup> I would have rubbed these off, but I had neither paper nor pencils fit<sup>75</sup> for the purpose. I found very little alteration in the church since I was there before.

<sup>69</sup> Thomas Broadhurst, R. of Brandeston since 1815. The former Rectory there is now called Broadhurst.

<sup>70</sup> The 1719 Terrier is lost. SRO FC 105/C1/3 is a copy of the 1813 Terrier.

<sup>71</sup> George Turner (1767–1839), R. of Kettleburgh from 1806, was succeeded by his son George Thomas, so that between them they filled the living for 65 years. George Turner shared Davy's enthusiasms and provided him with entertaining anecdotes for his Loes Hundred Collections.

<sup>72</sup> Philip Meadows was R. of Bealings magna from 1804 and apparently C. of Blakenham magna.

<sup>73</sup> The vicissitudes of the Felbrigg brass are described in Benton's article in *M.B.S. Trans.*, VIII, 319–21.

<sup>74</sup> We need not lament Davy's lack of materials too deeply as the fragments were very slight: from the Sampson brass just '*Margeria uxoris*' on a marginal fillet.

<sup>75</sup> Davy used Whatman paper and lead pencil for his brass rubbings; as accurate records they do well.

1824

*Sat. April 3rd*

Walked to Eyke, & obtained from the church chest several deeds relating to Sr. Michael Stanhope's Gift<sup>76</sup> to that Parish, Admission of the Feoffees of the Farm lands & other Deeds & papers which I took home with me. The Terriers were not there. I also found an old Acct. Book.

*Mon. April 5th*

Took back & deposited in the church chest all the Deeds, Papers, which I had borrowed out on the 3rd inst. at Eyke, & left word with the Clerk to endeavour to get me the Terrier.

*Mon. April 26th*

Walked to Otley; went into the church, & took fresh notes, as also in the churchyard. Could not get at the Registers, which were in the iron chest, but the clerk had the key, & he lives a considerable distance from the church.

*Sat. May 1*

Walked to Petistree, where I went thro' the whole Register again, & took a copy of the Terrier; I was employed 4 hours.

*Fri. May 7th*

Being on a Visit at Ashbocking Parsonage,<sup>77</sup> I went before breakfast into the church, where I took the Inscriptions &c. in full, & in the course of this, & 2 other mornings rubbed off the 2 brasses there. I had the Evening before taken full extracts from the Registers & obtained the Terrier & a Deed relating to some charity land which I found in the hands of Mr. Stanford the churchwarden. From the opportunities I had while on my visit here, I may fairly consider that this parish has been sufficiently examined, as far as a personal inspection can go.

After breakfast, I walked to Coddendam, & employed my time till after 4 o'clock in the church, in getting a full acct. of it both within & without,

<sup>76</sup> Sir Michael Stanhope of Sudbourne in 1619 left property to produce income for the poor of some nine parishes in E. Suffolk. The Eyke poor received £10 annually.

<sup>77</sup> Barlee was C. here from 1823 until his death and officiated regularly. Henry Lawton was V. from 1793; patr. The Lord Chancellor.

except that I was unable to get upon the N. Isle, so as to obtain a copy of the Inscription<sup>207</sup> upon the parapet of the Nave on that side. I had no time to enquire after the Registers, which I have since heard are usually kept in the iron chest in the Vestry.

*Sat. May 8th*

Walked to Hemingstone, & called upon Mr. Press the Curate, who readily communicated the Terrier, & I employed a considerable part of the morning at his house in copying that, & in taking full extracts from the Registers. I also took full notes in & out the church. I did not hear of any land or donations given to the Parish. I shall not have occasion to visit the Parish, or at least the church again.

Distance from Ashbocking, 1¾ Miles.

Came home by Gosbeck Church, where I took full notes. The Register I had found at Ashbocking Parsonage, & had fully extracted 2 nights before. The Terrier I had copied at Wherstead. I have therefore all that I want for this Parish. Distance from Hemingstone to Gosbeck, a mile & half, & from Gosbeck to Ashbocking a mile & quarter.

*Sun. May 9th<sup>79</sup>*

Walked to Henley church, & took full notes there; I found in the church that the Registers & Terrier were there kept, so that I got a copy of the latter & made full Extracts from the former, which employed me the whole morning. Distance from Ashbocking, 2½ Miles. I shall not have occasion to go there again..

*Tues. May 11th*

William Barlee drove me in his gig to Bailham Church, 4½ Miles, where I got all the Notes I wanted as to the church. Mr. Buck the Curate being from home, I could not get at either the Registers or Terrier. The Registers promise to be well worth examination, as the whole of the Acton family appear to have been buried here.

From Bailham Church I walked to Great Blakenham Church, about a mile; & obtained a sight of all worth observing therein. I had no time to enquire after the Registers, which, I since hear, are kept by the Curate, at Claydon, Mr. Wood. A second visit to these two Parishes therefore will be necessary.

<sup>79</sup> Probably Mon. May 10th. It is most unlikely that Davy made this visit on a Sunday.

*Weds. May 12th*

Walked to Crowfield, & after some difficulty, at length hit upon the church or chapel, which is placed in so retired a situation, & is so encompassed with thick wood, as to be visible from no part at the distance of more than 100 yards. I found the Clerk living within the Moat marking the Scite of the Manor of Crowfoot [*sic*] adjoining the churchyard, & a Town meeting in the chapel was holding while I was there. I took however what Notes I wanted, about the Building; but upon enquiry, I found that the Registers & other papers relating to the chapel were kept in the church chest of Coddenham, to which Crowfield is a hamlet. It must be near 3 Miles from Ashbocking to Crowfield Chapel.

From thence at the distance of about a mile, I came to Stonham Aspal, & had just sufficient time to take an account of the church, with all the Inscriptions both within & without. The Registers I had before examined & extracted; but the Terrier is yet a desideratum. I did not enquire after it, as I should not have had time to copy it, had I found it in the church.

*Thurs. May 13th*

Walked this Morning to Witlesham Church, three Miles. I began to take Notes & had nearly got thro' one half of my work, when Mr. Whaley<sup>80</sup> the Rector, came to me, & upon my enquiry about the Registers, & informing him of my object in making enquiries, he very civilly & cordially offered me the use of them, & took them from the Chest, into the Parsonage, where I was employed for the rest of the Morning in making Extracts from them. Mr. W. produced also the Terriers one of which I copied, & made notes of the others. When I had finished these, I found it was time for me to return, intending to come again the next morning & finish the church; but the weather was so bad that I was unable to put my intention in practice, & I must take another opportunity of completing my inspection there.

Mr. Poppy a very intelligent Farmer in the Parish gave me some information as to discoveries made in the parish within a few years, the particulars of which will be found among my Collections for the Parish. The remains found, by Mr. Poppy, & placed by him in the hands of his Landlord the Revd. Chas. Eade<sup>81</sup> of Metfield, will be worth enquiry after, in case I should at any time go into his neighbourhood.

<sup>80</sup> J. G. Whaley, R. of Witlesham since 1822, a Peterhouse living.

<sup>81</sup> Charles Eade, 3rd. son of John Eade, R. of Tannington, was C. here. According to Davy he 'died deranged'.

Mr. Poppy also communicated some papers relating to Occold, which he seems to have had from the late Revd. Mr. Malyn<sup>82</sup> Rector of that Parish.

*Weds. June 2nd*

Walked from Ufford to Melton Church, & there found the Masons employed in putting up a Monument in the chancel to the Memory of the late Mr. Pytches.<sup>83</sup> I copied the Inscription upon it, & also another to Mr. Sharp, lately erected, & took the Insn. on the Bells, with such other Notes as had been before overlooked.

*Thurs. June 17th*

Being at Ipswich on a trip to Harwich, I had an opportunity of going into the church of St. Matthew there. I had sufficient time to take full notes both within & without the church. But the Registers &c. must be the work of an other opportunity.

Walked afterwards to see Birkfield Lodge, late the property of Count Linsingen.<sup>84</sup> The House has not been built more than 7 years; is a very convenient one, very elegantly fitted up; with garden, pleasure grounds in a very good stile. The whole is to be sold by Auction<sup>85</sup> on the 22nd inst.

*Weds. June 30th*

Being on a visit at Kettleburgh, I walked to Brandeston Church, & took further notes in the ch.yard. I did not go into the church.

I afterwards walked to Monewden, went into the church, & got some further account. Since my return home however I find, I must look again into the church, my original notes as to the fabric of the church, being very trifling. The Regrs. are kept at the churchwardens', but they are very modern. I got out of them what I wanted. Rubbed off the two brasses.

<sup>82</sup> Malyn was succ. by 1805 at the latest.

<sup>83</sup> Thomas Pytches Esq., d. 11 May 1823, *aet.* 48, and Charles Thomas Sharpe, Esq., d. 9 April 1821, *aet.* 50. Both have marble mural tablets surmounted by draped urns, which are now on the N. and S. walls of the Nave respectively.

<sup>84</sup> Count Linsingen, son of the commanding officer of the German Legion garrisoned in Ipswich, built Birkfield Lodge.

<sup>85</sup> 16,650 guineas was the price paid by Mr. Clarke of Newgate St., London, at the sale.

Returned home by Hoo Church, which I went into. Nothing new that I observed — nor in the ch.yard. I enquired of Mr. Catling respecting the Registers & the Terrier: the former he told me were kept by Mr. Reynolds<sup>32</sup> of Debach, who is the Perpetual Curate, & as to the latter, neither Mr. Catling nor the Clerk, had ever seen one. Mr. C. however, pointed out a piece of land S. E. of the church, which he told me was glebe, but seems to belong to the Impropiator.

*Sat. July 3rd*

Walked, & looked into Kettleburgh: where I took some slight notes; but I must be more particular in the church than I have been: my account of the inside is but slight. I must think of this the next time I go there.

*Tues. July 6th*

Being on a visit at Mr. Mills's at Stutton, he drove me in his gig to Bentley Church, where I got full notes in the church & churchyard, but had not an opportunity of examining the Registers, or getting a copy of the Terrier. The Hall<sup>87</sup> stands close by the churchyard, but there is nothing remarkable about it, being now only a farm house.

From thence we returned by Tattingsstone, where I could only take the church notes, there not being sufficient time for any thing more. On our return home we passed a sham church, which the late Mr. White created as an object from his house.<sup>88</sup> It is not a bad representation of what it was intended for, tho' the taste which suggested the idea of its erection may very justly be called in question. The examination of the Registers & Terriers here must be the work of some future opportunity.

The distance we went this day must be about 8 miles.

*Weds. July 7th*

We this day drove to Erwarton Church to superintend the cleaning of the monuments there, which Mrs. Mills had authority to do from Mr. Berners,

<sup>87</sup> Bentley Hall may well have been only a farmhouse when Davy saw it, but it had been the seat of the Tollemaches before they acquired Helmingham. Now that between 1974 and 1978 both the Hall and its earlier vicinal range have been restored the group is remarkable even in a county as rich as this in domestic architecture.

<sup>88</sup> Thomas White, Esq., bought Tattingsstone Place c. 1750, rebuilt it and erected this sham Wonder in 1760.

the patron, who agreed to pay the expence of the work. Here we spent the whole morning, & I had an opportunity of a full examination of, & of taking Extracts from the Registers of the Parish; & we afterwards went to the Hall, where I found a Copy of the Terrier, which I extracted, & also took notes of the Arms in and about the House, & such other Memoranda as was necessary.

Distance 7 Miles.

*Thurs. July 8th*

Walked to Holbrook, 1½ Mile, found the church under repair, the whole pews being removed, & everything in confusion. I took off however the only brass remaining in the church, & some further notes from the churchyard. Saw the Registers, but I had not time to make Extracts from them then, & the Clerk would let me take them to Stutton.

Upon my return went into Stutton church, where I rubbed off the brasses, & made notes of what I had omitted in my former visit, & got some further memda. from the church yard. I had, in the morning made Extracts from the Registers, & taken a copy of the Terrier, & made copies & notes from Papers relative to the Parish which Mr. Mills furnished me with.

In the course of the morning we walked to Stutton Hall, & Creping Hall,<sup>89</sup> returning by the side of the River. 2 Miles.

*Mon. July 12th*

We this day drove again to Erwarton Church to inspect the progress of the workmen in cleaning the Monuments there. In our way, went up to Harkstead Church, where I took full notes, & having obtained the Registers & Terriers, took them on with us to Erwarton Church, & there got such copies & Extracts as I wanted. Left them there with the Clerk who was one of the Workmen employed by Mrs. Mills. We found considerable progress had been made in cleaning the 3 tombs on the S. side, which began to wear a very different appearance from what they did when covered with a thick coat of white wash; & I have no doubt that when finished, they will amply repay the labour bestowed upon them.

*Tues. July 13th*

On my way back, drove thro' Holbrook gardens,<sup>90</sup> Great taste has been shewn in laying these out, & the trees having now grown to a great size,

<sup>89</sup> Stutton Hall and Crepping Hall were both farmhouses in Davy's time.

nothing can be more delightful than the appearance of the whole place. A large piece of water is one of the chief & most prominent beauties of it; upon a small promontory at the upper end of it is an elegant building, used as a Summer house, which looks down the water. On the right of this as you pass up to it, a narrow glade conducts you to a smaller piece of water entirely inclosed in wood, except a small knoll on the right hand; nothing can be more retired & romantic than this pond; the trees coming down to the water's edge, & hanging over it in many places; at the lower end on a causeway, artificially raised as a dam to the water, is a small summer house. The drive thro' the garden, tho' of no great extent is very pleasing. Some of the trees, particularly a fir or two, standing singly, & being feathered down to the ground, have a very striking appearance.

*Thurs. July 15th*

Being detained at Bury on my way into Norfolk,<sup>91</sup> I walked to Fornham St. Martin's, & took full notes in the church there. The Registers, being in the Custody of the Clergyman, Mr. Hogg,<sup>92</sup> I did not examine them, not having time sufficient to spare for that purpose.

From Bury, 2 miles.

*Fri. July 16th*

I this Morning, in my way to Thetford, passed the Seven hills<sup>93</sup> at Fornham. I found them undergoing the process of paring & burning, probably for the purpose of being ploughed over: they are now but little raised & one of them appeared to have been recently opened.

The road to Thetford, after passing Ingham, very open, & unpleasant.

<sup>90</sup> These gardens or plantations, originally the grounds of Judge Clench's house, were detached pleasure grounds of the Berners family, a two mile ride from Woolverstone Park. Now neglected for over 50 years, with conifers and poplars restricting views, all the features of the place Davy mentions are nevertheless visible or locateable from maps. Luigi Mayer's watercolours of 1799 recapture the best vistas in their prime and indicate that their designer was a first class landscape artist. Davy's drive was of no more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile.

<sup>91</sup> See also Excursion 2 in *Out-county Journal*.

<sup>92</sup> Edward Hogg, R. since 1814 in a family living.

<sup>93</sup> The Seven Hills tumuli are 6 miles South of Thetford on the A134, in the parish of Ingham. The opening of some is mentioned in *Bury and its Environs* (1827), 140.



*Holbrook plantations in 1799. Below: The 'large piece of water . . . one of the chief and most prominent features', seen from the west. Above: 'the smaller piece of water entirely inclosed by wood . . .' and 'on a causeway . . . a small summer house'. Luigi Mayer painted several watercolours in the area, probably for the senior Charles Berners, Esq.*



*Mon. July 26th*

Being on a Visit at Wilby in Norfolk, Beatty<sup>94</sup> drove me over to Thetford, where we spent nearly the whole day; in the course of which, I visited churches & took full notes in that of St. Mary, which is on the Suffolk side, but had not time to enquire after the Registers. Saw the Alms house, Free school, & the buildings thereto attached. Went up the Castle Hill, & saw the Spa,<sup>95</sup> & the Room belonging to it. 11 Miles.

*Fri. July 16th to Mon. Augt. 2d.*

During my stay at Wilby, I visited most of the churches in the neighbourhood, where I found & collected many materials relative to Suffolk. The churches visited were Wilby, Eccles, Harpham, New Buckenham, Old Buckenham, Snetterton, Shropham, Keninghall, Banham, Quidenham, Attleburgh. East Harling, Garboldesham & Blow Norton; I examined the Regrs. of Wilby, Harpham, & Eccles, in which I found many things relative to Suffolk, & which will be very useful to me.

*Tues. July 27th*

Drove over from Wilby to Hopton, where I took full notes in the church. 8 Miles.

From thence Walked to Market Weston Church, 1 Mile, where I likewise took full notes.

From thence returned home by Thelnetham, where I finished the church.

I had not time to enquire after the Registers, which must be the work of some future visit into that neighbourhood.

Whole drive about 18 Miles.

*Mon. Augt. 2nd*

In my way home, I was again detained nearly the whole morning at Bury, which I spent in taking such notes as my time would allow in the church of St. James there. I got thro' the Chancel & Nave, & pt. of the N. Isle, but left

<sup>94</sup> Frank Beatty, born in Ireland, was wounded at Waterloo where he was a Lt. of Hussars. He then took orders and was for many years C. of Wilby and Hargham to the Revd. R. F. Elwin of Norwich. He married Anne, only daughter of the Revd. William Barlee by his first marriage.

<sup>95</sup> In Martin's *History of Thetford 1777* a lengthy analysis of the waters in Latin is given by Matthew Manning, D.D. They contained iron and sulphur.

a very considerable portion of the work undone.

I found also on my arrival at Ipswich, that I had 2 or 3 hours to spare during the Evening; I therefore went to the churchyard of St. Mary Stoke, & found just sufficient time to take all the account I wanted on the outside of the church: the inside must be the work of a future convenience.

*Fri. Augt. 27th*

Being at Aldeburgh, I thought I should have an opportunity of adding to my information respecting Orford. I therefore this morning, in company with Mr. & Mrs. Brooke,<sup>96</sup> went down the river, & arrived at Orford about 12 o'clock. Went immediately to the church, & having with me nearly a whole quire of paper fit for the purpose, I expected I should have been able to rub off all the brasses there, 10 in number; In this however I found myself mistaken, after finishing 8, my materials failed, & I was obliged to leave the other 2, the largest too, for another time. I took however some further notes in the church and churchyard, & meeting Mr. Connor<sup>97</sup> the Curate accidentally, I made an engagement to call upon him in the Morning at 10, to look at the Registers of this parish & Sudborn.

Dined & slept at the Hotel,<sup>98</sup> Orford, a very good Inn, built by the late Marquis of Hertford about 11 years ago.

*Sat. Augt. 28th*

Called on Mr. Connor at 10, & employed my time till ½ past one, in making Extracts from the Registers of Orford & Sudborn. Mr. Ellis Wade having promised to copy the Terrier for me, I left that matter in his hands.

Returned to Ufford, in the afternoon on foot; passed Sudborn Hall,<sup>99</sup>

<sup>96</sup> The R. and his wife from Ufford presumably. See Note 55.

<sup>97</sup> John Connor, R. of Sudbourne and P.C. of Orford, was Chaplain in Ordinary to His Majesty.

<sup>98</sup> The Orford Hotel, since 1839 the Crown and Castle, the name it bears today.

<sup>99</sup> Horace Walpole visiting in 1755 was less complimentary. He wrote of Orford Castle and the Hall to Richard Bentley: 'the one is a ruin and the other ought to be so'. Sir Michael Stanhope (see Note 76) built the original hall shown in the Survey Norden made for him in 1600-1, now in SRO. In Davy's day, the Prince Regent and Wellington were among those who stayed here; nearer our own, Lord Clark was brought up here with what discomfort we can only glean from his description.

which tho' a fine looking place, & a good house, stands on a low level, looking up a rise, which was originally a sand hill, but has been by care covered with a kind of turf, intermixed with whins. An excellent situation for a house might have been found on several spots of the Park, but the very worst seems to have been chosen. The House was very much enlarged & improved by the late Marquis.

On my way home passed Chilsford Church, which I went up to, & took a few notes in the churchyard; I was aware of there being a brass here, but the same reason which prevented my finishing those at Orford, prevented me also from rubbing off this. Mr. Connor, who was for several years Curate here, informed me that the old Registers are now lost, & that they have not been forthcoming since the time that Mortimer, whom I was with at Forster's at Yoxford, was Curate there; Some disagreement had taken place between him & Mr. Smear<sup>100</sup> the Rector, & it has been suspected that when he left the Curacy, he forgot to leave behind the Registers.<sup>101</sup> Mortimer is since dead.

Distance from Orford to Ufford, 10 Miles.

*Tues. Sept. 14.*

Walked to Hollesley, where I obtained full notes in the church, as also full Extracts from the Registers. The Terrier I could not get at; the Clerk had it not in his Custody, but believed it to be in the custody of Mr. Waller the churchwarden; & I had not time nor inclination to extend my walk to his house in order to obtain it. I was fully satisfied with my walk of 14 Miles.

*Sat. Sept. 18th*

Walked to Woodbridge in order, if possible, to compleat the church notes which I had began to take in the year 1811. I got thro' the inside of the church as well as I could, tho' it is not improbable I may have omitted some inscriptions, one I know I did, in consequence of finding all the passages throughout the church covered with matting, which is taken up only at Easter & Christmas, in order to a thorough cleansing of the church. I must therefore take advantage of one of these general purifications to correct any

<sup>100</sup> Christopher Smear was R. of Chillesford and P.C. of Wangford from 1802–1831, and, from 1819, V. of Wenhaston. He was ordained deacon with D.E.D. His wife Catherine was the only dau. of the Revd. Charles Barlee.

<sup>101</sup> From the Registers in SRO FC 165/D1/1–5 it looks as though Mortimer took some away in 1812, but that they have since been recovered.

errors or omissions which I may have committed. I was obliged also, for want of time to leave unfinished for a future visit, the outside of the church, together with a review of the tombstones &c. in the churchyard. An old Inscription<sup>383</sup> on a stone in the Steeple will require some time & pains perhaps to make out, but if it can be decyphered, may perhaps throw further light upon the age of that part of the fabric.

*Fri. Sept. 24th*<sup>102</sup>

At Wherstead; G. Capper drove me over to Hintlesham; Went into the church, for the purpose of making some further notes, & to take off the brasses there; these however I found had been all<sup>103</sup> taken away, in a general repair of the church a few years back, when a radical change seems to have been made in it, some things perhaps for the better, but the most part for the worse. I completed my notes both within & without side the church, & upon inquiry after the Registers found them in the hands of Mr. Deane,<sup>104</sup> the Rector, who was not at home. Went to the Hall.<sup>105</sup> 8 Miles, thro' Ipswich.

*Sat. Sept. 25th*

Walked from Wherstead to St. Mary Stoke Church, Ipswich. I had before taken the Inscriptions in the churchyard, & I now completed my notes in the church. I found the Terrier in the church chest, which I copied, & the Clerk being in possession of the modern Registers, from 1746, I extracted them: but could not get a sight of the older ones, those being in the custody of the Rector, Mr. Croft,<sup>106</sup> who was from home.

<sup>102</sup> Davy wrote the entry for Sept. 25th before that for the 24th, but the order is corrected here.

<sup>103</sup> Davy's 1805 record of brasses later lost extends only to three shields bearing the same charges, two on one slab and one on another, both within the altar rails. They all showed *Timperley* of Cheshire quartering *Mantel* of Yorkshire.

<sup>104</sup> W. H. Deane, R. of Hintlesham since 1822, a family living.

<sup>105</sup> The Hall and grounds were also undergoing improvement under the direction of the owners, the Misses Lloyd.

<sup>106</sup> Stephen Croft, b. 1794, R. from 1820 for 48 years until his death, patr. the Dean and Chapter of Ely. He was for many years Rural Dean of Ipswich.

1824

*Sun. Sept. 26th*

Again visited Wherstead Church & churchyard, in the last I obtained an addition or two to my former notes.

*Mon. Sept. 27th*

Rode from Wherstead to Sproughton Church, which I completed, but did not examine the Register, & could not obtain a sight of the Terrier. 5 Miles.

In my way back, I went to Washbrook, but finding the key of the church kept at some Distance from it, I was obliged from want of time, to defer an examination of it. 2 Miles.

The road from Washbrook passing Belstead Ch. I walked into the yard, where I found an Inscription or two put there since my former visit. I did not go into the church; tho' I was anxious to do so in order to take the Inscriptions in the Dormitory belonging to the Harland family, before omitted: I found however from the Clerk, that Sir Robert Harland<sup>107</sup> keeps the key of this place, & is unwilling it should be publickly exposed. To Wherstead 3 Miles.

*Tues. Sept. 28th*

Rode again to Washbrook, & having obtained the key, went into the church, which stands in a very sequestered situation, at a distance from the Village. I copied all I found here, leaving the Regs. for a further opportunity, these being, as the Clerk informed me, in the custody of the Curate, who lives at Copdock. 3 Miles.

From thence to Burstall, 3 Miles; Got full notes here, but the Registers I found were kept at Bramford by Mr. Naylor,<sup>108</sup> who is the Curate.

Having about an hour or a little more to spare, I rode on to Chattisham, which being a very small parish, I concluded I should have full time to obtain all I wanted in the church. When I arrived there however (2 Miles) I found it full of Inscriptions, & I therefore left it for another day.

<sup>107</sup> Sir Robert Harland, Bt., of Wherstead Lodge and later of Orwell Park, contested and won the High Stewardship of Ipswich in 1821 against the Duke of Wellington. The Harland vault was at Belstead, a manor of the family since the early 18th cent.

<sup>108</sup> George Naylor was V. of Bramford and C. of Burstall from 1807 until at least 1844, patr. the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury.

1824

*Weds. Sepr. 29th*

Rode again to Chattisham, & found employment for nearly the whole morning in copying the Inscriptions, & making Extracts from the Registers, which I found in the Chest. The churchwarden not being at home, I could not get at the Terrier. 4½ Miles.

In my way back to Wherstead, stopt at Copdock Church, & took a few additional notes in the churchyard.

*Sat. Oct. 2nd*

Walked from Ufford to Woodbridge, & completed the church notes there; at least in the churchyard; I could not however make out the Inscription<sup>383</sup> on the Steeple, having no means of getting near enough.

1825

*Sat. Jany. 15th*

Being at Dedham,<sup>109</sup> I walked to Stratford, & going into the church, found considerable additions since I was there last. Two figures in brass<sup>110</sup> have lately been discovered in the church, which have been torn from the Stone they were fixed in, & are now nailed up against the E. end of the Nave, on the N. side; they appear quite fresh, & as if they had been but very little exposed to the air; I had no paper with me, & must pay the church another visit to obtain an impression of them. I took full notes both within & without, except a date which I find was, if it be not there now, on the West side of the Porch, near the ground. I took a copy of the Inscription on the N. Isle. The Registers & Terrier still remain for examination.

*Mon. Feb. 14*

Being on foot & on my [way] home to Ufford from Ipswich, I went into

<sup>109</sup> The Davys had cousins at Dedham called Adams; Lucy Davy lived with them after her parents\* died (in 1799 and 1800) and before she married Barlee.

<sup>110</sup> The brasses of Edward Crane d. 1558 and his wife Elizabeth were the subject of a fuller note by Davy: 'About 4 years ago, [c. 1821] as the Clerk informed me, on making a vault under the pews of the N. side of the Nave, there was found a stone, on which were the figures in brass of a man & woman etc. . . .' They show none of the customary wear of brasses long walked upon. They were moved to the N. wall of the nave aisle when the chancel arch was enlarged in 1878, and in a recent examination by the author they were found to be one of the few 'Nayle-Style' London brasses *not* to be palimpsest. The date on the Porch is 1532.

Rushmere Churchyard, & took a few additional Notes there, but I did not go into the church.

I afterwards walked to Kesgrave, went into the church, & picked up a little there & in the churchyard, but of very trifling consequence. Two Bells gone since I was there last: the church in a very dirty state.

While at Ipswich called upon Mr. Layton,<sup>111</sup> who lent me a Pedigree of the family of Meadows of Witnessham, & also some notes relating to the Greens of Wilby, which came into his hands upon the death of the late Mr. Green as Guardian to his son.

*Weds. Feb. 23rd*

Being on a visit at Martlesham, walked to Bucklesham, near 3 miles. Passing Martlesham heath, the country becomes inclosed, & part of the parish of Bucklesham is even<sup>112</sup> cold stiff land. Went into the church, & took full notes there, & in the ch.yd. & finding the Registers in the church chest, I was enabled fully to extract from them. They are however but comparatively modern. Did not find the Terrier.

*Fri. Feb. 25th*

Walked from Martlesham to Tuddenham, 3½ Miles thro' part of Kesgrave & Playford; a very pleasant country. Here I was enabled to take full notes, to extract from the Registers, to copy the Terrier, & to abstract some deeds I found in the church Chest relative to some town land. I since find however that I overlooked the most curious part of the church, a Saxon door way on the North side, which I did not examine, being very cold from having been in the church & churchyard above 3 hours. I also overlooked the arms over the W. door<sup>113</sup> of the Steeple. I shall have to pay another visit there:

<sup>111</sup> William Layton (1750–1831), R. of St. Matthews since 1775. Historian, man of letters, radical and eccentric but greatly respected. He and Dykes Alexander Esq., the quaker banker, were left guardians of the 14 year old Thomas Green when Thomas (author of *Diary of a Lover of Literature*) died in 1825.

<sup>112</sup> 'even' because surprising to find cold clay in sandy Bucklesham.

<sup>113</sup> Both spandrels around the W. door had shields. Only part of the dexter shield is legible. W. S. Fitch, c. 1850, recorded: Dexter, 3 escutcheons (probably for *Loudham* of Tuddenham Manor, 14th cent.) and On a cross 5 escallops (probably for *Weyland*).

*Thurs. March 31*

Being on my way from Yoxford to Ufford, I stopped at Saxmundham, to examine an Inscription<sup>114</sup> lately discovered on the outside of the S. wall of the Nave, at the W. end. It is imperfect, but what remains is very legible, & probably commemorates the building or repair of that part of the church. I took the opportunity of completing my church notes both within & without, & was after shewn by Mr. Brown,<sup>115</sup> the Rector, some deeds relating to the Parish Land, which I had not an opportunity of abstracting or copying. They seemed to relate to some lands chargeable with certain sums of money laid out in bread: the oldest dated 1657.

Mr. Brown also shewed me some papers, apparently of little value, belonging to Great Glemham, chiefly relating to a dispute about the tithes.

*Fri. April 15th*

Being at Wrentham, walked to Henstead, & went into the church to take the inscription on the monument of the 2d. Mrs. Sparrow<sup>7</sup> which I had before omitted. Walked thro' Mr. Barclay's garden, house &c. The house<sup>117</sup> is now undergoing considerable alterations & additions; a new portico is just added, & new offices are building.

*Sat. April 16th*

Walked to Sotterley Church to rub off the remainder of the brasses there, but had not time to finish them; one at least I left undone, & [I] must also take the inscription on Mr. Barne's Monument.<sup>118</sup>

<sup>114</sup> After much correspondence between Davy, Layton and Edward Steward of Norwich the mutilated black letter inscription was elucidated as: [T]homas Norman . . . Boteler Chirch Reves Wa . . . The N.C.C. will of Isabel, wife of Thomas Norman dated 30 Apr. 1496 asked that she should be buried in the aisle. The will of Thomas Norman was proved in 1513.

<sup>115</sup> Lancelot R. Brown, R. of Saxmundham (incumbent also of Thorington and Carlton *cum* Kelsale). His patron (and the poet Crabbe's) was Dudley Long North Esq., of Little Glemham. (See Note 552.)

<sup>117</sup> If this is Henstead Hall we have a date for the Greek Doric portico of two pairs of columns.

<sup>118</sup> Davy lacked time to copy the lengthy Latin inscription to Miles Barne, Esq., d. 1780, *aet.* 63, and his second wife Mary, d. 1802, *aet.* 68.

1825

*Fri. April 29th*

Walked from Thorington Hall to the church, but did not go into it. Took some few notes in the churchyard.

Walked afterwards to Blythburgh church, & again examined the inside side of it; took an account of the stones which had formerly brasses, & other alterations which had taken place since I was last there. In the S. Isle at the E. end, stands an old iron bound chest, which contains a considerable number of old papers, consisting of Bills indented, bonds, & other parish writings, which I had not time to examine, but which I must take an opportunity of looking over. For want of time I was also obliged to leave the churchyard for a future opportunity. The old Clerk did not know of any Terrier in the Parish.

*Mon. May 2nd*

Having left one of the brasses in Sotterley Church, to be rubbed off, I this day paid it another, & a final visit, & completed the notes required there. I examined the church chest, but found nothing in it, except an old Edition of Bullinger's Sermons, & Erasmus's Paraphrase.<sup>119</sup>

*Weds. May 4th*

Went with Barlee in a chaise to Beccles, & in the church there employed 5½ hours in taking notes, which I completed withinside. I had not time to go on with the inscriptions in the churchyard, which I had begun in October last, nor could I get up the Steeple, the ringers being employed there the greater part of the time I was in the church. Nearly another whole day will be necessary to take all the inscriptions in the churchyard, which are very numerous. Walked back to Wrentham, 7 miles.

*Mon. May 9th*

I this morning, got upon the Mail Coach, & went to Hopton, & walked to the church, which I examined in full. In the Chest, I found two copies of the Terrier,<sup>120</sup> one of 1801, & the other of 1816; of the latter I took a copy. The

<sup>119</sup> Johann Heinrich Bullinger (1504–1575). Swiss reformer. John Fitch claims these and another book as the earliest Suffolk parochial library (if three books can constitute one) in his article in *P.S.I.A.*, XXX, 47 (1964).

<sup>120</sup> The Hopton Terriers are still in parish keeping.

Registers were not in the church Chest, but are in the custody of Mr. B. Ritson,<sup>121</sup> of Lowestoft, the Perpetual Curate.

I afterwards walked to Corton Church, which I completed the survey of. A robbery having been committed not long ago, upon the iron chest, I found that is now kept at the Churchwarden's house, as I was obliged to return by the coach, I had not time to examine the Registers,<sup>122</sup> which, the Clerk informed me, are complete from the time of Q. Elizabeth.

I had intended to take Gunton on my way back; but want of time prevented this also; I therefore walked back to Lowestoft, & from thence returned to Wrentham in the same way as I had gone in the morning.

*Thurs. May 12th*

Walked from Wrentham to Southwold. Upon going into the church, I found the workmen employed in putting in a new East window to the chancel: this is of wood, because the Sea air was supposed to have too destructive an effect on stone; tho' the most probable reason, is that a Carpenter was consulted on the occasion. Finding the church in a good deal of confusion in consequence of the above alteration, as also of the fitting up & completing the gallery for the organ<sup>123</sup> just put up, I could not do what I intended. I however rubbed off the two brasses, & took a few notes of an inscription or two lately put up since I was here before, leaving the rest for a fitter opportunity.

*Mon. May 16th*

Walked over from Wrentham to Ellough to rub off the three brasses in the church there, which I performed, & took some few additional notes in the church & in the churchyard: additions since I was there before.

<sup>121</sup> Bartholomew Ritson, P.C. of Hopton from 1801, patr. Dean and Chapter of Norwich. From his memorial we learn that he was taken ill in the pulpit after preaching and died the following day, aged 67, in 1835.

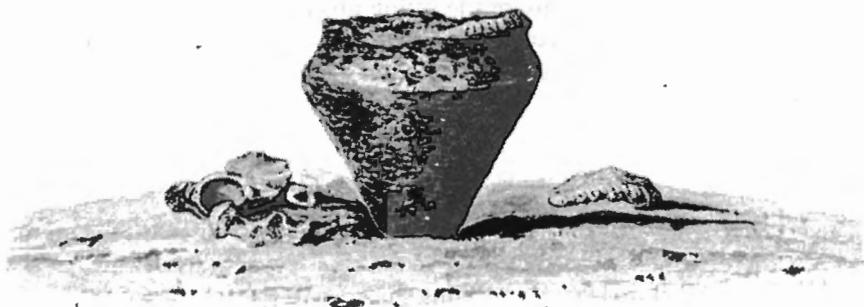
<sup>122</sup> They begin in 1579, and are at Corton.

<sup>123</sup> Mr. Alan Bottomley of Eversley School, Southwold, has kindly consulted James Maggs' Diary (he was general factotum and busybody in Southwold) and Churchwardens' accounts to show that John Sallows the builder was replacing an earlier, perhaps hundred-year old, wooden mullioned window with one of deal. The organ, presented by Solomon Grant, Esq., bailiff and churchwarden that year, came from the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, and served until 1868.

*Tues. May 17*

I again mounted the Mail this morning, & went to Lowestoft to finish what I had left undone in the church there. I rubbed off the two brasses in the South Isle, which I had left, undone, when here before. Tho' it be but 2 years since I was here last, I found a new Monument in the N. Isle, & a Table of Benefactions hung up in the chancel, both of which I copied. I had hoped to find time to examine the Registers, but I had not done in the church till ½ past 2, & the coach passes thro' the town at 4. The intermediate time I employed in calling upon Mr. Robt. Reeve,<sup>124</sup> who shewed me an Urn lately taken out of the Barrow<sup>125</sup> at Hinton by Mr. Miles; also some other things found in the neighbourhood. I could have wished for a little more time to examine them; but hope to find another opportunity for that purpose.

Mr. Reeve told me the Registers do not go very far back;<sup>126</sup> I think not further than 1650: & there is nothing particular in the chapel;<sup>127</sup> no monuments &c.



- <sup>124</sup> Robert Reeve, gent. of Blundeston Hall (d. 1840), son of a Lowestoft attorney, made extensive collections for Lowestoft to improve on Gillingwater's *History*, and others for the Hundreds of Mutford and Lothingland, now in SRO HD 196. Suckling used them in his section on Lowestoft (Vol. II, p. 59 *et seq.*).
- <sup>125</sup> Marked Tumulus on the 1946 O.S. Map. The urn was found 3 June 1824. The watercolour drawing illustrated from the Starkie-Bence collection is by Henry Davy. Could W. A. Miles who opened the Deverel barrow in 1825 have been operating so far from Dorset?
- <sup>126</sup> The Registers of St. Margaret's have been kept since 1561.
- <sup>127</sup> Davy is referring to the former Chapel-of-ease of St. Peter, licensed in 1570 and repaired in 1699, converted to the Town Hall when a new St. Peter's was built in yellow brick in 1832-3. It housed the font from Easton Bavents Church; perhaps the font fragment now in Lowestoft museum is the same.

1825

*Mon. May 23rd*

Walked to Reydon Church in hopes of picking up something there; I found, however, that the Registers were either not kept in the church, or if they were, the Clerk had the key of the chest, & he lives at Southwold. I looked into the church, & made a few notes there & also in the churchyard; nothing appears to have been lately added within side; tho' a new Monument or two have lately been erected in the churchyard.

*Sat. May 28*

Walked from Wrentham to Beccles, to compleat the church notes there, particularly the Incriptions in the churchyard, in which I succeeded, tho' I could not get up the Steeple to look at the Bells.

On my return passed Weston Church, which I intended to go into again, but when I had taken a few notes in the churchyard, I found from a man who was at work near it, that I had passed the house of the Clerk on my way from Beccles; & the weather, as well as the distance, deterred me from going back; which I did not much regret, as it is not very probable that any additional inscriptions &c. have been placed in the church since I was last there.

*Tues. May 31st*

Having written to Robt. Reeve of Lowestoft that I would spend the day with him, if he was likely to be at home, & hearing nothing from him to the contrary, I got upon the coach this morning; but upon my arrival at Lowestoft, I found he had not received my note, having left home on Friday, & not having returned. This was a disappointment to me, as I had hoped to obtain in the course of the day, a good deal of information from him, particularly relating to the Hundreds of Mutford & Lothingland. Not to lose my time however, entirely, I set off on foot to Gunton, & having obtained the key of the church, I took full notes there. I had intended to make extracts from the Registers & to copy the Terrier, but I found from the Clerk's wife, that these were in the Custody of Mr. Everit the churchwarden. I therefore walked on to Corton, & having found the Registers at the House of the Clerk, who is also a Publican in the Parish, I examined them thoroughly, tho' I found very little in them to repay the trouble. I met with them several copies of the Terrier, but as I found them all nearly the same, I did not copy any, because one is among R. Reeve's Collections. The Clerk shewed me a very large flaggon<sup>128</sup> of Silver, for the Communion Service, given by Mr. Rob. Briggs, who is buried in the church. It must hold near three quarts. Returned to Wrentham in the afternoon.

*Mon. June 6th*

Barlee having to attend at the Poor House<sup>129</sup> this morning, I took the opportunity of paying another visit to Blythburgh, in hopes of being able to examine the old chest full of Papers which stands in the S. Isle; I was however, unable to get the key of the church; both the Clerk & his wife being from home. I was therefore obliged to be content with an examination of the churchyard, where I gleaned a little. I then examined the ruins of the Priory, & endeavoured to make out the original form of the buildings; but here I was also unsuccessful; so little now remains, & there so much confusion arising from the fall of the Walls, that the exact form cannot precisely be made out.

*Weds. July 20th*<sup>130</sup>

Being on a visit at Kettleburgh, I walked with Turner to Letheringham Abbey:<sup>131</sup> went into the church, & took some Memda. in the church yard. The floor of the church consists almost entirely of stones which had brasses, & which were originally lying in the Chancel. I had no opportunity of taking the forms of the brasses, but I must avail myself of some future one for that purpose. On a bank going up to the church from the Mill grows the *Campanula rapunculus*,<sup>132</sup> tho' rather sparingly. The only place I have met with it wild in Suffolk.

*Thurs. July 21st*

Called upon Mr. Darby at Framlingham, & afterwards visited the church, where I began to take the Inscriptions, but after finishing those in the Nave, & beginning the S. Island, I was obliged to desist for want of time: I left nearly a fair day's work.

<sup>128</sup> The tankard-shaped flagon with lid, 9 ins. high, is hall-marked 1719, the posthumous benefaction of the donor who was buried in the church the previous December. He left a 20s. annuity to the poor of the parish out of a farm.

<sup>129</sup> The House of Industry for the Blything Hundred was built at Bulcamp in the 1760s and still stands today.

<sup>130</sup> From 4–9 July Davy and Barlee visited the latter's estates at Manuden and Clavering in Essex (Out-County Excursion 3).

<sup>131</sup> 'Letheringham Abbey' was built close to the Church and Austin Priory ruins by Sir Robert ('Secretary') Naunton about 1610, an E-shaped gabled house with six huge chimneys which faced east. Partial demolition in 1770 left only the south wing standing as a farmhouse and here lived the Catchpoles, father and son, both James. The senior, who died in 1827 aged 93, was still churchwarden and could

1825

*Fri. July 22nd*

Rode to Parham. Great alterations & improvements having lately been made in the Church, under the direction of Mr. Darby the Curate,<sup>133</sup> I found employment for several hours in taking notes of the variations since I was last there.

I afterwards visited Parham House,<sup>134</sup> the former Seat of the family of Warner; still a large building, tho' much has been taken down. The Stables & coach houses remain as at first, & are sufficient for a large establishment. On a bank not far from the House, grows *Carduus eriophorus*.<sup>135</sup>

*Sat. July 23rd*

Rode to Earlsgham. Fair day:<sup>135a</sup> not much doing. Visited the church; which I find I must take an opportunity of examining more particularly. I have only some trifling additions to Hawes's MS.<sup>136</sup> & so many alterations & additions have been made since his time, that it will not be amiss to take an entire fresh account of the church. An Inscription on the Font escaped Hawes & he takes no notice of those on the Steeple.<sup>137</sup>

*Mon. July 25th*

Walked to Easton, where I found a Monument just put up in the chancel in

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remember 'the greater part of the brasses remaining in the stones' and 'in the chancel a vault which contained several coffins; they were all destroyed with the rest and the lead sold.' For the brasses see *P.S.I.A.*, XXXIII, 168-194 (1974).

<sup>132</sup> Rampion, the tall Harebell. Not recorded in Suffolk since 1930.

<sup>133</sup> The fine oak chest in Parham chancel was Darby's gift as Curate there in 1824, and he devised the heraldic ornaments here and elsewhere (e.g. in the roof).

<sup>134</sup> Only a fragment of Parham House remains today, one mile N.W. of the church.

<sup>135</sup> The Woolly Thistle is found in just four chalky stations in W. Suffolk today.

<sup>135a</sup> The Fair, with a Market, was granted to Roger Bigod in 1293.

<sup>136</sup> Robert Hawes wrote c. 1710 an illustrated MS History of Loes Hundred of which several copies exist, one at Pembroke College, Cambridge; another is BL Add MS 33247

<sup>137</sup> William Layton sent Davy some tolerable transcripts of these in Sept. 1824; they would repay closer examination.

Memory of Mr. Nassau,<sup>138</sup> with an inscription & a copy of verses in his praise, no doubt the composition of his brother Lord Rochford; the verses very bald & bad, & the monument in a bad taste. Rubbed off two of the brasses which I had left undone when last here, & found some additions to my Collections in the church yard; where his Lordship appears to have constituted himself the Parish Poet: & certainly will obtain no credit from his productions there. An abominable instance of profligacy appears in the chancel, where there are two stones in the pavement in memory of his Lordship's father's two mistresses.

*Thurs. Augt. 11th*

Took the Coach at 8 o'clock to Ipswich, & having done what little business I had to do there I employed the whole of the morning, that is, till the Coach returned at 4 o'clock, in collecting matter for the History.

I first went to the church of St. Lawrence, & having rubbed off all the brasses there, in number 5, I copied some inscriptions put up since I was last there, & got some other notes. I did not examine the church yard again, because I had determined to employ my morning chiefly about the brasses in the several churches in the Town. From St. Lawrence therefore, I adjourned to St. Clement, & here I found two stones so covered with brasses, that I exhausted all my paper, & nearly all my time upon them. I had only time left to copy an new inscription or two in the church & to obtain a copy of the Terrier, which the vestry Clerk, C. Plumb,<sup>139</sup> an old acquaintance, allowed me to take home with me.

Returned back in the evening.

<sup>138</sup> George Richard Savage Nassau, Esq., (1756–1823), book collector and antiquary of Grimston Hall, Trimley St. Martin, was the younger brother of William, 5th Earl of Rochford, (1754–1830), of Easton Park. Davy, in 1816, recorded the two ledger slabs he complains of, to Hannah Chapman, d. 1773 aged 35, and Mary Edwards, d. 1779 aged 31, describing them with some relish as 'Housekeeper (read, Mistress)' and 'another of his servants (Mistress, prob., pardon!)'. They are no longer there. His Lordship's poetry can be judged from a sample stanza:

'How awful is this place  
Must any sinner say  
That can't depend on Christ  
To take their Sins away.'

It seems that Davy's scorn for the Earl knew no bounds, as reference to his Collections for Easton will show.

<sup>139</sup> Curtis Plumb was a boot and shoemaker of Fore Street.

1825

*Weds. Augt. 17th*

Having agreed with Mr. Darby to meet him at Hadleigh, to spend a few days there in examining that place & neighbourhood, I this morning got upon the Shannon to Ipswich, & from thence by the Cambridge Coach I arrived at Hadleigh about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 11 in the forenoon. Here I found my companion, & we immediately adjourned to the church, where we employed ourselves till near 5 o'clock in rubbing off the brasses there: the whole of which we completed, tho' they are 11 in number, & some of them large ones.

After dinner, we walked up to Aldham Common, about a mile & half, to see the Stone placed in Memory of Dr. Taylor on the spot where he was burnt. It stands on very high ground, & is of course visible at a considerable distance. Dr. Drummond<sup>140</sup> the present Rector of Hadleigh in 1819, raised a subscription, & had the old stone, which is but a small one, together with an obelisk then built close to it, inclosed with iron palisades, & on the face of the obelisk he placed some verses on the subject written by Dr. Drake<sup>141</sup> of that town, which I believe may be found in one of Dr. Drake's publications. It is a great pity however that the space inclosed was not larger; the original stone lies adjoining to the rails, & the obelisk is within reach of every idle hand that pays it a visit: & we well know how wanton the people of this country are in their mischief upon every thing that lies open to them: not much has hitherto, indeed been done; but care should have been taken to have rendered it less liable to depredation.

*Thurs. Augt. 18th*

I was up this morning at 6, & employed my time in the church from  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 6 till breakfast at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8. As I had taken when here before in 1805, a very slight account of the church, I now took a full description of it, with the Arms still remaining in the windows, & such Monuments or Inscriptions as had been placed there within the last 20 years: & of which I had no account, but these were very trifling.

As soon as we had breakfasted, we set off on foot for Leyham, about a mile & half. Here we were employed between 2 & 3 hours in taking the Inscriptions within & without the church. The Registers, I found, are kept at the Rectors, and as he lives at the distance of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the church, & in

<sup>140</sup> The Very Revd. Edward Auriol Hay-Drummond, D.D., Chaplain in Ordinary to the King. Prebendary of York and Southwell and R. of Hadleigh from 1796–1829, he was the son of the Archbp. of York.

<sup>141</sup> Nathan Drake, M.D. (1766–1836) practised in Hadleigh from 1792 and helped Bloomfield as well as publishing poems of his own.

the contrary direction to that which we proposed to take, I was obliged to give up for the present all idea of examining them: as well as the Terrier.

In our way, leaving it on our right hand, we passed Hobbit's or Holbeck's,<sup>142</sup> a house very pleasantly situated on a rising ground, well wooded, about half a mile Hadleigh; it is the property of Sr. William Rowley, but is now inhabited by an old lady of the name of Wingfield (or something like it, for I could not exactly understand my informer), who has lately come to reside there. It was formerly the residence of — Newcombe Esqr. then of the Revd. G. Newcombe: it was subsequently hired by Mr. Gooch<sup>143</sup> the Member for the County, who resided here some years.

From Leyham we proceeded about a mile & half further to Shelley Church, which, rather singularly, is separated from the rest of the Hundred of Samford by the Bret. Here we found a good deal to do; but had sufficient time to take full church notes. I was again disappointed as to the Registers; I found that the Perpetual Curate, Mr. Powel,<sup>144</sup> resides at Hadleigh, & keeps the Books there in opposition to the Act: the ill effects of which have already appeared, in the loss of one of the Registers,<sup>145</sup> which the Clerk dropped out of his pocket on his way from Hadleigh to Shelley, & which was never recovered. I got a peep, however, into the Iron Chest, in which I found 3 or 4 copies of the Terrier, one of which I had time to transcribe. There was nothing else worth notice.

Shelley Hall, formerly the Seat of the Tilneys & afterwards<sup>146</sup> of the Kerridges, stands about half a mile to the S. of the church. It was debated whether we should pay this a visit: but we were apprehensive we should not have sufficient time for this & to compleat what we proposed upon setting off for the day.

We therefore, walked on, across the valley, about a mile to Raydon Church, where, it was our object, to obtain impressions of two brasses which I knew were there. These we succeeded in obtaining, & I got some few further notes of new Inscriptions in the church & churchyard. It would have been in vain to have enquired after the Registers, tho' I observed the Iron

<sup>142</sup> Holbecks still belongs to his descendant Sir Joshua Rowley, Bt., H.M.'s Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, who lives there.

<sup>143</sup> Thomas Sherlock Gooch represented the County from 1806 to 1830, and wrote the request for Craven Ord's help for Davy and Jermyn from here in Nov. 1807.

<sup>144</sup> William Powell, P.C. of Shelley from 1813.

<sup>145</sup> The lost book must have contained Burials 1812–1819 and Marriages 1812–1817, to judge from what survives in SRO Ipswich.

<sup>146</sup> The last Tilney sold the estate in 1627 to Thomas Kerridge, Esq.

Chest in the church; as our time just served us to walk back to Hadleigh, at the hour we had ordered our dinner.

After we had dined, we walked again into the church of Hadleigh, in order to correct some notes of Arms, & to reexamine one which I could not clearly make out in the Morning. I afterwards enquired of the Clerk about the Registers, which I found were kept in Dr. Drummond's house, but accessible to the Curate, Mr. Taylor,<sup>147</sup> who unfortunately was not at home at that time, being in attendance at Bury upon a man<sup>148</sup> under sentence of death for a highway robbery committed at Hadleigh. The Clerk promised he would see Mr. Taylor, & let me know whether I could examine the Books.

*Fri. Augt. 19th*

I was in the churchyard this morning at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 6, & I employed myself for an hour & half in taking such inscriptions in the church yard as seemed deserving of notice. I again saw the Clerk who shewed me the Register Books, which he had obtained from Mr. Taylor, & promised he would keep them at his house till I could find time to look at them, which I expected to be able to do in the evening.

After breakfast, we walked to Kersey Church about 2 miles. This stands on a considerable hill, & is very visible from all parts of the neighbourhood. On the S. side of it, falling abruptly from it is a deep tho' narrow valley, in which, & up the sides of the hills is placed the village of Kersey, & on the top of the hill opposite the church are the remains of the Priory, part of the church of which still remains. The whole has a singular & romantic appearance, & reminds one of many a small town on the continent.<sup>149</sup> This was formerly a manufacturing village & is rather populous, but now of course poor. An old building still remains at the bottom of the valley, which is

<sup>147</sup> Charles B. Taylor held no benefice but officiated for the elderly Dr. Drummond.

<sup>148</sup> John Mann, aged 27, with two others set upon John Raynham of Kersey and robbed him of his purse, having seen that it contained notes while they were all drinking at the King's Head in Hadleigh. According to the *Bury and Norwich Post* of 20th August, Taylor was with Mann 'during the greater part of the last week, sitting up with him through the whole of Tuesday and Friday nights'. He also preached the execution sermon in the prison chapel on the fatal Saturday morning, and promised to write the epitaph on Mann's headstone in Kersey churchyard. 'Idleness, poaching, Sabbath breaking, Drunkenness, Debauchery, Thieving lead to the gallows here' etc.

<sup>149</sup> This is the only indication we have that Davy may have travelled on the European mainland.

supposed to have been formerly a manufactory. Kerseymeres<sup>150</sup> are said to have had their names from this place, where they were formerly made in considerable quantities. The church is a handsome & neat kept building, & we found several hours employment in taking the Inscriptions & other notes both within & without the church. The Registers are kept by the Perpetual Curate who resides at Hadleigh.

From Kersey we proceeded a mile & half further to Lindsey: here we found but little; but made that little my own. The Clerk was employed in harvest, & his wife was gone gleaning; but had fortunately left the key at a house near the church; but these circumstances prevented my making any enquiry after the Registers &c.

Walked back to Hadleigh where we arrived about 5 o'clock.

As it was necessary that Mr. Darby should return home on the next day, & he wished to give his poney, a very small one, as much time as he could to perform his journey of 27 miles, he determined to start very early the next morning; but wishing much to pay a visit to Aldham the church of which having a round tower, promised to furnish some amusement, we after dinner went up there, in his cart; we were rather unfortunate in losing our way, tho' the distance from Hadleigh is not much more than a mile & half, but we reached it in time to obtain all the information it contained, which was next to nothing. The iron chest was in the church, but the day light declined too fast to justify my applying at the Hall which adjoins the churchyard for the key of it. Hadleigh must be the place for some future excursion.

*Sat. Augt. 20th*

Mr. Darby being off at 6 this morning, & as I could not stir till the Cambridge Coach arrived at 2, I employed the whole period from breakfast to that time in examining the Hadleigh Registers; I found the work for at least two days: but I obtained a Copy of an acct.<sup>151</sup> of all the Rectors from the end of one of the Books, & I began to make extracts from the Baptisms, but tho' I lost no time, & was at it near 4 hours, I could get no further than 1629. I found many names, which I wish to note, & I expect much information from completing the examination.

Returned home in the afternoon, by Coach.

<sup>150</sup> Trousers made of twilled fine woollen cloth.

<sup>151</sup> In SRO FB 81/D1/2.

1825

*Weds. Augt. 31st*

At Wherstead. Rode to Ipswich, & began to take notes in the church of St. Margaret. Took all the Inscriptions worth notice in the churchyard, & began the inside of the church, which I could not near finish, tho' I had been employed near 5 hours.

*Thurs. Septr. 1st*

Rode again to Ipswich, & succeeded in finishing, or nearly so, the inscriptions & description of St. Margaret's. It employed me however from 12 till half past three, & I was then obliged to leave the Bells, & a few trifling points in the outside of the church.

*Sat. Septr. 3rd*

On my way home from Wherstead, I stopp'd 2 or 3 hours at Ipswich, which I made use of in rubbing off some brasses. I first went into St. Stephen's church, where I got the only 2 small ones which are there; I then went to St. Mary Key, & completed 4 out of the 6 there, leaving the two largest, Pownder's & Toley's,<sup>152</sup> for another opportunity.

*Thurs. Septr. 8th*

Being on a Visit at Wilkinson's<sup>153</sup> at Holbrook, he drove me in his gig to Eastbergholt, where I had just time to rub off the two brasses in the church. In the way from Brantham to Bergholt & not far from the former church, observed by the road side in considerable quantity, *Saponaris Officinalis*<sup>154</sup> with double flowers. There appeared no reason to suppose that a house had formerly stood near the spot, & the banks of the road for some distance on both sides were covered with it. Returned from Eastbergholt thro' part of

<sup>152</sup> The fine Flemish brass to Thomas Pownder, d. 1524, and his wife Emme, and the many small brasses from the table tomb of Henry Tooley, d. 1551, the founder of almshouses in Ipswich, are now fixed to boards in Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich.

<sup>153</sup> John Brewster Wilkinson did not become R. of Freston and Holbrook until 1832. At this time he was probably Curate. He was a brother-in-law of Edward FitzGerald.

<sup>154</sup> Soapwort, very common and still found in the same place.

Bentley, & passed Dodnash,<sup>155</sup> now a farm house with no appearance of antiquity about it, tho' I had not an opportunity of examining it closely. It stands in a narrow & very sequestered valley, in a very retired & rather romantic country.

*Fri. Sepr. 9th*

Wilkinson drove me to Shotley Gate, where we spent an hour in examining the Martello Tower, &c. Previous to going there I went into Holbrook church, & got a few additional notes there.

*Sat. Sepr. 10th*

On my way home this morning, having an hour or two to spare at Ipswich, I employed it in finishing the brasses in the church of St. Mary Key; I had done somewhat upon them on my way to Holbrook on the 7th. I now completed all in that church: & afterwards, got a little more relative to St. Margaret, particularly as to the outside, which I had been obliged to leave undone when I was last there. I cd. not now however compleat it, for want of a glass, & had not time to mount the steeple, to see if the bells contained anything worth notice.

*Tues. Sepr. 20th*

Being at Kettleburgh, I walked over to Framlingham, expecting to be able to finish what I had there began on the 21st July. I found however, more to do than I expected, & had barely time to finish withinside the church.

*Mon. Sepr. 26th*

Still at Kettleburgh, walked again to Framlingham, & at length succeeded in getting full church notes both within & without, except the Bells, which I could not visit, as one of them, during the whole time I was there, was going for a death in the parish.

<sup>155</sup> Dodnash Priory, a small house of Augustinian Canons, was suppressed in 1524 to endow Wolsey's Ipswich College. The farmhouse, in 1821 in the possession of Benjamin Keene, Esq., can be seen to include reused stonework from the Priory.

1825

*Tues. Sept. 27th*

Walked to Letheringham Church, where I made some rough sketches of the stones which formerly had brasses.

*Tues. Novr. 15th*

Being on a Visit at Stutton, I walked to Brantham Church, to see what alterations had taken place since I was there before; I found little, if any; & having taken a few notes withinside & without, returned. Upon enquiry I found the Registers kept in the iron chest in the church; the keys of which are kept one by the Rector the other by the Churchwarden.

*Thurs. Novr. 17th*

Mills drove me over to Stratford, & I took the opportunity of rubbing off the brass<sup>110</sup> not long since found in digging a grave in the church. I had before obtained all the notes I wanted there.

*Sat. Novr. 19th*

In my way home from Holbrook, I went into the church of St. Nicholas in Ipswich, & employed what time I had to spare, in rubbing of some of the brasses there; I had only time to finish two of them, one consisting of the figs. of a man & woman, the other an inscription to Aug. Parker.<sup>156</sup>

1826

*Sat. March 11th*

Revisited Kessingland Church, from Wrentham. Having come to a resolution of taking in future, the ground plans of the several churches in the County, I this morning began to put my resolution into execution. I took the opportunity also of visiting the beach there, where I was told the high tides during the winter had carried away a Farm house, leaving the Well a noun substantive on the land. I found however that a second high tide had carried the well to sea. I found a trifling addition in the churchyard.

*Sun. March 19th*

Walked to Benacre, to obtain a ground plan of the church.

<sup>156</sup> In fact to Susan, wife of Augustine Parker, merchant, d. 1604, *aet.* 24.

1826

*Sat. March 25th*

Revisited Brampton & Stoven Churches for the same purposes.

*Tues. March 28th*

Do. Henstead, Mutford & Rushmere.

*Weds. March 29th*

Do. — South Cove. Found a small addition in the church.

*Thurs. March 30th*

Do. — Frostenden Church. Do.

*Mon. April 3rd*

Do. — Shaddingfield. Do.

*Weds. April 5th*

Do. — Wrentham & Uggeshall, Do.

*Mon. April 10th*

Do. Reydon, Do. An additional Inscription in the churchyard.

*Mon. April 24th*

Blundeston being among the earliest churches which I had visited, I wished to see it again, as well to correct what I had done amiss, & to obtain such additions as had been since made, as to rub off the brasses there. I got upon the Mail, & completed a full description of the church. One<sup>157</sup> of the 3 brasses which was there in 1805, I found gone; this, if my memory does not fail me, was a very small one, & was loose when I was first there, & has probably been taken away by some chance visitor. The Clerk told me he

<sup>157</sup> A small brass, presumably of c. 1500, in the Nave, with the inscription:

*Hic iacet Henricis Alston  
cuius anime p'picietur deus*

1826

never saw it, but he also told me he had been in office but 4 or 5 years.

I intended to have taken Lound at the same time, but I found so much of my morning taken up at Blundeston, that I was obliged to defer that visit to another opportunity.

*Mon. May 1st*

Revisited Sotterley on foot, to take a plan of the church. I thought also some Memorial might have been erected, of the two Barnes lately buried there, but I found none.

*Fri. May 5th*

Again went into Frostenden Church, which was cleaning: here I obtained some information from one of the workmen.

*Sat. May 13th*

Revisited Bromswell, for a plan. &c.

*Weds. May 17th*

Do. Pettistre, Do. &c.

*Thurs. May 18th*

Do. — Eyke, Do.

*Fri. May 19th*

Do. — Melton, Do.

*Sat. May 20th*

Do. — Bredfield, Do.

*Fri. May 26th*

Revisited Wickham Market for the last mentd. purpose.

1826

*Tues. June 13th*

Being on a visit at the Parsonage at Wilby in Norfolk,<sup>158</sup> I was anxious to visit Gissing to see if any additions had been made since Blomefield's time relating to the Kemp family. I found that a handsome Monument<sup>159</sup> lately erected in commemoration of Sr. John Kemp Bart., the late Mrs Merry, her husband, & her son & daur. : — found the Vault kept in bad order; the coffins in ovens & no means of ascertaining to whom they belong. The church however is undergoing a repair, & Sir William Kemp,<sup>160</sup> the present Rector will probably make it a thorough one. The Parsonage contains some few Portraits of the family, got together by the present Sr. William, & brought chiefly from Ubbeston Hall.<sup>161</sup>

*Thurs. June 15th*

In the way from Wilby to Harleston, visited Tibenham Church, where I expected, & found, many memorials of the family of Buxton, connected with Suffolk. Paid a visit also to Redenhall Church, in which I met with many memoranda useful for a History of Suffolk; notices of the Gawdy's, Holmes's, Kerrish's, &c. &c. — 16 miles.

*Sun. June 25th*

Returning from Gawdy Hall<sup>162</sup> to Wilby, I went into the two churches in Pulham, & was not ill repaid for the trouble, as I found therein, the Sayers, Paston's &c. &c. The churches in Norfolk, indeed, particularly those on the Southern border, are as necessary to be visited by a person collecting for a History of Suffolk, as those in the latter County, for scarcely one in the

<sup>158</sup> See also Excursion 4 in Outcounty Journal.

<sup>159</sup> Large marble mural tablet in the chancel by Charles Regnant, a London sculptor, put up after Priscilla, wife first of the Rev. Thomas Kemp, then of Anthony Merry, died in 1815. She was *step* mother of the last two commemorated.

<sup>160</sup> Sir William Robert Kemp, Bt., R. of Gissing from 1816 to 1874, in his own gift.

<sup>161</sup> Gissing Hall, the moated seat of the Hastings and later the Kemps, was taken down about 1700 by Sir Robert Kemp, and the family moved to Ubbeston.

<sup>162</sup> Gawdy Hall in Redenhall parish was the seat successively of the Gawdy, the Wogan and Holmes families. It has since been demolished, and some of the heraldic glass is now in the church.

former can be entered without a notice occurring of some family either belonging to, or in some way connected with Suffolk.

*Fri. June 30th*

On my way home from Wilby, in Norfolk, I was obliged to stop part of a day at Bury, this I employed in St. James's Church, where, in addition to what I had done 2 years before, on a like occasion, I succeeded in getting full notes, or nearly so, from the church. The church yard is common to both Parishes, & must therefore be taken separately.

In my way thro' Ipswich home, I found time to get very near full notes from St. Nicholas's Church; but was obliged to leave the churchyard & two of the brass plates for another opportunity.

*Mon. July 31*

Took the Coach to Ipswich, to compleat what I wanted at St. Nicholas Church Ipswich; this I found time to accomplish, & returned in the evening. I must however, reexamine the Registers.

*Mon. August 14th*

Took the Coach to Ipswich, & from thence to Stowmarket to meet Darby by appointment for a week's excursion in church hunting. From Stowmarket, we took a post chaise to Lavenham, for which we were charged 13 miles, though it cannot be so much by two miles; passed thro' Finborough, Buxhall, Brettenham & Preston. As soon as we arrived at Lavenham, we began operations in the church, & allowing but a short time for dinner, proceeded till it was quite dark. Found very comfortable accommodations & very civil people at the Greyhound Inn.<sup>163</sup>

*Tues. August 15th*

I was in the church again this morning before half past 6, & by 12 o'clock succeeded in getting thro' the church, rubbing off the brasses, & taking every thing both within side & without the church. While I was there Mr. McKeon,<sup>164</sup> with whom I had had a correspondence, but whom I had not seen, came in, & communicated all he knew about the building, &c. As soon as we had finished, with Mr. McKeon as a guide we walked about the town, to see all that was worth notice: the market place, & its cross, the Prison,

<sup>163</sup> The Posting House. Prop: Samuel Skeet.

School house, Work house, & some other houses bearing marks of antiquity.

About 1 o'clock, we set off on foot for Preston, near 2 miles, where we were enabled to get all that was necessary about the church. Mr. McKeon again joined us here, & shewed us in the Hall near the church, some curious painted glass,<sup>164a</sup> & also some carving in another house in the Parish. I found the Register Books in the church Chest, beginning at an early period, but the plan which we had laid down prevented me from giving up the time that was necessary for a thorough examination of it.

After we returned to Lavenham & had dined, it was suggested by Mr. McKeon that the Registers of that Parish might be got at, & he undertook to apply to the Curate: that gentleman very readily assented to my examination of them, even at the Inn, but upon his consent being notified to the Clerk, in whose custody the keys of the Chest kept in the church were, he demurred to their being removed, alledging positive order to that effect from the Rector; but readily produced them in the Vestry for my inspection: I found however that the older ones were lost or mislaid, & that none went farther back than the very latter end of the 17th Century, & as it was then nearly dark, I gave up all thoughts of proceeding to their thorough examination, with so much the less regret, as they proved to be so modern.

On my return back to the Inn, it was agreed that it would be loss of time to remain longer at Lavenham, & we therefore ordered a Chaise, & about 10 o'clock arrived at the Bull Inn<sup>165</sup> at Long Melford, a very comfortable Inn. 4 miles.

*Weds. August 16th*

I was up early this morning, but the people in the house were by no means so eager in their pursuits as I was in mine, so that I could not get to the church before half past seven. Here we employed the whole of the day, not giving it up while there was any light.

<sup>164</sup> Hugh McKeon, author of several tracts and pamphlets on Lavenham, its charities and its worthies during the 1820s. He was born in Ireland and a Catholic, and had in his charge Mr. Branwhite, 'one of the principal Inhabitants of Lavenham, who is a Lunatic'. He was of humble origins, and his radical approach to local affairs met with much opposition. It was as a keen antiquary that he gained acceptance with Davy.

<sup>164a</sup> Davy recorded Ryece arms in the glass here, which helps refute Farrer's contention that the 17th cent. author of the Breviary of Suffolk lived elsewhere in the parish.

<sup>165</sup> Prop: Thomas Girling.

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*Thurs. August 17th*

Finding so much to be done, I was in the church soon after 6, & tho' I worked as hard as possible, I did not succeed in finishing it till 5 o'clock; when having dined, we took another look, in the church, to see that nothing important had escaped, & at the same time visited the School house,<sup>166</sup> formerly the chapel, & endeavoured to compleat our Copy of the Inscriptions on the outside of the Nave; but here we failed, owing to our not being able to get upon the leads, for a near view. The brasses being very numerous in the church, we were so much longer a time detained; but we did not come away without compleating them.

We afterwards walked up to Kentwell Hall,<sup>167</sup> & observing numerous Coats of Arms in one of the bay windows, we asked leave to go in, in order to take them down, but it was too dark to finish them entirely. We found the House undergoing a thorough repair, but with much apparent good taste; the alterations & reparations being carefully done in good keeping with the original style of the building: the present owner being satisfied with the old fashion of the house, without however sacrificing the comforts of the modern style.

*Fri. August 18th*

We had our breakfast early this morning, & as soon as it was over, we set off on foot for Acton. Here we found so many, & such large brasses, that our paper for taking them off, soon failed us, & out of 5, I had enough for only 3, one of these however was the famous one of Sr. Robt. de Buers:<sup>168</sup> his daughter we regretted being obliged to leave. After we had done everything else in the church, which by the by, is one of the neatest, if not the very neatest I have yet met with in the County, we agreed to come again the next morning if we could obtain proper paper for the purpose at Melford, when we returned at night; & to fill up the day we walked on to Waldingfield magna: where we obtained full notes both in & out of the church: but could not get at the Registers.

In the evening we endeavoured witht. success to obtain at Melford some paper fit for the purpose of finishing the brasses in Acton, which therefore

<sup>166</sup> The Lady Chapel.

<sup>167</sup> Robert Hart Logan, Esq., a London merchant who was educated in Montreal, purchased Kentwell Hall. He was High Sheriff of the County in 1828, and was elected Member for the Western Division in 1837 but died the following year.

<sup>168</sup> Sir Robert, d. 1331; Alice de Bryene, d. 1434, was his great-grand-daughter.

with the greatest regret, we were obliged to leave for some future opportunity, if such should ever occur.

*Sat. Augt. 19th*

As it was necessary that Darby should be at home this evening, in order for his duty on the morrow, & we had to continue to get to Ipswich in time for the Shannon<sup>169</sup> to take us up, we were reluctantly obliged to give up this day. That it might not however be a compleat blank, we after breakfast walked again to Kentwell Hall, when we compleated an account of the Arms in the window there.

Finding no Coach which would assist us in or out, we were obliged to take a post Chaise from Melford, which we had made our head quarters, to Ipswich, 24 miles, & from thence the Shannon conveyed us home.

*Sat. Oct. 7th*

Walked from Yoxford to Sibton Church, which I had not seen, at least had taken no notes of, since the alterations made in it by the late H. Jermyn. I had only time to make some notes of the Arms put up there, & to take some Inscriptions placed there since my former notes. I wished to have made a more general description of the church in its present improved state. This however I was obliged to leave for a future opportunity.

*Mon. Oct. 23rd*

Having planned an excursion with Darby, for the week, I set off this morning by the Coach, & met him by appointment at Needham Market. After examining the outside of the chapel there, we proceeded on foot towards Bildeston, which we had determined to make our head quarters; he had however with him his poney gig, but as his horse was a very small one, & had brought him that morning from Framlingham, we were disposed to use him as little as possible. Driving him therefore before us, we passed thro' Barking, & part of Ringshall, & finding Bricet Church a short distance from our direct road, we turned off to pay it a visit. Here we succeeded in obtaining full notes, but were not lucky enough to get a sight of the Registers. Just as we had compleated our Survey, it began to rain, & after walking a part of the way, we were obliged to borrow the assistance of the Pony, & we arrived just before dark at Bildeston, where we

<sup>169</sup> The Shannon left Ipswich (Coach & Horses) at 3 p.m. daily for Woodbridge, Yoxford and Halesworth.

found convenient accommodations at the Crown,<sup>170</sup> with civil and attentive treatment while we remained there.

Bildeston is about 8 miles from Needham Market.

*Tues. Oct. 24th*

Having got an early breakfast, we set off on foot to Hitcham, about a mile & half distant from Bildeston. Here I was obliged to be content with notes relative to the church; the Registers are kept at the House of the Rector, & without great loss of time, & inconvenience to my companion, who tho' very earnest in his researches as to the several churches, does not carry them so far as I feel inclined to do, I could not propose to go in search of them. We therefore struck across the country thro' a very wet & dirty soil, & over a very bad road to Wattisham, about a mile & half. Having thoroughly examined this church, we returned back to Bildeston, & adjourned to the church of that place, which stands at about half a mile's distance from the Town to the West of it. We had just time before it was dark to compleat our notes here. The church is a handsome one, & occupies a very commanding situation.

*Weds. Oct. 25th*

Our plan for this morning was to visit the churches of Brent Illeigh, Milding & Monks Illeigh, & if there should be time for it, Chelsworth, to be taken on our way back. As this was considered as rather a long round on foot, we put the poney's services in requisition, & set off about 8 o'clock. It rained fast when we left Bildeston, & continued to rain all the forenoon. We proceeded to Brent Illeigh, where we found full employment for 3 or 4 hours, & made our notes of the church compleat. From thence we went to Milding Church, which stands upon very high ground overlooking the Valley thro' which flows the river Bret: where we did the same. In our way hither, & soon after we left Brent Illeigh we passed on our left, Wells Hall,<sup>171</sup> which is situated in the meadows not far from the river, which supplied & still supplies water for the moat with which it is encompassed. Having found by some notes in my possession that there were formerly in this house, numerous coats of arms relating to the family of Shorland, I went to the House to enquire after them. The present occupier however knew nothing of them, & they have probably been long removed, the

<sup>170</sup> Prop: William Gooch.

<sup>171</sup> Wells Hall was sold by the Shorlands to Sir Simonds D'Ewes' father, and the D'Ewes, in turn, sold the property to Colman of Brent Eleigh. (*P.S.I.A.* VIII, 196).

present house being a modern one accommodated solely to the use of a farmer, tho' a good and respectable looking one: the gate way<sup>172</sup> adjoining the road, & leading to the old house still remains.

At Milding we found the Rector, Mr. Hallward<sup>173</sup> just going out for the day, & I could not therefore ask for an inspection of the Registers. On our way from Brent Illeigh, we passed on our right hand, Milding Hall, but at some little distance from the road: it has a respectable appearance, & the situation of it seems agreeable; but the country must be very dirty in winter.

It is now occupied by Mr. Hawkins,<sup>174</sup> a farmer.

From Milding we drove to Monks Illeigh, which I had visited with H. Jermyn in the year 1805, & as we were then very young in our business, I found I had taken my notes rather slovenly. I therefore took a fresh account, but found very little addition to what I had met with 21 years before.

When we had completed our visitation of the church, for I was again obliged to give up all thoughts of asking after the Registers, we found the day too far gone to think of Chelsworth, the examination of which we deferred till the morning.

*Thurs. Oct. 26th*

We set off, at our usual hour, 8 o'clock, this morning, on foot, to Chelsworth, about a mile & half, by the foot path. Chelsworth Church stands on a dry knoll near the meadows thro' which runs the Bret. Having thoroughly surveyed the church, we proceeded towards Semer, to which a foot path leads the whole way along the river. We found the church of Semer standing in a very secluded situation, close by the side of the river, a good looking farm standing a short distance to the West, on a rising ground, & surrounded by young plantations. This I supposed to be the situation of the old Hall, or probably near it. I observed however no remains of antiquity about it. While we were making our notes in the church, Mr. Cooke,<sup>175</sup> whose Parsonage, which is a very neat & commodious dwelling, is at a short distance to the

<sup>172</sup> The gateway is illustrated in the first edition of the *Suffolk Shell Guide*, 77.

<sup>173</sup> N. W. Hallward, R. from 1827, a family living.

<sup>174</sup> The Hawkins have occupied Mildens Hall ever since, for most of the time providing a churchwarden for the parish.

<sup>175</sup> Charles Cooke (1762–1838), R. of Bromeswell from 1790 (patr. the Marquis of Bristol) and R. of Semer from 1793, in his own presentation. He was the third Cooke in direct descent to hold the living. It was his father Thomas who married Jane, daughter of Jacob Brand, Esq., of Polstead.

South East of the church, came to us, & having recognized me as an old acquaintance, very kindly invited us to his house to take some refreshment. While there, he shewed me the oldest Register<sup>176</sup> belonging to the Parish, & beginning in 1538, which having been long without covers, & much thrown about & worn, had rendered the outside paper at the end nearly illegible; this he expressed his regret about, as it contained a copy of a Will of a Mr. Goodall,<sup>177</sup> by which he left a yearly sum issuing out of land at Raydon, to the Poor of Semer. Upon my saying that if I were at home, I could recover the whole of it, he requested I would take it with me for that purpose. On my return I succeeded perfectly in restoring, & rendering every part legible; & having extracted from it what I wanted, & made a fair copy of the Will for him, I had an opportunity of returning him the Book when he came about a fortnight after to receive his Tithes at Bromswell, of which he is Rector. In the Parsonage are some portraits of individuals of the family of Brand with which a Cooke intermarried, & also some of the latter family; but not of much value or excellence.

Having said that we were going to Whatfield, Mr. Cooke very kindly offered to accompany us, & to shew us the nearest way. After crossing the meadows, we began to ascend a considerable hill, (considerable at least for Suffolk,) on top of which stands the Parsonage<sup>178</sup> of Whatfield; this I considered almost as classical ground, as having been the residence of the Revd. John Clubbe,<sup>179</sup> the Author of the well known *History of Wheatfield*, a burlesque account, written with the intention of ridiculing Morant whose *History of Essex*, had just then been published; & some other works. We found the house undergoing a thorough repair, tho' no alterations of any account have been made in the body of the building. In the garden near the House, is a terrace walk, on the edge of a steep descent, from whence there is a very extensive prospect of the valley of the Bret, almost to the Town of Hadleigh. Kersey Church is from hence a prominent object. In the garden still remains the Summer House built by the Revd. John Plampin,<sup>180</sup> Rector of the Parish, & dedicated in a very neat Latin inscription on a piece of white marble at the back, to the memory of Mr. Clubbe his predecessor. The

<sup>176</sup> SRO FB 85/D1/1

<sup>177</sup> John Goodall in 1607 left 20s. yearly to the poor out of land at Raydon.

<sup>178</sup> Now the Old Rectory.

<sup>179</sup> John Clubbe's father George was Rector here until his death in 1711. John published his mock *History* in 1758, but it could only have satirised Morant's *Colchester* (1748) as that author's *Essex* did not appear until 1768.

Parsonage was inclosed in a Moat, part of which still remains.<sup>181</sup> At the time of our visit Mr. Calvert,<sup>182</sup> the present Rector was absent from home. Distance from Semer to Whatfield nearly two miles. At the distance of near half a mile from the Parsonage stands the church, also on high ground & commanding a view of the neighbourhood all round. The soil appears wet & stiff, but the roads are good.

The chief thing remarkable in the church of Whatfield, is a large stone<sup>183</sup> on which is engraved the figure of a woman; the stone is of purbeck marble, but the head, hands & feet of the figure are engraved on pieces of white marble let into the slab.

After we had examined & taken notes of the church, we returned, by the way we had come, to Semer bridge, & taking the high road to Bildeston, we proceeded to Nedging Church. This stands also on high ground, sloping to the West. Near it are the Hall & Parsonage, the latter to the N.W. the former to the S.W. Mr. Edge<sup>184</sup> the present Rector, is also the owner of the Hall & a considerable Estate here, & having put both the Rectory House & the Hall into good repair, has made the latter his residence, & is raising plantations & making considerable alterations & improvements. He is the first Rector who has been resident for many years. Nedging is between 2 & 3 miles from Whatfield. Here I missed the Registers.

Returned to Bildeston, scarcely a mile distant.

<sup>180</sup> John Plampin, Rector 1794–1823, placed his inscription in 1797. It was published in the 1810 *Gent. Mag.*, 236. The summer house is now somewhat dilapidated, with its inscription scarcely legible:

*JOHANNI CLUBBE  
sale et facetiis ante omnis primo,  
cui olim hac pinus,  
et ipsa haec arbusta,  
apprime fuerunt in deliciis,  
sedent hanc dicat J.P.  
MDCCXCVII*

<sup>181</sup> It presumably provided the canals in the pleasure garden which, according to a note in the back of the Parish Register, was made by John Clubbe.

<sup>182</sup> Frederick Calvert succ. Plampin, patr. Jesus, Camb.

<sup>183</sup> Only the shield-shaped marble face inlay remains to identify this badly defaced incised slab at the foot of the chancel steps.

<sup>184</sup> William Edge, (1787–1871), R. from 1822, in his own gift, and R. of Hollesley and Naughton (as was his father Peter) from 1810. He edited the new edition of *Ipswich Gifts and Legacies* in 1819.

*Fri. Oct. 27th*

It being necessary for us to be setting our faces towards home, it was agreed that after visiting Kettlebaston Church, we shall proceed towards Needham Market, & on our way take a view of Ringshall. At 8 o'clock therefore we walked off to Kettlebaston Church, about 2 miles from Bildeston. Having taken notes in the church, & made extracts from the old Register Books which I luckily found in the church chest, we returned to Bildeston in a heavy rain, which had begun while we were employed at Kettlebaston. When we got back, the rain continued so heavy that we were detained till  $\frac{1}{2}$  past one, when the weather promising to improve, we set off, still in hopes we should have time to see Ringshall. We however unfortunately, as soon as we had past Wattisham, mistook our road, & lost by the means, more than half an hour; so that by the time we arrived at the turn off to Ringshall church, the day was waning apace, & we were reluctantly compelled to give up that part of our plan, & to proceed direct to Needham, where we took up our abode for the night, at the Swan.<sup>185</sup>

Bildeston is a small town, formerly having a market, which has been some time discontinued; the market place, is a square built round, & a very convenient place for the purpose it was originally used for. The Town stands low, & the few streets it possesses are narrow; the only tolerably good house in it, (excepting Mr. Wilson's, which may be said to be out of it,) is Mr. Parker's, which is large, built of red brick, modern & substantial, at the upper side of the Market Place. Many of the houses in the Town have the appearance of considerable antiquity, & one of them in the Street leading to the church, was built at the very latter end of the 16th Century. In this same Street the Clerk shewed us the Scite of the chapel<sup>186</sup> formerly belonging to the Parish: it has been pulled down many years, but the spot still remains clear from buildings.

*Sat. Oct. 28th*

I parted this morning from my companion, he taking his way to Framlingham, & I mounted the Coach for Ipswich. Here I arrived about 10 o'clock & as I could not proceed homeward till the arrival from London of the Shannon at 4 o'clock, I employed the intervening time in rubbing off the brasses in the

<sup>185</sup> The Posting House, Prop: Samuel Haggar.

<sup>186</sup> St. Leonard's Chapel was demolished in the late 17th century. On its site, in the southern of the two roads joining the bridge and the Market Place, are now gardens.

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church of St. Mary Tower. The time was not sufficient for completing this work, but I obtained all but one, tho' that the largest.

Returned home in the Evening.

*Fri. Decr. 7th*

At Kettleburgh. George<sup>187</sup> drove me over to Dennington, where I obtained further notes, omitted, at my last visit, & of what has been put there since.

I also obtained from Dunthorne<sup>188</sup> an acct. of some Suffolk tradesmen's tokens.

*Sun. Decr. 9th*

Walked to Brandeston to obtain a ground plan of the church, before omitted.

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*Weds. March 7.*

Again at Kettleburgh; walked to Cretingham, to compleat what had before been omitted. Little new, but obtained all I wanted; — 3½ miles.

*Fri. March 9th*

Walked to Hoo, to get the ground plan of the church, & going in found a new Inscription.

Went afterwards to Monewden for the same purpose.

*Fri. March 16th*

Walked to Framlingham to call upon Darby, & went with him in his gig to Tannington, where I rubbed off two brasses, all that now are come-atable & made further notes.

*Fri. May 11th*

Being on a visit at Wrentham, I took the Coach this morning, & went to

<sup>187</sup> George Turner (see Note 71).

<sup>188</sup> Edward Dunthorne (1792–1853), grocer of Dennington. Correspondent of both Davy & Darby. Rubbings of coins, but not tokens, in Dunthorne MSS in SRO (*vide P.S.I.A.* XX, 147).

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Hopton, from whence I walked to Lound Church. The Parish appears to contain a good quality of land, the whole now inclosed, with detached woods & plantations; the country very flat. Having taken full notes in the church, and having extracted what I wanted from the Registers, which do not go very far back, I returned to the Turnpike road at Hopton, & being too early for the Coach, walked to Hopton Church, where I got a ground plan of it, which I had in my former visit left undone.

*Weds. May 16th*

Walked from Wrentham to Wangford, to obtain a ground plan of the church.

*Mon. May 28th*

At Ashbocking Vicarage. Having on my former visit here in 1824, left part of the large brass of Bocking,<sup>189</sup> in the Church, incomplete, I completed my impression of it, & took a ground plan of the church.

I afterwards walked to Swilland Church, where I literally found nothing; & the Registers & Terrier being in the Custody of Mr. Cooke<sup>190</sup> the Rector, who resides at Ipswich, I obtained very little information by my visit. From Ashbocking 2 miles.

From Swilland walked on to Winesham, to compleat the notes begun in 1824. Called upon Mr. Whaley the Rector, who is now settled in his new parsonage house, one of the neatest & most convenient & appropriate I have seen. He was building it when I was here before.<sup>191</sup> I had full time to get all the notes I wanted here.

*Tues. May 29th*

William Barlee & I walked to Crowfield Hall,<sup>192</sup> but could find no one in the House, which was locked up. The Park is very flat, but well wooded, rich, & bears the marks of a gentleman's residence: the country however is very wet, & must be a miserable place for a winter residence, for nothing can be more retired.

<sup>189</sup> Edmund Bocking, d. 1585, *aet.* 57, & his two wives.

<sup>190</sup> J. C. Cooke, V. (*sic*) of Swilland from 1806, a Royal living.

<sup>191</sup> 13 May 1824

<sup>192</sup> Demolished in 1829, but not before Sir C. B. Vere had made a drawing which Henry Davy copied (*Topographers of Suffolk*, 4th edn. 1981, 18). The Middletons moved from here to Shrubland Hall.

Revisited the chapel, for a ground plan of it.

*Thurs. May 31st*

Walked to Barham Church 4 miles from Ashbocking, where I found full employment for the whole morning, the inscriptions being numerous, & 2 large brasses requiring a considerable time to rub off. I was obliged to leave the Registers & Terrier for some more convenient opportunity. Opposite to the Church, to the South, stands a large House, now occupied as a Farm by Mr. Rodwell, probably the Hall; for over a low door in the wall, is a shield with the Arms & Crest of Southwell, now nearly defaced.<sup>193</sup>

On my return to Ash. the foot path leading thro' the church yard of Hemingston, I got a ground plan of that church.

*Mon. June 11th*

Set off this morning by the Shannon, to meet Darby at Stowmarket, for a week's excursion. Took him up at Needham Market, & proceeded to Woolpit, where we arrived soon after 12 o'clock. Having got some refreshment we set off on foot to Tostock Church, abt. a mile & half, where we obtained what notes we wanted, but I did not obtain a sight of either the Registers or Terrier.

From Tostock, we walked to Elmswell, about a mile, & thoroughly examined the church & churchyard, but had not time for the Registers &c. Returned to Woolpit, where we had a late dinner, & slept. 1 mile.

*Tues. June 12th*

We were early on foot this morning, & walked to Drinkston Church, about a mile & half. Having finished our notes there, we returned to Woolpit to breakfast; after which, having directed our goods to be forwarded by the Coach to Stowmarket, we went into the church, & I picked up some small matters which I had left undone when I was here before, & made fuller copies from the church yard. Called upon Mr. Cobbold,<sup>194</sup> but did not find I had time enough to set about the examination of the Registers.

<sup>193</sup> Henry Davy's drawings of the wall and gate at Barham Hall, BL Add. MS 19177, ff. 24-6, show a freestone panel with arms, but it fell out in 1947 and the space was bricked up. John Hadfield rescued the panel and it now adorns the front wall of Barham Manor nearby. The Southwell connection with Barham ceased in 1655.

<sup>194</sup> Thomas Cobbold, from 1781 R. of Woolpit in his own gift. He also held Wilby and St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

From hence we walked to Wetherden Church, to pick up what I might before have left, & obtained considerable additions.

From Wetherden, I revisited Hawleigh Church, & castle,<sup>195</sup> & found some few things in the former, before overlooked.

Walked to Stowmarket, where we arrived to a late dinner, & where we slept.

*Weds. June 13th*

This morning, after an early breakfast, we set off for Onehouse; passed the Poor house,<sup>196</sup> seated on a considerable eminence & visible to all the neighbourhood; went to the church, which detained us but a short time: from whence we walked to Harleston Church; where after taking the few notes necessary I was lucky enough to find the Registers & Terrier from the former of which I extracted what I wanted & copied the latter. The country here is flat, very much inclosed, but appears rich & fertile, tho' wet, no doubt in winter. The Trees in the Hall Farm very large & thrifty particularly the oaks, one or two of which, tho' pollards, were very fine & beautiful. I measured one at about 4 feet from the ground, & found the circumference 21 feet.

From Harleston to Shelland, about a mile, the same appearance continues, & indeed, if possible, more thickly inclosed & wooded: the soil much the same, but the land sloping, from near the church, towards Finborough & Buxhall. We were sometime detained before we could procure the key, & tho' the church, or rather chapel is very small, we found a good deal in it. The Registers are in the Custody of Mr. Cobbold at Woolpit.

From Shelland we crossed the valley to Buxhall, where we were some time in getting full notes: indeed so long that I did not ask about the Registers. In our way back to Stowmarket we passed thro' the churchyard of Great Finborough; & having got full notes there, we were reluctantly obliged to leave the inside of the church undone, in order to get to dinner in reasonable time: returned to Stowmarket, & dined & slept.

*Thurs. June 14th*

This morning we retraced our steps to Great Finborough, to complete our church notes there. Having completed them, we walked on to Little Finborough, which by no means repaid us for the trouble: for here we found

<sup>195</sup> A note on this impressive earthwork by S. E. West in *P.S.I.A.H.* XXXIV, 65.

<sup>196</sup> The Stow Union House was built in 1781. In Shoberl's *Suffolk*, 1810, it was said to have the 'appearance more of a gentleman's seat than a receptacle for paupers'.

absolutely nothing. Having been detained here so short a time, we found we should have more time upon our hands than would be necessary to complete Combs, which we proposed taking in our way back to Stowmarket; after walking therefore about a mile, we turned off to the right to visit Battsford church; where we arrived at the time when the Clerk was tolling the Bell for a funeral.<sup>197</sup> This was so far fortunate that we lost no time in going after the key: & having taken full notes, & rubbed off a brass, we took the straightest course we could find cross the country to Combes Church. Here we were employed for a considerable time, but succeeded in completing our notes, & reached Stowmarket between 7 & 8 o'clock to dinner; here we again slept.

*Fri. June 15th*

After breakfast this morning, we got upon the Stowmarket Coach, which took us about 2 or 3 miles & set us down at the avenue leading to Badley Hall. We walked to the church; but the Clerk living at some distance, we were detained a considerable time before we could obtain the key. The Hall stood at a very short distance to the W. of the church; it is now entirely pulled down; only a small part of some of the offices remaining; a good farm house<sup>198</sup> stands near the old site, occupied by Mr. Mudd, who sent for the key for us. He told me that he remembered the church in a very deplorable state of dilapidation; but that it had, not a great many years ago, undergone a complete repair, when the Steeple was raised several feet with brick. His account reminded me much of the reported state of Letheringham Chancel<sup>131</sup> about the same time: It was fortunate however that the Monuments did not suffer at Badley, as they did at Letheringham.

From Badley we crossed the Navigable Cut to Creting St. Peter, where however we did not arrive till near 3 o'clock, having been kept at Badley, till after two, by the number of inscriptions we found there. Creting St. Peter did not detain us very long, there not being a great deal in it. A very short distance to the E. of it, Mr. Paske<sup>199</sup> the present Rector has erected a

<sup>197</sup> For John Downing of Battsford, aged 76, taken by the Vicar, Edward Paske (see below).

<sup>198</sup> William Mudd called his farmhouse Badley Hall. D.E.D. to G.B.J.: 'Mudd: We want some acct. of these dirty folks, but they have been & are still numerous, so that it is difficult to know where to look for the cleanest.'

<sup>199</sup> Celia Gardner in the 1973 *Suffolk Review* writes that Edward Paske was appointed to the Rectory here in 1818, his father George of Needham Market, magistrate, holding the advowson. George commissioned John Whiting to design the new Rectory at a cost of £1550. Edward held the living for 66 years until his death, aged 92, in 1885. His son Theophilus was his successor, but survived his father by only 5 years, having served a lifetime as curate to his father.

handsome parsonage of white brick, which was hardly finished, & not yet inhabited. I did not see the inside of the house; but the Living must be a great deal better than I supposed it to be, if the House be not much too good for the preferment. But the overbuilding of Parsonages is much too prevalent in the present time, & will, I fear, be found in many instances hereafter, a very great inconvenience & mischief. The Archdeacons appear to overlook this; which I suppose to be part of their duty.

From Creeting St. Peter we crossed the country to Creeting St. Mary: here we also obtained what notes we wanted, & afterwards walked forward to Needham Market. The church of Creeting All Saints,<sup>200</sup> the Clerk informed us has been pulled down about 25 or 30 years: the yard in which it stood adjoined that of Creeting St. Mary, & now forms part of it. The Church of St. Mary, which formerly had a lofty spire,<sup>201</sup> was called at an early period, Creeting Spire or Steeple: & from it the parish obtained the same name.

Slept at Needham Market.

*Sat. June 16th*

After breakfast, we walked to Barking Church, where we obtained full notes; but Mr. Davy<sup>202</sup> we found setting off for Ipswich, & I could not therefore examine the Registers.

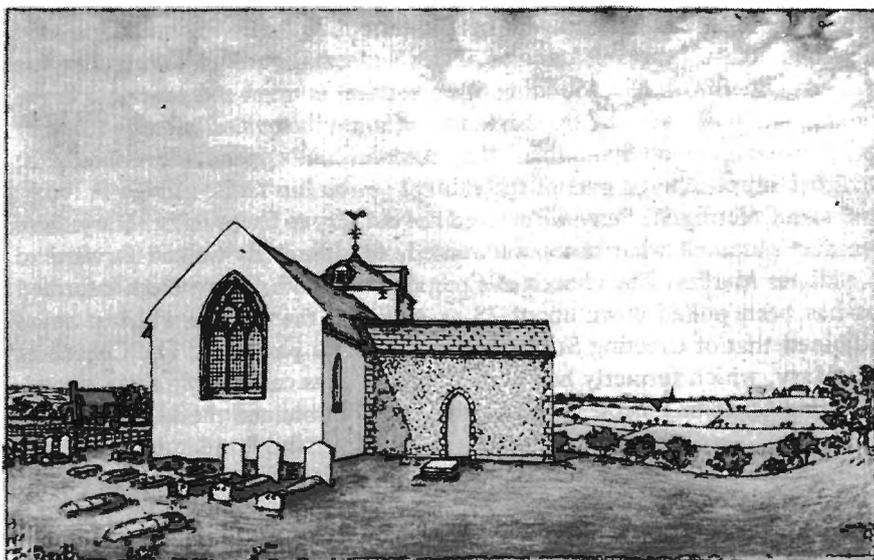
In the afternoon went by the Bury Coach to Ipswich, from whence I intended to have walked to Ufford, but fortunately obtained a cart from Kesgrave from Mr. Hayward.

I should have mentioned that while I was at Stowmarket I went into the church almost every morning where I took further notes, both there & in the churchyard, & rubbed off the brass in the former. I got a sight of the Registers, but they would be too voluminous to attempt an examination of, on so short an opportunity.

<sup>200</sup> Creeting All Saints church stood 25 metres S.S.W. of St. Mary's. After being extensively damaged in a storm in October 1800 it was taken down and found to be without foundations. In Henry Davy's etching of St. Mary's (1838) the site of All Saints is indicated in the foreground.

<sup>201</sup> Neither Isaac Johnson (post-1790) nor the anonymous artist of the watercolour of St. Mary's in the Earle collection (Soc. Antiq.) illustrated here show a spire taller than Davy. The latter is unique in depicting the extension to the N. built in 1801 to accommodate the parishioners of All Saints.

<sup>202</sup> Charles Davy, M.B., R. of Combs, P.C. of Badley and Barking from 1818, Fellow of Caius, d. 1836 *aet.* 79. He was son of the writer Charles Davy (see *D.N.B.*) and the builder of the handsome Rectory north of the church.



*Creeting St. Mary Church after 1801*



*Thurleston St. Botolph Church, a barn, in 1845. See p. 100*

1827

*Mon. August 6th*

Being on my way to Mr. Longe's<sup>203</sup> at Coddendam, I had a few hours to spare at Ipswich this morning which I employed in a visit to St. Peter's church. I here picked up what I had before omitted; taking all the Inscriptions on the table Monts. & some head stones in the churchyard: with a plan of the church.

Afterwards revisited the churchyard of St. Mary Key, & copied all the inscriptions on the S. side there; a few remain on the N. side, which together with the measurement & plan of the church will furnish employment during another visit.

*Weds. August 8th*

Being on a visit at Mr. Longe's at Coddendam, I walked with him to Shrubland, & went over the house; afterwards visited the old chapel, now fitted up by Sr. Wm. Middleton<sup>204</sup> as a burial place for his family; tho' this appropriation of it may meet with some difficulties, on account of the uncertainty whether it ever was consecrated or not. Some Arms of the Booth<sup>205</sup> family still remain here, which I took down: & also a shield or two on the old buildings belonging to the Hall. In a pond on the premises I saw a very fine turtle, which Sr. William had not long before received, & which was kept there till wanted. It seemed very well reconciled to its situation. I could not get a sight of the box<sup>206</sup> supposed of Roman workmanship lately found in the neighbourhood; it being in the custody of Lady Middleton, who was from home.

*Thurs. Augt. 9th*

Again visited Coddendam Church, for a few omissions of a former visit; &

<sup>203</sup> John Longe (1765–1834), V. of Coddendam and C. of Crowfield from 1797, family livings in which he was succeeded by his son Robert in 1833. Between them they served 93 years. John Longe was himself an antiquary and a copy of his collections for neighbouring parishes is SRO HA 13/G/1.

<sup>204</sup> Sir William Fowle Middleton, Bt., married Harriot Acton of Bramford Hall. He was succ. by his son Wm. F.F. in 1829.

<sup>205</sup> The last Bothe, Sir Philip, died in the early 16th century.

<sup>206</sup> The box, found in December 1823, was described and illustrated in *Gent. Mag.*, 1825, i., 291, by John Longe, and in *Archaeologia*, XXVII, 359, by John Gage. It is now in the British Museum.

again attempted to make out the Inscription<sup>207</sup> on the outside of the N. wall; Having no ladder to get upon the lead of the N. isle, I am still somewhat uncertain about it.

Whilst at Mr. Longe's, I had an opportunity of making full extracts from the Coddenham Registers.

*Sat. August 18th*

Being staying at Kettleburgh, I walked over this morning to Framlingham, & Darby drove me in his gig to Wilby, where he was going to superintend the repairs of a tomb in the churchyard there for one of the Wareyn family.<sup>208</sup> We were detained for about an hour at Framlingham by the rain, which there did not appear very heavy; & we were much surprised when we got to Dennington to find how very violent it had been there, as we afterwards found it had been in so many other places around. I obtained at Wilby some further Notes in the church & churchyard, & was able to rub off all the brasses, amounting to 9.

*Weds. Augt. 22nd*

Turner drove me to look at a Burial ground stated in Bryant's new Map<sup>209</sup> of Suffolk, as being in the parish of Cretingham.<sup>210</sup> We certainly found the place but no signs of graves; it has long been in cultivation; & we could hear no account of its former use or appropriation. We at the same time, paid a visit to the supposed remains of an old chapel in the same parish, & not far from the afsd. burial ground, but yet too far for them to have been connected; the site of this chapel we found a very flourishing piece of beet: but

<sup>207</sup> John Longe himself with William Kirby the entomologist read the inscription accurately enough in 1805: '*Orate pro animab. Johannis Frenche et Margarete*'.

<sup>208</sup> The slab commemorated George Wareyn of Wilby, gent, d. 1708, and his wife Alice, d. 1699. Darby's grandfather John married Catherine, dau. of John Wareyn of Kenton.

<sup>209</sup> Bryant's Map of Suffolk (1 in. to the mile) was published in 1825.

<sup>210</sup> The burial ground was probably connected with a former nonconformist chapel, but Chapel Hill some way to the N. may well be the site of Cretingham's second church in Domesday where no dedications are given. Stephen Podd, referring to a rental of 1585 and Surveys of 1749 and 1843 suggests a site for All Saints church at TM 224583. The present church of St. Peter was formerly dedicated to St. Andrew, which with All Saints is mentioned in an undated Ancient Deed in Exchequer in P.R.O.

the field is still called chapel field, & the buildings, or rather the ruins of them were standing within the memory of several still living in the parish.

*Mon. August 27th*

Darby & I attempted to take measurements of Framlingham Castle for the purpose of making a ground plan of the ruins: We measured every portion of the outside, with the offsets of every turret &c. but after all our labour, found it useless, having begun at the wrong end, & having come away without measuring the area within; this may be taken up at another opportunity.

*Sun. Septr. 9th*

Having made arrangements with Darby for an excursion to Sudbury, & its neighbourhood, I set off this morning by the Shannon to Ipswich: From thence I walked to Whitton Chapel; where I found the Congregation assembled, it being Sunday; after the Service was over, I examined the chapel, took such notes as I wanted there, & had got the Registers before me for examination, when the clerk pleaded so hard to be allowed to go to his dinner, that I was obliged to give up my intention, & be content with P. P.'s promise to have them ready for me at any other time I might call upon him. I did this with the less regret, as I did not perceive in turning over the leaves many names which I should have thought it necessary to extract.

From Whitton I walked to Akenham Church, where I took full notes in the church & churchyard, but having no paper fit for the purpose with me, I could not rub off the brass in the Nave.

From Akenham I walked to Claydon, where the Stowmarket Coach took me up & carried me to Needham Market, where Darby also arrived about 8 o'clock, & where we slept.

*Mon. Septembr. 10th*

After breakfast this morning we set off for Sudbury, & passing thro' Barking, Bricet, Naughton, Nedging, Bildeston, Chelsworth, & Milding, we arrived at Little Waldingfield. Here we found employment for 3 or 4 hours; there being a considerable no. of inscriptions in the church & churchyard, & several brasses in the former; these we obtained impressions of; & having finished such notes as we thought necessary, we proceeded on thro' Great Waldingfield & Chilton to Sudbury, where we arrived about 6 o'clock, & where, at the Rose & Crown,<sup>211</sup> we took up our lodgings for some days.

<sup>211</sup> The Posting House in King St. Prop: John Wilkinson.

1827

*Tues. Sepr. 11th*

We were very early this morning in the church of St. Peter in Sudbury which stood directly opposite to the Inn where we had taken up our abode. As this church has not been a burial place but of later years,<sup>212</sup> we did not find a great deal in it, & we were enabled to complete our notes, & to return in good time to our inn to breakfast. St. Gregory's Church & churchyard are the burial places for the Inhabitants of the parish of St. Peter. This church is by far the handsomest in the town.

After breakfast we went to St. Gregory's Church. Here we found so much, as to employ us the greater part of the day; we succeeded however in getting thro' with all the inscriptions &c. & having an hour or two to spare, we spent them in the church of All Saints; but were unable to finish there.

*Weds. Sepr. 12th*

Early this morning we returned to All Sts. Church, where we completed our Notes in time to have our breakfast at the usual hour.

After breakfast we walked to Little Cornard Church, & as we were obliged to go to the Clerk's for the key, we made the walk a mile longer than it should have been. Here we did not find much to detain us; & having finished our researches there, we returned by a short cut to Cornard magna, where we found much more employment. We however at length got thro', & reaching Sudbury again by 2 o'clock, we had the poney put into the Gig, & set off to Acton, to complete our rubbings off of the brasses, which for want of time, we had left unfinished, when we were here last year. In this we succeeded; & I took a plan of the church, before also omitted. Returned to dinner at Sudbury.

*Thurs. Sepr. 13th*

As soon as we had finished an early breakfast this morning, we set off on foot for Chilton Church for which our expectations had been greatly raised. We found here much less than we expected, tho' we were much gratified by the two monuments to the Cranes: we were not a very long time in completing our notes here: In order to get the key of the church we had to go to the Hall, the Seat for several generations of the knightly family of Crane. We found very little of the old buildings remaining; the present house seems a good substantial residence; & is occupied by Mr. Addison,<sup>213</sup> formerly an officer

<sup>212</sup> This is a puzzling comment since St. Peter was a chapel of St. Gregory and as such had no licence for burials.

<sup>213</sup> Col. Thomas F. Addison.

in the Army, & now the occupier of the Mansion & Farm thereto belonging: who was very civil & polite to us, walking with us to the church & offering his assistance, & what refreshment we might wish for. The House was inclosed in a Moat, a great part of which still remains.

From Chilton we took the nearest foot way to Newton Church, where we found a good deal to take notes of. Having done so, we returned to Sudbury; & having got an early dinner, we set off from thence between 4 & 5 o'clock for Bildeston, where we slept.

In the evening Mr. Johnson<sup>214</sup> the Rector of Bildeston, an old school fellow, called upon me, & having very kindly offered me any assistance in his power, I requested a sight of the Terrier; which on his return home he sent to me, & I had time before I went to bed to take a copy of it. My notes therefore for Sudbury are nearly as complete as a Visit there could make them.

*Fri. Septr. 14th*

After breakfast this Morning we left Bildeston & proceeded in our way homeward to pick up a stragglng church or two which we had been obliged to pass by in our former visit. We first went to Naughton, which detained us by a short time; from thence we proceeded to Ringshall, which kept us longer. I had hoped from a Message which Mr. Johnson had conveyed to me from Mr. Parker<sup>215</sup> the Rector of Ringshall offering me any assistance in his power, that I should have obtained an examination of the Registers, &c. but I found on my arrival at Ringshall that Mr. Parker was not at home; which was a considerable disappointment. Having finished here, we proceeded on to Needham Market, where we intended to take up our quarters for the night.

Having time sufficient on our hands, we walked before dinner to Darmsden Church or Chapel, which did not detain us long, there being very little, either withinside or without. Returned to Needham Market, where we dined & slept.

*Sat. Septr. 15th*

It being necessary that my companion shd. return home to day, to be at his post tomorrow (Sunday) we parted immediately after breakfast, he to return by himself to Framlingham, & I took the Stowmarket Coach as far as Claydon, where I stopt in order to visit the Church there. This I completed;

<sup>214</sup> Charles Johnson (1765–1849), R. since 1796, patr. the Revd. Charles Cooke, *q.v.*, Note 175. Johnson boarded at Bungay.

<sup>215</sup> C. F. Parker, R. since 1819, patr. Pembroke, Oxon.

& having just finished, Mr. Drury<sup>216</sup> the Rector came to me, & asked me to walk over his Rectory grounds, which I did with very considerable gratification; the situation is a very pleasant one, & the gardens & trees are kept in very neat order.

From hence I walked past Claydon Hall to Akenham Church, to take off the brass there, which, for want of paper, I had been unable to do, in my way hither on the Sunday preceding.

From Akenham in my way to Ipswich, I passed all that is now remaining of Thurleston Church.<sup>217</sup> It is now converted into a Barn; but the outer walls are still in a tolerably perfect state.

Returned home from Ipswich by the Shannon.

*Tues. Sept. 18th*

At Aldeburgh. Took full notes of all the Inscriptions on the Table Monuments in the churchyard; also further notes in the church, & rubbed off the rest of the brasses before left unfinished.

*Sat. Sept. 22nd*

At the Parsonage at Hoxne.<sup>218</sup> Walked to Syleham Church, to get the brasses there, & to pick up any other small matters I might have left at my former visit, & what might have been placed there since.

From Syleham Church walked to Brockdish Church, to see whether there was any thing in the churchyard which might be useful. I did not go into the church. From Brockdish, I walked on to Thorp Abbot's; went into the church there, but found not a single memorial within, nor anything in my way without the church. Returned to Hoxne by the Water Mill.

<sup>216</sup> George Drury (1754–1830), R. of Akenham with Claydon 1807–1830, his own living, and the third of four of that name, each father and son, to hold it. His son George Drury IV (1819–1895) who achieved notoriety in the Burial Case of 1878, designed the new chancel at Claydon in 1851 and must have built the towers and grotto now in the Rectory garden to incorporate fragments of the previous building.

<sup>217</sup> The church of St. Botolph, its dedication recorded in Domesday, probably fell from use at the time of the dissolution of the patronal Priory of SS. Peter & Paul in Ipswich in 1528. It was finally demolished in 1867, the best of its stonework being incorporated into the tower and south aisle of Whitton church. Recently its foundations were exposed along with burial remains when a new dwelling replaced cottages on the site (TM 154482).

<sup>218</sup> Doughty (see Note 67) lived here.

Went into the church yard of Hoxne, & took all the necessary notes there.

*Mon. Sepr. 24th*

Doughty drove me to Wingfield Church, where I found a great treat; & having the whole morning to myself, I employed it in the church, from which I obtained full notes.

I afterwards walked to the Castle, which I had not seen for more than 30 years; but had only time to reconnoitre the outside.

The Incumbent<sup>219</sup> of Wingfield resides at Hoxne, & has the Registers with him there. I was therefore obliged to postpone the examination of them.

*Tues. Sepr. 25th*

Went with Doughty to Denham, where I got some few further notes from the church there. I afterwards borrowed my friend's gig, & went to Horham & Redlingfield Churches, to reexamine & pick up what I could there. I was rather surprized to find all the by roads in that neighbourhood so good.

*Weds. Sepr. 26th*

Walked to Oakley Church, but had so little time to spare, that I was obliged to be content with a few notes in the churchyard, & did not go into the church.

*Thurs. Sepr. 27th*

Having engaged ourselves to dine with Mr. Betts<sup>220</sup> at Wortham, on occasion of the christening of his first child, Doughty & I went over early, & Mr. Betts was kind enough to direct his servant to drive me over to Burgate Church, which I was very anxious to examine, & particularly to get an impression of the magnificent brass. This I was fortunate enough to obtain, &

<sup>219</sup> Charles B. Smyth, P.C. of Wingfield from 1821, patr. the Bp. of Norwich.

<sup>220</sup> The Revd. Thomas D'Eye Betts of the Manor House, for more than 200 years the seat of the Betts family, married Harriet, daughter of the Revd. G. C. Doughty. Mary their daughter was born on August 11th and her sponsors at the christening were a Mrs. Anne Betts and Doughty and his wife. Thomas' younger brother James, later R. of the Thornhams took this service; Richard Cobbold, R. of Wortham from 1824, only came into residence in 1828. A son George was born to the Betts in 1830, and two years later, Thomas succeeded his father-in-law as R. of Martlesham where he remained until his death in 1859.

1827

to get all the notes I wanted. I also found in the church Chest, the Registers, which I extracted as far as was necessary.

Walked back to Wortham Church, where I found the ceremony of the christening going on, & had just time to get a few additional notes in the church & churchyard there.

Returned at night to Hoxne.

*Fri. Sept. 28th*

Reexamined the inside of Hoxne Church, & made some additions to my former notes. I also rubbed off all the brasses again, having found that those which I had already obtained were very imperfectly performed, having been attempted at a very early stage of my apprenticeship.

During my stay at Hoxne, I again examined the Registers, & found that I had in my former examination made a great number of omissions which I now supplied.

*Sat. Sept. 29th*

Returned by the Star Coach<sup>221</sup> from Scole Inn to Ipswich; & having an hour to spare there I employed it at St. Mary Tower in completing the rubbing off of one of the brasses before left incomplete; & in making a few notes in the church. The churchyard I left for a future opportunity.

Returned home by the Shannon.

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*Mon. April 21st*

Being on a visit to Kettleburgh, Geo. Turner drove me over to Brundish, to rub off the brasses there; this I was enabled to do, as well as to notice the repairs & alterations which have lately taken place there, & to pick up whatever had been overlooked at my former visit. The Clerk's wife informed me that the congregation here was very much reduced; never scarcely exceeding a dozen, & generally so low as 4 or 5.

The two houses near the church have been lately repaired, & are now very neat.

*Mon. April 28th*

Walked over to Framlingham, & from thence accompanied Darby to pay a

<sup>221</sup> The Star coach passed through Eye daily at 10.30 a.m. on its way from Yarmouth to Ipswich (arriving at noon) and London.

visit to Mr. Barker at Tannington Hall,<sup>222</sup> formerly the residence of the Dades. In the house I found some old Portraits<sup>223</sup> left there when the before mentioned family sold the property; one of a Wingfield, & two others of Dades: but moderate specimens of art. Mr. Barker shewed us some more modern specimens of art, much superior to the former, but less interesting, as not referring to the County: a half length portrait of Mr. Barker's wife, formerly Ray, is however very beautiful, both as a specimen of art, & an imitation of nature. Mr. Barker has a collection of curiosities, & drawings, amusing enough; & is also fond of his garden. He had need of every possible amusement at home, for the house, which stands on the side of Tannington green, has no road up to it, & the passage across the green, is, at least in wet weather, a service of some danger, as well as considerable difficulty. The house, a part of which only remains, was inclosed in a moat, much of which still remains.

*Weds. April 30th*

Geo. Turner drove me over to Monksoham, the church of which I had never before been in. A couple of hours' work completed my notices of this Parish; & we returned back to Kettleburgh by Bedfield Dog & Earlssoham. The roads hereabout are very much improved of late: 20 years ago, I had occasionally been in the parish; but I hardly now recollected the place, so much improvements having taken place.

*Weds. May 14th*

Geo. Turner was this day again my guide & conductor to Mickfield. Called upon Mr. Simpson<sup>224</sup> the Rector, who very kindly afforded me every facility in my researches. Having taken notes in the church, & rubbed off the brasses, I returned to the Parsonage, where I had the Regrs. for examination, & from thence extracted a large number of entries, till about the year 1760. My time failed me to examine minutely after that period, when I did not expect to find much; & for the same reason, I was not able to get a copy of the Terrier.

<sup>222</sup> White's 1844 *Suffolk* makes no mention of the Hall, but does mention Braizworth Hall, which is an alternative name (after its 14th cent. owners) for Tannington's main manor. It is still so called and stands much moated, and, as Davy says, 'on the side of the Green.'

<sup>223</sup> Humphrey Wingfield, d. 1587, held the estate, and William Dade married Mary dau. of Henry Wingfield of Crowfield. She died in 1624.

<sup>224</sup> Meredith Simpson, R. from 1804, a family living.

*Mon. May 19th*

Walked from Kettleburgh to Hacheston, to see & take notes of the alterations & improvements in the church, made by & under the direction of Darby.<sup>225</sup> I found a good deal additional to do, & was much pleased at the very neat state in which I found every thing. Even Mr. Arcedeckne's Mausoleum<sup>226</sup> has lately received some attention, & has been cleaned & repaired. No memorial, however, of the family as yet appears in the church.

*Fri. May 23rd*

Turner sent me over in his gig to Wetheringset, 12, if not 13 miles from Kettleburgh. I found a good deal in the church, which is a handsome building, standing in a narrow valley, & a good deal inclosed. In passing over Wetheringset common from Debenham, the land on the left, is much overgrown with pollards & other trees, & forms a strong contrast to the country on the right, which, tho' inclosed, is open to a considerable distance. The soil appears very wet, & tho' flat, is, I have no doubt, fertile & rich. The property on the left, abovementioned belongs, & has for a long time belonged to the family of Revett.<sup>227</sup>

I could not get at the Registers, but Turner has offered to drive me thither another day soon, when I hope to be more fortunate.

*Sat. May 24th*

Walked to Letheringham, Mr. Catchpole<sup>131</sup> the churchwarden having promised to get the Registers. I found them much older than I expected, & obtained much information from them.

<sup>225</sup> The many painted shields in the roof are the work of curate Darby here as at Parham.

<sup>226</sup> The austere classical brick mausoleum N.E. of the church has no external inscription to show that at least four members of the Arcedeckne family who died 1804–1816 lie within. There are now two wall tablets in the nave, one to Andrew Arcedeckne who died in 1863 aged 82, the other to his grandson Walter, who placed both.

<sup>227</sup> Tobias Revett Esq. owned and farmed Brockford Green, Wetheringset, as had his family since the time of John Revett, d. 1528. Theirs is the N. aisle of the church.

*Tues. June 10th*

Set off this morning with Darby in his gig, upon an excursion into the Hundred of Samford, which I was not sorry to revisit, after the lapse of near 20 years.

Baited our poney at the Bell at Kesgrave, & took that opportunity of looking into the church; which I found in much better condition than when I was last here, tho' still very damp & dirty. One of the inscriptions, a modern one, gone, or covered up. — in other respects little alteration.

From Kesgrave, thro' Ipswich to Bramford, new ground. Here we found a good deal, & obtained full church notes.

Thence to Sproughton, which Darby had not seen; he took the gig, & went forward, having finished his notes at Bramford before me, & I followed him on foot: at Sproughton Church I found very little, in addition to what I found at my former visit.

Having finished here, we went on to Copdock White Elm,<sup>228</sup> where we dined. After dinner, walked to Washbrook Church, where the chief alteration I found was, that at a late repair of the church, the whole outside of it had been covered over with a thick coat of white wash, not excepting the Steeple. Slept at Copdock.

*Weds. June 11th*

Before breakfast this morning, we walked to Copdock Church, where I found little or nothing new. I however rubbed off the brass shield in the chancel.

From thence we walked to Belstead Church, where I found the spirit of improvement had lately been very busy; considerable alterations have been made in the church, in the course of which 2 or 3 inscriptions, & those not ancient, have entirely disappeared. The burial place of the Harland Family, & before, of that of Blossie, on the North side of the Nave, is kept carefully locked up, & the key secured in the hands of Sir Robert himself, so that we could obtain no access to it;<sup>229</sup> however by setting up the Bin<sup>230</sup> on end to the windows, Darby was enabled to read many of the inscriptions, & from his reading, I wrote them down. Sir Robert seems to think little of his ancestors,

<sup>228</sup> The Posting House.

<sup>229</sup> The Harlands, or the Blosses before them, seem to have built a brick wall between nave and north aisle to form the mausoleum. At some Victorian restoration the aisle again became part of the church, and instead of presenting two gable ends to the north, the aisle now has a flat roof with a crenellated parapet.

<sup>230</sup> In his notes Davy suggests, with more dignity, using a ladder!

now they are dead, for he suffers the place which contains their bones to fall into decay, & the rain to fall upon their coffins from all parts of the roof. I here obtained considerable additions to my notes.

After breakfast we drove on to Capel Church; some additions were made here; a monument or two having been erected in the church since I was last here, & fuller notes of matters in the church yard were obtained: this at the early period of my collections I, in all cases neglected to do, but intend at future opportunities to compleat.

Thence to Wenham Parva, where I obtained, after 2 hours work, an impression of a very large brass in the Chancel for one of the Brewse family, which remains in tolerable preservation. I was very much disappointed at finding the singular screen<sup>231</sup> between the Nave & Chancel, which I took a description of when I was here before, pulled down to the level of the pews, & the dead wall to that height still left. It is a circumstance much to be regretted, that a stricter & more wholesome restraint is not placed upon the operations of churchwardens in their attempts at ecclesiastical improvements & repairs: whose fault is this? Have not the Archdeacons jurisdiction? I am afraid, should I live 10 or a dozen years more, & revisit the church of Bramford, I may find the screen there removed; an alteration much to be deprecated, for it is the only thing of the kind which I have met with in Suffolk.

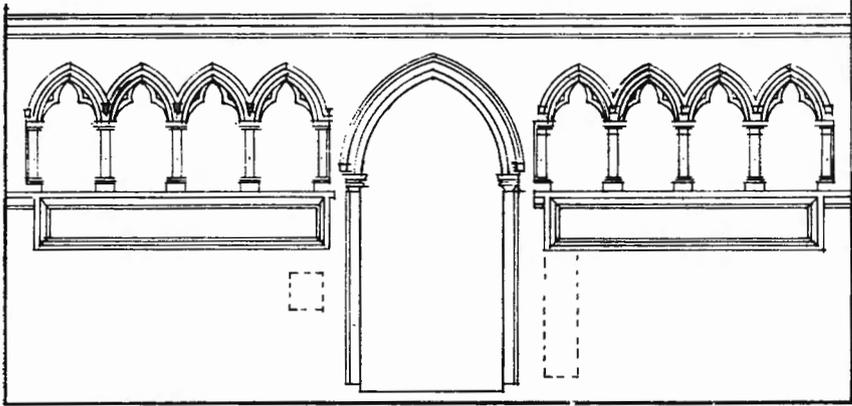
Revisited the old Hall, now converted into a Granary for the Farmer who occupies the adjoining House. It remains in nearly the same state in which it was when I was here before; the Chapel might very easily be put *in statu quo*, & I regretted that I could not make drawings of it: I think it richly deserving of having its interior made the subject of the draftsman's pencil & engraver's burin. Mr. John Brooke,<sup>232</sup> the present occupier of the Premises, keeps it neat enough, as he does also the whole place.

- From Little Wenham, we went to Wenham Magna, where I had been before, & where I obtained very little additional information: not much alteration has here been made.

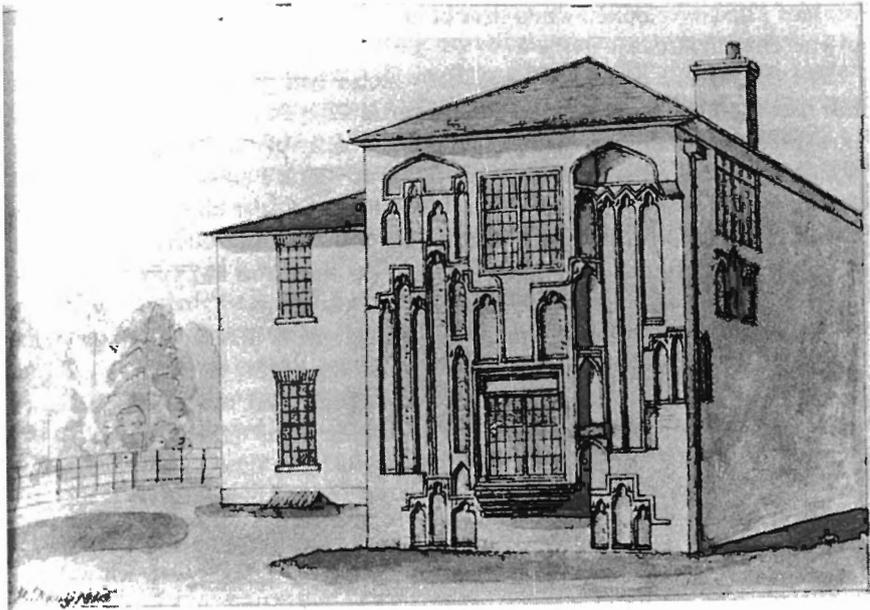
The same may be said of Holton, to which we next paid a flying visit. No great repairs or improvements have been attempted here, & I therefore found things in general, & the Arms in the windows in particular, in nearly the

<sup>231</sup> From Davy's 1807 notes: 'a solid masonry screen 1 ft. 4 in. thick, & 4 ft. 10 in. high, above which on each side a pointed arch doorway are 8 trefoil arches 2 ft. 10 in. high, supported by 10 pair of plain round pillars, over which the wall rises 1 ft. 6 in.' The line drawing is a reconstruction made by Birkin Haward from Davy's descriptions of a pen and ink sketch in the Starkie-Bence collection and measurements made *in situ*. Bramford stone screen survives, despite Davy's fears.

<sup>232</sup> Farmer and Parish constable.



*Wenham parva stone roodscreen taken down c. 1820. Scale 1:53*



*The former north front of Somersham Rectory. See p. 118.*

same state in which I had left them near 20 years ago.

From Holton we went on to Stratford Swan,<sup>233</sup> where we dined & slept.

*Thurs. June 12th*

Before breakfast this morning we walked to Higham Church, one of the neatest I have seen, as a proof of which, we found the Clerk's wife upon her knees in the chancel washing & scrubbing the floor with as much care as she would the floor of her own cottage; & this, she told us, upon our expressing some surprize, she was directed to do very frequently. I found some few additions here, but nothing of much consequence. If we may form any judgment from the ages which are recorded upon many of the stones in the churchyard, this parish must be very healthy: two persons<sup>234</sup> are commemorated of the ages of 97, & 93, & several exceeded that of four score. The church stands in a very retired situation, the Hall adjoining the churchyard, which is encompassed with trees, one of which, an elm, on the S. side, is very large & handsome.

After breakfast, we went into Stratford Church; where I had been twice before; but I was fortunate enough to find two additional brasses, which I rubbed off; one of these I found nailed up in the Vestry, & the other a mere ornament at one corner of a large stone formerly much ornamented with brasses I had overlooked when here before. I found a few other things, chiefly in the churchyard.

We then drove on to Eastbergholt, which I had also twice visited before; but had then left some things undone, particularly in the church yard which I now picked up: these omissions consisted chiefly of the Table Monuments, which I had before very slightly noticed, but which I now took at large. One or two monuments have also been lately erected in the church.

From hence we went on to Brantham, where I found literally nothing to note, but the ground plan of the church: no alteration has taken place here since I examined it with Mills about 3 or 4 years ago.<sup>235</sup>

From Brantham we drove on thro' Tattingstone & Bentley, to Capel White Horse, where we took up our lodgings for the night, & where we found, accommodations tho' not of the best description, yet much more tolerable than we had expected. Our object in coming here for the night was the wish to visit Bentley & Tattingstone Churches, which the time this evening would

<sup>233</sup> The Posting House.

<sup>234</sup> William Minington died 1806, aged 97, and Mary his wife, died 1805, aged 93.

<sup>235</sup> See entry for 15th Nov. 1825.

not permit, & by going to Copdock White Elm to sleep, we should have to return over the same ground in the morning.

*Fri. June 13th*

As soon as we had breakfasted this morning, we set off for Bentley Church, the key of which we obtained with some little difficulty, Mr. Gosnall,<sup>236</sup> the Churchwarden, in whose custody it was, seeming to be apprehensive we might, like old Nick, set our foot in it, or perhaps carry it away with us. He would not lend us the key, but after a while allowed his servant to open the doors for us. To me it was not worth the trouble; for I found no alteration since I was here before; & all the additional notes I obtained, were on the outside of the church.

From thence we proceeded on to Tattingstone which furnished me with little new; but I got a few additional notes in the churchyard; & by the bye, a new inscription or two in the church. We found the workmen here busy in removing their rubbish, having just finished rehangng the Bells.

We then proceeded straight to Ipswich, but made no stop there, going thro' to Nacton Church; which furnished us with full employment, for 3 or 4 hours; here we obtained full notes, & one brass. It was our intention to have returned to sleep at Ipswich, but having finished at Nacton rather sooner than we expected, we determined to push for home. We therefore took good care of the poney, & not forgetting ourselves, making a very good dinner at ½ past 2 on eggs & bacon, the only eatables which the village alehouse afforded, we left Nacton about 4 o'clock, & I reached home about six: much gratified with my excursion, & with no part of it more than the last place we visited, Nacton, a very pretty village, the church placed on a rising ground, surrounded by woods & plantations, & the whole country about it very undulating, & sometimes almost rising into hills, at least according to the Suffolk notion of a hill.

I had hoped, that as I had before visited most of the churches comprehended in the present excursion, & Darby had not, I should have found some time unemployed on my hands, which I thought I might have an opportunity of employing in copying from the Registers or Terriers. I found however my time fully employed, my notes being much more minute & particular than my companion's; nor if I had had the time, should I have found one Register or one Terrier which I could conveniently have got at during the whole week.

<sup>236</sup> John Gosnall of Bentley Hall.

*Tues. June 17th*

I went by the Shannon to Ipswich, in hopes of meeting Joseph Leggett;<sup>237</sup> but found him gone on to Peasenhall. I had come prepared for this, & therefore went into St. Mary Tower Church, & rubbed off the only brass which I had before left, & that, near the door into the S. isle, nearly covered by a pew. I likewise copied all the inscriptions on the Table Monuments in the church yard, & otherwise made my Notes here as complete as I could.

*Weds. Augt. 13th*<sup>238</sup>

Being on a visit at the Parsonage at Stutton, Mills<sup>239</sup> drove me to Wenham parva, & I had another good opportunity of examining the old Hall. It appears that the present remains are only a portion of the original buildings, & perhaps were only the Chapel to the Mansion; the resident part of the House, has been pulled down in the recollection of many in the parish. It stood in front of the present building, & the last person that inhabited it, was Mr. Thurston,<sup>240</sup> who lies buried in the church. This I again visited.

*Fri. Augt. 15th*

Being still at Stutton, a party was made, consisting of Sr. Chas. Vere,<sup>241</sup> Mills, Wilkinson & myself, to Shelley. After looking at the church, of which I got the ground plan, we walked to the Hall, where we found remains of the old Mansion of the Tilneys with Arms of that family, both on the outside & inside of the House. It is now a good Farm house, placed on the edge of the marshes, & under a hill, which rises rather abruptly.

<sup>237</sup> His father, the Revd. Francis Leggett, R. of Bedfield and V. of Sibton 1787–1821, was D.E.D.'s first cousin on his father's side. Joseph was in the H.E.I.C. military service, a captain in a Regiment of Native Infantry.

<sup>238</sup> The 5th Excursion in the Out-County Journal was to Revd. J. C. Lockwood at Coulsdon Rectory, 14 July–2 August.

<sup>239</sup> Thomas Mills was now a widower and actively interested in adding to his late wife's collections.

<sup>240</sup> Thomas, younger son of Joseph Thurston who bought the estate in 1695, sold it in 1765, eight years before his death.

<sup>241</sup> Major General Sir Charles Broke Vere K.C.B., brother of Broke of the Shannon, b. 1779, M.P. for East Suffolk 1834–1843.

From hence we walked thro' a wood of some extent, & over some pleasing ground, to Gifford's Hall, which stands very near the edge of the descent of the hills, which overlook the valley of the Bret. The House, now the residence of Patrick Power, Esqr.<sup>242</sup> is a very comfortable one, but wants much repair, to make it what it has been, & which it ought to be, for the residence of a gentleman of fortune. The view from the terrace down the river is very pleasant, & commands the valley down to Dedham, &c. The engravings of the Gateway,<sup>243</sup> give a better idea of it, than the reality justifies.

*Sat. Augt. 16th*

Walked to Crowhall in Stutton: which during the time of the late Mr. Geo. Read, underwent a thorough repair, & was by him converted into a Gothic mansion, of the Tudor aera; it has been very well done, & is a very fair imitation. It is a very comfortable house, & very neatly fitted up, in an antique stile. The prospects up & down the river are very pleasing.

*Mon. Augt. 18th*

Got upon the Coach this Morning to Ipswich, & from thence to Bury, when, by agreement I met Darby for an excursion of the western parts of Suffolk. About 2 o'clock we left Bury in his gig for Westley, where we examined the church,<sup>244</sup> & got notes from thence.

From Westley we went to Saxham parva, where we found enough to employ us in the church till it was nearly dark; having finished our notes here, we went on to Saxham White Horse, where we slept, not uncomfortably, tho' it be a very inferior kind of Inn.

*Tues. August 19th*

Before breakfast this Morning we walked to Risby Church, & here I was lucky enough to find the Registers, from whence I made extracts; I also found the Terrier, but it was so long a one, that I could not find time to copy it.

<sup>242</sup> Patrick Power Mannoek, Esq., as he was later known, 'resided generally on the continent and the Hall is now occupied by a Catholic priest' (White 1844).

<sup>243</sup> Henry Davy included a large etching as Pl. 62 in his *Architectural Antiquities of Suffolk*, 1827.

<sup>244</sup> The Church of St. Thomas à Becket remained in use until St. Mary's was opened in 1835. The ruins of the old church are at TL 820644.

After breakfast, drove to Great Saxham Church, thro' a very different country from what I expected. I looked for an open sandy flat country, & I found an inclosed one, much diversified with hill & dale, & in some places even a wet & heavy soil. Mr. Mill's<sup>245</sup> house stands on a considerable eminence, & is very pleasantly situated. The house appears a good one, though not large; it was built I believe, from the ground by the present Proprietor. In one of the rooms which I was shewn into when I called upon Mr. Mills, I found the windows filled with painted glass, part of the gatherings, probably made by his son, abroad, when those in the windows of the church, were collected. The church, stands near the house, but on rather lower ground; & a little below the former, is a small stream, which in sight of the house forms a little pond or lake. In the church we obtained all the notes we wanted, not forgetting the handsome brass for Revett Eldred. The Clerk shewed me the Registers, which begin in 1558, & seem well kept: & I regretted I could not allow time for making extracts from them.

From Saxham we proceeded to Barrow, where having secured accommodations at the inn there, on the Green, the red Lion, & got some refreshment, we walked to the church; & were fortunate enough to find time to compleat our notes there, though it was nearly dark before we returned to our Inn.

*Weds. August 20th*

Before breakfast this morning we walked to Denham Church, about a mile & a half, & having got there what we wanted as to church notes, returned to Barrow to breakfast. The house we found far from uncomfortable.

After breakfast, we set off to Dalham Church where we found employment for several hours. Dalham is upon the very edge of the inclosed country, that part which lies towards Cambridgeshire, being open. Sr. James Affleck's<sup>246</sup> place which stands close by the church is a respectable looking country

<sup>245</sup> Thomas Mills, senior, purchased the estate in 1795 and virtually completed the house, designed by his predecessor Hutchinson Mure, after rejecting two designs by Adam. (See *P.S.I.A.H.* XXXIV, 300 (1980)) Mills was High Sheriff in 1807 and died in 1834, *aet.* 84, to be succeeded by his eldest son William. It was William who in 1815 collected the glass for the south and east windows of the chancel in France and Switzerland. Thomas, junior, the Rector of Stutton and Great Saxham, was the 3rd son.

<sup>246</sup> Lt. General Sir James Affleck, 3rd Bt., succeeded his cousin Gilbert in the estate in 1808 and held it until his own death in 1833, when his brother, the Revd. Robert, became 4th Bt. The Hall was reduced in 1955 from 3½ to 2½ storeys and so lost its full command of views. Bishop Patrick of Ely who designed it in Anne's reign could see his cathedral from the top.

residence, of red brick, with stone dressings. The church stands on the slope of a hill, & from the churchyard, the open land appears to some distance.

Having finished our notes here, we drove on to Gazeley, where we found the Chequers a very neat & comfortable alehouse, & having got something to eat there, proceeded into the church. Having spent two or three hours there & got the information, as we thought, that it afforded, we proceeded on to Newmarket, & took up our quarters for the night at the Greyhound Inn,<sup>247</sup> a second or third rate house, but answering very well our purpose & expectations. In the evening we walked to St. Mary's Church, & got most of the Inscriptions on altar tombs &c. in the churchyard, before it was dark.

*Thurs. August 21st*

Before breakfast this Morning we returned to St. Mary's Church, & worked hard till 9 o'clock, when we retired to our inn to breakfast; after which we completed our notes in that church. Mr. Abbott the Curate very kindly offered me any assistance in his power, & I wished to have had time enough to have profited by his offer, & to have examined the Registers, &c.

As soon as we had finished here, we got into the gig, & drove to Exning, 2 miles, & made notes there, after which we drove up to the house formerly the residence of the Shepheards, now uninhabited, & going to decay. The country about Exning is by no means pleasing: it is flat, open & light, but the church stands on a little knoll, & some trees about it, give it a pleasant appearance. There are some neat looking cottages & other houses in this Village, which still looks rather miserable. The Clerk shewed me the Registers, & an old Parish account Book, which I should have been very glad to have examined & made Extracts but the whole day would not have been too much for the purpose, & I could not spare the time. The old Account Book having been found by Dr. Dibdin<sup>248</sup> when he came to the Vicarage, without covers, & in a very ragged state, he has had it handsomely bound in russia leather, with gilt leaves; a strong proof of his bibliomaniacal inclinations.

Upon our return to Newmarket, we went into the church of All Saints there, which is in the County of Cambridge; to see whether there was any thing therein which might elucidate the history of Suffolk families. We found little to the purpose, but that little, I of course secured.

After dinner we went to Kentford, where we had agreed to take up our

<sup>247</sup> The Posting House.

<sup>248</sup> Thomas Frognall Dibdin D.D., V. from 1823, author of *Bibliomania* (1809) and other works including a history of Exning, c. 1850. In a note to G. B. Jermyn, Davy wrote: 'Dibdin—What an Ass!'

residence for the night at the Cock. We found the house a very miserable one, in a wretched state of repair, & bearing traces of considerable antiquity; but found attention & civility, & that made amends for what was otherwise wanting. As soon as we arrived we walked to the church to see what it might produce; but having obtained the key, we found so little to detain us that we completed our notes there before it was dark. No memorial of any kind, appears in the church for any interment therein.

*Fri. August 22d*

We breakfasted early this morning, & in order to save the Poney determined to walk to Herringswell, about 2 miles or a little more. We passed over an open country, with very moderate roads, till we came near the church, where some inclosures occur, & some plantations have been made; the situation low, & dirty, & the soil apparently, very far from being productive. Having found not much in the church to detain us, & having learnt from the Clerk, that Tuddenham Church was not a mile & half further, we proceeded thither; through the same kind of open country, with now & then an inclosure, & a few trees; near the church, we crossed a small stream, & found the village cleaner, & of a more respectable appearance than we expected. Having completed our notes in the church, we returned back to Kentford, having made our walk about 7 miles backwards & forwards.

From Kentford Cock, as soon as a heavy storm or two would permit us we set off for Moulton, about 2 miles: the road is one, apparently but little used, & is miserably bad; & it was not made better by a very heavy shower which had fallen more particularly severe at Moulton. This Village stands in a very retired Valley, thro' which runs a stream, not named on the Maps, perhaps the Ken, which joins the Lark below Worlington, after passing Kentford & Kennet: this stream appears at times to be considerable, for a stone foot bridge across it at Moulton, is raised such a height in the middle as to make it rather awkward work walking up & down it. Nothing can be more wretched than the whole appearance of this village: the Parsonage, a respectable looking residence stands near the church, & nearly opposite to it on the contrary side of the stream is a large farm house, probably French Hall, formerly the residence of the family of Tracey. All around the village is open land, apparently of an inferior quality. In spite of its retired & miserable situation, we found the church a large & handsome Structure, rather singular in some parts of its form, & kept in good repair; it stands on the E. side of the stream, & a little above the level of the valley. Some of the good people of Newmarket have selected this out of the way spot for their resting place; as Mr. Vernon,

Mrs. Binfield, & Mr. Longchamp.<sup>249</sup>

Having found from some former church notes which I had brought with me, that we had overlooked a brass plate in Gazeley Church, we determined to take that in our way back, that our notes there might be completed. We therefore proceeded again to the Chequers, where, having got some dinner, we again visited the church, & having taken the impression of the brass which we had before missed, we set off for Bury, where we arrived about 7 o'clock.

*Sat. August 23rd*

Returned to Ufford.

*Mon. Sepr. 29th*

Set off from Ufford by the Blue Coach<sup>250</sup> to meet Darby at Stratford, to proceed from thence on a visit to the churches in the Hundred of Babergh.

From Stratford, we proceeded thro' Higham to Stoke, where we took up our quarters for a day or two. As soon as we had secured accommodations for self & poney, we set off on foot to visit the church of Polstead; the distance from Stoke is little more than a mile, & the church stands on the slope of the hill which falls to the South. On our way we passed the Parsonage, on the opposite side of the valley, & pleasantly situated. A short distance to the North of the church stands the Hall, which being situated nearly on the crown of the hill, commands an extensive view over the valley, & enjoys a very advantageous situation. We found a good deal in the church, & having obtained sufficient notes returned to Stoke. The rest of the afternoon till it was dark, we spent in the church of Stoke. This is situated on a very considerable rise, & the Steeple being lofty, & of handsome form & materials, is a very conspicuous, & agreeable object to all the country round for many miles. Slept at Stoke.

*Tues. Sepr. 30th*

The inscriptions in the church, &c. took us up nearly the whole day, the brasses being numerous, as well as the monuments, we were not enabled to leave Stoke till late in the afternoon. Proceeded then to Nayland, where we

<sup>249</sup> They are Churchyard memorials of the table type, two pallisaded, between 1800 and 1807.

<sup>250</sup> The Old Blue coach passed through Ipswich at 9 a.m.

dined & slept, having time only to look into the church, but not to commence operations. Nayland stands low, & appears to have little to boast of.

*Weds. Oct. 1st*

Early this morning we repaired to the church & worked hard till breakfast, after which we continued our labours till we had completed our church notes, & taken all the brasses which being numerous, took up a considerable portion of time. On our way from the church to breakfast, having observed in the windows of an old house<sup>251</sup> nearly opposite the Inn, numerous coats of arms, we called at the house, & having received permission from the owner, Mr. Alston, an attorney, we took an account of them. We learnt from Mr. Alston that this house was formerly a Roman Catholic chapel; but he could give us very few particulars of it, except that his father had purchased the property many years ago, & that it had formerly been in the possession of the family of Williams,<sup>252</sup> owners of, & residents in Tendring hall. The arms are ancient, & in a very fair state of preservation.

About 2 o'clock we proceeded to Wiston Church which stands about a mile & half from Nayland near the banks of the river Stour. It did not take us long to obtain all the notes we wanted here. To the East of the church stands Wiston Hall, now a modern looking substantial farm house.

From Wiston we proceeded towards Bures; but stopt on our way, about a mile & half from that place, to look at the remains of Smalbridge,<sup>253</sup> the seat formerly of the ancient family of Waldegrave. The situation is low, very near the river, from which the moats protecting the House, seem to be derived. The House is now occupied by a farmer, but the greater part of it is still standing, though in a dilapidated state.

Thence to Bures, where we dined & slept. The road from Nayland is for most part of the way along the edge of the valley.

*Thurs. Oct. 2nd*

Bures is a large village with a handsome church, but stands low, & is therefore rather dirty in its appearance. We found a good deal to do, but

<sup>251</sup> Alston's father Samuel bought Alston Court c. 1750, and it remained in the family until c. 1905. Could a recusant family have occupied this house?

<sup>252</sup> The last Williams at Tendring Hall, Sir John, was Lord Mayor of London in 1736. The arms in glass are c. 1510 and relate to the Payn family.

<sup>253</sup> An early Elizabethan moated house twice visited by that Queen, much restored since Davy noticed it.

having begun early in the morning, we finished our notes about noon.

From Bures, we went to Assington Church which took us up some time. A little to the N.W. of the church, not 100 yards, stands Assington Hall the seat of Mr. Gurdon.<sup>254</sup> It appears an old building, but at the time we were there appeared to be undergoing a thorough repair. The country round this place, & all the way from Bures, & from this place to Boxford, is high land with occasional vallies, & the land is stiff & wet, but rich & good. A good deal of timber still remains in this neighbourhood.

From Assington, our next visit was to Boxford, where we arrived late in the afternoon, & where, tho' after some delay & difficulty we found accommodations for the night. Having secured these, & some small portion of light remaining, we spent it in the church. Boxford is a small town, situated on the sides of a small stream, which falls into the Stour not far from Higham: it has many appearances of antiquity, the remains of its former prosperity as a place of trade & manufactures: of these, the church is the most material, & is a handsome building. On our approach to the town we passed on our left a good looking modern bricked house, which we learnt was the Rectory House, & built by the present Incumbent, Mr. Thurlow,<sup>255</sup> a brother of Lord Thurlow.

*Fri. Octr. 3rd*

This morning we were early in the church, & proceeded in our notes till breakfast, without being able to finish. After breakfast, as we found we should have time to spare, we walked to Groton Church, about a mile, seated on a considerable hill in a very rich soil. Having got the notes we wanted here, it became a question, whether we should go on to Edwardston; but being aware that there was much in that church, & that a long time would be required to get through it, we thought it best to leave the last mentioned Church, tho' the only one unvisited in this part of the Hundred of Babergh, & to return to Boxford. Having done so, & completed our church notes there, we set off on our return home: & passing through Kersey & Hadleigh, we proceeded on to Ipswich, where we arrived about half past seven in the evening, & where we slept.

<sup>254</sup> John Gurdon, Esq., whose family owned the Hall since the 16th cent., was a pioneer in cooperative farming. Fire destroyed all but the porch and one gable end in 1957.

<sup>255</sup> Thomas Thurlow, R. from 1816, a Royal living.

1828

*Sat. Octr. 4th*

Darby intended to have been off for home very early this morning, but it was too wet to stir. After breakfast therefore we visited the room in the Tankard Public House,<sup>256</sup> the churches of St. Helen, St. Mary Elms, & St. Peter, & having obtained a few additional notes there, I returned home by the Shannon in the afternoon.

1829

*Mon. May 18th*

Got upon the Shannon this morning, & proceeded to Ipswich, & from thence to the Crown at Claydon, where I met Darby, according to agreement, to visit the churches in that neighbourhood, & to pick up Edwardston which we had left in our last excursion. We arrived at Claydon about 11 o'clock, & immediately set off on foot to Little Blakenham; & calling upon Mr. Jackson,<sup>257</sup> the Curate there, he offered to accompany us on an exploratory walk. We first went to Somersham Church, about a mile & half, where after taking notes in the church, I got hold of the Registers & Terrier; so that my visit here was pretty complete.

Somersham stands in a pleasant valley,<sup>258</sup> the church on a slight rise on the South of the little stream that passes thro' it, & the Parsonage House<sup>259</sup> a little below to the North of it. This latter building bears marks of considerable antiquity; particularly the North side or end of it: this appears to be of brick, but now whitewashed over, & may probably be of the age of Elizabeth, if not of Hen. 8, a slight bow in the middle with niche like panneling in the flat part: the rest of the House is modern.

<sup>256</sup> The Tankard was originally the town house of Sir Anthony Wingfield, K.G., Controller of the Household to Hen. 8., but has since served many purposes and been demolished piecemeal; almost the last fragment was removed in 1980. The carving and heraldic painting of walls and ceiling in the main room was recorded in great detail by the Revd. D. T. Powell in 1817, and Henry Davy's engraving of 1829 appeared in Clarke's *History of Ipswich*, 1830. Much of the panelling and the extremely elaborate carved ornamental are in Christchurch Mansion.

<sup>257</sup> Stephen Jackson, R. of Nettlestead from 1815 until his death in 1838, aged 52, and George Capper's curate at Little Blakenham, was himself an antiquary, to whom in 1827 Davy had sent his notes on the area for amendment.

<sup>258</sup> Davy wrote this paragraph after the next, but his oversight is here corrected.

<sup>259</sup> Somersham Rectory today has a red brick south side and a later Suffolk-brick north, so that the interesting work Davy described is lost in all but Henry Davy's drawing.

From Somersham we went to Nettlestead, about a mile; first to the Hall,<sup>260</sup> a building formerly of great note for the families who successively inhabited it. It stands in a very pretty sequestered valley, very near the church; it is now inhabited by a farmer; tho' part of the house is still kept fit for the residence of a gentleman's family. In the front of it stands the Gateway, a much smaller building, & standing at a greater distance from the house than I could have supposed from having seen drawings & engravings of it. Some attempts at repair of it have been lately made, which have not succeeded, particularly with the arms in the spandrils, which have been patched with Roman cement, without any care about their heraldic keeping.

From Nettlestead we walked to Blakenham parva; the Parsonage of this place is very pleasantly seated on a kind of terrace overlooking a rather extensive Valley, the soil of which is chiefly chalk: Mr. Jackson, the present Curate has laid out a good deal of money about the place with considerable taste, & has made it a very delightful residence. The church stands just above the House, nearly upon the highest land in the vicinity. Mr. Jackson produced the Terriers & Registers of his two Parishes, this & Nettlestead, & I had an opportunity of extracting from them such notes as I wished for. Little was found in the church, which was therefore soon dismissed; & we returned back to Claydon to dine and sleep; having walked in the whole about 7 miles.

*Tues. May 19th*

As Darby had not visited Barham Church, we walked there before breakfast. Tho' I had been there about 4 years ago, I was not sorry to revisit it, but I found very little in addition to what there was when I was here before. I however had an opportunity of seeing some coats of Arms which are in the Windows of the Hall, & which have remained there since it was inhabited by the Southwells. Little, however, of antiquity appears in the present building, beyond the above mentioned Arms; & the house is now the residence of the Farmer who occupies the land belonging the Hall, but it seems a very comfortable dwelling, & perhaps too good altogether for a farmer's residence. Mr. Clabon from Hoxne is the present occupier. Returned to Claydon to breakfast.

After breakfast we drove to Bailham; this I had been at about 4 or 5 years ago, but I wished to get a brass in the church, which I had neglected to rub

<sup>260</sup> Nettlestead Hall went with High Hall at the time. For 200 years from 1450 the Wentworths lived here.

off when I was here before.<sup>261</sup> To this church Darby had been hitherto a stranger, & he obtained rather a rich harvest. From hence we passed thro' a deep valley, & some rather interesting country to Nettlestead, & leaving that church to our left, drove on to Offton, where, leaving our poney & chaise at the Shoulder of Mutton,<sup>262</sup> we walked a short distance up the valley to the church, which stands on the banks of the same little stream on which Somersham is situated. We found something to do here, but I had no opportunity of getting at the Registers. The Parsonage adjoins the church yard on the S. side, & is not an unpleasant looking residence.

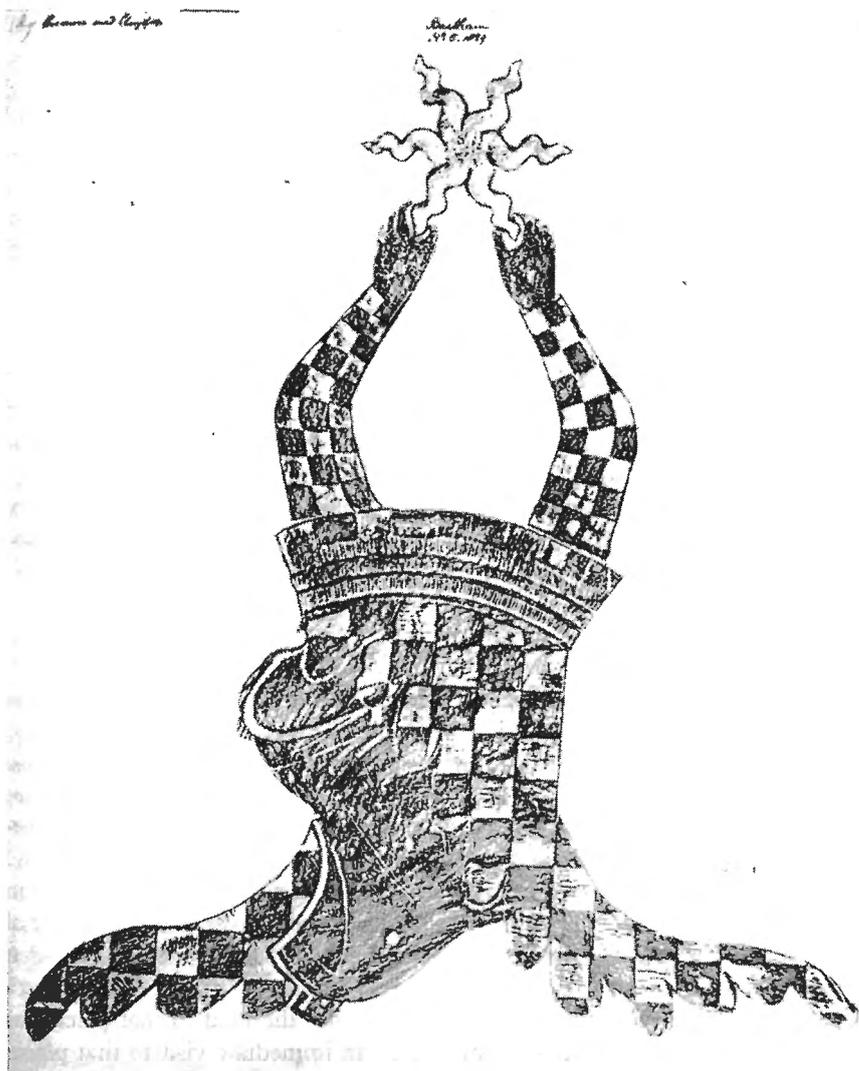
From hence we walked to Willisham Church, & it was not till we had nearly reached that place, that I recollected Offton Castle,<sup>263</sup> which I had much wished to visit, but it was then too late to retrace our Steps. Willisham Church is nearly a mile from Offton, & stands on high ground, looking over the valley to Nettlestead & from thence towards Somersham. We found considerable to do here, but I was obliged again to return without a sight of the Records. I was very agreeably disappointed during my excursion this day, at least up to the time of leaving Offton & Willisham. The idea which I had formed of the country hereabouts was, that it was stiff, wet, deep & disagreeable; on the contrary I found, tho' the land be rather heavy, that it was very pleasantly diversified with hill & dale, for the most part agreeably undulating, & often furnishing prospects very unusual in the centre of this County. Nature has done a great deal, but there is little appearance of art, further than which arises from the careful & skilful cultivation of the land. Willisham Hall, formerly the residence of the family of Brownrigg,<sup>264</sup> stands at a short distance to the North of the church, & commands a view of the valley to a considerable extent: it seems capable of great improvement. The land appears fruitful, that in the Valley more particularly so.

<sup>261</sup> Davy's rubbing (BL Add. MS 32483, f. 81) and William Blois's Church Notes c. 1660 are now the only record of the fine armorial brass (achievement, 4 shields and inscription) to Margaret, wife of Richard Steresacre, Esq. Its date is c. 1420. Only the slab remains today. More about Richard is to be found in Roger Virgoe's article 'The Murder of James Andrew' in *P.S.I.A.H.* XXXIV, 263 (1980).

<sup>262</sup> The Shoulder of Mutton was at Willisham.

<sup>263</sup> Of William of Ambli's adulterine castle (mid-12th cent.) only the rectangular moated platform remains, commanding land between the two rivers, Brett and Gipping. See *P.S.I.A.H.* XXXIV, 82 (1977).

<sup>264</sup> John Brownrigg in 1661 made charitable provision for the poor of the parish.



*Crest and helm, mantled chequy, of Steresacre: Out of a mural coronet two arms embowed habited chequy holding between the hands an estoile of six points. Brass, c. 1420, lost from Baylham Church after Davy made his pencil rubbing. Scale 1:3.5.*

Returning to Offton, we drove on towards Flowton; after passing the valley in which the former is situated, we ascended a rather steep hill, on which we travelled thro' very indifferent roads to Flowton; here the kind of country I had anticipated for the whole of the present day's excursion, was completely realised. A more flat, wet, unpleasant soil & country I have not often passed over, & we found some difficulty in getting along with safety & comfort. We at length however reached Flowton Church without accident; & having taken full notes there, we found, upon enquiry as to our best mode of returning to Claydon, that it would be much the most prudent to submit to a considerable extension of our drive, & to make our way home by Bramford; this we were told was a mile or two about, but that the road would be found for the most part good, and that the direct road by Somersham & Little Blakenham was, tho' passable, very rough, & ill calculated for the machine in which we were travelling. We easily made up our minds to "go further than we had intended", with the hopes of "getting home safe at last"; & we were well satisfied with our choice: We passed Bramford Hall;<sup>265</sup> near which we found some pretty country, & returned to dine & to sleep again at Claydon. We found our accommodations here very clean & comfortable.

We travelled altogether about 15 miles to day, & thought ourselves very fortunate, that in passing over such rough roads, our carriage had not suffered any damage.

*Weds. May 20th*

Our next object being the church of Elmset, we found upon enquiry that the road from Claydon to that place, if we meant to go the direct & nearest way, was thro' the same sort of track, hardly to be called highway, which had so much annoyed us during nearly the whole of yesterday. We therefore determined to proceed to Hadleigh, & to visit Elmset from thence. In adopting this plan, we agreed to take Burstal in our way, which my companion had not seen. We therefore went by Bramford, & taking the high road from Ipswich towards Hadleigh; we digressed to our right, & I again got a sight of Burstal Church, where I found very little, if any, in addition to what I had at my former visit, met with. Having finished here, we found that we were not much more than two miles from Elmset, & that the road to that place was very good; we therefore, determined upon an immediate visit to that place: We found that our informant, a boy whom we found at work on the roads, was correct in his account, for a short distance, but we soon got into very rough roads, & about a mile from Elmset, in passing a sudden dip in the

<sup>265</sup> Property of the Broke and Middleton families.

passage, the hind spring of the gig gave way, & we found ourselves under the necessity of proceeding the rest of our day's journey on foot. At Elmset we found a good harvest, & having finished our notes, again took to our heels; but having fancied, upon examination of the fracture, that it would still convey one person at a time safely, we ventured to ride & tye<sup>266</sup> to Hadleigh, where we arrived safe, tho' we dared not to suffer the poney to go faster than a walk. Having dined, my Companion set hard to work to copy the inscriptions in the church, which he had neglected to do when we were here before. As for myself, I had come here with the expectation of being able to complete the examination of the Registers, which I had commenced during my former Visit; the Clerk having at that time offered me his assistance in the business. I found, however, that the Registers were locked up, & in the possession of the Rector, Dr. Drummond<sup>140</sup> who, being considerably advanced in years, & in a very weak state of health, I was told would be much fidgetted & annoyed by any application for the inspection of them; & might even refuse me a sight of them, if I asked for them. Under these circumstances, & from the description of the present occasional weak state of the Doctor's mind, as well as body, I made up my mind to forego the pressing my pursuit, at least for the present, in hopes that some other opportunity might occur when I could obtain my wishes without any unpleasant feelings to any one. The Clerk told me that if I had been a fortnight later in my visit, there would have been no difficulty in obtaining my wishes; for that the Dr. would then be in London, the Registers would be in his custody, & I should have been welcome to make what extracts I pleased from them. I found an additional Monument or two in the church, & picked up a few additional notes, while Darby was employed in his own pursuits. Dined & slept at Hadleigh.

Upon consultation with a learned smith here as to the state of our carriage, we were very glad to find that the damage was much less than we had supposed; a slight repair was all that was required, which Vulcan informed us, would carry it safe home; & we found his opinion confirmed by the event, for we had no further trouble about the wound, tho' it cannot be said that we travelled thenceforth without fear or trembling; it made us careful, & our care in all probability ensured our safety.

*Thurs. May 21*

Our object in extending our travels in this direction during the present

<sup>266</sup> Presumably one rode and the other walked beside. The expression makes more sense when two travellers share one mount, riding (at a reasonable pace) and walking alternately.

excursion, was to pick up Edwardston Church, which for want of time, we had been obliged to pass by during our last visit to this neighbourhood. It was the only church unvisited in this part of the Hundred of Babergh, & we were therefore the more anxious to take it in. We therefore as soon as we had breakfasted, set off for Boxford, & leaving our carriage there, walked on to Edwardston Church, a distance of about two miles, chiefly on a flat, & wet soil. We found a great deal to collect here, & it cost us full five hours to complete our notes &c. I was obliged to forego all hope of seeing the Registers &c, which would have consumed full as much time as the church did, had I been able to obtain access to them. Between Edwardston & Groton is a valley about half a mile cross, & the church & houses of the latter are good objects from the Edwardston side. Near the church on the S.E. side stands the Vicarage, now occupied I believe, by a farmer;<sup>267</sup> adjoining to this is Edwardston Hall, a small, but very comfortable looking mansion, the property of the family of Dawson, one of which, the present Incumbent,<sup>268</sup> now occupies it, if he be not the owner. From hence, we returned to Boxford, the whole distance being within in the parish of Edwardston, which extends actually into the town of Boxford. About half a mile from the latter place, close to the road side is a good looking house, the property & present residence of Mr. Waring.<sup>269</sup> The Barn opposite to this house has been painted to give the idea of a church or chapel; representations of a painted window above, & of tombs, &c. below; & on another part are painted in 2 or 3 places these Arms, Sa. 2 bends & in chief a mullet, arg.<sup>270</sup>

Having dined, & taking a slight peep into the churchyard of Boxford to see if any monument had been put up since our last visit, we set off on our return to Hadleigh: & on our way I stopt at Kersey Church, in order to take a plan thereof, which I had not done at any former visit. We did not arrive at Hadleigh till after seven o'clock. Slept there.

*Fri. May 22nd*

My fellow traveller was early at work this morning, to complete his Hadleigh notes before breakfast, I therefore indulged myself; & lounging into the church about half past 8, found him near the completion of his task. We

<sup>267</sup> The farm was known as the Priory.

<sup>268</sup> George Augustus Dawson, V. since 1817, a family living.

<sup>269</sup> Richard Waring, Esq., of Edwardston House.

<sup>270</sup> These arms cannot be associated with any Suffolk family, and were probably fictitious.

therefore, having no further object in this part of the country, determined to proceed immediately homeward, & having breakfasted drove to Hintlesham, where I found a few things to be picked up; placed there since my former visits: leaving our equipage here we proceeded on foot, to Chattisham Church, where Darby wanted some notes. I found here nothing new, but I was enabled to supply a small omission or two. From thence we passed thro' Ipswich without stopping, & went on to Martlesham Red Lion, & as Darby had never been in that church we took the opportunity of baiting the poney, to walk up thither. I found a small addition or two since I was here last.

Returned home about 7 o'clock.

*Fri. June 5th*

Having found that my church notes at Earlsom, which had been taken many years ago, were very imperfect, I this morning went over from Kettleburgh, where I was staying, & took the whole over again.

*Tues. July 14th<sup>271</sup>*

Darby called me this morning for an excursion into Carlford & Colneis Hundreds.

The first place we visited was Brightwell, in the chapel of which I fancied I had nothing to get, but on my return I found I had forgot the Hatchments there. Called upon Mr. Everitt,<sup>272</sup> at the Hall, to see if he had any thing to show us; but found only a Hatchment for Sir Saml. Barnardiston<sup>273</sup> & his initials & date of the building, upon the outside of part of the house.

From Brightwell, we proceeded to Waldringfield, thro' part of Brightwell Hall Farm, & over the Heath, thro' some of the worst of roads: here we were overtaken by a storm, the greater part of which we fortunately escaped by a timely arrival at Waldringfield, where we took shelter under a cartshed. The thunder & lightning & rain, were very severe, but luckily of no long duration. Having obtained such notes here as I wanted, we proceeded on to Helmley, which I wished to revisit in order to get a plan of the church, & the Inscriptions on the Altar Tombs at length:

From Helmley, we went to Newborn Church, where I took the same sort

<sup>271</sup> The 6th Excursion, like the 5th, was to Coulsdon, between 15 June and 8 July.

<sup>272</sup> William Everitt.

<sup>273</sup> The first Bt. who d.s.p. 1707, aged 88. His hatchment and three others hang still in Brightwell church. The Hall was demolished c. 1760.

of additional notes as I had got at Helmley, but found little or nothing new. I did not again go into the Hall, tho' Darby did, & I found from him, that things there remain in the state in which they were when I was here before.

From Newborn, we went on thro' Kirton, & the Trimleys to Walton, where we proposed to take up our head quarters, & where we found at the Angel, very comfortable accommodations, & where we remained during the excursion.

*Weds. July 15th*

Before breakfast this Morning we visited Walton Church & found full employment for two hours. I was agreeably surprized to find here two brasses, a thing I did not expect to meet with during our present journey.

As soon as we had breakfasted, we drove to Felixstow Church, & having got what information we could find there, we went past Sr. Saml. Fludyer's house,<sup>274</sup> upon the beach. Here we found rather a busy scene; considerable preparations making for receiving company; many temporary stables built & building, & several booths made of deals on the grass just above the beach, for occasional parties who come in considerable numbers from the country around to dine & spend the day: when I was here about 3 years ago,<sup>275</sup> I recollect but two of these booths, & I now found a large addition to them. In addition to these, there are two, if not more, very good houses, where parties may obtain accommodations for the day, or for a longer time, at a very reasonable expence; the best of these appears to be that kept by a Mrs. Porter, which is on the road side from Walton to Felixstow Church, & at some distance from the shore. The place seems to be in a very thriving condition, many new houses have been built, & it promises ere long to become the fashionable resort of those who have money to throw away, & who cannot be satisfied with the comfort which they find in their own houses. We drove along the shore to visit the Cave in the Cliff; an excavation of some extent which appears to have been made either to obtain the crag<sup>276</sup> of which the soil consists, or to gratify the whim of some person who had

<sup>274</sup> Langer or Felixstow Lodge, enlarged from a picturesque fisherman's cottage, once the summer residence of Philip Thicknesse, Governor of Landguard Fort, under the Fludyers became the summer residence with the finest south facing views in a fast growing resort. Between 1800 and 1844 the foreshore at the Lodge was eroded from 200 yds. to 20. Today the Lodge is Cranmer House, Felixstowe College, and part of Thicknesse's 'Roman Dining Room' survives in the grounds.

<sup>275</sup> Felixstowe was not of a size to be noticed in Pigot's *Directory* for 1830 or 1839.

<sup>276</sup> The crag was gathered for use as a fertiliser.

nothing better to employ his time. Upon the edge of the Cliff, in the same kind of soil, Mr. Cobbold of Ipswich,<sup>277</sup> is now building a very neat looking house. On the beach is found a considerable quantity of a substance, which has all the appearance of wood, the grain of which is so distinct, that the species of tree may be readily distinguished: upon taking these pieces however in the hand, their weight surprizes, & they appear to be petrified; they have many of them a copper like appearance, & are very easily broken. It is well known that the ouze in Harwich Harbour has the quality of transforming wood into stone, & it is not improbable that the above mentioned pieces may have been brought from thence by the tide.

Returned to Walton, & putting up the Gig, we walked to examine the Old Hall, or the Ruin, of the Priory,<sup>278</sup> which stands in the fields about mid way between Walton & Felixstow, but within the bounds of the latter parish. These remains are small, & not very picturesque; & are so much overgrown with bushes & weeds that it is not possible to ascertain their exact extent, or form: the principal remnant is a straight wall somewhat more than 30 feet long, & about 24 feet high, with the remains of a window in the middle of it.

Having dined we drove to Falkenham Church, where we soon obtained the necessary notes; this is about three miles from Walton, & I was rather surprized to find how good the roads are. I knew that the soil hereabouts was as good for corn as any in the County, but I was not prepared to find the communications so excellent. The country in this angle is nearly a flat, but is inclosed, & little or no waste land appears.

From Falkenham Church to Kirkton Church, is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile. Having satisfied ourselves with what little we found in the latter building, we returned to our quarters at the Angel.

*Thurs. July 16th*

We were not stirring very early this Morning, as we had plenty of time before us for all we had to do in this neighbourhood; besides which we were kept

<sup>277</sup> J. C. Cobbold, Esq., of Holy Wells, Ipswich, built Cliff House, south of what is now called Cobbold's Point and near the present Bartlet Convalescent Home, as a seaside residence. It is shown in Henry Davy's etching of 1837 and is today a restaurant.

<sup>278</sup> The Priory ruins, very close to Walton Church, were finally dismantled *c.* 1810 according to Isaac Johnson, so that it was the Old Hall ruins which Davy visited that day, of which there are traces still half way between Walton and Felixstowe Churches. This is all that remains of the Manor House of Walton (*P.S.I.A.* XXXIII, 150).

awake till 3 o'clock in the morning by a party of the village, who had met for a thorough jollification, & who were any thing but a quiet party. After breakfast, we drove down to Languard Fort, having a wish to look into the chapel, to ascertain whether it contained any memorials of the dead. Having made out that this is not the case, we walked round the ramparts, & in the course of conversation with our guide, we learned that the whole garrison consists of only 25 men, & that Col. West<sup>279</sup> is the present Governor. The guns, at least, the larger ones, are all dismounted, & the carriages laid up in store; a few small wall pieces, are now the only defence. The place is however kept up in good order. † (*See next entry.*)

Returned to Walton, & having eaten a piece of cold meat, we drove to the Trimleys, two churches which stand within a stone's throw of each, & whose churchyards are only separated by a ditch now nearly filled up. These are not much more than a Mile from Walton. In the church of St. Martin we thought it probable we might find some memorial of the family of Cavendish, so long resident at Grimston Hall in this parish; but we found none; tho' there can be little doubt that the building on the North side of the Church was intended for a Dormitory or Burial place for them, & the arch in the North wall<sup>280</sup> probably was to commemorate one of them, perhaps the founder. The Arms of the family appear upon the ruins of the Steeple of St. Mary, the only notice of them which is now to be met with. We were not detained here long, neither of the churches containing anything remarkable, & the memorials of the dead being singularly few.

From hence we walked to Grimston Hall, where we were again disappointed; no remains appear of any antiquity, & the only thing interesting are the remains of one of the *ilexes*<sup>281</sup> which are said to have been planted by Thos. Cavendish, the celebrated navigator. There is no view of the river from the House, which is now a good modern Farm House, but upon a hill, called the Park Hill, once part of the Park, there is a extensive prospect of the River, Harwich, Landguard Fort, &c. This House is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the church.

Returned to Walton.

<sup>279</sup> Lt. Col. Charles Augustus West was only Lt. Governor. The garrison was further reduced to 4 men and 2 invalids by 1844.

<sup>280</sup> A low tomb recess is a better description. Only members of the Barker family were buried in this manorial Chapel.

<sup>281</sup> The Holm Oak, *Quercus ilex*, was first introduced from S.W. Europe *c.* 1500, according to Mitchell. Cavendish's trees were by no means the earliest imported therefore.

*Fri. July 17th*

After breakfast we left Walton, & proceeded to Levington, which I had visited in 1811 tho' Darby had never been there. I wished to obtain the Ichnography of the church, & to copy the Table Monuments in full, but I found one of them entirely illegible, & another in part so. Stopt to look at Sir Rob. Hitcham's Almshouses,<sup>282</sup> & made a slight ground plan of them. They are kept up in good order.

From Levington we crossed the Heath to Bucklesham Church, which I had lately completed; & my companion having made his notes, we returned home by Brightwell, & Martlesham.

†I forgot to mention that when we were at Landguard Fort, we visited the burial ground appropriated for the use of the Garrison, which is rather thickly peopled. It is on the Denes, a little to the North of the Fort.

At the gates of Helmley Church yard, I found for the first time the *Fumaria capreolata*,<sup>283</sup> I found it again however, by the road side between Walton & Landguard Fort, tho' sparingly.

*Fri. Augt. 7th*

Took the Coach this morning to pay a visit to Westerfield Church, the only one in the Hundred of Bosmere & Claydon, which I had not been in. I got off the coach on Rushmere Heath, & as I past the church of Rushmere, I took a peep into it, to get the inscription of the late John Edge,<sup>284</sup> & to see if there was anything else new. To get the key, I called upon the Vicar, Mr. Day,<sup>285</sup> & going into the House, found it a very neat, & convenient dwelling: it has been built from the ground by the present Vicar: who seems to have got together a very good library.

From thence I set off for Westerfield Church, but as is very usual with me, I took a wrong turn, & after walking about the time & distance at which I expected to find the church, I found myself very near Ipswich instead of Westerfield, & upon the road to Tuddenham. This being the case I thought I should have plenty of time, & therefore walked on to Tuddenham Church, which I want to see again to get a plan of it, & to inspect the Saxon door way on the North side.

<sup>282</sup> Founded in 1654 for 3 poor women of Levington and 3 of Nacton.

<sup>283</sup> White Fumitory, still found thereabouts, the only station in East Anglia.

<sup>284</sup> John Edge, 33 years Vicar of Rushmere, d. 1813, aged 50. He was uncle of William Edge at Nedging (*q.v.*)

<sup>285</sup> C. Day, V. from 1827, patr. the Marquis of Bristol.

From thence, at the distance of about a mile & quarter, I came to Westerfield Church, but could not for some time find the key; which I did not get till near 2 o'clock, & as I was obliged, in order to have the Coach, to be at Ipswich by 3 o'clock, I was a good deal hurried, & was obliged to leave the Bells unvisited, & a Table of Benefactions in the Nave uncopied. It was so late when I had done the rest, that I gave up the idea of going to Ipswich, & set off back again to catch the Coach on Rushmere Heath; & tho' I was not there till near half past 3, I waited till near  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 4, before the Coach came up. This was provoking, because I should have had abundance of time for all I wanted at Westerfield, could I in any degree have depended upon the motions of the Coach.

*Mon. August 17th*

Having planned with Darby an Excursion to last a fortnight, I this morning went to Ipswich by the Shannon, & from thence proceeded by the Cambridge Coach to Bury, where I had agreed to meet my companion, from thence to commence our peregrinations. As I did not expect Darby till the evening, having got some lunch, I walked to Fornham All Saints, commonly called Fornham Three Kings, from the sign of a little public house in the Village. Here I found full employment for near 3 hours in taking the inscriptions, & rubbing off the numerous brasses in the church: but I could not get at the Registers or Terrier. From hence I returned back to Bury by Fornham St. Martin, or Fornham Woolpack, from the Inn there, which I wished to revisit, having omitted to take off a brass in the church, when I was here in July 1824. This I procured, after some difficulty in procuring the key, & having taken a plan of the church, & an inscription or two in the church yard, which had been placed there since my last visit, I returned to Bury, where I found Darby had been arrived but a short time. The last mentioned church was undergoing considerable repairs, chiefly external ones. Walk about five miles.

*Tues. August 18*

Having agreed to proceed this morning in the first instance to Culford, we were stirring soon after 6 o'clock, but we found that it had been raining the chief part of the night, still continued to do so, very heavily; having got an early breakfast, & the rain continuing, I went to St. Mary's Church, & in order to lose no time, commenced with the inscriptions there. It was lucky I had not been here before, for the rain continued too heavy to think of executing our before mentioned plan for the day, & I employed the whole of it in copying the Inscriptions in the Chancel & Nave & in rubbing off the

greater part of the brasses in those parts of the church. In the mean time, my companion employed himself in a visit to the Guildhall, where he took an account of the Pictures there, which I copied in the evening from his notes. The day therefore, was far from lost on my part, tho' our original scheme was stopp'd by the weather, which did not become fine till 5 or 6 o'clock.

We had full leisure to examine minutely, & to make out the whole of the inscriptions upon the tomb of John Baret,<sup>286</sup> in the S. Isle, & to decypher the legends upon the roof over the tomb, & which covered the chapel, founded there by him.

*Weds. August 19th*

The morning proving fine, we were off by 7 o'clock for Culford, & upon our arrival there, having ordered breakfast at the Inn there, to be ready against our return, we visited the church. Here we found rather a rich harvest, which employed us for more than 2 hours: we were fortunate enough to find the Vault not long since built for the family of Cornwallis, open; there not being even a lock to the door. We found a very comfortable breakfast ready for us on our return. I was much struck with the cottages in the village, which are nearly all of them new, having been built by the present owner of the estate, Mr. Benyon de Beauvoir,<sup>287</sup> who has pulled down the old cottages, which stood inconveniently to him, in his improvements. The inhabitants ought to feel thankful to their landlord, for the execution of his plans, for whatever may have been the conveniences or comforts of the old houses, they must, I think, be very considerably increased by the new ones, which are built of rough flints, the produce of the soil on the spot, with white brick corners, & are most of them of two rather lofty stories, & have the air of great neatness & convenience; a sufficiently large space of ground for a garden, seems to be appropriated to each dwelling, the whole gives an air of comfort, which is not often seen in country villages. Mr. Benyon is not, I was told, a very frequent inhabitant of the Hall.

From hence we proceeded to Wordwell, the church of which, as we were informed, till a very few years since, had long remained in a very shameful state of dilapidation. It is now however in a very tidy condition; the present occupier of the Hall, Mr. Cooper, who is also nearly the only occupier in the

<sup>286</sup> A pious, wealthy and generous citizen of Bury who died in 1467. 'Grace me governe' is the motto above the tomb.

<sup>287</sup> The last Marquis Cornwallis died in 1823 and his estates, consisting of five whole parishes covering 11,000 acres, were then sold for £200,000 to Richard Benyon de Beauvoir, Esq.

parish, having very laudably caused it to undergo a thorough repair, & little fault can now be found with it. It is a building of very considerable antiquity, but the walls appear sound & likely to last for a century or two to come, with only moderate care. Mr. Cooper came to us, while we were in the church, & very civilly offered us any information in his power, & he seemed very intelligent: he afterwards invited us to his house which stands very near the church; & in his garden shewed us the remains of a very fine old Oak, which is hollow within, & capable of holding 20 men, it is not however to be compared to the Oak at Winfarthing in Norfolk,<sup>288</sup> but is still deserving of notice. While at his house, he produced the Registers & Terrier, of the latter of which I procured a copy, & full notes from the former: he also shewed us the sacramental plate; consisting of a cup of most diminutive size, with a basin corresponding to it: they are calculated for a very small congregation; the cup appearing to hold no more wine than would be sufficient for about half a dozen communicants: & the basin for about as many pieces of bread; they are such indeed as are often used for the private administration of the Sacrament to the sick. We found in his room, an engraved portrait of his landlord, Mr. Benyon de Beauvoir, which Mr. Cooper informed us, was a present from that gentleman, who has given one also, to each of the other tenants upon his several estates. The Country here is inclosed, but contains very few trees, being upon the edge of the open land: the soil rather light, & not of the best description.

From Wordwell we went to Westow; a large church, in a church yard of very unusual size; it cannot, I think, contain much less than 4 acres. Here we found a better soil & more wood; a little stream passing thro' the parish, & running at a short distance to the North of the church. The church contains a considerable number of memorials of the dead, chiefly for the family of Crofts, for many years<sup>289</sup> the Owners of, & Resident, in the Hall. Having copied the inscriptions, which [took] a good deal of time, & completed our Notes there, we walked to the Hall which is about half a mile from the church, & stands rather low, the ground rising gradually towards the N.E. where the land has still a park like appearance. The Gate way still remains entire, & part of the old Hall, but the present residence of the occupier, a wealthy farmer, is modern: a part of the moat which originally encompassed the house still remains, but that part of it which laid on the North side has been filled up. A room over the Entrance Hall still has in tolerable preservation, the grotesque fresco paintings with which it was originally adorned.

<sup>288</sup> On page 59 of his out-county Journal Davy gives a full and charming account of the Winfarthing oak, complete with brass inscription plaques and collecting box fixed by the Bible Society in 1820.

<sup>289</sup> From c. 1300 until the early 18th cent.

From hence passing Flempton Church, we proceeded on to Lackford; the church of which stands in the fields at a considerable distance from the village, & strange to tell, does not appear to have even a road up to it, for the convenience of the attendants on divine worship: the church & churchyard, & particularly the latter, bear equal marks of neglect with the means of communication with them: the churchyard is a complete bed of nettles & other weeds, so high as nearly to hide many of the head stones, & I have not seen a place of religious worship in Suffolk, so utterly neglected as this is; it is a great discredit, both to the Rector<sup>290</sup> & to his Parishioners, & it is astonishing that no notice has been taken of its state by the proper authorities. We did not find much in the church to detain us, & the day being now far spent, we returned to Bury, which we reached soon after 7 o'clock, well satisfied with our day's work, tho' we had hoped to have found time for a visit to Flempton in our way back.

*Thurs. August 20th*

We left Bury this morning about 7, & passing thro' Hengrave, Flempton & Lackford, came to Icklingham to breakfast. As soon as that meal was dispatched, we visited the church of All Saints, but were obliged to call upon Mr. Gwilt the Rector,<sup>291</sup> to obtain the key, the Clerk's wife, to whom we first applied, considering us, I suppose, as of too suspicious an appearance, to be admitted, without proper authority. This was rather fortunate for us, for Mr. Gwilt went with us to both churches, was very polite to us & gave all the information we asked for. The tessellated pavement<sup>292</sup> in All Saints Church is supposed, as Mr. Gwilt informed us to be of Roman origin; but there may, I think, be some reasonable doubt upon this head; the pavement is formed of pammments about 6 inches square, & having figures of flowers, animals, &c. rude enough to have been the produce of the Darkest ages. Large remains of Roman antiquity however, have at times & still are found in the parish, & there can be no doubt of its having been a Roman station, altho' no works, of earth or otherwise, are at present, as Mr. Gwilt remarked, to be seen in the parish or neighbourhood.

The other parish church at Icklingham, St. James, stands at a short

<sup>290</sup> T. E. Rogers, R. since 1817, patr. Sir Charles Kent, Bt.

<sup>291</sup> Daniel Gwilt, R. from 1820, a family living.

<sup>292</sup> Davy was right to be sceptical, for this mosaic tile pavement with line impressed decoration is 14th cent. See *P.S.I.A.* XXXIII, 153-167.

distance from that of All Sts. The Steeple<sup>293</sup> built by the same builder as that at Flempton, fell down at the same time with that, but has since been rebuilt at the expence of the Mr. Gwilts, three brothers, whose property now comprehends almost the whole of the two parishes. The country about is very flat, wild & disagreeable; the villages wet & dirty, being near a stream, & very far from a desirable place for the residence of gentlemen; but custom, sometimes almost overcomes nature, & the notable *solum* has charms not to be duly appreciated by the world at large. The same observations will apply to the whole of the country between Mildenhall & Brandon, & the latter place, & Wordwell, & perhaps in a stronger degree than to the spot I am now mentioning.

Having soon exhausted the contents of these two parish churches we left Icklingham, & crossed the brook, & the heath to Cavenham; the road for the chief part of the way very indifferent, & the country worse. We found Cavenham, however, like an Oasis in the Desert; a well wooded spot, with a neat village. Here we found the inconvenience attending a visit to churches during harvest: the clerk was employed on the land, & his wife out gleaning, so that some time was lost in search of the parties, before the key of the church was obtained; which after all was in the hands of an old woman, who lives in the same house with the clerk, but who denied having it, when we applied in the first instance at the house. The church does not contain much, & was soon dispatched.

From Cavenham we passed thro' Tuddenham, & in our way over the open fields between the two parishes, we were almost blown away & drowned by a most violent storm of wind & rain, which we bore as well as we could, by turning our backs to it. At Tuddenham we stopt a few minutes to copy an inscription on a table Monument in the church yard which has been erected since our last visit.

From Tuddenham we past thro' Barton Mills which is well inclosed, & planted, & inhabited, but very flat, & proceeded to Mildenhall, which was to be our head quarters for a day or two, & where we found very comfortable accommodations. The remainder of the day, till darkness put a stop to our work, was employed in the church. This is a large & handsome building, particularly withinside, where it does not appear that Mr. Dowsing was ever a visitor,<sup>294</sup> for the carvings on the roof, of angels, &c. still remain perfect.

<sup>293</sup> Davy is here quoting from *Bury and its Environs*, 1827, where is retailed the story of Lord Cornwallis passing Flempton on his way from London to Culford just as the tower came down. 'You see, my Lord,' said his companion, 'even the tower of Flempton bows with deference as you pass.' Edward, Charles and John were the generous Gwilt brothers.

<sup>294</sup> There is no mention of Mildenhall in Dowsing's Journal of 1643-4.

The Steeple is a large & lofty tower, & standing in the middle of an extensive flat, is visible to some distance all around. Mildenhall is a small, but rather neat town, & probably receives great benefit from the river Lark which passes it, being navigable. There appear to be several good houses in the Town, besides Sr. Henry Bunbury's, which is at present inhabited by Mr. Eagle the Barrister.<sup>295</sup> The sisters of the late Mr. Swale reside here, & the Vicarage looks a neat & snug house.

*Fri. August 21st*

Before breakfast this morning, we walked to Barton Mills about a mile from Mildenhall, & were enabled to complete our notes there in good time.

After breakfast, we drove to Freckenham: situated in a corner of the high land & overlooking the Cambridgeshire fens. The Parsonage seems a comfortable residence, & stands near the church; on the opposite side of it, are the remains of a fortification<sup>296</sup> of some kind, but of what nation I know not, & no book gives any notice of it. The church stands at the point of land where the river takes a sharp turn, & the entrenchment in question being drawn across the point, forms a place of refuge of considerable strength in early times.

On our return we stopt to visit Worlington Church, where we were considerably inconvenienced by heavy rain: Here the country is inclosed, & well planted, tho' from hence to Freckenham, it is very open. Sr. William Cooper's eldest son,<sup>297</sup> now occupies the House formerly the residence of his grandfather Sr. Grey, which I did not, however, see.

Returned to Mildenhall, & spent the remainder of the day in the church there.

*Sat. August 22nd*

This morning was dedicated to completing our church notes at Mildenhall, & as soon as we had finished them, we set off for Brandon; but on our way stopt at Eriswell; the day was very wet & stormy, & the country an open, & almost waste flat, was seen to great disadvantage.

<sup>295</sup> George Eagle, Esq.

<sup>296</sup> On the heavily tree-covered motte of Freckenham Castle there are traces of a substantial flint and mortar building. It was held by the Bishops of Rochester from King Alfred's time with intermissions in the days of Harold and William. (E. Callard, *The Manor of Freckenham* 1924, Chapters 7 and 8.)

<sup>297</sup> Wm. Henry Cooper, Esq., Worlington Hall.

Eriswell stands alone in an extensive open plain; but we were surprized to find a very tolerable modern built Inn, & near it a stone mason's shop; the village however is of a mean description; & no houses of any note are visible; a large building, somewhat resembling a manufactory, has not long ago been here erected, but for what purpose I did not learn. It appears that some part of the noble family of Walpole<sup>298</sup> lived here, for a Hatchment of their Arms hangs in the church; a school is held in the E. end of the Isle, which is inclosed for the purpose, & if I could judge from the appearance, is numerously attended.

Having finished at Eriswell, no very long job, we proceeded to Brandon: thro' as barren a waste as I ever saw;<sup>299</sup> the soil appears to produce nothing but rabbits & flints for a considerable distance. On our approach however to Brandon, we passed on our left, a respectable looking house, somewhat better than that for a Farmer, which has been lately built on the bare flints by Capt. Kenyon:<sup>300</sup> a few stragglng Scotch firs, are almost the only vegetation: A little further on, upon the right, at the distance of near half a mile from the road, is a large white house upon a gentle rise, & with considerable plantations of Scotch fir about it; this has lately [been] built by a Mr. Bliss,<sup>301</sup> at the expence, as we were told, of £15,000. It struck us as a strange proof of taste, to bestow so much money upon so unthankful a spot: this is upon land formerly the property of the Holt family. Mr. Bliss for near 30 years was an inhabitant of Lakenheath, where he occupied a considerable tract of land, & where he is supposed to have realized a handsome property. Within 2 miles of Brandon, I observed a mode, to me at least new, of raising a good fence in a very bad soil; a bank is thrown up, about 4 or 5 feet high, & of a considerable thickness at bottom; upon the top of this is planted a row of

<sup>298</sup> Davy seems not to have known that George, 3rd Earl of Orford spent much time here at the Parsonage with his lifelong mistress Martha Turk. See R. W. Ketton Cremer, *Horace Walpole* (1940) 292–3. The hatchment, now no longer at Eriswell, would have been painted when he died in 1791. It may well be the duplicate for him in the church of Houghton, gathered there by later Walpoles concerned to draw a veil over their ancestor's indiscretions in another county.

<sup>299</sup> The turnpike road went through the Lakenheath, Wangford and Brandon warrens, made all the drearier, no doubt, by the 1668 sandblow, (see below).

<sup>300</sup> The solicitor Captain Thomas Cookson Kenyon's North Court Lodge was demolished c. 1965, but his mausoleum remains (for the controversy over which in 1830, see SRO Bury 806/4/1).

<sup>301</sup> Edward Bliss, Esq., built Brandon Park in 1826 and is reputed to have given work to the local poor in planting some 8 m. Scots pines around the estate. Today the house stands empty in a Country Park. Bliss had a mausoleum to follow suit, and this too remains.

Scotch firs, as thick almost as they can stand; these seem to make rapid progress in this soil & branching out towards the sides, immediately from the ground, form in a very few years an almost impenetrable fence, & have the additional very strong recommendation of affording the best shelter from storms to the sheep & cattle, which are fed, or rather starved upon the land.<sup>302</sup> It happens, indeed, at length, that the lower branches die away; but the fence continues almost equally efficient, for the stems of the trees then are so thick, as to prevent the passage of a sheep, or even a smaller animal. These fences however have a heavy look, but in such a country, any thing is better than the view of the soil.

As soon as we arrived at Brandon, & had secured accommodations for the night, we visited the church, & had time to copy all the inscriptions<sup>303</sup> &c. withinside. The Town consists chiefly of one street running down to the river, which is here navigable; the church is at some distance from this street, the houses having probably been collected in their present situation from the convenience of the trade carried on by the inhabitants upon the river. About a quarter of a mile to the North East<sup>304</sup> of the church stands the Hall, a tolerable looking modern residence, inclosed with trees, but in a low situation. It was late the residence of Mr. Deane just deceased, & is not at present inhabited. We found comfortable accommodations at the Queen's Head,<sup>305</sup> which, however, is not the best Inn in the place.

*Sun. August 23rd*

After an early breakfast this morning we set out for Lakenheath, returning by the road we came by yesterday, but turning off to the right a little beyond Wangford. After leaving the Turnpike road, we found the by road not very good, & felt somewhat alarmed at the state of our vehicle, one of the wooden springs of which we had injured in passing over a piece of wood across the entrance to the Inn yard at Ereswell the day before: we were, however, quit for the alarm only. We arrived at Lakenheath, a little before the commencement of the service, it being Sunday, & had only time previous thereto, to

<sup>302</sup> Davy may be right, or these fences may be warren banks or required by the Enclosure Award of 1809. A short stretch remains on the Lakenheath to Brandon road.

<sup>303</sup> Not a single memorial survived restorations here, the major one in 1873.

<sup>304</sup> No, Brandon Hall is a quarter of a mile *west* of the Church, and it was built *c.* 1690. The Angersteins of Weeting used it for a dower house or let it; no doubt Mr. Deane was a tenant.

<sup>305</sup> There is no record of an Inn of this name at Brandon.

copy a few inscriptions. After the Service, which consisted of prayers only, & which we attended, we completed our notes in the church & churchyard. I here found another instance of the building called a Galilee,<sup>306</sup> which till the present excursion, I had thought a thing of much more rare occurrence than I now found it: I had supposed at first, that Mutford Church formed a solitary example, but Stradbroke was afterwards found to be in a similar situation; & this expedition has brought to light two other instances in Cavenham, & Lakenheath; the former, indeed, has not the building in question, now standing, but the marks on the West side of the Steeple, render its former existence undoubted. I do not consider those churches where the Steeple was originally built between the Nave & Chancel, as instances of this kind of building, because in them the arrangement is totally different from those above mentioned: several instances may be produced of churches in Suffolk having this central position of the Steeple, as Oulton, Eyke, Dallingho.

Nothing can be more desolate & forlorn than the situation of Lakenheath; on one side, the East, the soil is light, open, flat, & far from fertile; the West, low, equally flat; the whole without trees, except in the vicinity of Undley Hall, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  a mile to the West, & the House of Mr. Eagle,<sup>307</sup> which seems to be about half a mile towards the North; I however, visited neither of these; I was very glad to get out of so miserably looking a place.

On our return to Brandon, we stopped at Wangford Church, situated on the heath. Whatever this place may have been when it was the residence of the family of Wright, & particularly of the Lord Chief Justice,<sup>308</sup> it is now most miserable; the population seems much to have decreased, it having been found unnecessary to keep up the Chancel, which has been lately pulled down,<sup>309</sup> & the Nave now furnishes ample room for the Parishioners. A tolerably good looking Farm House not far from the church is the only decent house I saw, & a few cottages by the church, the sole proofs of population, as far at least, as I could perceive on the spot. I saw however, plenty of rabbits.

After dinner at Brandon, we adjourned to the churchyard there, when we

<sup>306</sup> The Rev. J. T. Munday showed that the two-storey building west of the tower here was a schoolroom built after the Reformation using materials from Eriswell St. Peter. Davy must have confused Stradbroke with Debenham for the former has no Galilee and the latter's is celebrated.

<sup>307</sup> William Eagle, Esq., Lakenheath Cottage.

<sup>308</sup> Sir Robert Wright, who presided over the trial of the Seven Bishops in 1688, died in Newgate two years later.

<sup>309</sup> Isaac Johnson (before 1815) shows the ruined Chancel. Restorations between that date and c. 1870 have left the church without a chancel in structural terms. Pevsner's description is misleading.

found time to compleat our notes without, as we had those within the preceding evening.

*Mon. August 24*

After an early breakfast this morning, we set off to visit Downham, but we had not proceeded a mile, before one of the springs of the gig broke into three pieces, but not that which had cracked under us at Ereswell. We were therefore obliged to walk back to Brandon, where we luckily found a wheelwright who undertook, in a few hours to heal the wound, by putting in a new spring: while this operation was performing, we walked to Downham, & upon leaving Brandon, we saw many large heaps of the chippings of flints, & heard in several of the houses, knappings, which proved that the manufacture of gun flints is still in considerable activity here, in spite of the decreased consumption of that article, by the invention of percussion locks.<sup>310</sup> It is said that Mr. McAdam took the idea of his plan of mending roads from this place, where he found all the highways in most excellent order, & upon enquiry found they had been made so by employing the refuse of their staple manufacture for that purpose. The roads are certainly very good, & a large fund of materials still exists, to keep them so. The benefits however of this excellent material, is not very extensive, and we found by experience, afterwards in our journey towards Bury.

In our walk to the church at Downham, we passed along the private road up to the Hall. Here are large plantations, tho' from the badness of the soil, the trees are not very flourishing: I saw however, no traces of the devastation caused by the sand flood, the effects of which are so deplorably described in Kirby's *Suffolk Traveller*.<sup>311</sup> The Hall stands low, & is a modern house of apparently the former part of the last century: it is much inclosed with trees, of an old growth. It is at present the property of Lord Cadogan,<sup>312</sup> but is now occupied by the Earl of Shannon, who, as I was informed at Brandon, has lately been in treaty for the purchase of it, but declined the purchase on account of the too great value set upon it by the proprietor. The church

<sup>310</sup> The gunflint industry here flourished from the 1790s to 1815 when the monthly order for 1¼ m. flints from the Board of Ordnance ceased abruptly. The suggestion that McAdam took his inspiration from Brandon sounds like folklore. The use of waste for land drains led to subsidence.

<sup>311</sup> This event took place in 1668 as described in *Phil. Trans.* 17, and in the 1764 edition of Kirby, p. 239.

<sup>312</sup> The Cadogans had used the Hall as a shooting lodge since 1777. In 1831 it was sold to Lord William Powlett, M.P. Now only the ice house and 'Billiard Room Cottage' remain.

stands not far from the Hall, quite hidden by trees, till you come nearly up to the church yard fence: it contains several monuments for the family of Wright, the former owners of the estate.

Upon our return to Brandon, we found our vehicle again upon its legs, & in a fit state for use. It had began to rain as soon as we got back, but with intermissions; & after waiting half an hour, tho' the clouds still appeared very threatening, we determined to set off; but before we had proceeded half a mile, it began to rain again very heavily, & the wind being very high, we found our journey very uncomfortable: here however, we found the advantage of the kind of fence which I have described on our entrance into Brandon on Saturday: the road for more than 2 miles after leaving that place has a row of Scotch firs on each side of it; & as the wind was rather on our right hand, we found considerable shelter from the trees, which are there of the height of 15 or 20 feet; we were however obliged to draw up close to the right side, & waited for some time for the passing over of a violent storm. The rain fortunately began to abate, & was much diminished just at the time when the friendly plantations ceased, & we arrived at the entrance upon Elvedon warren; an open, wild waste, without a tree, & with no signs of cultivation: the road here, too, having been but lately made, was very rough & stony, & our alarms as to the state of our gig not having entirely subsided, our progress was very slow for 2 or 3 miles; it fortunately ceased raining just as we reached Elvedon, another Oasis, & fit only for the occasional residence of a person to whom game is the first object of life. We found here, however a rather neat village, with a public house, where we could put up the poney whilst we paid a visit to the church; the only thing about which, that was at all striking, is the Monument for the late Viscount Keppel,<sup>313</sup> which is a very elegant one. Mr. Newton<sup>314</sup> does not at present reside upon his property here, but has let it to Sir Sandford Graham, Bart.

From Elvedon we made the best of our way towards Bury, which for 3 or 4 miles after leaving the former place is over the same open sheep walk: extending as far as the church at Wordwell: here we got into a former track, & we were glad to find ourselves again upon good road, which had by no means been the case from Elvedon to Wordwell, tho' much better than it had been across the warren. We were very glad to find ourselves at length at Bury, where we arrived about 7 o'clock, wet & cold, but soon forgot our difficulties over a good fire, & a comfortable meal. Here we were obliged to replace another spring, which tho' it had brought us safe from Brandon, began to shew unequivocal symptoms of weakness & insufficiency for our future movements.

<sup>313</sup> Admiral Viscount Keppel, d.s.p., 1786, *aet.* 62, rebuilt the Hall. The Clerk told Davy that the likeness to the Admiral was excellent.

<sup>314</sup> William Newton, Esq.



Three monuments on which Davy commented at Elveden (left) and at Benacre and Wangford (below, left and right, see p. 150)



*Tues. August 25*

This morning after an early breakfast, we proceeded to Flempton, which we had twice before, during the present excursion, passed by unvisited. This did not detain us long, as the church does not contain much. Not a great way from the church on the left side of the road as we went, the present Rector, Mr. Dixon,<sup>315</sup> has lately erected or repaired the parsonage house, which is now a very neat looking residence.

From Flempton we returned to Hengrave, & having heard that Mr. John Gage<sup>316</sup> was then at the Hall, I called upon him, but was not fortunate enough to find him at home. He was gone out upon the same pursuit with myself, in company with Mr. Buckler,<sup>317</sup> the artist, it being his intention to extend his topographical researches throughout, at least, the whole Hundred of Thingoe & in due time to publish a History of that portion of the County. Upon asking permission to visit the church, the servant informed us, that we were at perfect liberty to do so, & to go over the Hall, if we wished it; this we readily accepted, & while we were examining one of the rooms, Lady Mary Anne Gage<sup>318</sup> came in, very politely expressed her wishes that our curiosity should be fully gratified, in which, her son the present Sir Thos. Gage, very civilly joined. I was much gratified with the view of the House, which is kept up in very excellent state, & tho' modern comfort has been duly considered in its present arrangements, the style of the original building has not been lost sight of in the improvements which have [been] made in it. Since Mr. John Gage published his History of the Parish, many Coats of Arms have been placed in the windows; & here perhaps, it may be thought by some, that the improvement is not in keeping with the decorations of the other windows, &c. for the newly put up Arms are no ways connected with the families who have been owners of the Estate, but were formerly the ornaments of the church of Old Buckenham<sup>319</sup> in Norfolk, & were purchased by Mr. John

<sup>315</sup> R. S. Dixon, R. from 1826, in his own giving.

<sup>316</sup> John Gage (1786–1842), 4th son of Sir Thomas Gage, 6th Bt. He took the name Rokewode in 1838 on an inheritance. He was F.R.S. and Dir. S.A. Published *History of Hengrave*, 1822, and *History of Thingoe Hundred* in 1838. He seems to have had the oversight of improvements to Hall and grounds in his nephew's minority (see below).

<sup>317</sup> John Buckler, F.S.A. (1770–1851), watercolourist, architect, topographer and antiquary.

<sup>318</sup> Mary Anne Browne, daughter of the Earl of Kenmore, married Sir Thomas Gage, 7th Bt., who died in 1820. Their son Thomas, (1810–1866), then 8th Bt., continued his uncle John's work in Suffolk topography after his death.

<sup>319</sup> See *P.S.I.A.* XXII, 1,243.

Gage at Thetford. Still a good effect is produced, & few who visit the Hall are likely to discover the objection which I have above stated. Behind the House is a square court, but of small dimensions, with a cloister all round it, which forms a communication between the residence of the family, & the Servants offices, &c. I was surprised to find the Chapel not now fitted up for divine Service, it is a very neat one, tho' small, & has a very handsome window fitted with painted glass, representing the principal occurrences of our Saviour's life. The family attends Mass at Bury, & are said to be very regular in the observance of that duty. Delighted, however, as I was with the House, both in its exterior, & interior, I can say little in praise of its situation: it is very low, & in front, & at a very short distance from it, there appears some marshy wet ground, not agreeable, according to modern notions of landscape gardening; the whole neighbourhood is flat & low, but well planted & inclosed.

The Church stands close to the House, & not having been for many years used for the performance of divine Service, the church yard is now included in the pleasure ground, & is kept very neat, with a gravel walk round it. The pews, altar rails, & pulpit have been long removed, but the Font still remains; & in this state the church must have for a very long time remained, the Chancel being almost entirely occupied by monuments, some of them of the 16th century. The fabric is kept up, I believe, by the family, & full justice is done to it, as it appears to be in very good repair. The monuments are numerous, some of them magnificent, according to the notions of the times in which they were erected, but few, if any of them can be called elegant, according to modern notions. Size seems to have been the criterion of excellence, & carving, painting & gilding are profuse; some parts, however, are beginning to suffer from the effect of time, particularly in the Arms, tho' nearly the whole can still be distinctly made out. We found employment here for nearly four hours, & thought our time well employed.

From Hengrave we went to Ingham Church, where we did not find much to detain us; & having in less than an hour completed our researches there, we proceeded to Timworth, at the distance of about a mile. Here we again found the inconvenience of an excursion during harvest: the Clerk was hoeing turnips in a distant part of the Parish, & his wife was out gleaning, no one knew exactly where; & was not expected home till late in the evening: We however, went up to the church, & having taken what there was in the church yard, & leaving word with a neighbour of the Clerk that we would be there again in the morning, & requesting that the key might be left, in case we should not be there before the wife went out gleaning, we returned to Bury.

*Weds. August 26th*

Soon after 8 o'clock this morning, we were again on our way to Timworth, but upon our arrival there we found no one at home at the Clerk's house, & the key of the church not left as we had requested. The Clerk's wife had left word with her neighbour, that she could not lose her gleaning by waiting for us, & would not let any one have the key without the knowledge & permission of the churchwarden. We therefore were obliged to proceed, having left word that we would call again in our way back in the evening, when we hoped she might be returned, & that we might find a silver key the most effectual means of obtaining admission into the church.

We went on to Ampton, where we were civilly & politely received by the Rector, Mr. Alford,<sup>320</sup> I think they told us was his name, who after shewing us into the church, & ordering his servant to look to our poney in the mean time, we spent 2 or 3 hours very agreeably in copying the inscriptions, which are rather numerous, & in rubbing off 3 or 4 brasses: the church is a very neat one, and well kept; & just as we had finished, Mr. Alford, with Mr. Philips,<sup>321</sup> the Vicar of Mildenhall, a college acquaintance of Darby's came into the church to us, & offered to shew us into Lord Calthorpe's<sup>322</sup> grounds; this we thankfully accepted, & were much gratified by a walk which tho' a short one, was highly interesting; we passed from the road thro' a berceau (covered with canvas over head, & uncovered on the sides which are inclosed with climbers.) for a considerable distance; when upon leaving it we came upon a full view of the grounds & water in front of the house, which are laid out with great taste, & form a very delightful prospect. Mr. Acton's<sup>323</sup> house at Livermere, tho' at a very short distance from it, is not visible therefrom, but the parks adjoining, & indeed apparently intermixing, each has the advantages of the beauties of his neighbour's improvements. The House at Ampton seems a good one, tho' we had not time to view the interior of it; Mr. Alford's time, as well as our own, appearing to be precious; he had, I believe some duty relative to his profession to attend to, in which Mr. Philips also was to be assisting, & on which he seemed very intent, being as well as the Vicar of Mildenhall, one of those who call themselves Evangelicals; & we were anxious to make as much as possible of our time. The front of the house is modern, but the back part is of more ancient date & is probably part

<sup>320</sup> Henry Alford, R. from 1826, patr. Lord Calthorpe.

<sup>321</sup> Henry Philips, V. from 1818, patr. Sir H. W. Bunbury, Bt.

<sup>322</sup> George Gough, Lord Calthorpe, succ. 1807.

<sup>323</sup> Nathaniel Lee Acton, Esq., whose daughter and heiress married Sir Wm. Middleton.

of the House which was built by Jas. Calthorpe Esqr.<sup>324</sup> the first of that family who made this place his residence. Adjoining the church yard, on the South side is an Hospital for Boys, founded by a Mr. Calthorpe, & adjoining the churchyard on the North, is the Parsonage, a small, but very neat looking house; on the North of the Parsonage, is an Hospital for Women, founded by Mrs. Dorothy Calthorpe, & beyond that are the Gardens belonging to the Hall. These several buildings being kept in good order, form a kind of street, which has a very pleasing effect.

Passing thro' the Park, we left on our right Mr. Acton's house; the situation of this is not so good as that of Ampton, being much lower; it is still very pleasing, & has plenty of the two essentials for picturesque beauty, wood & water. Drove on to the church of Little Livermere, which stands within the Park: this appears to have been rebuilt within a few years; or at least has received such repairs, as nearly amount to that, it is a very neat & handsome building: there is little in the church; but we got access to the Vault, but even that is not well filled.<sup>325</sup>

From Little we came to Great Livermere Church; here we found much more employment, with a brass or two; but nothing very unusual. Mr. Colville,<sup>326</sup> the present Rector has been lately expending a good deal of money in repairing & improving the Parsonage.

Having got what we came for, here, we returned thro' the Parks, as we came, & again stopt at Timworth, but were as unsuccessful as we had been at our two former visits. The Clerk nor his wife had returned from work & gleaning, & we were under the necessity of leaving this church unvisited, with so much the more regret, as being the only one in this corner, which we had not made ourselves well acquainted with. Returned to our old quarters at Bury.

*Thurs. August 27th*

After breakfast this morning, we drove to Nowton, & called upon Mr.

<sup>324</sup> In 1692, James Calthorpe, Esq., founded and endowed the School, and the same year Dorothy Calthorpe left £100 to build and £1000 to endow the Almshouse for six poor women, 3 each from Norfolk and Suffolk.

<sup>325</sup> For many years now a roofless ruin, but formerly a delightful example of 18th century gothic.

<sup>326</sup> Nathaniel Colvile, junior, R. from 1824, patr. N. L. Acton, Esq.

Oakes,<sup>327</sup> but he was out. His son, however, Mr. Aston Oakes<sup>328</sup> received us, & accompanied us to the Church; which tho' small, has been fitted up by Mr. Oakes at very considerable expence; the windows having been filled, with painted glass,<sup>329</sup> both ancient & modern, the former brought from abroad; & the whole made very neat & nice; it is not the inside only, which has been attended to, the outside also is kept very neat; but I was rather surprised to find a flower bed lining each side of the path up to the Porch, & was sorry to see that ivy was encouraged to grow against the Steeple. The Font has been painted with the Arms of some former & the present proprietors of the estate, & these not being found sufficient, the rest of the faces have been ornamented with Arms claimed by Farmers occupying Lands in the parish.<sup>330</sup>

From Nowton, we went to Bradfield Combust, more commonly known by the name of Bradfield Manger,<sup>331</sup> the sign of a Public House adjoining the church yard. We arrived here just in time to escape a very heavy storm of rain, which continued for a good part of the time we were in the church. Having finished here, we returned to the Turnpike Gate at Sicklesmere, & putting up our Poney at an Inn<sup>332</sup> there, & having eaten some bread & cheese, we walked to Whelnetham Magna, about a mile. The church here stands on a considerable elevation, & we found in it more employment than I had expected.

From Whelnetham magna, we went to Whelnetham parva: these two churches stand on hills on each side of a valley, thro' which runs the road to London, & at the distance of about a mile from each other. The only thing observable here is the foundation<sup>333</sup> of a circular building a little to the East of the Chancel, but not in a line, so as ever to have formed part of that building. What it was intended for, I cannot form even a conjecture; what

<sup>327</sup> Orbell Ray Oakes, d. 1837, son of the first Bury banker of that family, was Davy's counterpart as Receiver General for the west of the county.

<sup>328</sup> Harvey Aston Adamson Oakes, later R. of Nowton, third son of O. R. Oakes. It is interesting that Darby's MS Church Notes came into public ownership through Harvey Aston Oakes (d. 1910, aged 71), grandson of the Revd. H. A. A. Oakes.

<sup>329</sup> Flemish roundels of 16th and 17th cent. in early 19th cent. settings by Yarington of Norwich.

<sup>330</sup> There are still flower beds, but no ivy. The font, displaced by one in marble, is, with another from Livermere parva, built into a small folly in the grounds of Nowton Court. The elements have erased all traces of painted arms.

<sup>331</sup> The only hostelry in the village.

<sup>332</sup> The Rushbrooke Arms.

remains is about a semi-circle, & no where rises 2 feet above the ground. — it is of flints intermixed irregularly with a large quantity of mortar.

Returned to Bury.

*Fri. August 28th*

It was determined last night, that after breakfast this morning, we should turn our faces homeward, & in order to complete our visitation of the Hundred of Cosford, we should take Thorpe Morieux & Brettenham in our way to Stowmarket. We were up, therefore early; but the morning was so wet, that it was in vain to think of moving: I therefore went again to St. Mary's Church, where I thought of passing profitably an hour or so, till the weather should clear up; this however, it did not; & at 4 o'clock, it being necessary to reach Stowmarket that night, I was obliged to desist, but not however till I had finished every thing in the church except the inscriptions in the floor of the South Isle. Having eaten some cold meat, & waited with great impatience till near 6 o'clock for better weather, but in vain, we set off in the rain; but were fortunate enough to have it cease, soon after we left Bury, & we had a not unpleasant drive to Stowmarket, where we arrived soon after 8, & took up our abode for the night.

*Sat. August 29th*

I took leave of Darby at 8 o'clock, & went by the Stowmarket Coach to Ipswich. Upon my arrival there, having the day before me, I walked to Westerfield Church, to take a copy of the Table of Benefactions there, which I had left undone when I was here last.

Returning to Ipswich, I went to St. Stephen's Church, where I copied all the Inscriptions in full, on the Table Monuments in the churchyard, & took full notes both within & without.

After this, having an hour to spare, I went into St. Matthew's Church yard, where I found some new monuments.

Returned home by the Shannon.

*Thurs. Octr. 22nd*

Being on a visit to Wm. Barlee at Ashbocking, I walked over to Coddendam, to get a plan of the church, & to see if I could pick up any thing new there. I

<sup>333</sup> It was Cautley's opinion that this was the foundation of an earlier church, Norman and apsidal, but the axis is quite different from that of the modern church, and such a survival after so long would be remarkable.

found but very little.

In my way back visited Hemingstone Ch. yard, where I found an additional stone.

*Sun. Octr. 25th*

Walked from Ash. to Helmingham, where I found some alterations had been made, particularly in the new pewing of the church. I found also some trifling additions to my former notes.

*Mon. Octr. 26th*

William Barlee drove me over to Stonham parva, the only church in the Hundred of Bosmere & Claydon, which I had not before visited. I found employment here for 2 or 3 hours, tho' the time I had afterwards to spare was not sufficient to enquire after the Registers, which I should probably have found no difficulty in obtaining free access to, as Mr. Paget, the present Curate, very civilly went with me to the church, & seemed ready to give me any information in his power. I could not satisfactorily make out the inscriptions<sup>334</sup> on the parapet of the Steeple, which must [be] for future inquiry. I obtained all I wanted in & about the church.

Mr. Wilcox<sup>335</sup> the Rector, who is one of the Evangelicals, having, as I was informed, lost his congregation here, at first, a very crowded one, either from want of novelty, or some other cause, has left the parish, & taken a chapel in London, where he is endeavouring to attract a full congregation, which will probably end as that at Stonham has done.

*Thurs. Octr. 27th*

Walked to Otley Church, where I picked up some few small matters before omitted, or placed there since my last visit. Fras. Philips, who occupies the Parsonage house & Glebe, informed me that Lord Nevill<sup>336</sup> the Rector was any thing but moderate in his demand for tythe, & not having been able to agree upon a composition with the Parishioners, had let the Tythes to Mr. Steward of Norwich for 5 years: who was not disposed to abate a little of his

<sup>334</sup> H. Munro Cautley gives details of these in the gazetteer to *Suffolk Churches*.

<sup>335</sup> John Wilcox, R. from 1816, patr. Miss C. Bevan, did not relinquish the living when he left for London; he merely installed curate Paget.

<sup>336</sup> Viscount Nevill, R. from 1818–1831; patr. Earl of Abergavenny.

rights. Great dissatisfaction therefore prevails in the parish; the dissenters are fast increasing, & the church is neglected, as well on the above account, as for the irregular conduct of the present Curate, Mr. Young. The Living is fairly worth, as I am informed, £700 a year.

We walked afterwards to Otley Hall, formerly the seat of the Gosnolds, but now occupied by a farmer, Mr. Last. A large part of the old house, & of the Moat, which surrounded it, is still remaining; & the Windows of the old hall, the squares I mean, are many of them, of the same age with the buildg. which is proved by the writing still legible upon them. Here seems to have been an older house, as another moated space, but smaller, appears at a small distance from the present house: which is probably of the reign of Elizh. & perhaps was erected by Robt. Gosnold,<sup>337</sup> who married a Naunton. The farmer lives in the old Hall, but a wretched cold room it must be in winter; for the whole side of it opposite is window, composed of quarries in lead, & not in the best repair. It belongs to Gen. Rebow.

*Sat. Octr. 31st*

Walked to Henley to obtain a ground plan of the church, & to see if any alteration had been made, since I was last there. I found nothing of importance.

*Tues. Novr. 3rd*

Walked to Swiland Church, but found nothing there additional of any importance.

*Sat. Novr. 14th*

On a visit at Col. Bence's:<sup>338</sup> visited the church of Thorington, which has been undergoing a thorough repair; some things have been done to improve, but others I could not approve of; particularly the taking down a monument<sup>339</sup> from the E. wall, S. side, & laying the inscription in the floor.

<sup>337</sup> Robert Gosnold, m. Ursula, dau. of William Naunton of Alderton and Elizabeth his wife, dau. of Sir Anthony Wingfield, K.G.

<sup>338</sup> Henry Bence Sparrow, from 1804 Bence, of Thorington Hall, (1788–1861). He was Colonel, East Suffolk Militia.

<sup>339</sup> Jane Lovelace d. 1630. Davy remarks that the inscription 'never intended . . . the rough use . . ., cannot last a very long time.' The inscription below the one preserved, and arms, were discarded at the move.

1829

*Thurs. Novr. 19th*

Walked from Thorington to Blythburgh Church, of which I wanted to make a ground plan, & to obtain whatever else I had before left undone. I found of the latter kind, only one marble in the Chancel, in memory of Mr. Norton's Son.<sup>340</sup>

*Thurs. Decr. 10th*

At Turner's, Kettleburgh. Walked to Easton Church, to finish what I had before left undone; but I found the church within, & the wind without so cold, that I could not stand it, & a warmer day must be selected for the completion of my labour here.

1830

*Sat. Feb. 27th*

Being on a Visit at Benacre, I went into the church to see the new monument lately erected there by Sir Thos. Gooch<sup>343</sup> in memory of his father & grandfather. The work is well executed, & the material excellent, but it is too much like a common milestone in appearance to please me: besides, the price (200 Gs.) appears unreasonable. Behnes<sup>342</sup> is the sculptor.

*Mon. April 5th*

Having understood that a new monument had lately been erected in Wangford Church to the memory of the late Lord Stradbroke,<sup>343</sup> I rode with Barlee this morning to see it. It is by the same sculptor who executed the monument above mentioned, at Benacre, & in a better taste, but the design, a

<sup>340</sup> Black floor slab to Charles Blois Norton, died 1827, 10 year old son of the P.C. from 1806, Revd. Eardley Norton, and named after his patron Sir Charles Blois, Bt.

<sup>341</sup> Thomas Sherlock Gooch succeeded his father as 2nd Bt. in 1826.

<sup>342</sup> William Behnes (1795–1864), see R. Gunnis, *Dictionary of British Sculptors 1660–1851*, 45–8. The monuments at Benacre and Wangford bear the dates 1826 and 1827 respectively.

<sup>343</sup> Sir John Rous, 6th Bt., of Henham Hall, was created Baron Rous of Dennington, in 1796, and Viscount Dunwich and Earl of Stradbroke, in 1821.

1830

female figure weeping over an urn, shews little originality; the price 300£. The inscription put upon it, is very ill drawn up, & hardly English. It gives merely dates, in a case where panegyric would have been deserving just, & indeed appears called for.

*Weds. April 28th*

I again attempted to complete my Notes at Easton, & this time was fortunate enough to succeed. I shall not probably have occasion again soon to visit this church; except in case of any death of note in the parish.

*Fri. May 7th*

Walked over to Wickham Market, to get some inscriptions which have been placed in the church yard since I was there last; as also to take the names on head stones: which compleats my Notes here up to the present time.

*Sun. May 16th*

I set off this evening by the Shannon to meet Darby at Halesworth, upon an excursion thro' the Wangford Hundred, & part of Blything. Slept at the Angel.<sup>344</sup>

*Mon. May 17th*

Before breakfast this morning we walked to Holton Church. Tho' many years have elapsed since I was here before, little alteration has taken place; I got however fuller notes, both inside & out.

As soon as we had breakfasted, we proceeded to Wisset, where I had a brass to rub off, & to compleat what I had left undone at my former visit, & to pick up what had since been put there. This was soon done, & from thence we went

To Rumburgh: Here I found an additional inscription or two, & some notes to make in the churchyard. I was lucky enough to find the modern Registers accessible, & I was able to compleat my Extracts from them. The Clerk told me he had never heard of a Terrier; but as he is very new in his office, he may be mistaken. I do not recollect ever having heard of Glebe land in the Parish. Mr. Harvey's<sup>345</sup> monument having got very dirty, I desired the

<sup>344</sup> Angel Inn, Commercial & Posting House, prop: Wm. Atmore.

<sup>345</sup> Edmund Harvey, Esq., of Yoxford, d. 1774, aged 48 and Elizabeth his wife, (D. E. Davy's father's sister), d. 1780, aged 65.

Clerk to request Mr. Chas. Reynolds, the Church Warden, to have it cleaned at my expense. I would have done the same for the family head stones in the Churchyard, but I was afraid of the expence.

From hence we proceeded to St. James, where I had not been before. I had feared that we should find the road from All Saints Green to this place, very bad, but to my great surprize, it turned out nearly as good as the road from Halesworth to Bungay: the country is certainly very flat & wet, but the communications are now as good here as in many of the lighter parts of the County. I found here more than I expected, among which were no less than 3 brasses. Completed the church notes, but could not get at the Registers or Terrier.

In going from St. James's, however, to the next church, All Saints, we found, for a short distance the kind of road I expected; a bye lane, which seems never to have been mended, but fortunately the weather had been for days dry, & there was not much difficulty in getting thro' it. I had been at All Saints, about 20 years since, & I did not find much additional matter. In my way from St. James to All Saints Church, I observed in several places by the road side, *Aquilegia vulgaris*,<sup>346</sup> undoubtedly wild.

From All Saints we again joined the Bungay road, & returning a short distance, & crossing All Sts. green, we came to St. Michael's. Tho' I had not been in this church before, I did not find enough to detain me but a short time. It may be observed here, once for all; that the churches hereabouts have most of them marks of considerable antiquity, some of them have round Steeples, & Norman doorways are pretty numerous: They seem to be all kept neat, & in a good state of repair; & in no district, where I have been, are they in better order than here. St. Michael's Church is supposed to stand upon very high ground; a great number of churches are said to be visible from the top of the steeple, but I did not mount it to ascertain the number.

St. Peter's Church came next, which was new to me. I had fancied we should find a good deal here, about the Tasburghs; but, except the remnants of an altar tomb in the church,<sup>347</sup> which may have been intended to commemorate one of that family, there is not a single memorial of any kind withinside: the chapel,<sup>348</sup> & perhaps the burial place of the ancient family of Tasburgh remains; but in a most dilapidated state, without floor or windows. This church also stands upon high ground, & the Steeple is rather elevated.

<sup>346</sup> Columbine. There are 7 stations in E. Anglia today.

<sup>347</sup> Two side panels of a monument, with carved evangelical symbols in quatrefoils on each, are now mounted mural on N. of choir.

<sup>348</sup> There is now no trace of this former N. chapel.

St. Peter's Hall,<sup>349</sup> the seat of the Tasburghs in former days, stands about half a mile from the church: it bears marks of antiquity, & considerable remains of the old house are still standing. I walked up to it, but as I found the then occupier was then supposed to be on his death bed, as it indeed has since proved, I did not go into the house, but contented myself with a slight inspection of the external part. It would, I think be desirable that a drawing, should be made of its present appearance; in order to its being engraved. Had I been aware of its state, I should have recommended it as a subject for his Antiquities to Henry Davy.

From St. Peter's we proceeded to Bungay, where we found good accommodations at the Tuns:<sup>350</sup> Having visited 7 churches this day, we felt well satisfied with our day's work.

*Tues. May 18th*

Before breakfast this morning, we examined the church of Bungay Trinity. A monument or two had been erected since I was last here, & I had left several things undone, which I now perfected. It is rather singular that there should be no Font<sup>351</sup> in this church; at least no fixed one, a mere stand of deal, being used for the purpose, which is stowed away among other lumber, when not wanted. It is the only instance of the kind which I have met with. I think I remember parts of the basin of the old Font lying in the churchyard, on the N. side of the church. We found near 2 hours work here.

After breakfast, we drove thro' Flixton to Homersfield. This church stands on a rising ground, overlooking the valley of the Waveney. I had not been here before: & I not only obtained full church notes, but had the opportunity of examining the Registers, which however I did not find to contain so much as I expected. The Terrier was not forthcoming. I have observed that a great jealousy exists, among the Clergy as well as the Churchwardens, about the Terriers; they seem to think, when a person asks to look at or copy them, that some advantage is intended to be taken thereby: & that it is in their power to keep them to themselves alone; but the Clergy, at least ought to know, such is not the case, & that they [are] matters of public record, & open to the inspection at the Bishop's office to all the world, at no great expence, such a line of conduct, shews not only great ignorance, but narrow mindedness. It is

<sup>349</sup> Used as a farmhouse at the time.

<sup>350</sup> Three Tuns Inn (commercial & posting house), Market Place, prop: Wm. Buckenham.

<sup>351</sup> The present font is a fluted pillar and bowl, perhaps a 19th cent. imitation of that at St. Mary's which is thought to have been ordered after the fire there of 1688.

not the same with respect to the Registers: improper advantages having repeatedly been taken of the facility afforded for their inspection, it is incumbent upon the guardians of them to endeavour to prevent such things in future, by great vigilance & care.

From Homersfield we went to St. Cross, or Sancroft, or St. George's Sth. Elmham. The country about here is less flat & wet than in the other parts of this Hundred; St. Cross stands on a rising ground by the side of a little stream, in a retired situation, but by no means an unpleasant one; this is one of the churches I had not before visited, & I found a good deal more than I expected. I left the bells unvisited, because the Clerk told me he hardly considered the ladders up the Steeple safe, & I was easily induced to indulge my laziness, by giving at once, his opinion on that subject, full credit for being correct.

St. Margaret Sth. Elmham was our next stage; here I had little to do but to pick up what I had left at my last visit, & to take any subsequent inscriptions.

From thence I had hoped to pay a visit to the Hall & the old Minster, but these I found were too much out of our way, & the time would not allow of much delay.

From St. Margts. we went to Flixton. The church here stands on the edge of a hill, with a sharp declivity to the South. Here I found a great deal to do, & some hours were consumed before all was finished. The church is not in a proper state for the place of worship of a man of so large an income as Mr. Adair,<sup>352</sup> & who has so little occasion for his money. The Chancel has long been dilapidated, but no large sum of money would be required to put the pews & seats in the church into a little better state than they at present appear in. But as he has only a life estate in the property, I suppose he thinks expence unnecessary.

From Flixton we returned to Head quarters at Bungay, which we did not reach till past 7 o'clock.

*Weds. May 19th*

The time before breakfast this morning was employed in Bungay St. Mary's Church & Churchyard. My former notes here were too slight, & I had to enlarge them considerably; some monuments also have been erected since I was last here. I worked till 9 o'clock, but without being able to finish.

After breakfast, we drove to Ringsfield, where I wanted to get the brass<sup>353</sup>

<sup>352</sup> Alexander Shafto Adair, Esq., of Flixton Hall, an Army agent, d. in 1834 aged 95.

<sup>353</sup> The brass to Nicholas Garneys, c. 1600, mural on the S. chancel wall is a discreet post-Reformation copy of that to an ancestor, John Garneys, 1524, at Kenton.

on the outside of the church, which I had before omitted to take. I found also a few other notes. The inside of this church is singularly ornamented; the ceiling is painted to represent the heavens, & in one part there is a painting of the celestial sphere; the whole was done at the expence of a former Rector<sup>354</sup> whose tomb still remains in the Chancel.

Darby having left me at Ringsfield, while he went to Beccles, to get the two brasses in the church there, I walked from the first mentioned to Barsham, where I found some additional memorials, & obtained a impression of the large brass figure there, which was my principal object. A clumsy monument for the late Rob. Rede<sup>355</sup> has been erected in the churchyard, taking up a great deal of room, & producing little good effect. The Steeple appears in danger of suffering from the trees about it, which were originally planted too near, & have been suffered to grow up to a great size; if no other mischief arises from their nearness to the building, the damp & wet produced by them must be considerable.

In our way back we stopt at Shipmeadow; this contained but little, & did not detain us long, & from thence we went to

Mettingham. I picked up a little here in addition to what I had before obtained. The Norman door way on the North side, is a handsome one, & deserves to be engraved; the church shews very considerable marks of antiquity.

Returned to Bungay, & before dinner strolled about the town; examined the old house<sup>356</sup> nearly opposite to St. Mary's Church, the Grammar School,<sup>357</sup> where I imbibed a little of the very small portion of learning now



<sup>354</sup> Below the E. window is the tablet to Nicholas Gosling, 'preacher of God's word', 1663. His painted ceiling has not survived, but the woodwork is covered with texts thought to be his work.

<sup>355</sup> Robert Rede, of Ashmans, died in 1822 aged 59. His vault to the south of the S. porch takes up a raised space 7 yards by 4, but the rails are gone.

<sup>356</sup> Nos. 14–18 St. Mary's St. (then Ollands Road) is a house of c. 1500 which survived the fire of 1688. In the Starkie-Bence collections there are watercolour drawings by W. C. Edwards (see *D.N.B.*) of the richly carved oak sills of the oriel windows when in better condition. (*See illustration above.*)

<sup>357</sup> The Grammar School stood where now in Earsham St. is the Post Office.

in my possession: this I was rather pleased to find very little altered; the chief change which I observed was at the moment in operation; for the masons were building a wall at the bottom of the play ground. Mr. Barkaway<sup>358</sup> is the present master, & has I believe a tolerably good school.

We looked into the Grave yard<sup>359</sup> of the Meeting House, which is rather thickly peopled; Brightley<sup>360</sup> the printer has a table monument for him, as have several other persons, among which the chief appear to be Prentices.<sup>361</sup> Mr. Shufflebotham,<sup>362</sup> the late Minister, (a good name for his situation) has a stone.

*Thurs. May 20th*

I finished before breakfast my notes at St. Mary's; & thought I had completed them; but I since find that I have never seen the bells, & forgot to copy the inscription upon Bardwell<sup>363</sup> the Painter. This I must copy from Darby the first opportunity. I did not hear till the following Saturday that the foundations of the new Parsonage House for the Parish of St. Mary, were laid on Monday, the day we arrived there, or we shd. probably have paid it a visit while we were upon the spot.

After breakfast we went to [Ilkeshall] St. John's, where I found considerable additional matter, since I was there before: the family of Day<sup>364</sup>

<sup>358</sup> The Revd. Frederick Barkaway deputised officially for the Revd. John Gilbert, Master, and V. of St. Andrew Ilkeshall, from 1824–1858. He later became curate at St. Mary's.

<sup>359</sup> The Congregational Church in Upper Olland St. now has all but its table tombs set to the side walls of the yard.

<sup>360</sup> What must be the top of Charles Brightley's monument is now embedded in the grass. Charles Brightley went into partnership with John Childs about 1812 and died in 1821, aged 59. Childs is well known for the stand he took against paying Church-rate.

<sup>361</sup> The Prentices were from c. 1800 active in the chapel life of the Stowmarket area.

<sup>362</sup> Robert Shufflebottom came to Bungay from his native Manchester in 1771 and was minister there for 46 years until his resignation in 1817. He died in 1829, aged 83.

<sup>363</sup> Thomas Bardwell, portraitist, copyist and author d. 1767, aged 63. His great-great-niece Sarah married Henry Davy. D. E. Davy did copy the inscription on his earlier visit. The pretty tablet, externally mural north of the west door, is now totally illegible.

<sup>364</sup> Three generations of Day (Richard, gent., senior in each) died between 1802 and 1821 and had memorials here.

having placed there within a few years several memorials for deceased members of their family. A singular circular ruin appears<sup>365</sup> on the S. side, in which stands a table monument for Mrs. Brettingham. Qu. whether this be ancient or modern?; if the former what can have been its use?; the dimensions must have been small: the foundations remaining appear but little above the surface of the ground.

Thence to [Ilketshall] St. Andrew, where some alterations have been made since my former visit. The country hereabouts, & particularly the common, shew that the parish undoubtedly is in High Suffolk: in winter the communications must be very bad; they are not good even now when the weather has been for some time dry & fine; there is, however, no great reason for complaint against the principal roads: which are at least hard & not very rough. The church here is a building of considerable antiquity.

Our next visit was to [Ilketshall] St. Lawrence, where I picked up a little, placed there since I was here before.

From St. Lawrence, after crossing the Turnpike road, Stone Street, we went to St. Margaret's Ilketshall; here I was rather surprized to find one of the neatest churches I had lately met with; I had not been here before, & I certainly expected little else but dirt, & neglect; but *tout au contraire*, the parish deserves great credit for the attention which they have paid to their place of public worship. The Steeple here is a round one, & the church is probably ancient, tho' no other particular marks of antiquity appear.

Returning to the Turnpike road, we continued upon it for about 2 miles, when turning off to the left, & travelling about 2 more miles, we came to Redisham, which has been much improved in appearance since I was here some years back: it is now neat & clean enough; the building is ancient; both the doors of the Nave are Norman; one of them has been engraved by H. Davy,<sup>366</sup> & the other, tho' by no means so rich, deserves the same honour. It took but a short time to get all the information to be found here.

In our way hither from Stone street, I was amused by the sign of a small public house by the road side; it was quite new to me, & therefore perhaps, more striking: it was The Wig. I forgot to enquire whether any *tail* hung to it.

Returned to the main road again, which we soon left, for the road to

<sup>365</sup> No trace of the circular footings of rough flints remains visible now around the brick and freestone table tomb to Susanna, wife of Richard Brettingham. She d. in 1799.

<sup>366</sup> *Architectural Antiquities*, pl. 20, dedicated to the Revd. Bence Bence of Beccles, P.C. of Redisham magna.

Spexhall. Here I had long been anxious to pay a second visit, in order to obtain impressions of the brasses,<sup>367</sup> which I had taken notes of at my former: We found however but one remaining in the church, as a fixture; the others, if still in being, are probably in the Church Chest, & neither Mr. Crutwell<sup>368</sup> the Rector, nor his Clerk were at home, so that we could get no information about them. Some stones still remain in the floor which had formerly brasses.

From Spexhall we went on to Halesworth, & took up our quarters again at the Angel. Having a hour to spare in the evening, we employed it in the church, where several monuments, &c. have been put up, & alterations made, since I was here last: an addition has been made to the church on the N. side, & the chapel has been lately pewed, by which 2 inscriptions have been hidden; but the others remain as before.

*Fri. May 21st*

Employed an hour before breakfast this morning in the church yard, to take the Inscriptions on the Table monts. &c. more at large; but did complete them.

After breakfast, we drove to Blyford church; as it is not many months since I was here last, I found very little to be got here.

From thence we proceeded to Wenhaston, where having put up the Poney at the Public House,<sup>369</sup> we walked to Thorington Church, which Darby had not before seen. For the reason stated above under Blythford, I had little here to do.

Upon our return, we visited Wenhaston Church, which I had also very recently seen: my companion however found a good deal to do there.<sup>370</sup>

Blythburgh Church was our next object; here Darby had full employment for 2 or 3 hours, & tho' my last visit here was only in November last, I found some employment in taking an account of the remains of painted glass in the windows, as also of some carvings upon the pews. In short, we found so much to do, that we did not get back to Halesworth till near half past seven in the evening.

<sup>367</sup> Farrer in 1903 found all the brasses loose at the Rectory, but now they are safely mounted mural. They form part of three separate memorials.

<sup>368</sup> Richard Crutwell, from 1822, patr. the Ld. Chancellor.

<sup>369</sup> The Compasses.

<sup>370</sup> The doom painting for which the church is famous was discovered as recently as 1892.

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*Sat. May 22*

This morning before breakfast I finished my notes in Halesworth Church & churchyard. After which we set our faces towards home.

We first visited Chediston Church, which tho' not new to me as it was to my companion, I wished to revisit, to get the brasses there, & to complete what I might before have left undone, as well as to obtain any thing new. Having done so,

We proceeded to Linstead parva, now in a much neater state than when I was here last. I got a little information from the stones in the churchyard, tho' nothing from the inside, where there is not a single memorial.

From Linstead p'va, over that Green & Cookley, we came to the church of the latter place, where I got the brass in the Nave. The road over the green is now in a very good state; [it was] formerly I remember, very bad. I found very little additional here.

We then proceeded to Walpole: as I had not been here for more than 20 years, I found several new Inscriptions; among which Mr. Philpot's<sup>371</sup> was most conspicuous. The churchyard also furnished some additional matter for notes.

Here finished our church hunting during the present excursion; & if we are to judge from the numbers visited during the week, our information must have been very greatly increased; & so it may have been with respect to my companion, who had been before only in 2 or 3 of them: as to myself, tho' I had before visited a large portion of them, I went home very well satisfied with the way in which I had spent the week, & with the additional information which I had obtained.

At Peasehall, Darby & I parted; he proceeded home direct; I, having found a boy to take my bag, walked to Yoxford, from whence I returned home in the evening by the Mail.

*Thurs. June 3rd*

Walked to Eyke Church, to get the Table Monumts. at full length, the names on the head Stones, & any thing that might be new.

*Weds. June 9th*

The Sea coast of Wilford Hundred having been hitherto unexplored both by

<sup>371</sup> From the white and dove-coloured marble mural monument on the north wall of the chancel we learn that William Philpot, Esq., of Huntingfield was patron of the living here held by his son-in-law, the Revd. Benjamin Philpot. When William died in 1814, the P.C. became patron as well.

Darby & myself, we this morning set off to clear that angle. After leaving Eyke we found the roads very miserable, tho' better than they would have been, if it had not been rather a wet time; as it was we were more than 2 hours making our way to Hollesley, being obliged to walk a good part of the way: here we breakfasted at the Fox, & afterwards, to spare our poney, walked to Boyton; here I found some additional tombs in the churchyard, & got a plan of the church; but left the Registers unexamined.

Before we set off for Boyton, we had visited the church of Hollesley; here I found little in addition to what I had before seen in 1818, except that the roof I found had been made new; some alarm seems to be felt as to the state of the Tower, & in consequence two of the bells have been sold: externally however there does not seem much to be feared, tho' symptoms of age, in some parts, do certainly appear; & the examples of some of the neighbouring churches are sufficient to justify them in using due precaution.

From Hollesley we pushed on for Alderton, & as we found it would be necessary to seek accommodations for one night in this neighbourhood, we reconnoitred the Swan<sup>372</sup> at Alderton, & finding we could be very decently taken care of here, we engaged beds, ordered a fire, & went on to Bawdsey, where we had at first intended to sleep, but were diverted from that plan by the information that we should be better off at Alderton. At Bawdsey we were not detained long tho' I found there more than I expected; the Steeple<sup>373</sup> here is in a very dangerous state, & it appears to me very unsafe for a congregation to assemble in the church, particularly if the wind be at all high, & from the W. I should not be surprized any day to hear that the Tower had fallen, & injured many: the only remedy would be taking down a considerable part of it.

Returned to Alderton, & while our hostess there was preparing us a mutton chop, we went into the church, & found time sufficient to collect all that was necessary, both within side, & without. The Steeple here is now reduced to about one half its original height; it has long been in a dilapidated state, & the last great fall was in 1821, when a portion came down one Sunday, while the congregation were in the church; but very fortunately no other mischief was done than killing a cow, who was feeding beneath. The walls are of great thickness, & very substantially built, & it appears singular that they should have so soon fallen. Perhaps the Sea air may have had some

<sup>372</sup> The Swan was the only Public House at Alderton.

<sup>373</sup> White's *Suffolk* 1844 tells us that 'its venerable tower, though it has lost much of its pristine altitude, is still a conspicuous seamark.' Miss G. W. Dyke tells me that the roof was set alight in 1841 when two boys, Edward Ransby and Owen Sparks, climbed up repairers' ladders to the thatch waving a lump of burning pitch on the end of a pole.

effect upon them; for Bawdsey Steeple is equally substantially built, & advancing rapidly to the same dilapidated state; the same observations in some measure apply to Hollesley.

Having found the Registers in the care of the Clerk, I sent him to Mr. Norton<sup>374</sup> the Curate, to request his permission, to examine them; this he very readily granted, & allowed me to take them with me to the Inn; & to keep them all night. I had therefore full time to examine them but they are unluckily very modern. I found however, a copy of the Terrier, & some notes upon accidents, &c. relative to the Parish: & the Evening was not unsatisfactorily past.

We had no reason to find fault with our accommodations, for we met with civility & cleanliness.

*Thurs. June 10th*

After breakfast this morning, we set off, for Ramsholt; the day was a very bad one; it had began to rain soon after 8, & it ceased only for a short time while we were at Ramsholt. The road between these two places is very sandy & heavy, & it was not more than charity to our poney, to walk, which we did for the greater part of the way. The weather was so bad that we passed Peyton Hall<sup>375</sup> without being able to muster resolution to stop & look at it. The situation of Ramsholt church is rather desolate, upon an exposed hill, overlooking the river; here we waited some time for the key of the church, which the Clerk hesitated to let us have; but while we were waiting, Mr. Pretyman<sup>376</sup> who occupies the farm near the church came to us, & sent a boy immediately for the key, & it was, I believe, to his civility alone, owing, that we did not leave Ramsholt, *re infecta*. It happened also very fortunately that it held up during the whole time we were taking our church notes; for as soon as we got under way again, it again began to rain, & so continued, more or less heavily the whole day. Mr. Pretyman had also the kindness to shew us a way towards Shottisham, which saved us at least a mile.

From Ramsholt we proceeded to Shottisham & as I wished to get a fresh impression of the brass here, & to see if any thing new was to be found, we gave the poney a feed of corn, & while I went into the church, Darby paid a

<sup>374</sup> In 1835 the curate, William Addington Norton, became R., patr. the Bp. of Norwich.

<sup>375</sup> A farmhouse a mile east of the village, anciently the seat of the Peytons, who c. 1250 took the name Ufford.

<sup>376</sup> John Pretyman farmed Ramsholt Lodge in 1844.

visit to his uncle Kett,<sup>377</sup> the Vicar, who came to me at the church, & kindly offered me some refreshment; the Parsonage House is a very neat little box, & pleasantly situated. I had intended to stop at Sutton Church in our way, but the day was so bad, that I was obliged to give it up, & hastened home as fast as we could, where I arrived about 2 or 3 o'clock.

*Weds. June 16th*

Walked to Petistre Church, where I took all the Table Monuments at full length before omitted, & the names on head Stones. I found a new table monument against the E. end.

*Thurs. June 17th*

Walked to Rendlesham, for the purposes above-mentioned; my former notes here were very loose & defective.

*Mon. June 21*

I walked over to Major Moor's at Bealings having made an appointment with Mr. Edwd. Moor, to call upon Mr. Searles Wood<sup>378</sup> at Hasketon, to see the collection of shells &c. made by him out of the crag pits in this part of Suffolk. It is surprising to what an extent this collection amounts: the number of distinct species is nearly 300, & of these about one third are considered as new, or not now to be found in a neat state: the specimens are many of them large, & considering the brittle state in which crag shells are generally found, in a very perfect state: many are also very minute, & here in general are more perfect. Other marine productions found in these deposits, are also arranged; & it was to my very great astonishment that I found the collection so large, so rich, & so well arranged & preserved. Mr. S. Wood has visited nearly all the Crag pitts in this part of the County; but those in Ramsholt & Sutton have furnished him with the greatest number of specimens & in the most perfect state. He still continues his collecting; & with

<sup>377</sup> William Kett, M.A. from 1789 held the livings of Darsham, Waldringfield and Shottisham. Only the last was a family living and came to Darby at his uncle's death in July, 1832, *aet.* 75.

<sup>378</sup> Searles Valentine Wood (1798–1880), until 1825 an officer in the H.E.I.C., was from then until 1835 a partner in a bank locally, after which he moved to London. He published his exhaustive Crag Mollusca studies and left his collection to the British Museum. See *D.N.B.* Mr. Edward Moor was the Major's only son, and at that time P.C. of Kesgrave.

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great earnestness; & it is much to be wished that he may, ere long, be induced to send to the press, some account of his researches. The subject is new, & the ground almost unoccupied hitherto, & from Mr. Wood's industry & knowledge of the subject, no one seems so capable of throwing due light upon so interesting & curious a subject. I ventured to urge him as far as I could, to undertake such a publication.

Fri. Septr. 3rd

Being at Wrentham,<sup>379</sup> I went to Southwold, & from thence walked with Beatty to Walberswick & while he was taking a sketch of the church, I collected what I could of former leavings in the ch. yard. I did not go into the church, which I have since regretted.

Tues. Decr. 7

Badely<sup>380</sup> drove me over to Peasenhall, where I found a few gleanings, Ichnography, & the Table Monts. & head stones.

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Fri. March 18th

Being on a visit at Kettleburgh I walked over to Framlingham, from whence I accompanied Darby, upon a morning's excursion. We stopped first at Sweffling, where I found little in addition to what I had before obtained; then we went to Rendham, which furnished a few notes, but not much: afterwards we visited Carlton Church, where I wished to obtain better impressions of the two brasses, than I had before taken: Darby's object here was the same as mine; & I also obtained a few additional notes in the church & churchyard. I meant to have paid a visit to Cransford Church, where I had not been for many years, but time will not permit.

Sat. March 19

Still at Kettleburgh. Walked to Brandeston Church, to get better impressions

<sup>379</sup> This must have been Davy's last visit to the Rectory here as his sister Lucy's husband died on July 15th, 1830, and soon afterwards she moved to Yoxford, perhaps to live at first with her stepson, George Barlee, attorney, at Sans Souci.

<sup>380</sup> Revd. Samuel Badeley, V. of Ubbeston since 1800, of the Red House, Yoxford took him from there on the 6 mile return trip.

of the brasses there. I got a few additional notes, but have still found, since my return, that one inscription on brass against the S. wall of the chancel, escaped copying at all my former visits, so that I must pay the church another.

*Weds. April 6th*

Walked from Kettleburgh to Cransford, & having thoroughly examined the church externally, & the church yard, (the key being kept nearly a mile from the church, I did not go after it, & so saw not the inside), I went on to Bruisyard, where I found some pickings, leavings of, & additions to, my former notes.

My walk this day must have been upwds. of 12 miles.

*Sat. April 9th*

Being still at Turner's, I took advantage of George's going to Dennington, to get him to drive me & set me down at Rook's bridge,<sup>381</sup> from whence I walked to Badingham Church. I wanted an impression of the brass there, which I had neglected to take at my former visit. Having got this, & such other notes as I wanted, I walked across the fields to Dennington, where I took a few notes in the churchyard, but not so much as I should have done; so that another visit there will be necessary. Here I found Geo. Turner, & returned with him to Kettleburgh.

*Weds. April 27*

Walked to Dallingho, to get a plan of the church, & any thing else that might be new: but found little or nothing. Mr. Walford,<sup>382</sup> has however, built a new School house on the N. side of the church, to serve also as a Vestry, & has made great alterations & improvements in the Parsonage.

*Thurs. April 28th*

Walked to Woodbridge Church, to correct some errors before made, & to get some inscriptions on monuments lately erected, both in the church & churchyard. I endeavoured to make out the inscription on a stone in the N. side of

<sup>381</sup> At TM 303674.

<sup>382</sup> Ellis Walford was patron and incumbent from 1827.

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the Steeple, but could not; tho' I fancied I could make out the word Albrede.<sup>383</sup> The passages in the church being all covered with matting, I could not get at some of the inscriptions, where I am told I have committed blunders; so that I must have another journey thither, & I must time it so as to be there when the mats are taken up for the purpose of cleaning the church.

*Mon. May 2nd*

[At Campsea Ash.] Two new Monuments having been lately erected in this church, to the two Mr. Sheppards,<sup>384</sup> I walked over this morning to take copies of them. At the same time I took the Ichnography, Table Monuments, &c. before omitted. There is scarcely a neater church in Suffolk than this.

*Weds. May 4th*

I this morning revisited Boulge church, to take a ground plan of it, & to see if there was any thing new. As I expected, I found very little.

In my way back, I passed thro' Bredfield Church yard, & took the table monuments at length. As at Boulge, I found very little new.

*Fri. May 27<sup>385</sup>*

Walked over to Sutton to get a better impression of the brass in the church, & to see if there was any thing new. Visited the ruins of the Vicarage House, burnt down a short time since. The loss was nearly total, little of the property having been saved, & nothing remaining but a chimney, & a few remnants of the walls, 3 or 4 feet high: the fire broke out however in the day time, & on a Sunday, when the neighbouring people were not at work.

<sup>383</sup> In the will of John Albrede (dated 24 April 1448 and proved 27 July 1450) he left 20 marks 'to the fabric and foundation of a tower to be newly made in the churchyard of Woodbridge Church'. Like his father or grandfather John, who died in 1400 and whose bracket brass indent survives, he was probably a twill weaver. Members of the family by their benefactions also provided and maintained the rood screen.

<sup>384</sup> John Sheppard, Esq., d. 1824, aged 56, and Lt. Frederic Sheppard, killed at Badajoz, 1812, aged 22, 5th son of the last.

<sup>385</sup> The last excursion in the Out-county Journal was with George Capper to Portsmouth Dockyard and H.M.S. *St. Vincent*, 13–20 May.

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*Fri. June 3rd*

Having a wish to revisit some of the churches in Plomesgate Hundred, which I had not seen for 25 years: I got upon the Mail Coach at 6 o'clock this morning, & proceeded to within less than a mile of Saxmundham, where I got down, & walked to Sternfield Church, but found some difficulty in procuring an entrance, having to walk near a mile & half to get the key. Here I found little additional withinside, but something in the churchyard. Having obtained all there was, I proceeded to Benhall Church, about a mile & half; here I was detained more than 2 hours, by rubbing off the two brasses & getting at greater length the inscriptions in the churchyard, of which my former notes were very slight. Having taken these, with a ground plan of the church, I walked to

Farnham Church, where I found great improvements since my last visit; indeed it may be observed in general that the Village churches are now in a much better state of repair, & are kept much neater than they were formerly, owing probably to the greater attention paid to them by the Archdeacons. I found nothing new in the church, but many lately erected Monuments in the Churchyard.

From Farnham, a very short walk brought me to Stratford, & here I found very little additional to detain me; & I walked on, with the intention of visiting Little Glemham Church in my way home; but having been on foot from 7 o'clock till ½ past 2, I was very glad, when I got opposite the road leading down to the church, to be overtaken by Jo. Badeley junr.<sup>386</sup> in his gig, & thankfully accepted his offer of a cast home, where I arrived about half past 3: leaving the 2 Glemhams for a future day's excursion.

*Thurs. June 16th*

Having heard that a monument had lately been erected in Wickham Market Church for the late Mr. Eyre,<sup>387</sup> I walked over to obtain a copy of the inscription. Tho' it is not much more than a twelve month since I was there last, I found no less than 4 new monts. in the church & churchyard.

<sup>386</sup> Joseph Charles Badeley was son of Joseph Badeley (1772–1837), V. of Blewbury until he became R. of Halesworth *cum* Chediston 1831–1835. Joseph junior was C. to his father before becoming R. of Shipmeadow in 1823. Samuel Badeley was his uncle.

<sup>387</sup> William Eyre, M.A., for six years curate here, d. 19 Oct. 1830, aged 34.

*Weds. June 22nd*

Being at Wherstead, I walked to the church, to get the Plan of it, & to see if there was any thing new, since I was there last: I forgot after all to take the dimensions.

*Thurs. June 23rd*

Walked to Freston Church, but found nothing new; did not go in, but took a plan, & a few other notes.

*Sat. June 25th*

Having an hour to spare at Ipswich this morning, I went to St. Nicholas's Church yard, where I found a few new monuments.

*Thurs. July 14th*

I went by the Mail this morning to Little Glemham, having agreed to meet Darby there to proceed with him on to Iken & Snape. Arriving at Glemham before 7 o'clock, I had a good opportunity of visiting the church, which I had not seen for more than 20 years: besides I was very anxious to get impressions of the 3 brasses, in the Dormitory,<sup>388</sup> upon the Glemhams. These I obtained, together with such other notes as I found, beyond my former ones. I was more than 2 hours in doing all this, & had then to wait half an hour for my companion, who at last arrived, when we proceeded on thro' Blaxhall, where we stopped opposite to the Ship Public house<sup>389</sup> there to look at a coat of arms carved on Oak, & fixed to the front of a cottage: these were formerly in Sudborn Hall; it was bought by the present owner abt. 30 years ago at an auction in the parish; & contains the arms & quarterings of Sr. Michael Stanhope Knt. a former owner of the Hall. We found the road from hence to Iken very heavy & bad, & were obliged to walk a good part of the way, & when we got to Iken, had some distance to go to obtain the key of the church, for which we were ill repaid, for the church contains not a single inscription, or monumental memorial of any kind: we found a few inscriptions in the churchyard: the building stands in a singular situation; on an elevated bank by the side of the river, far away from any house, & in the most inconvenient position for the population, which fortunately is but small.

<sup>388</sup> The North transept.

<sup>389</sup> The Ship (Sheep?) Inn is celebrated in Ginette Dunn's recent book *The Fellowship of Song*. The arms in oak are now nowhere to be seen.

From hence returning by the way we came for about a mile & half, we took the road to Snape bridge, from whence, having there baited the poney, & ourselves, we proceeded to Snape Church, which contains very little worth notice, except a small brass of 5 children,<sup>390</sup> the only portion of ornament left upon a stone, which had formerly been adorned with 2 figures, an inscription, & coat of arms, all unusually small. We found some tombs in the churchyard.

I forgot to mention that at Iken I found the key of the iron chest, & was enabled to look over the Registers, whence however I found almost nothing worth extracting, & the Terrier, of which I took a copy.

As the road we had come was so bad, we thought it most advisable to return by the Turnpike, tho' that was furthest by a mile or two; I persuaded Darby, in order that my walk home might be shortened, to extend his drive by returning home by Marlesford, where he set me down; & I went into the churchyard, where I copied the Inscrn. on Mr. Bates's tomb,<sup>391</sup> lately put down, &c. & from thence walked back to Ufford, which I reached a little after 6, in the evening.

*Weds. July 20th*

Having determined upon a solitary excursion into High Suffolk, I got upon the Shannon this morning, & went to Ipswich. My plan was to take the Star in its way towards Norwich; but as that coach was not to leave Ipswich till 3 o'clock in the afternoon, I employed the intermediate time in the churchyard of St. Clement. From half past 9, till ½ past 2, I was here engaged in copying the whole of the inscriptions on the Altar tombs & flat stones; but tho' I lost no time, I found them so numerous, that when the latter period arrived, I had not near finished my job, which I was of course obliged to defer till my return.

At 3 o'clock I mounted the Star, & at about 5, was set down at the distance of about a mile from Mendlesham, to which place I walked, having taken as few things with me as were actually necessary, my future progress being intended to be pedestrian, & I knew I should be obliged to carry all my goods with me. By half past 5, I was at Mendlesham, where having secured accommodations for the night, I proceeded to the church, after working as long as the light would allow, I found my work little more than half done & I

<sup>390</sup> Davy's rubbing of the group of 5 daughters c. 1480 (BL Add. MS 32,484, f. 119) is now the only surviving record of this brass.

<sup>391</sup> On the N. side of the chancel a low tomb of Portland stone, pallisaded, for George Bates, d. 3 April 1831, aged 81.

returned to the Inn, where I found myself very comfortably lodged.<sup>392</sup>

*Thurs. July 21*

This morning I resumed my work, a little before 8, & found full employment, allowing a reasonable time for breakfast, till near 12 o'clock, by which hour I had finished all my notes at the church, except a visit to the bells, which I was obliged to give up, when I was half way up the Steeple, as I found the exertion very annoying, from its great height, & I did not like to fatigue myself too much, at the beginning of my journey. For such an out of the way place, I found Mendlesham a much more respectable place than I had expected; the season, was no doubt, much in its favour, but it appeared neat & clean; & the church, like a large portion of the churches in the Woodlands of Suffolk, is a very large & handsome building: the Steeple being particularly striking. My wonder was here, as in many other parts of the heavy inland parishes of Suffolk, excited, how such buildings could have been erected, at a distance from the necessary materials, & with so many difficulties in the communications; when the church was erected, money must have been very plentiful, & labour cheap; & religious enthusiasm at a high pitch. The church is kept in excellent repair, for which purpose, as appears by a brass plate in it, considerable funds have been appropriated by the charity of individuals.

Soon after 12 o'clock, I left Mendlesham for Cotton, & I had not walked more than a quarter of a mile before it began to rain very fast; it had been showery all the morning; & the wind blowing very hard, I had a very uncomfortable walk; by the time, however, I got to Cotton, a distance of only 2 miles, it became fine, & the rest of the day was favourable enough. Cotton Church employed me about 2 hours. The Parsonage, adjoins the church yard, on the W. side, & has a neat appearance: & the church is a handsome building.<sup>393</sup>

From Cotton I walked to Bacton, about a mile; here I found some little difficulty in getting the key, the Clerk living at some distance from the

<sup>392</sup> Pigot 1830: 'There is one good Inn, the Royal Oak.' Prop: Charles Gerrard.

<sup>393</sup> We can understand why Davy did not call on Peter Eade, patron and R. from 1811, a schoolfellow of Davy's at Bungay, when we read his comments to Jermyn: 'He was always a queer fellow. I remember him at school when he was no wiser than myself & other boys. You may as well think of getting blood out of a post, as information out of him. Peter however had one quality, he excelled all the other boys at marbles. He married his servant.'

church. While a person was going for it, I went to the Public House<sup>394</sup> for some refreshment; & in going towards it from the Church, I passed a large house<sup>395</sup> on my right hand, with a large Coat of arms carved on Stone, in the pediment; this, upon enquiry, I found to have been the seat of the Prey-man's, having been built by one of that family, whose arms, with their quarterings, appear on the front. Bacton Church is upon the same plan as that of Cotton, & they were probably built about the same time. The same observation which I have made as to Mendlesham Church, holds good, as to these two, tho' as to size, they are not to be compared. I find by some Church Notes of T. Martin's, that there is an Inscription on the S. side of Bacton Church, which I overlooked.<sup>396</sup> I left the bells of the 2 last churches unvisited, for the same reason as I did those at Mendlesham; tho' I am afraid, laziness had a considerable share in the omission.

From Bacton, I walked on to Wyverstone, about another mile. Here I found a different sort of church from the three former; one much smaller, & perhaps, of an earlier date. I did not find much to detain me here; but, I had met with so much at the two former ones, that, tho' I had hoped I should have been able to take Westhorp on my way onward, I found there would not be sufficient time for me to finish that, tho' nearly on my proposed road, & I therefore pushed on for Finningham, where I arrived about half past 7, & found very comfortable accommodations for the night at the White Horse. The country thro' which I passed this day, is very flat, much inclosed; tho' with no great quantity of timber: the soil appeared good, & the crops very promising. On the road side about half way between Wyverstone & Finningham, I past the foundation of one of the stone crosses marking the boundaries of the two parishes of Wyverstone & Westhorpe; it is now only a rude mass of flints & mortar; but its intention cannot, I think, be mistaken.<sup>397</sup> The roads are very good, all the way from Mendlesham; for, on account of the wet, I thought it best to stick to them. Distance from Wyverstone to Finningham, about 2 miles.

<sup>394</sup> The Bull Inn.

<sup>395</sup> Manor House Farm, built 1715–20.

<sup>396</sup> On the N. side the inscription invites prayers for Robert and Agnes Gooch, and on the S. for James and Margaret Hobart and their parents.

<sup>397</sup> This boundary post is marked at TM 04876835 on the O.S. map, but all trace of the cross is gone.

*Fri. July 22nd*

Before breakfast this morning I went into the churchyard at Finningham. The church here appears in a wood, being surrounded on all sides by lofty elms, which tho' furnishing shade, exclude light & air. After breakfast, I commenced operations in the interior, which detained me till 12, a brass plate on the wall, of considerable dimensions,<sup>398</sup> being a tedious operation to rub off. The present Rector<sup>399</sup> of Finningham, I found, to be a son of Mr. Edward Frere, the next brother, & heir presumptive to the estates belonging to the family, in this & adjoining parishes, which are considerable.

Having finished this church, I retraced my steps of yesterday, to Westhorpe, where I found a good deal to do. This is a large building upon the plan of Cotton & Bacton, & probably nearly coeval with them. Several of the family of Barrow<sup>400</sup> are here interred, a vault belonging to them being at the end of the N. Isle; the Clerk's son told me he had seen it opened, but there were not more than one or two coffins remaining, the others having all fallen to decay. The Hall, which was their residence, has long been demolished,<sup>401</sup> & a good looking farm house now occupies the site. The property is now in the family of Reilly, having come to them by the marriage of an heiress of the Shelton's, who inherited it from the Barrows. Westhorpe is not much more than a mile from Finningham.

Returning to the White Horse, settling my account, & taking some refreshment, I proceeded to Wickham Skeith, which I wished to revisit, to get the Ichnography, & to see if any thing new since my last visit in 1819, was to be picked up. The country is the same as in my walk of yesterday; very flat, rich & inclosed; tho' there is a little variety about the church of Wickham, which stands on the side of a slight ascent. Here I found but little new. The distance from Finningham about 3 miles.

From Wickham, I crossed the fields, about a mile, to Thwaite Church, which I revisited for the same reason I had Wickham. Here was little or nothing to reward my pains; no alteration having taken place since I was here in 1819. From the church I adjourned to the Buck's Head, where I had

<sup>398</sup> It was only 15 by 4 inches, but of local workmanship, 1620.

<sup>399</sup> E. Frere, R. since 1829, patr. John Hookham Frere Esq., of Malta.

<sup>400</sup> The best monument, to Maurice Barrow, died 1666, with semi-reclining white marble figure.

<sup>401</sup> Tom Martin's description of the demolition is quoted in John Wodderspoon's *Historic Sites in Suffolk* (1841), 61. The original MS is in Bodley MS Top. Suff. b.2, f. 318.

intended to take up my quarters for the night, & to return to Ipswich by the Star Coach in the morning; but I had not been in house more than half an hour, when a return Post Chaise to Ipswich stopt at the door; the opportunity was not to be lost, & having soon made a bargain with the driver, I got in, & about a quarter past 10, I found myself comfortably settled at the Suffolk Hotel,<sup>402</sup> where I slept, & found the accommodations excellent.

*Sat. July 23rd*

After breakfast this morning, having the whole day, till 4 o'clock, the time at which the Shannon leaves Ipswich, at my disposal, I proceeded to St. Clement's Churchyard, to compleat the notes which I had begun, on the 20th, on my way outwards. Here I spent 3 hours more, & succeeded in finishing everything both within & without the church, up to the present time. The churchyard is kept in very bad state; numerous footpaths cross it, boys are constantly playing, & it is made the drying ground for all the neighbouring inhabitants; the consequence is that the tombs are broken down, the inscriptions defaced, & in a very few years many of them must become illegible, & many entirely removed. Many of the stones formerly covering table Monuments, are now laid on the ground; & the ch. yard is so inadequate to the number of Inhabitants, that the Clerk assured me few bodies remained in the ground more than 7 or 8 years, before they were disturbed to make room for others; fortunately the soil is such, that decomposition is very quick; an instance I saw myself, while I was in the church yard; the Clerk was digging a grave, from which he turned up a body, certainly far advanced towards dust again, but still in such a state, as to render the disturbing of it, in my eyes, a matter of great indecency: & the mode in which the gravedigger foisted the bones, & the indifference with which he seemed to throw them out, with parts of the coffin not entirely consumed, added no little to my sense of the indelicacy of the act.

Returned by the Shannon to Ufford.

*Fri. August 12th*

Having arranged with Darby to meet him at Bury on the 15th to proceed from thence upon a fortnight's excursion, thro' the Hundreds of Babergh &

<sup>402</sup> The Suffolk Hotel and Posting House in Westgate Street was the 'Yellow' house, and kept by Thomas Lappage.

1831

Risbridge, & having received several pressing invitations from Dr. Jermyn<sup>403</sup> to pay him a visit at Swaffham Priors, of which he has the Curacy, I thought the present a good opportunity of seeing the Doctor, & Cambridge at the same time, without travelling much out of my way: I therefore, this morning, set off for Ipswich, & taking the Cambridge Coach from thence, I arrived at Bottisham Swan, about 5 o'clock, where the Dr. met me & carried me to Swaffham, about 2½ miles dist.

*Sat. Augt. 13*

The Dr. drove me to Cambridge; & as I had not been there since the year 1800, I scarcely knew the place again, such alterations having been made within the last 30 years. Spent nearly the whole day in examining not only the improvements but the old & well remembered parts of *Alma Mater*.

*Sun. August 14th*

In the Church of Swaffham Priors I found some materials for Suffolk History. Memorials of the families of Drury, Rant, & Tuthill, still remain, & I therefore searched the Registers, & found not a little to my purpose. Jermyn having made large collections for Suffolk, I examined them, & brought away considerable accessions to my antiquarian stores.

*Mon. August 15th*

As Jermyn is much at Cambridge, & is well known to the Heads of Houses, & other dons there, & has thereby a great facility of access to books & MSS. lodged there, he engaged me to promise him another visit in the Spring, in order to examine what there may [be] in the University likely to forward the object of our researches. The MSS. in C.C. Library of which I saw the outsides on Saturday last, will, I believe, be accessible, & I shall want no stimulus to urge me to another journey thitherward.

I returned in the evening to Bury, where I met Darby according to engagement.

<sup>403</sup> George Bitton Jermyn, LL.D. (1789–1857), was son of Peter Jermyn, solicitor, of Halesworth and was at school at Ipswich and Norwich Grammar Schools before going up to Caius, later moving to Trinity Hall. He was never beneficed, holding curacies at Hawkedon until 1817 and Swaffham Prior after 1820. His first wife Catherine (d. 1828) was his partner in making the heraldic and genealogical Collections for the County now in SRO Bury.

*Tues. August 16th*

We this morning commenced our excursion; & the place we proceeded to was Stanningfield; in our way thither we passed the church of Gt. Whelnetham, & tho' it rained hard at the time, we took a peep into the churchyard, to ascertain if any thing new had been placed there since our former visit. We found little, & were not detained long: from Whelnetham to Stanningfield, level land, but high & wet, not at all interesting.

Having finished at Stanningfield, where we did not find a great deal, we proceeded to Lawshall, vulgarly called Lawzell, Layzell, & Lazell. Here we found no great deal, but were detained by the rain. This parish appears flat also, & wet, but rich. Near the church is a large poor house.

From Lawshall we went to Shimpling Church which stands in a small valley, by the side of a little brook. Here we found a good deal to do; & were detained between 2 & 3 hours.

Upon enquiry here we found that Alpheton Church, which was our next object, was 3 miles off by the road, but not a mile & half by the fields; we therefore determined to walk thither, & having put up the poney at the stable belonging to the Hall at Shimpling, which stands a little to the West of the church, we proceeded up the little brook, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile, when turning to our left, we soon came to Alpheton Church, situated in a very retired spot, by the side of a smaller brook, which falls into that which passes Shimpling. Alpheton, called Aughton & Alfayton, is a very small place, & did not furnish us with much; close by it stands the Hall, a modern farm house.

Returning to Shimpling, we set off for Hartest, where we hoped to find a public house, for sleeping: distance about 2 miles: after riding for near that space, we all at once came to the top of a steep hill, very steep for so flat a county as Suffolk; at the bottom of which appeared the village of Hartest; upon descending the hill, we came to the Public house we were in search of, & to our agreeable surprize, found an Inn, the Crown, where we met with most comfortable accommodations.

*Weds. Augt. 17*

We found our quarters here so agreeable, that we determined to make them our resting place for 2 or 3 nights, as long indeed as we could find work enough in the neighbourhood to employ us.

Before breakfast, we visited the church, which does not contain much that is interesting. The Village of Hartest is situated in a deep hollow, & the houses are collected round a small common: our landlord calling his Inn a commercial one, we supposed that some business was going on here, but nothing of that kind was very apparent: the houses are neat, & if the

inhabitants be not rich, they seem to have sufficient to make themselves comfortable.

After breakfast, we drove to Brockley Church, about 2 miles, rather an out of the way place: adjoining the church yard, to the W. stands the Hall, a modern Farm house, inclosed in a moat; the parish is very wet & cold I dare say in winter; & wants wood to be agreeable.

From Brockley to Hawkedon not very good road for the first half of the way, about 2 miles: Hawkedon, invariably called upon the spot, Horden, stands, the church, I mean, on a small green. Having been here some years since, I did not find a great deal new, tho' some additional monuments have since been erected: my companion, however, to whom the place was new, found full employment for a couple of hours.

From hence we proposed to visit Stansfield, about a mile & half; but as both of us wished to pay a visit to Thurston Hall, an estate now belonging to Mr. Oakes of Nowton,<sup>327</sup> & situated in Hawkedon, we took that in our way, it not being more than a mile about. We found it a large old house built with stud work, filled up with brick nogging; the date 1607 appears upon the chimney piece in one of the bed rooms, the probable date of the present building: the land about here is much tumbled about, & some of the hills tolerably steep: Thurston Hall, stands near the top of one of these rises, & the site is agreeable enough, tho' the prospect from it is not extensive.

Stansfield, about a mile from Thurston Hall, stands upon a hill, & the church may be seen at a considerable distance around. Here also I had been before, & little new has since that time been added. We were detained here, however, for some time by a very heavy storm of thunder, lightning & rain; & tho' we took advantage of an intermission to return towards Hawkedon, yet before we could reach that place, the storm increased again so much, as to drive us for shelter into the little inn<sup>404</sup> in that village, where we were detained near another hour.

About ½ past 4, the weather was so far improved, that we thought we might venture forward: we therefore set out again towards Somerton. Part of the road to the church there, being thro' fields, we found very moderate, & the greater part of the way from the bottom of Hawkedon green, was rising ground, so that our progress was slow, & it still continued to rain occasionally, & just as we got to the top of the hill on which Somerton church stands, the rain came down in torrents; but having no choice, we procured the key from Dr. Maddy,<sup>405</sup> the Rector, who resides close by the church, & finding little

<sup>404</sup> The Queen's Head.

<sup>405</sup> John Maddy, D.D., R. from 1799, patr. the Dowager Marchioness of Downshire. From 1819, he also held the Crown livings of Hartest with Boxted and Stansfield, and was Chaplain in Ordinary to H.M.

within (nothing new to me) we were not long in bidding adieu to so dreary a place; & after a mile of bad road, we were very glad to find ourselves comfortably lodged again in Hartest Crown.

*Thurs. August 18th*

After an early breakfast this morning, we walked to Boxted Church, very pleasantly situated on rising ground, which slopes down to the East, into a valley, in which stands Boxted Hall, apparently a comfortable gentleman's residence; but its low situation may possibly be considered as an objection, by many: the ground about it being kept neat, its appearance is highly respectable. I did not go down to it, but the whole building appears modern. Boxted Church is rich in monumental memorials of the Poley family, who have long been residents in the Hall, & owners of the property: two of them must have been erected at a great expence, being statues in marble of the persons thereby commemorated: figures like these, if executed by modern artists, would each cost large sums. We had not done here till 12 o'clock, when we returned to Hartest.

Having visited all the churches in this immediate neighbourhood, we took our leave, & not without regret, of myne Host at Hartest Crown; & taking the road for part of the way which we had passed this morning in our way to Boxted Church, we passed on the opposite side of the Hall there, & keeping on the left side of the little stream which had accompanied us from Hartest, for about 2 miles & a half, we turned up the hill on our left to Stansted Church: this stands on high ground, & in a very deep country, tho' very far from a flat one: the Hall, a very ordinary modern farm house stands close by the church yard. We found very little here.

Returning down the hill by the road we had come, & crossing the stream before mentioned we very soon reached Glemsford, which stands on the opposite hill to Stanstead, & equally elevated. This is a large, & populous, but very straggling village, & we had  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile to go beyond the church to the Inn<sup>406</sup> to put up the poney, while we examined the church; which is a handsome structure, & clearly shews that this place has formerly been of much more importance than it is at present; 2 chapels having been added to the church, by way of transepts, by persons, probably merchants, who have recorded their benefactions, by inscriptions<sup>407</sup> on the outside of their

<sup>406</sup> There were 5 inns at Glemsford.

<sup>407</sup> The chancel has an inscription to John and Joan Golding, and the N. aisle to John Mundys and Margaret his wife and their son John and his wives Margery and Elizabeth.

respective buildings: we were a considerable time in decyphering these memorials, & found a good deal to do withinside the church. This place seems to be very much improving; the houses are repairing & beautifying, & trade appears brisk: the silk manufactory recently established here is probably the cause of these exertions, & we were told, that the establishment promised to answer very fairly. From Glemsford we proceeded to Cavendish, & in our way we passed thro' a long straggling street, part of the former parish, where we observed many very old houses, the remnants of former successful mercantile speculations, but now in a dilapidated state; the Silk mill stands in the Northern or opposite side of the parish. At Cavendish, which we soon reached, after descending from the higher ground of Glemsford, we had expected to find good accommodations for the night; we were however in this respect, a good deal disappointed; The George, the best Inn, as we were informed it was, we found little better than an ale house, & it was not improved by its situation, which immediately joined a butcher's slaughter house: we however found things neat & clean enough, & had we not been spoiled at Hartest, we might perhaps, barring the shambles, have been better satisfied than we were. It was seven o'clock before we reached Cavendish: & we had only light enough left to look into the churchyard.

*Fri. August 19*

Before breakfast this morning we commenced our operations in the church: my part was easy, as I had been here before, tho' considerable alterations have been made since that time. At 9 o'clock, we left the church, taking the key with us, to go to the Inn to breakfast; & while we were employed in that important concern, the clerk sent in for the key of the church, informing us at the same time that he did so by direction of Mr. Castley,<sup>408</sup> the Rector, who seemed to take offence at not having been consulted previous to our ingress: as soon as I had breakfasted, I called at the Parsonage, & its very *original* Inhabitant, & soon explained matters so as to satisfy him perfectly, & to bring away the key in triumph. Mr. Castley, whose name I well remembered as a Fellow of Jesus, while I was resident in Cambridge, appears a man of singular manners; but he was very civil to us, as soon as our object was made known to him, & he offered a copy of a MS. in his possession, which related to a former state of the parish, & promised to send it to me, as he could not lay his hand upon it at the moment: this promise he has since

<sup>408</sup> Castley's eccentricities are well chronicled in Gunning's, *Reminiscences* 1854, II, 136–144. An ugly man, his nickname in Cambridge was 'Ghastly'. Seventh Wrangler in 1787. R. of Cavendish, a college living, from 1808. in 1810 he married Miss Griggs of Pentlow, Essex.

performed, with some other small Memoranda. He came to us in the church, & seemed anxious to give us every information in his power, which would have been more acceptable, if it had been involved in fewer words. Mr. C. has the character of eccentricity in the neighbourhood; & associates little therewith; having late in life married a woman in a low capacity, by whom he has a young family.

From Cavendish, it was our intention to have proceeded to Clare, there to have stopped, & made it our head quarters for a night or two, while we cleared the churches in its immediate vicinity: but having learned that Clare races were fixed for this day, we supposed that some difficulty might occur in finding accommodations, from the influx of people which such an occurrence might produce, & we therefore came to the resolution of leaving Clare for the present, to be picked up some how on our return, & to proceed on to Haverhill, as our head quarters for the next two or three days.

In passing thro' Clare, we found a considerable bustle, & were satisfied that we had determined rightly in our present plan; the roads swarmed with carriages of all kinds, carts, horses, & footmen, which lasted till we got near Stoke, where a turn to the right leads to the Course. We stopt at Stoke, & finding things quiet there, we visited the church, where I found some additions since my former visit here, & the loss of a brass or two:<sup>409</sup> which have been removed to make room for recent interments. I found indeed, a good deal to do here; which having finished,

We proceeded to Wixoe, a small parish, & a small church, wherein I found nothing new, since I was here in 1805; a few stones have been put up in the churchyard within a few years, the only alteration I can perceive. Mr. Nottidge<sup>410</sup> has lately bought an estate here, upon which he resides.

From Wixoe, we drove on to Haverhill, & at the Bell Inn<sup>411</sup> took up our quarters, & found them very comfortable. Having ordered some dinner, being the first day we had been able to indulge ourselves in such a luxury, we went into the church yard, & had just light enough to enable us to get the inscriptions in the church yard.

<sup>409</sup> Davy wrote in his Collections that day: 'The Clerk informed me that when the Cornells were buried in the Nave [in 1812 and 1827] a stone containing brass figures was removed from the Church and carried to the Farm where they resided; they have now left the Parish and it was not known what had become of the brasses.' Davy suggests that this refers to the brass of Margery Turner, d. 1609, aged 85, which he noted on an earlier visit. Another brass with 2 figures in the nave had also disappeared since his 1805 visit.

<sup>410</sup> Joshua Nottidge, Esq., at Rose Hill.

<sup>411</sup> Inn & Posting House, prop: Elias Ellis.

From my recollection of what Haverhill was 25 years ago, it appears to be now very much improved. It consists chiefly of one long, broad street, & the houses seem good, & are, externally at least, neat & clean. As we came into the Town, we observed some houses<sup>412</sup> on the right hand, which had the appearance of alms houses, with a coat of arms on the front. In order to learn something about these, we walked after dinner to the spot, & upon enquiry found that the houses were private property, & had been erected on speculation by a builder, who had bought large materials at the sale of Kirtling House, when that was pulled down, & that the coat of arms, being those of the family of North, being part of his purchase, had been brought here, & placed in their present situation. The houses in question stand in the Hamlet of Haverhill, which is in the County of Essex.<sup>413</sup>

*Sat. August 20th*

We were early in the church this morning; & tho' I was here in 1805, I found the notes I then took were so slight & unsatisfactory, that I was obliged to do almost all over again, much also has been added, so that a considerable time was required to finish what was wanted.

Having done so, we drove to Withersfield, 2 miles, a very uninteresting road, thro' an open dreary country: partaking much of the character of Cambridgeshire to which it so nearly adjoins; Mr. Mayd<sup>414</sup> the Rector, was very civil, in assisting us to get the key of the church, which we should have had some difficulty, perhaps, in obtaining without him: the Parsonage seems a good, & comfortable house, but the locality does not promise a very agreeable residence. We found a few inscriptions, with a brass or two in the church; & having finished what we wished for, we turned off the Turnpike road, which had brought us from Haverhill, & ascending a hill to the right, we proceeded, thro' the Thurlows to Great Bradley, about 4 miles; country deep, not much wooded, but not flat.

We found nothing particularly interesting at Gt. Bradley, nor indeed much to detain us long: the Hall adjoins the church yard, & is a large modern Farm

<sup>412</sup> These cottages stand opposite the Hamlet Croft in Hamlet Road. Mr. L. D. Mizon tells me that, when they were brick-fronted c. 1890, the coat of arms was removed and destroyed. Part of Kirtling Hall was taken down in 1752 and the remainder in 1801.

<sup>413</sup> About a tenth of Haverhill lay over the border in the Hundred of Hinckford.

<sup>414</sup> William Mayd, R. from 1827, patr. Thomas Duffield, Esq.

house. Lord Dacre<sup>415</sup> is the present Proprietor of the Hall, & of a large estate in the parish. I must inquire how it came to him.

From Great Bradley we retraced our steps, to Little Bradley. Tho' this is a small church, placed much out of the way, & with a very unpromising exterior, we found the interior very interesting; several handsome & well preserved brasses remain; & among others one for the well known printer John Day, who was born at Dunwich, & having by his trade acquired a handsome fortune, married to his 2nd wife, one of the family of Le Hunte to which the property here belonged, & seems to have retired hither, & to have lived & died here: his widow afterwards married a Stone; which is quibblingly noticed in the inscription, put up by her over her first husband. The families of Le Hunte & Soame are also here commemorated, with some others of a still earlier date. By the time we had copied these inscriptions, & had rubbed off the brasses, we found the day so far spent, that we were glad to make the best of our way back to Haverhill, which we did through the Thurlows & Wrattings, & reached our quarters about half past 7.

*Sun. August 21st*

We set off this morning after an early breakfast, & following the road we came home by last night, stopt first at Little Wrattling Church, a very ordinary structure, & containing not a single inscription of any kind, & no memorial of any residents in the parish, except a single shield of arms belonging to the family of Terson who were proprietors of, & residents in Blunt's Hall, in this Parish: this is now a large modern Farm house, nearly at the bottom of the hill on the side of which the church stands & to the Eastward of it.

Passing down the hill from Little Wrattling Church, & turning sharp to the left, we soon came to Great Wrattling, & arrived at the church, a short time only before the commencement of the service, it being Sunday: we had before plan'd so as to be here at this time; so having notified our wish to Mr. T. Syer, the Minister, to join his congregation, we took our seats in his pew; & performed our devotions; & were edified by a good sermon, which however, appeared to us to have been but ill bestowed, the congregation being a very thin one indeed. The church is a large one, but contains little or nothing in

<sup>415</sup> Thomas Brand Esq., was lord in 1764; his son Thomas inherited the barony of Dacre from his mother, the Hon. Gertrude Roper, a peeress in her own right, sister and heiress to the 18th Lord Dacre.

our way.<sup>416</sup> Mr. T. Syer<sup>417</sup> resides in the parsonage adjoining the W. side of the church yard; & is the present Rector of the Parish. Country about rather hilly.

From Great Wratting we proceeded to Little Thurlow. On our left, we perceived the remains of the old seat of the Soames, consisting chiefly of the Stables, &c. the house itself, being some time since pulled down:<sup>418</sup> on the left hand, nearly opposite to the Park, stands a range of almshouses, built & endowed by Sir Stephen Soame, the first possessor of this property, of that family.<sup>419</sup> The church is very rich in memorials of the Soames, & of other persons formerly residents in the Parish: the monument of Sir Stephen Soame, in particular, is a very handsome one. A son of John Day, the printer, buried at Little Bradley, was Rector here & has a monument erected in the Chancel to his memory. The Parsonage is conveniently placed, being close to the churchyard on the S. side, & appears a very comfortable residence. The grandfather of the present Rector, Mr. Crick,<sup>420</sup> was Master of a school in the parish, founded & indowed by Sir Stephen Soame.

From Little Thurlow we came to Great Thurlow, & in our way passed, to our left, the school above mentioned; an inscription<sup>421</sup> over the door, claims, perhaps justly, more merit to the persons who educate children, than to those who get them. The Soame arms accompany this insc'n. We arrived at the church just as the Service was concluded, we had rather expected to have been in time to join it. This church is a remarkable neat one withinside, having been, within a few years compleatly repaired, & fitted up, with flat roof, & cornices, more after the fashion of a modern drawing room, than of a place of religious worship.<sup>422</sup> We found a good deal to interest us here, some monuments for the family of Vernon, & several brasses for

<sup>416</sup> But here the nave appears to be truly late Saxon.

<sup>417</sup> Thomas B. Syer was patron and incumbent of both Great and Little Wratting from 1819.

<sup>418</sup> The Hall was burnt down in 1809, and another put up in 1847.

<sup>419</sup> Sir Stephen Soame was Lord Mayor of London and died in 1619, having founded his school in 1614 and endowed his almshouses in 1618. He built the North aisle to house his monument.

<sup>420</sup> Thomas Crick, B.D., from 1825; patr. Revd. R. C. Barnard. His grandfather was probably the Thomas Crick who died, aged 91, in 1811.

<sup>421</sup> *Melius de Republica meruerunt qui juventutem instituendam curavere, quam qui ipsos liberos genuere.*

<sup>422</sup> Subsequent restoration has obliterated all hint of such domesticity.

individuals of families long since extinct, & who had property in the parish. It took us some time to compleat our survey here.

The church stands close to the Hall,<sup>423</sup> which is a comfortable looking modern gentleman's residence, but does not appear a large house; it stands rather low; but the country is by no means flat.

Returned to Haverhill, which we reached about half past 7.

*Mon. August 22nd*

We took our leave of Haverhill, this morning, well satisfied with our accommodations there; & taking the road to Wrating parva, we turned off to our right at Blunts Hall, & proceeded to Kedington, or Ketton. This was my second visit to this church, but I found much to complete my former notes, tho' little actually new: the church has been within a few years put into a good state of repair; it was very much dilapidated when I was here before; & the present Rector, Mr. Syer,<sup>424</sup> has been at the expence of cleaning & new painting the monuments & Hatchments: so that its present appearance is very creditable to all parties concerned. The church is approached from the South by a handsome avenue of trees, which perhaps may have been that which led to the Hall, the ancient seat of the Barnardistons. This Hall stood a little to the N.E. of the church, & is now entirely demolished. The Estate belonged to the late Dr. Swabey, & is now the Property of his son, or sons. The Vault<sup>425</sup> in the church, is very large, the Clerk informed us that there were 53 coffins in it: he remembers its being opened.

Our next object was Barnardiston Church, but this stands in such an out of the way place, & of such difficult access, that we were obliged to return to Blunt's Hall, & leaving that on our left, to pass over road of a very moderate description, & thro' uninclosed land: what the communication may be in winter I can easily guess, by what we found it in summer; we got thro' it however safely, & at length reached the church, which has nothing remarkable about it, unless it be the Porch, which is unusually lofty & large. Tho' the parish gave origin & name to the family called from it, the church contains no other memorial of the Barnardistons than a shield of their arms in the E. window, & that is comparatively modern.

<sup>423</sup> The Hall, formerly of the Vernons, was then the residence of Chas. C. Elwes, Esq.

<sup>424</sup> Barrington Bloomfield Syer, son of Dey Syer, D.D., from 1800 to 1844 patron and incumbent. The Syer family held the living from 1760 to 1910.

<sup>425</sup> An account of the vaults in 1917 in *P.S.I.A.* XVI, 44.

From Barnardiston we proceeded towards Hundon, & for 2 miles beyond the former place we found the road nearly as bad as in approaching it; as we neared Hundon, however, it mended. This latter place is on high ground, very stiff & wet, & an undoubted specimen of genuine High Suffolk:<sup>426</sup> the church is a handsome building, & was undergoing considerable repairs, particularly in the roof of the S. Isle. The parish seems populous, but the houses are straggling, & bear marks of poverty. My friend Stockdale,<sup>427</sup> the Vicar, is perhaps prudent in keeping at a distance from it; the Schoolmaster of the Village informed me he had seen him but once for the last 9 years.

The road from hence to Clare is chiefly down hill, & we arrived there about half past six; we found sufficiently good accommodations at the Half Moon Inn.<sup>428</sup> We had sufficient time to examine the churchyard before it became dark; reserving the inside of the church for the morning.

*Tues. August 23rd*

We employed an hour *before* breakfast in the church, & *after* that important affair, finished our notes. I found a good deal to do, tho' I had been here before. The N. Isle to the chancel, appears in a very dangerous state, & we heard, that it was likely to remain so, for the Bp. of Ely, who is the Impro-prietor of the Great Tithes, refuses to repair, from a natural disinclination, which he is said to possess, towards spending money, & the matter, *adhuc sub judice lis est*, & the law must determine.

After finishing our notes about the church, we called upon Mr. Wightman,<sup>429</sup> the Curate, with whom Darby had some little acquaintance. Mr. W. very kindly offered his services in a visit to the curiosities in the town: he first took us to a Crypt under a baker's shop in the middle of the street, part, in all probability, of some former religious building;<sup>430</sup> from thence we walked to the Priory, which we looked over, tho' we did not find the owner,

<sup>426</sup> Davy clearly understands High Suffolk to be the whole clay belt from Beccles to Haverhill. Many other writers have suggested a more restricted area.

<sup>427</sup> William Stockdale, V. from 1801, a Jesus College, Cambridge, living.

<sup>428</sup> Pigot 1830: 'Here are two respectable Inns, the Cock and the Half Moon.' Prop: James Shelly.

<sup>429</sup> George Wightman, later D.D., succeeded Henry Blunt (V. of Clare since 1819) in 1833, in this Crown living.

<sup>430</sup> This vaulted 14th cent. cellar with central octagonal pier under a baker's shop on the west side of Market Hill is probably entirely secular.

Mr. Barker,<sup>431</sup> at home: the remains of the original buildings are still considerable, & the shell<sup>432</sup> of one part, generally called the chapel, but more probably either the Refectory or Dormitory, & now used as a Barn is very perfect: the dwelling house has much of its original form & features, but accommodated to modern ideas of comfort: its greatest objection seems to be the lowness of the situation. Upon returning with Mr. Wightman to the Vicarage, he took us thro' his garden, into a square inclosure<sup>433</sup> of very considerable dimensions, which is surrounded by embankments; this is considered by the neighbourhood as a Work of the Romans; it may be so, & the form of it, favours the opinion; but it may also have been some outwork of the Castle, which stands on the opposite side of the Town. This piece of land belongs to the parish, but I could not learn how they came into possession of it. The Town has several houses, which bear marks of antiquity about them: one in the churchyard particularly struck us;<sup>434</sup> & the sign of the Swan Public House has an ancient carved sign, with the arms of France & England, of Mortimer, & Burgh, with other ornaments. We had visited the site of the Castle last night, & had climbed its Donjon Keep; the present relics are but insignificant; & furnish the Visitor with very inadequate notions of its consequence, when it held the Court of Joan of Acre<sup>435</sup> & was the residence of the Clares, De Burghs, & Mortimers: a small fragment of the outer wall of the Keep is all that remains of the once sumptuous building, which however, must have been, after all, but a small one.

Having satisfied our Curiosity, we had a drive to Clare, & proceeded to Poslingford; the church here did not furnish so much, as I had expected; a few of the family of Golding have monuments here but they are quite in a common way. We did not visit the ancient seat of this family, called New

<sup>431</sup> Lt. Col. John Barker inherited the Priory in 1803 but died the next year; his widow and son John lived on there for over 30 years. The house still consists of the west claustral range of the Augustinian house founded here in 1248, generally considered to have been the cellarer's, with guest rooms on the first floor.

<sup>432</sup> The Infirmary building stands east and slightly south of the main cloister. It is now used as a Chapel, for since 1953 the original order has returned to house its novices at Clare Priory.

<sup>433</sup> This double banked and ditched Iron Age camp is called Erbury. In the 14th cent. it seems to have served as a compound with barns, dovehouse, granary etc. for the manor of Clare.

<sup>434</sup> The Ancient House dated 1473, south west of the church, was the priest's house.

<sup>435</sup> The wife of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, and second daughter of Edward I. She d. in 1305 and was buried in the church of Clare Priory.

House,<sup>436</sup> but in our road to Denston, we passed the House, which has within a few years, been built by Col. Weston,<sup>437</sup> the present owner of the Golding property, which he became possessed of by his marriage with Miss Cocksedge, the heir at law of the late Revd. G.G. Golding, the Rector of Kelsale. The House stands upon very high ground, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the church, & is a very neat looking residence.

From Poslingford we drove on to Denston Church, & here we met with something like an adventure, at least it was somewhat out of the regular jogtrot way of our previous proceedings. When we reached the church, upon enquiry after the key, we found it was kept at a good looking farm house, near to it, occupied by a Mr. Gooch;<sup>438</sup> upon applying at the house, the key was readily delivered to us, & we had leave to put the poney in the stable, as we knew we were likely to be detained here some time. We proceeded to business, but had not been long at it, before a strange animal, something between a hog, & a bear, came into the church, & after ascertaining from us our object in being there, & informing us that he was Churchwarden, & that his name was Everard, which he seemed proud of because he had understood, that the brass figures in the chancel<sup>439</sup> were for individuals of that name, he proceeded to give us after his fashion such information respecting the church & the Robinson family,<sup>440</sup> as he thought in his then half drunken state, we might wish for; & having exhausted this, he left us to ourselves without any expression of dissatisfaction. He had not however been gone long, before a young man came into the church; & took us roundly to task for presuming to enter it without first obtaining his consent. He told us who he was, that his name was Benyon;<sup>441</sup> he occupied the Hall, & in consequence

<sup>436</sup> New House was a farmhouse in 1844.

<sup>437</sup> Lt. Col. Thomas Weston built Poslingford Park.

<sup>438</sup> Nathan Gooch farmed Church Farm.

<sup>439</sup> The brass has lost its inscription but is to Henry Everard, Esq., 1524, and his wife Margaret.

<sup>440</sup> The Robinsons held the manor here from the late 16th cent. until the 1830s.

<sup>441</sup> Samuel Yate Benyon Esq., was the tenant. Davy was very upset by this incident, as can be seen from the lengths he goes to to quote those who took his part. He retells the whole story in a letter to Jermyn with minor variations in the colouring: Everard was an 'oran outang of a Farmer' and 'as civil as such a brute could be' and Benyon 'brimful of wrath and cabbage' when he left after coming in 'to *blow us up*'. He much later needed reassurance that Benyon was not landed, and therefore no gentleman. He asks Jermyn: 'Is Benyon of Denston related to Benyon de Beauvoir & if so, how? Has he any property in Suffolk or is he only a tenant? What are his arms?'

thought, I suppose, he had hired the church also. We in vain assured him that our object was at least an innocent one, & had been considered so by a large portion of the parishes in the Co. where we had before heard scarcely an objection; & never when our object was known: we could make no impression upon his folly & ignorance, & he left us "brimful of wrath", part of which he poured out also upon Mr. Gooch, for giving us the key. We found afterwards that the drunken beast Everard, had, upon leaving us, gone immediately to Mr. Benyon, & by some foolish insinuations induced the latter to behave to us as he had done. Mr. Pigot, who married Miss Jeaffreson, the present proprietor of the Hall, came afterwards into the churchyard, & addressed me in a very civil gentlemanly manner, making ample amends for his tenant's ill behaviour, tho' without in any way referring to it. I afterwards both at Ousden, to Mr. Hand,<sup>442</sup> & at Wickham Brook to Mr. Borton,<sup>443</sup> mentioned the extraordinary treatment we had met with here, & they both confessed their astonishment that Mr. Benyon shd. not have known better than to suppose he had any kind of right to interfere in such a matter, or that he could have any kind of control over the affairs of the church in right of his occupation of a house in the Parish.

From the church, where we persisted in completing our intended operations, & where we found much to do, we adjourned to the Plumber's Arms, an Inn in the parish, but within less than half a mile of Wickham Brook Church, where we found very comfortable accommodations, & good entertainment for man & horse.

*Weds. August 24th*

After an early breakfast, this morning, we set off for Ousden, & in our way passed through Lidgate, a most dreary country, a great deal of it open, with little or no wood, & the soil chalk. It is the same, between Lidgate & Ousden; but as we approached the latter, the appearance changed, the hills became clothed, & Ousden Hall,<sup>444</sup> which is a respectable looking old house, in a well wooded lawn, gave us an idea of an Oasis in the Desert. In proceeding towards the church, we fortunately lighted upon Mr. Hand, the Proprietor of the Estate, & the Rector of the Parish, who upon being informed of our wish to see the church, very kindly sent for the key, & himself ushered us into the church; & having given us every information he could respecting it, left us to

<sup>442</sup> John Thomas Hand was patron and incumbent from 1806.

<sup>443</sup> C. Borton, V. of this Crown living from 1829.

<sup>444</sup> Since 1955 when the Hall was demolished, only the 18th cent. dovecote and the Clock tower remain.

finish our notes, but with a request that before we departed we would adjourn to the Hall; we did so, where we found a handsome luncheon provided, which having partaken of, he produced the Parish Registers, from which I made full extracts; & having treated us in the kindest manner, a complete contrast to that of Denston, we left him, with regret, & proceeded back

To Lidgate; the church stands on a hill, & on the edge of the churchyard to the N.E. is a large encampment,<sup>445</sup> apparently a parallelogram, with the corners rounded; a piece of wall forming part of the boundary of the churchyard, remains, & there appears to have been a ditch running round the whole; that on the North & West sides, are still visible. In the S.E. angle of the parallelogram there is a circular rise, which may have been the Praetorium, in which case, the entrenchments will be rightly considered as Roman; it is not large enough to have been the Keep of a castle. The remains of Roman & other entrenchments & field works in this county have been entirely overlooked; they are much more numerous than is imagined, & would well repay the attention of some person well acquainted with such matters. An urn, probably Roman, has lately been dug up in this parish, which is now in the possession of Dr. Jermyn of Swaffham Priors. We found but little in the church, which however, is a large one: the brass figure of a priest,<sup>446</sup> is preserved in the Vestry, taken from some stone in the church, tho' one only in the chancel, seems likely from present appearances, to have been its original possessor. Lidgate appears a very miserable, desolate & forlorn place, & nothing but its association with the poetical monk of Bury, Dan John,<sup>447</sup> could make it any ways interesting in the eyes of any one.

<sup>445</sup> Davy was most impressed with this motte and bailey castle which he first took to be a Roman fortification. He referred to it repeatedly in letters to Jermyn urging the latter to investigate it fully, 'and other Roman operations in this county' for publication. A passage in Latin in Sir James Burrough's MS. Collections for Bury led him to attribute its construction to Reginald Scancelar 'Denasez' to whom the Conqueror granted the manor. Sometime in 1833 Jermyn sent Davy a sketch of the earthworks but without measurements and far from perfect. Davy was still urging its improvement a year later, but bound up Jermyn's effort in what is now BL Add MS 19,190 f. 40. In suggesting a Roman origin, perhaps Davy had observed that Roman bricks had been used as quoins of the Norman nave of the church, possibly from the large Roman villa which was discovered nearby in the 1970s.

<sup>446</sup> The late 14th cent. brass to a priest, now headless, and formerly in an octofoil cross has too often, and even by Pevsner, been suggested as John Lydgate's memorial. It is likely to be for Thomas atte Welle, a late 14th cent. Rector. See 'The Lost Cross Brasses of Suffolk', *M.B.S. Trans.* XII, 34 (1975).

<sup>447</sup> 'Dan John Lidgate' is the title James Ford gives to the section on this poet in *The Suffolk Garland*, 1818.

From Lidgate, we proceeded to Cooling, thro' a more inclosed, & habitable country. The church has few marks of antiquity about it, at least on the outside; the Steeple being of brick: but the inside furnished some interest. A handsome monument of marble, which from its elaborate sculpture must have been expensive, for a Dickins<sup>448</sup> & a brass plate or two, furnished us matter for the employment of an hour or two. We did not go near Branches Park, which appeared to be half a mile to our right. If we may judge by the appearance of the church yard, the parish must be a large & populous one: the gravestones being unusually numerous.

We next directed our steps to Straddishall, commonly called Stradgill; on our way to the church, we passed on our right hand, a modern house called Stradishall Place, which was built not long since by Mr. Wm. Rayner, & is now the residence of his son.<sup>449</sup> It was fortunate that we did not find much here, for when we got there the day was fast declining, & it was getting dark, when we again reached the Plumber's Arms at Denston.

*Thurs. August 25th*

Having cleared the country to the right & left of us, we this morning set our faces homeward; i.e. towards Bury. Our first stage, a very short one, was to Wickham Brook, where we were very kindly received by Mr. Borton,<sup>443</sup> the Vicar, an acquaintance of Darby's. We found the church here very rich in monumental inscriptions of different kinds, mural, brass, &c. We were not less than 3 hours fully employed here, & while we were in the church yard, Mr. Hand came up in his way to call upon the Vicar, having with him, Mr. Jas. Bennet,<sup>450</sup> & the Rector of Moulton. Having taken some luncheon at Mr. Borton's, we proceeded on.

To Depden; & a more wretched desolate situation I can hardly conceive, than the site of the church; it stands in the fields, with no houses near it, & no road up to it, but a green lane, which even at this time of the year was hardly passable for a gig; what it must be in winter, may easily be guessed: the Clerk lives at some distance, & to reach him, we found the readiest way was to walk: this detained us some time, but we were repaid, by a handsome brass in the church, & some inscriptions in the churchyard, &c. How different

<sup>448</sup> The fine monument to Frances Dickins, died 1747, and his wife of Branches Park, is signed by Peter Scheemakers.

<sup>449</sup> The son, also William, paid for the conversion of the old Workhouse into a Wesleyan Chapel in 1843.

<sup>450</sup> J. T. Bennett was R. of Cheveley. The R. of Moulton from 1827 was G. H. Greenall, patr. Christ's College.

must have been the ideas of comfort entertained by our ancestors, from those of their descendants, when two or three families of rank & fortune could be content to make a country like this the place of their residence; we did not however go near the Hall, which may be situated more desirably.

Chedburgh was our next object; very small, but very neat & pretty church, very recently put into a state of compleat repair. A single stone withinside was all we found to detain us. In this parish a son of Incedon,<sup>451</sup> the singer, occupied a farm, & we found his name on a head stone in the Church yard.

Reed was now the only church unvisited in the present line of our operations; & tho' this was somewhat out of our route, & the way to it by a cross road, we determined to make the attempt at picking it up, knowing that we could not otherwise do so, without coming again on purpose: we therefore proceeded, & found the road a bad one indeed; so bad that I was obliged to walk a considerable part of the way, but we got thro' safe at last. The church contains nothing at all, & so far it was lucky for us; for when we had done what little there was to do, we found it was near 7 o'clock, & we had 7 miles to Bury, the place of our destination for the night. We arrived there safe & sound about half past 8, & took up our quarters at the Angel.

*Fri. August 26th*

We had still left 2 or 3 outlying parishes unvisited, & we therefore dedicated the present day to their examination. The first towards which we directed our steps was Hargrave, about 7 miles from Bury; in our way to which we passed the church of Little Saxham, where we stopt a moment to see if there was anything new since our former visit, but found nothing. We at length reached Hargrave, which may do very well in summer, but I should be very sorry to have any thing to do with it in the winter: the land undulates a good deal, but appears very wet & stiff, & wants more wood to make it agreeable in my eyes. The church stands rather high, but contains nothing to produce any interest. It had just been repaired; we had before heard that this had not been done before it was needed.

From Hargrave we went on to Chevington; still upon high, & wet ground: this place, however, appears much more habitable than its neighbour which we had just left. The Parsonage House seems a very comfortable residence; &

<sup>451</sup> Charles Venanzio Incedon 1791–1865, son of the famous singer Charles, also sang on the London stage between spells of farming. The name on the headstone, as Davy's Collections makes clear, was of a grandson who must have died young.

the Rector,<sup>452</sup> with whom Darby was acquainted, accompanied us to the church, which was great credit to the exertions, which we found he had made, in putting & keeping it in a good state of repair; we found however his principal object was to shew us a stone coffin of one of his early predecessors, which had been found in the church during the repairing of it, & which he, Mr. White, had caused to be inclosed in a brick grave, upon the spot where it was found, & covered with a door of wood.<sup>453</sup> His father, who was Senior Wrangler of his year, was also Rector of this parish, & he's buried under a stone in the Chancel, on which is an inscription to his memory, which, I dare say, says no more of him than he deserved, & which, at least shews the filial affection of the present Rector; for some reason however, he made it a request of us that we would not copy the inscription; but the request came too late, for I had then already copied it, & there is certainly nothing in it, for which he ought to feel any repugnance at its being made known. Adjoining the church yard, to the N.E. stands a farm house,<sup>454</sup> & below them is [a] high bank, part, no doubt, of some entrenchment: in front of the house is a broad piece of water, over which there is a causeway, leading to the house. The Abbott of Bury had a grange here, which he made one of his County residences, & this may have been the site of the house. I can find no account of it any where in print.

From Chevington we crossed the country to Whepstead, where we found some amusement, & having secured it, we returned to Bury, where we arrived in time to have some dinner, the second time only during the fortnight we had been out, that we had been enabled to indulge in such a meal.

Here ended our present excursion, during which we had gone over a good deal of ground, visited 40 churches,<sup>455</sup> without having met with any impediment of any kind, or any accident, & collected a mass of materials, such as on no former similar occasion we had been able to amass.

<sup>452</sup> John White was patron and incumbent of both Chevington and Hargrave from 1819. His father, also John, Senior Wrangler in 1785, died in 1818 having been R. for 42 years. The grandson of the first, John White also, was R. from 1853 to 1908, and his son A. K. White until 1926, so that four generations served 150 years.

<sup>453</sup> There is no sign of the stone coffin in the church now, but the site is marked.

<sup>454</sup> Chevington Hall Farm, an 18th cent. building, is enclosed on three sides by the moat and an inner rampart up to 5 m. high. The fourth side ran S. of a small lake with central causeway. This may be the site of the house the Abbot of Bury had here in the 14th century, the scene of Abbot Richard's capture by rioting Bury townsmen in 1327.

<sup>455</sup> On the 8th Sept. Davy wrote to Jermyn: 'When I tell you that in my late excursion with Darby, we *bagged* 40 churches, you will not be surprized at my being at present very busy in sorting & arranging the game.'

*Sat. August 27th*

I returned to Ipswich this morning by the 9 o'clock Coach, where I arrived between 12 & 1. Having to wait till 4, for the Shannon, I employed the intermediate time in the churchyard of St. Matthew, at Ipswich; to pick up any thing I might there find new, & to supply former omissions. This I was enabled to do, & still had an hour or more to spare, this I made use of in doing the same in the churchyard of St. Mary Elms, as I had previously done in that of St. Matthew.

Returned to Ufford, by the Shannon.

*Sat. Sept. 24th*

Being on a Visit at Purvis's,<sup>24</sup> I strolled into the churchyard, where I found I had been guilty of some omissions, which I took the opportunity of supplying. The plan of the church I had not before made, & had taken little or no notice of what appears in the churchyard.

*Tues. Sept. 27th*

Having an hour to spare while I was staying at Yoxford, I employed it to the same purpose in the churchyard there, as I had a few days before employed a short time at Darsham.

*Tues. Octr. 18th*

Being at Yoxford for a few days, I walked to Sibton Church, to get the Ichnography of it, & to obtain whatever I had before left, or had been since placed there. I also wanted a better impression of one or two of the brasses.

*Fri. Octr. 21*

S. Badeley drove me over to Ubbeston, where I had not been for many years: I found little new, tho' many things before very imperfectly taken.

From thence I stopt at Heveningham Church, but did not go into it: I found some few matters in the churchyard, I was sorry to find that the Burial place of the Heveninghams is suffered to fall into decay; it will, without a good deal of care, be soon in a very dilapidated state.

*Fri. Decr. 23rd*

Being on a visit at Wade's of Blaxhall, I visited the church, to get if possible,

1831

an impression of the brass plate in the chancel,<sup>456</sup> & the ichnography of the building. Little new since I was here before. The brass plate is so slightly engraved, that my attempts to take it off, almost entirely failed.

1832

*Mon. Jan. 23rd*

Darby having informed me, that a good opportunity had occurred for obtaining a sight of the Framlingham Registers, I paid him a visit & had free access to them by the kindness of Mr. Wyatt the Curate *pro tempore* after the death of the late Curate Mr. Davies. I spent 2 days in the examination, & made full extracts from them.

*Weds. March 14th*

At Turner's, Kettleburgh. Walked to Brandeston Church, to obtain better impressions of the brasses there, & to get a copy of an inscription in the church, before overlooked.

*Weds. March 28th*

Walked from Kettleburgh to Letheringham Church, to get the Ichnography, & a few other trifles not before obtained.

*Thurs. March 29th*

Walked to Charsfield, for the like purposes.

*Sat. April 7*

Geo. Turner drove me to Dennington, where I had omitted to take in full, some of the Table Monuments, & where were some new ones.

From thence, came home by Saxted Church; here I had not been for more than 20 years, but I found little if anything new: the ichnography, & names on head Stones were all I found: the only change, is the loss of the Steeple, which had fallen since I visited last.<sup>457</sup>

<sup>456</sup> He took a rubbing of the memorial to the Revd. Thomas Jackson, died 1761, Rector, and his family.

<sup>457</sup> Davy last visited Saxted Church on 23rd July 1808; according to R. Green, *History of Framlingham*, 1834, the steeple fell on 8th July 1805, so Davy is mistaken in remembering it whole. Davy's Collections give 1806 for the tower fall.

1832

*Mon. May 21*

I this morning took the Coach to pay a visit<sup>458</sup> to Dr. Jermyn at Swaffham, & from thence to go to Cambridge, to see what could be picked up in the Libraries, &c. there, & also in the neighbourhood. Reached Swaffham Priors, about 5 o'clock.

*Tues. May 22*

Walked to Swaffham Bulbeck Church, where I found a few inscriptions, relating to Suffolk, for Appleyards & Bridgmans.

*Weds. May 23rd*

Visited Burwell Church. The family of Russel, connected with Suffolk, are here interred, as are also some of the Cottons, & many of the Isaacsons; of the last, I left several inscriptions uncopied.

*Thurs. May 24th*

Went to Cambridge, & took up our quarters at Trinity Hall, Dr. Jermyn's College, & the only one in the University, which had a spare bed to offer. Here we were hospitably treated; dined in Hall 2 days, & had every facility offered us in our researches. Our first object was the Public Library, the MSS. of which are very numerous, & we obtained much useful matter from them: the library being open only from 10 till 3, we should have lost much time, if we had attended only there; but by the kindness of Mr. Willis, the Tutor at Caius, we obtained free admission at all hours to the Library there, & were amply repaid for our labour. A number of Heraldic MSS are preserved here, which we examined pretty fully. Upon enquiry at Queens' Coll. & Trinity Hall, we found both Libraries very poor indeed, in MSS. & nothing at all in our way. We had intended a visit to the Library of ABp. Parker, in Corpus Christi, but upon looking over the Catalogue by Nasmith,<sup>459</sup> we found so little relative to Suffolk, that we did not think it worth while applying for leave to examine it, particularly as the rules as to the MSS, are very strict & particular. We arrived at Cambridge to breakfast this morning, & spent the whole of the day, the whole of the 25th, & half of the 26th. in our researches.

<sup>458</sup> Davy wrote to Jermyn on 15 May: 'I shall be most happy to redeem my pledge of paying another visit to Swaffham, & for that purpose I propose setting off from hence on Monday morning next . . .'

<sup>459</sup> James Nasmith 1740–1808 (see *D.N.B.*)

*Sat. May 26th*

Returned to Swaffham.

*Mon. May 28th*

Paid a visit to Landwade. The old Seat<sup>460</sup> of the Cottons here is now a large farm house, enclosed in a wide & deep moat; but there are no particular vestiges of antiquity about it. The church contains many handsome monuments of the family,<sup>461</sup> from all of which I copied the inscriptions, the family having formerly had much land in the neighbourhood, & extending into Suffolk. It is a miserable situation for a gentleman's residence, & proves clearly, how very different former ideas as to agreeableness of residence, were from present ones.

We returned to Swaffham by Exning, where I purchased a considerable number of antiquities, which had been dug up there by a man while in search of gravel for the roads: they were found at the depth of more than 10 feet from the surface, & consisted of arrow heads, spear heads, in brass, & some peculiar ornaments in copper, which to me were unknown, & singular.<sup>462</sup> They seem to have undergone the operation of fire, probably accidental, as many large masses of metal, which seem to have run together, were found with other things entirely perfect, & others partly melted. Near the surface of the ground, close to the place where these were found, several skeletons were turned out, which were not more than 18 inches from the surface: A coin or two were found at the same time, one only of which I saw, & that was a groat of Queen Elizabeth. Near the same spot was also found, a very large tusk of some anti-diluvian beast: which, according to the description of the Labourer, who found it, must have been 12 or 14 feet long. He did not turn this out, but having uncovered 6 or 8 feet of it, filled up the place again: it was, he said, much decomposed. These matters were found in the parish of Exning on the right hand side of the road leading from that village to Newmarket. I gave the man 10s. for the lot, but I left a large portion of the molten masses with Dr. Jermyn, with a request that he would consult some of his learned friends at Cambridge

<sup>460</sup> The moated seat is gone, and the present Hall stands nearby, remodelled in 1847 from a 16th cent. clunch building, originally perhaps a manor farmhouse or dower house.

<sup>461</sup> The many Cotton monuments are dated 1593 to 1752.

<sup>462</sup> D.E.D. to G.B.J. Oct. 1832: 'I hope the "learned Thebans" at Cambridge ascertained what the metal is which was left for their investigation. I have been able to find no antiquarian acquaintance sufficiently deep, & sufficiently clear to throw light upon the articles I brought home with me.'

as to the quality of the metal. I also requested him to have a sharp look out for anything which might be further discovered, & obtained a promise from the labourer on the spot to reserve for the Doctor, & thro' him for me, whatever may in future turn up.

*Tues. May 29th*

Visited Bottisham Church, where are some Monuments for individuals of families connected with this County. The Jenyns are here interred, & the present branch of the family, at least, belong to Suffolk, having come from Eye. The Allingtons were also resident here, & there is a Monument for two of them in the church. I took all the inscriptions which I thought belonged to us.

*Fri. June 1*

Returned home.

In my way, I was obliged to stop several hours at Ipswich, & I employed them in a visit to the church of St. Matthew there. I found it under repair,<sup>463</sup> but I obtained copies of several inscriptions which have lately been placed there, & some other notes.

I then went to St. Mary Tower, where I also found some new Monumental Inscriptions. I had time for doing more but the weather was so bad, that I could not stand abroad to write.

*Mon. June 18*

I took the Mail Coach this morning at 6 o'clock to join Darby in an excursion thro' the Island.<sup>464</sup> The churches in this part I had mostly visited at an early period of my present researches, & they being mostly done in a slovenly & imperfect manner, I was anxious to revisit them on this account, as well as to obtain what might have since been placed in the several churches. I found Darby at the Angel Inn, at Wangford, where we breakfasted.

Our first visit after breakfast was to South Cove; where I only found new, an inscription on the Revd. Chas. Cornwallis,<sup>465</sup> the late Rector.

From thence to Covehithe: this I had so often visited before that I found nothing new here.

<sup>463</sup> Robert Alderman became Rector in 1831 and was making minor changes to accommodate the first organ, opened in March 1833.

<sup>464</sup> Of Lothingland.

<sup>465</sup> Charles Cornwallis was Rector for 20 years until his death, aged 70, in April 1828.

From Covehithe, we went to Benacre, where I found nothing but an Extract or two from the modern Registers.

From Benacre, to Kessingland. I had here to take the ground plan, &, I also found a new inscription or two, tho' this was my 3d. or 4th. antiquarian visit to this church.

From Kessingland, we proceeded to Pakefield. Here I wanted the Ichnography, the Inscriptions on the altar tombs at length, & the names on head stones; these all I obtained, with such other notes as I had before omitted to take.

From Pakefield, we went on to Lowestoft, where we took up our quarters for the night at the Queen's head.<sup>466</sup>

*Tues. June 19th*

After breakfast this morning we went to Corton Church, where the ground plan was the principal thing I wanted; here I found nothing new, nor any alteration since my former visit.

From Corton to Gunton. Here I found a little new matter, & obtained a sketch of the ground plan, &c..

Hopton was our next stage, where nothing new was met with.

From Hopton we proceeded to Lound, & here I was somewhat more fortunate, tho' to no great extent. A tomb in the churchyard, & a Hatchment<sup>467</sup> in the church were the principal novelties.

We then went to Ashby Church; this I had visited at an early period of my labours, & of course found it necessary to take full notes of it: I met however with little or nothing new.

From Ashby, we went to Bradwell, of this the same, nearly, may be said as of Ashby, except that here were some few novelties; some time was therefore requisite to complete our notes, & some information was obtained.

Having an hour or two more before dark, we employed them in the church at Gorleston. Here I found a good deal to do, some new monuments having been erected in the church, & some alterations made in the interior; a brass figure<sup>468</sup> also to be taken, which has lately been returned to its original place. After working as long as we could see, we proceeded on to Yarmouth, & took up our

<sup>466</sup> A Posting House, prop: John Woolnough.

<sup>467</sup> There is now no hatchment here.

<sup>468</sup> The brass was purchased for the church at the sale of the effects of Craven Ord (who died in 1832) by John Gage of Hengrave, and refixed in its slab at the expense of Dawson Turner, Esq.

quarters for the night at the Bear.<sup>469</sup>

*Weds. June 20th*

After breakfast we returned to Gorleston, & finished that church, which detained us till after 12 o'clock, as I had nearly all the inscriptions on the Table Monuments in the churchyard to take at full length, & nearly as much to do as if I had not been there before. Having finished here,

We went thro' a very unpleasant country to Burgh Castle, situated in a most retired spot near the marshes, & apparently having little communication with the neighbourhood. Here we found a good Parsonage building near the church, by the new Rector Mr. Green,<sup>470</sup> & after examining the church, where little new was found, & paying a visit to the Castle, which remains *in statu quo*,

We proceeded on to Belton. Here I had almost new notes to take, which consumed some time, tho' little real alteration has taken place since I was here before. Not far from the church, but too near some swampy marshes, a tolerably good house has lately been erected, or repaired & improved, in which resides a Mrs Fowler. Near it in some marsh ditches I observed *Stratiotes aloides* growing in some abundance.<sup>471</sup>

Fritton was our next object; & here some additional inscriptions were met with, but as in the preceding church, & some others, I found it necessary to go over every thing again. Near the church a new Parsonage is building by Mr. Cubit<sup>472</sup> the present Rector; the situation appears pleasant on a rising ground, & being of white brick, will, when finished, be an ornament to the country.

From Fritton, the day declining fast, we passed over St. Olave's Bridge, & proceeded for the night to the Inn<sup>473</sup> at Hadscoe, where we found very comfortable accommodations. We had time to walk to the church, which is a fine specimen of Norman Architecture, & has some peculiar features about it, particularly in the windows of the Steeple. Copied a quaint Epitaph on a stage

<sup>469</sup> A Hotel in South Town.

<sup>470</sup> Charles Green, R. since 1829 in this Crown living.

<sup>471</sup> Water Soldier, now rare there.

<sup>472</sup> Francis William Cubitt, patron and incumbent since 1831, built his house at the west end of the decoy, but it did not belong to the benefice.

<sup>473</sup> The Crown or the Three Tuns.

coachman, upon a stone fixed in the outer wall of the church yard.<sup>474</sup>

*Thurs. June 21st*

After breakfast this morning we recrossed Haddiscoe Dam, in the centre of which we found some work in operation, which I have since learned is part of the Navigation cut from Lowestoft to Norwich. After passing the bridge, we turned to our right, & soon arrived at Herringfleet Church, which detained us some time, Mr. Leathes<sup>475</sup> having lately filled the windows of the Chancel with painted glass which he obtained from abroad, chiefly from Cologne; among which are many coats of arms, some of them English, but chiefly foreign. There is little else new; but I found a general description &c. necessary.

From Herringfleet we went to Somerleyton, & in our way called upon Mr. Love<sup>476</sup> to get the key, & paid a visit at the Hall,<sup>477</sup> in order that Darby might have an opportunity of seeing the painted glass in the windows there, & the carved chimney pieces, the works of Grinling Gibbons. We did not find Mr. Anguish at home. Though there is nothing very new in the church, it took some time to complete my notes, my former ones being so imperfect.

From Somerleyton we went to Blundeston. Here I had been but a few years ago; so that I had not now much to do; chiefly to take the inscriptions on the Table Monts. at length.

Oulton we next visited. I had nothing to do here, but to take a ground plan of the church, & the *oi polloi*; but I was anxious to visit this place again, in order to obtain an impression of a brass plate, formerly on a stone in the Chancel, but now reaved, & preserved in the chest. This I was fortunate enough to meet

<sup>474</sup> The epitaph of William Salter, d. 1776, now mounted on the outer side of the churchyard wall, was written by the Rector then, one Loddington:

<p>Here lies Will Salter, honest man, Deny it, Envy, if thou can, True to his business and his trust, Always punctual, always just. His horses, could they speak, would tell They loved their good old master well. His uphill work is chiefly done,</p>	<p>His stage is ended—race is run One journey is remaining still— To climb up Zion's Holy Hill. And now his faults are all forgiven, Elijah-like he drives to heaven, Takes the reward of all his pains, And leaves to other hands his reins.</p>
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<sup>475</sup> John Francis Leathes of Herringfleet Hall, since 1817 lord of the manor and patron of the cure, a 'donative'. He was High Sheriff in 1827.

<sup>476</sup> Edward Missenden Love, R. since 1817, patr. the Revd. George Anguish.

<sup>477</sup> The present Hall was built from 1844 onwards but retains an earlier core. Pevsner describes the carvings Davy saw as 'in the Gibbons style'.

1832

with, & also some fragments of brass,<sup>478</sup> which appear to have been formerly on the stone whereon still remains the large brass figure of a Priest.

From Oulton we proceeded to Lowestoft, where we took up our old quarters at the Queen's head for the night.

*Fri. June 22nd*

It was our intention to have left Lowestoft early this morning, without a visit to the church, in order to have finished during our present excursion, the whole of the Hundred, except this: but the day was so wet, that we could not set off at the time we proposed. We therefore managed to get to the church, where we spent some hours in copying some new Inscriptions, & in taking the Ich-nography, &c. About one o'clock, the weather being a little more promising,

We set off for Kirkley: this detained us but a short time; the ichnography, & the table monuments in the church yard, being all that was to be got.

From hence we went to Carlton Colville: here I had been a few years since, & so had the less to do. The inscriptions at length on the table monuments, & the ichnography being the chief of what I wanted.

The same may be said of Gisleham, which was our next stage; here we had so very violent a storm of rain, that it was with some delay & difficulty we succeeded in completing our notes.

Rushmere we next proceeded to; but I was before nearly complete; the *oi polloi* being all I wanted.

Here we were obliged to finish our excursion; & drove on to Wangford, where we slept.

*Sat. June 23rd*

Returned home.

*Mon. July 2nd*

I this morning set off on a visit to the Beatty's at Wilby in Norfolk, & arrived at Bury about ½ past one. As there was no conveyance for me in my way forward till the next morning; I employed the rest of the day in the church & churchyard of St. Mary there. I finished all the inscriptions in the church, which I had before commenced, & got many of those in the churchyard: I employed my time till near eight o'clock; but left a good deal yet to do, particularly on the outside, & some of the brasses to be rubbed off in the church; I took a ground plan of the church.

<sup>478</sup> Two small strips of marginal inscription with the Lombardics: LVY: P[RIET] and [GI]ST: I[CI]

*Mon. July 23rd*

While I was staying at Wilby, Beatty proposed that we should pay a visit to his friend Mr. Cobb<sup>479</sup> at Ixworth Abbey, for a couple of days. This I was most ready to accede to, as I had not visited Ixworth, or the churches in its neighbourhood. We therefore this day put our plans in execution; & arrived at the Abbey, about 2 o'clock. Before dinner we had an opportunity of examining the place, which is certainly curious, but is situate too low, & is too straggling a place to be a very desirable residence. The Hall,<sup>479</sup> which appears to have been the Crypt of the abbey, is perfect, & curious, but it is cold, & miserable, being too low, & the air & light being too much excluded: the rest of the house is modern: at least comparatively but the rooms are good, & contain a number of pictures of which some are excellent: tho' little is known by the family of the Masters' names, or of their real value. The House wants much alteration & repair; & is now to be let for 3 years: the estate in the parish contains near 1800 acres, of excellent land.

*Tues. July 24th*

I employed this morning in taking full notes in Ixworth Church, & in rubbing off the brass in the Chancel: The church contains a good deal, & I was employed the chief part of the day in the work. I saw, while there, Mr. Boldero,<sup>480</sup> the Curate, who promised me some notes from the Register, respecting the Nortons & Cartwrights; but he probably forgot his promise, for I received no notes from him. It is rather singular that the principal entrance to the abbey, is thro' the church yard, & close to the church.

*Weds. July 25th*

Mr. Cobb this morning walked with me to Troston to shew me the way, but left me within sight of the church to my own plans. I passed Troston Hall, the seat

<sup>479</sup> John Cobb was a relation of the wife of the owner of the Abbey, Richard Norton Cartwright, Esq., and temporarily a tenant. Mrs. Joy Rowe, the present owner, describes the devolution of the priory buildings after the Dissolution from Coddingtons to Carylls and Nortons, and the many alterations the house underwent in 1538, the 1680s, and 1821 in E. Sandon's *Suffolk Houses*, 1977, pp. 307-8. Some of the pictures Davy saw are among those described by Farrer in his *Portraits in [West] Suffolk Houses*, 1908, pp. 234-7, but dispersed at the 1957 sale.

<sup>480</sup> George Boldero, P.C. since 1806 until his death in 1836, aged 55, patr. R. N. Cartwright, Esq.

of the Loffts,<sup>481</sup> which is more like a large old Farm house, than any thing else. The church contains some monuments of the above & some other families; & I had plenty of time to compleat my notes here.

From hence I walked to Ixworth Thorpe, where I also obtained what I wished, which for so small a church, was considerable. Returned to the Abbey to dinner.

*Thurs. July 26th*

Mr. John Cobb & I walked to Bardwell; in our way thither, we passed a large & good looking Farm house by the road side, in which we found some pictures of the Crofts family: the farm belongs I believe, to Sr. — Blake Bt.<sup>482</sup>

The church of Bardwell is large, & the painted glass is curious, particularly the figures of Sr. William Bardwell, &c. It contains a good deal, & employed me 2 or 3 hours. I tried, by the means of my companion, to get a sight of the Registers, but in vain, they being under keys kept by different officers of the Parish. Just below the church, in the meadows is the moat which surrounded the old house of the Bardwells, & afterwards of the Crofts & Reads: none of the buildings now remain.

From Bardwell we walked to Sapiston Church. This does not contain much: it is an ordinary building, but has remains of considerable antiquity: this did not detain me long.

From thence to Honington. Here a couple of monuments to the Rushbrookes, & a couple of brasses in the chancel were the principal things met with: my time being rather short, I accepted Mr. John Cobb's offer of rubbing off the brasses for me while I was copying the inscriptions; & tho' he did not take so much pains in the work as I should have done, they are quite as well finished as is necessary.<sup>483</sup>

I had not time to enquire & examine very particularly about any circumstances attending the birth of Robert Bloomfield.<sup>484</sup>

<sup>481</sup> Capel Lofft, Esq. (1751–1824), barrister, reformer and man of letters, improved the house a good deal in his time. Robert Emlyn Lofft then lived at Troston Hall, the only son of Capel's first marriage to survive him; Henry was killed in action in 1811 and Robert's twin Christopher shot himself the following year.

<sup>482</sup> Sir H. C. Blake was lord of Bardwell Hall manor, but not resident there.

<sup>483</sup> Cobb's rubbing in BL Add. MS 32483, f. 149, shows the achievement above and coat of arms below the figure of George Duke, gent., 1594, both now lost.

<sup>484</sup> The cottage in which he was born in 1766, son of George Blomefield, tailor, survives.

*Fri. July 27th*

Beatty drove me this morning to Stowlangtoft Church, & in the way we passed the Hall, now the Seat of Mr. Wilson.<sup>485</sup> It has no pretensions to notice either from its exterior appearance, or from its situation: it is not a large house, & has rather an ordinary look about it. When Beatty left me, & I approached the church, I found it under repair, the roof of the chancel off, & the floor covered several inches deep with rubbish. I was therefore obliged to content myself with copying the inscriptions in the churchyard only, leaving the inside for some future opportunity. On the West side of the churchyard, the present owner of the estate is building a handsome house for a Parsonage.

As I was now left to myself, & wanted to fill up my time till dinner, I determined to proceed to Norton, which I found to be at no great distance across the fields. Here I found plenty to do, but had also plenty of time to do it in. I therefore obtained full notes both inside & out. On the N.W. side of the churchyard stands the Parsonage House, which appears a very good & convenient residence. On my return back to Ixworth, I passed on my left in a valley, Little Hoo Hall,<sup>486</sup> formerly the residence of Dr. Macro. It appears small, but is in a pleasant situation.

*Sat. July 28th*

Returned to Wilby.

*Thurs. August 16th*

Beatty this morning drove me over to Barningham, where I expected, from the families formerly resident in the parish, to have found a good deal, but was disappointed; a few only of the Sheltons having memorials to them in the church. I was therefore not long kept here; but had not time to visit Coney Weston, or Knaddishall,<sup>487</sup> both of which as lying in a nook, I wished very much to obtain.

<sup>485</sup> J. Wilson, Esq., owned the Hall (formerly the seat of Sir Simonds D'Ewes) and the advowson. For the new Rector, Samuel Rickards, M.A., he was prepared to build the parsonage and repair the church. The present Hall is of 1859.

<sup>486</sup> Dr. Cox Macro (1683–1757), antiquary and student of medicine, made Little Haugh Hall 'very reticent' without and 'magnificent' within; Pevsner finds it 'the finest house of that date in the county'.

<sup>487</sup> Knettishall Church, dismantled of fittings in 1933, is now a roofless ruin.

1832

*Tues. August 21*

In my way home from Wilby, I was obliged to stop 3 or 4 hours at Ipswich, which I spent in the church & church yard of St. Margaret. I was not however able to finish all in the latter, wh. must be the work of some future opportunity.

1833

*Tues. April 16*

In consequence of a correspondence with Mr. Deck,<sup>488</sup> the Bookseller, of Bury, respecting the publication of a History of Suffolk, which he appeared eager to undertake, I met him, by appointment this morning at Ipswich. After talking the matter over, but coming to no conclusion, I had 3 or 4 hours leisure, before the Coach returned in the evening, which I employed in completing the notes in the church yard of St. Margt. which I left unfinished, in Augt. last.

I afterwards looked into St. Clement's Church, & St. Stephen's churchyard, & St. Matthew's do. where I picked up a little new matter.

*Tues. April 23rd*

Being on a visit to Wilkinson at Holbrook, I went into the church & churchyard, & obtained more particular notes, where I had been before negligent. The Vestry & School room both built since I was here last, are no doubt, very useful, but are far from ornamental.

*Weds. April 24*

Wilkinson drove me to Arwarton; little or no alteration since I was here before. Archdeacon Berners, however, is now building a very good Parsonage House, of red brick, a short distance to the Eastward of the church; the site of the old Parsonage; & in a very pleasant situation, looking upon the Stour towards Harwich.<sup>489</sup>

Returned to Holbrook, by Harkstead, where I had just time to take copies, at length, of the Inscriptions in the churchyard, & make a ground plan of the church, which I had before omitted.

<sup>488</sup> John Deck was not a printer, but would usually sell as publisher books printed by his brother Robert at Ipswich. The letterpress of Henry Davy's 1827 volumes was printed by Deck of Ipswich.

<sup>489</sup> The Archdeacon was building a suitable residence for his son Ralph who was to succeed him in all his livings eventually.

*Thurs. April 25th*

Walked to Wolverston Church, to see the alterations made there lately by Archdeacon Berners.<sup>490</sup> The new Isle is a great improvement to the church; but a greater still, I think is, the cutting down many of the Trees, which formerly so thickly & so closely surrounded it, as to render it very dark & dull. Under the new Isle a Vault is built for the Berners family; the entrance to which is in the middle withinside, & covered with stone slabs.

From thence I walked to Chelmondiston Church, where I wanted the Ichnography, & the Table Monts. at length, &c. I found nothing new.

*Sat. April 27th*

In my way home I went again into St. Margaret's Church yard, where I copied what was worth preserving on the head stones there.

Having a short time to spare after having done there, I went to St. Lawrence, but could only take a ground plan of the church. I found here however much alteration since my last visit, particularly in the churchyard, which being much used by the inhabitants around it, the stones & inscriptions are much worn & defaced.

*Thurs. May 30th*

Being on a visit to Collett<sup>491</sup> at Heveningham, I, of course, visited the church, for the purpose of rubbing off the brass there, & picking up any thing new within the church. I found it was in contemplation forthwith to strip the lead off the church, & cover it with slate, an alteration which appears to have become very necessary: I did not hear of any intention to repair the Chapel or Dormitory, which is in a shameful state of dilapidation. The chancel underwent a thorough repair a few years back; it is to be regretted that at the same time the E. window had not been thoroughly cleaned, & put into its original order.

*Fri. May 31st*

Collett drove me to Linstead magna, not difficult of access in summer time, & in dry weather, but I should think hardly comatable in the depth of winter:

<sup>490</sup> The North aisle and the National School here were both built by Henry Berners in 1832. A bust of the Archdeacon by Richard Westmacott, junior, is now in the vestry. It was made in 1839, but he died in 1852, an indication that its intention was domestic and not monumental.

<sup>491</sup> Anthony Collett, R. of this Crown living from 1803 to 1838, was a schoolfellow of Davy's at Bungay. The reroofing cost £300.

there is no road up to it for a carriage, & it stands detached some way from any building, in a very bleak & miserable situation: the soil, stiff, wet & dirty, & yet this was in times long gone by, the residence of a gentleman's family, the Everards.<sup>492</sup> There is nothing in the church to repay a visit to it.

We had taken Cratfield in our way; here I had not been for more than 20 years; & yet I found little alteration, & little new, except in the church yard; but several things I had before omitted, & I had not got the brasses. But if I found not much alteration in the church, I did a great one in the roads; the Bell green,<sup>493</sup> when I remembered it formerly had hardly a road upon it, & now there is a good one the whole length, & all the communications are wonderfully improved.

From Cratfield I went to Huntingfield, & found even less alteration there than at Cratfield; but I wanted the brasses, which I obtained, tho' not the large one satisfactorily. It is rather singular that in a parish like Huntingfield, there should not have been one family, who has erected a table monument in the church yard, to any of their members.

I walked from Huntingfield to Heveningham.

*Sat. June 1*

Collett took me to Laxfield. A good deal has been done here since my former visit. The Nave was repaired some years back, & the Chancel has lately been rebuilt: the repairs of this are in an exceeding bad taste, for the walls are of white brick; as is also part of the S. side of the Nave. I rubbed off the brasses, & found a new table Mont. or two in the church yard, which, however, being a common thorough fare, is kept in very bad order; the stones are broken down, & the graves defaced. The roads about Laxfield, & the village itself has been greatly improved within the last ten years.

*Mon. July 1st*

Went to Yoxford to meet Darby, & proceed from thence into the neighbourhood of Beccles & Lowestoft, to visit some churches which we had been obliged to leave unnoticed during our last year's excursion. Slept at Yoxford.

*Tues. July 2nd*

Set off rather early this morning from Yoxford to Blythburgh, where we stop'd to bait our poney, & ourselves. While breakfast was preparing, we went into

<sup>492</sup> In the 16th and 17th centuries.

<sup>493</sup> Bell Green, one of four large greens in the parish, takes its name from the Inn there.

the churchyard, & found some little matters to notice.

In our way towards Beccles, we diverged to Sotherton Church, of which I wanted a ground plan, & the head stones; these detained us but a short time, when

We proceeded to Brampton, where finding the church open, I went in, but could find nothing new.

From Brampton to Shaddingfield; some alterations have taken place in the church, & a Hatchment<sup>494</sup> made away with; a few notes were obtained in the churchyard.

Weston was our next stage, a period of 20 years has not made much alteration or addition here, but I found a little additional matter for note: as ichnography, & head stones.

From Weston we drove to Ellough. Two or three new Table Monuments have been erected in the churchyard, & I found several things which were necessary to obtain in order to make my notes here complete.

From Ellough to Beccles, & in the churchyd. there I found more than enough to employ the remainder of the day. Slept there.

*Weds. July 3rd*

Finished this morning, what I had left undone last night; both in the church & churchyard: after which I went into the New Chapel<sup>495</sup> & Burial Ground, where I copied the chief inscriptions. It is filling fast. The Chapel very small, & appropriated only to the Burial Service. The Clerk complained that the soil is a very bad one to dig into, & that in two or three places of it the ground is springy.

Having finished here about 1 o'clock, we proceeded to Worlingham. Here I picked up a good deal; some additional Monuments in the church, & many in the churchyard; the brasses, & ichnography, &c. & we were more than 2 hours before we had finished. This church & churchyard seem to be a favourite place of burial for strangers, particularly from Beccles.

From Worlingham we went to North Cove; I wanted the ground plan here, the brasses better taken off, & whatever else there might be new: & I of course found some employment, sufficient to kill an hour.

<sup>494</sup> Details of two hatchments formerly in the church, one to a Cuddon, the other to a Hervey, in Suckling, I, 75.

<sup>495</sup> White 1844: 'another burial-ground was consecrated at the foot of Blyburg-gate, in 1823, and has a small ivy-mantled building in which the funeral service is read'.

Thence to Barnby. I did not expect any thing here, so I was not disappointed; what little there was, I soon finished, such as the Ichnography, & *oi polloi*; & we then proceeded to Lowestoft, where we dined & slept.

*Thurs. July 4th*

I employed this morning in the churchyd. of Lowestoft, having found nothing new in the church. When I was here before, I had taken the inscriptions on the Table Monuments very short; but having since changed my plan on this subject, I copied a great number of them at length, as well of those before noticed, as of others which have since been erected: since my return however I find that a considerable number are still remaining in my notes very shortly stated: so that I shall have something to do, should any thing ever carry me again to this place. About 4 o'clock we left Lowestoft, & proceeded

To Mutford, where Darby had never been, but which I had visited within a few years from Wrentham: so that I had very little to do here; a table monument being all I could find new.

From Mutford we went to Wrentham, where I found about as much as I had done at Mutford, but I was not sorry to revisit them both, as I thereby compleated my notes up to the present time.

We went thence to Wangford, where we arrived about 9 o'clock, & slept there.

*Fri. July 5th*

Returned this morning to Yoxford.

*Sat. July 6th*

Reached home.

*Weds. July 17th*

Being resident for a few days at Aldeburgh, I of course paid a visit to the church, where I found several new monuments &c. as well within as without. In the churchyard I found considerable gleanings: the names on the head stones I had not before taken.

*Thurs. Augt. 22nd*

Having learned from Loder,<sup>496</sup> Churchwarden, that the mats with which the pavement of Woodbridge Church is generally covered, had been taken up for the purpose of cleaning & repairing the church, I went over to compare my former notes, & to correct omissions, &c. & to pick up any thing new. I found but very few oversights, & as little novelty; but I obtained a full view of the stones which formerly had brasses, & took sketches of them. The churchyard I did not examine; but I must take an early opportunity of doing so; as several persons have lately been buried there, to whose memory some inscriptions either have been or will probably be soon dedicated: as Clarke, Carthew, Walford, &c.<sup>497</sup>

*Tues. Novr. 12th*

Having been a long time idle, I took advantage of a visit to Turner at Kettleburgh, to examine again, the church of Framsdon, which I had not seen for near 30 years. I hardly knew it again, the appearance having been so much altered by the trees which were growing round the churchyard, having been cut down by the present Incumbent. If it was too much inclosed before, it is now too much exposed. I found several things new, & some had disappeared, perhaps from the increase of pews. The church, however, & church yard, are kept in very good order.

*Tues. Novr. 19th*

From Kettleburgh, Geo. Turner drove me to Debenham, where I had not been for many years, & my notes were therefore very incomplete. A new brass, found in a vault, which had been a coffin plate, is now fixed against the wall of the chancel;<sup>498</sup> & this I obtained an impression of, as well as a more perfect one of the two semi figures on the floor. It took me nearly two hours to complete my operations here; & I believe I left nothing undone, as far as relates to the church & churchyard.

On our way home, I stopt a few minutes at Thorpe Church, of which I took a ground plan: the churchyard is still without a single grave & I saw nothing

<sup>496</sup> John Loder (1791–1865), succeeded his father Robert as bookseller and publisher in the Thoroughfare.

<sup>497</sup> John Clarke, P.C. of Brightwell 1801–1831, Thomas Carthew, P.C. of Woodbridge for 40 years (see Note 66) and Joseph Walford, d. 1833, aged 84.

<sup>498</sup> This shield-shaped plate for Sir Charles Gawdy who died in 1650, aged 38, is fixed to the south wall of the chancel.

new within the church, tho' I only looked thro' the windows.

*Sun. Decr. 1*

Being on a visit to Blaxhall, I went with Wade this day (being Sunday) to Wantisden Church. I was surprized to find a new monument here in memory of the late P. Curate Mr. Comyn.<sup>499</sup> Besides this, the whole church appeared to me more Christian like than when I was here last, & a fair congregation, considering the size of the parish, & the distance the church stands from any human dwelling, was assembled at the evening service. Wade was anxious to shew me the church & his parishioners, as he fancies my application to Mr. Barnardiston<sup>500</sup> was one of the chief causes of his obtaining the Curacy.

*Mon. Decr. 2nd*

Drove over to Great Glemham, another church I had visited at a very early period of my Topographical researches, & which I was therefore anxious to revisit. I found a good deal necessary to compleat my survey of the church, & tho' the wind was cold, & my companion not in a state of health to bear exposure to bad weather with impunity, I succeeded in making my notes nearly compleat. I have found since my return home that I lost a good opportunity of examining one of the Old Registers, which at the time, I fancied I had previously made extracts from. But I hope another opportunity may occur, when I shall be able to rectify the mistake.

*Thurs. Decr. 5th*

Walked over from Blaxhall to Tunstall, & after having examined the church, of which I only wanted the Ichnography, & *Oi polloi*, we called upon Mr. Ferrand,<sup>56</sup> who received us very civilly, & at my request shewed me the Parish Registers, which he told me I might at any time have liberty to examine & extract from. I could not then find time for such an examination of them as I should wish for; & was therefore under the necessity of postponing it to a more convenient & favourable opportunity.

<sup>499</sup> Thomas Comyn succeeded Cuthbert Henley as P.C. here from September 1829 until he died, aged 62, in January 1832.

<sup>500</sup> Nathaniel Barnardiston, Esq., of Ryes Lodge, Sudbury, was the patron to whom Ellis Wade was indebted.

1833

*Mon. Decr. 9*

Went over with Wade to Orford, where I wanted to complete rubbing off the brasses in the church; I had at my last visit left only two undone, but they were two of the largest; & tho' I was there near 3 hours, I was able to compleat but one of them, in which operation I expended 2/3ds. of my time. Besides this I had however, the churchyard to finish, & to get a ground plan of the church, & some inscriptions placed therein since I was last there. Another visit will be necessary, tho' when I make it, I shall probably have little else to do but to rub off the remaining brass which is in the North Isle.

1834

*Thurs. March 6*

Walked over to Petistree, where I found a new Inscription in memory of the late Mr. Whitbread.<sup>501</sup> I wanted also a copy of the inscription on one of the table monuments.<sup>501</sup>

*Thurs. March 27*

Walked to Rendlesham: where I found a stone had been placed over the grave of Dr. Henley & his daughter;<sup>502</sup> & a small mural Monument to a child of the Thellusson family,<sup>503</sup> no memorial of any kind appears of the late Ld. Rendlesham.

*Sat. June 7th*

Being on a Visit to Dr. Jermyn at Swaffham Priors in Cambridgeshire, I went to Exning, to see where the antiquities which the Dr. had secured for me had been found, & to learn if any more discoveries had been made. I found fragments of 2 urns which had been recently dug up, but nothing more had very lately been turned up. Visited a well, called by some St. Etheldred's, but

<sup>501</sup> To William Wylde, d. 1720, aged 8.

<sup>502</sup> The grey marble slab commemorates both Rectors Henley, and the other son and daughter of the first.

<sup>503</sup> Caroline, dau. of the Hon. Arthur Thellusson, 1827–1832. John, 2nd Baron, (1785–1832), and Ann Sophia, second wife, d. 1856, have a gothic-style monument by Humphrey Hopper opposite that to Mary, first wife, d. 1814, for which, Davy tells us, John Flaxman charged £600 and carved the figure of Pity himself.

by the inhabitants of the Village, Minzin Well.<sup>504</sup> It is now in a state of dilapidation, but has evident marks of antiquity about it; it rises under the chalk hills, & with some other smaller springs gives rise to the little stream, which runs through Exning into the Fens. Went into the churchyard, but found very little new.

*Sun. June 8th*<sup>505</sup>

Drove over to Cambridge, & spent an hour or two in the Public Library, in search of Suffolk information. Passing afterwards, Trinity Church, then under repair, I went in, & found there an inscription on a monument for a da. of Sr. John Jacob.

*Tues. June 10th*

We this morning set off from Swaffham for a visit to Mr. Salmon<sup>506</sup> the Rector of Lidgate. On our way, we took Dullingham, & in the church found several monuments in memory of individuals of the family of Jeaffreson, & as I suppose them connected with those at Tunstall, I of course copied all the Inscriptions. I found a few other names connected with this county. Dullingham Hall, the Seat of the Jeaffresons is rather a large house, but not good looking; it stands in a very wooded country, but is too near the road.<sup>507</sup> Mr. Pigott who married the heiress of the family now resides in it.

From Dullingham we went to Wood Ditton; here I expected to see the end of the Devil's ditch, but the country is so thickly wooded, that without some labour in the research, it is not to be found. The land hereabouts appears to rise considerably above the level of the open country about Newmarket. In the church I found a few names common to Suffolk, & meeting with the Registers, I made full extracts of all which appeared to have any connection with Suffolk. On a head stone<sup>508</sup> in the churchyard, which has at the top, let

<sup>504</sup> Exning is the reputed birthplace of Etheldreda, daughter of Anna, King of the East Angles. The well was at one time St. Mildred's, evidently misremembered as 'Minzin' by local people. Its present association with St. Wendred brings in a third saint, and one with Norfolk connections.

<sup>505</sup> Probably in error for Mon. June 9th.

<sup>506</sup> H. W. Salmon, R. from 1829; patr. Duke of Rutland.

<sup>507</sup> Humphrey Repton is said to have carried out alterations here c. 1800.

<sup>508</sup> This quaint memorial is preserved intact in the churchyard.

into the stone, a tin pan, which is covered over with small iron bars, probably to preserve it, is the following singular inscription,

To the Memory  
of William Symons,  
who died 1st March 1753.  
Aged 80 years.

Here lies the Corpse who was the Man,  
That lov'd a sop in dripping pan:  
But now believe me, I am dead,  
See here the pan stands at my head;  
Still for sop to the last I cry'd,  
But could not eat, & so I dy'd.  
My neighbours they perhaps may laugh,  
When they do read my Epitaph.

From Wood Ditton we went to Kirtling, the old House of the Norths, has been pulled down, but the Gateway still remains.<sup>509</sup> It is built of brick, & has lately been fitted up as an occasional residence for the Owner, the Marquis of Bute, when he happens to come to his estates in the neighbourhood & at all other times, the Incumbent of the Parish, Mr. Hill<sup>510</sup> lives in it. The Building stands in a commanding situation; & is a handsome specimen of the Architecture of the 16th & 17th centuries. The church is a large building, & the South door is a fine Saxon arch, highly ornamented.

*Weds. June 11th*

At Lidgate. Tho' the country here is any thing but agreeable, I found the Parsonage, tho' an ordinary thatched cottage, very pleasantly situated, & capable with little alteration, of being made a most comfortable residence: it is retired, but snug, & convenient.

Dr. Jermyn & I, after breakfast, drove to pay a visit to Denham Castle,<sup>511</sup> a place I had often observed upon the map, but of which I never met with any account whatever. We found it a strong entrenchment of earth works, nearly circular, with a mound or keep considerably raised, & situated on one edge of the circle; we could find no remnants of buildings. It is situated on a considerable rise, & must have been, when perfect, a strong place. We made a plan of it, & took measurements, which remain with Dr. J. to put into

<sup>509</sup> The gateway of c. 1530 still stands; the House came down in 1801.

<sup>510</sup> Edward Hill, V. from 1831, patr. the Marquis of Bute.

<sup>511</sup> A motte-and-bailey castle with wet ditches, 2 m. E.S.E. of Gazeley village.

form, as he is so much better a draughtsman than myself.

Called at the Hall, where we found the Registers of the Parish, from which I obtained full Extracts.

*Thurs. June 12*

This morning Dr. Jermyn & I employed in examining the Castle of Lidgate. This must have been a very strong place; the works for defence are numerous, & the whole is placed on the summit of a hill of considerable rise, & not commanded by other hills, but at a considerable distance. The church stands within the outer works, most of which are in a very perfect state. Dr. J. undertook to make a plan of the whole, for which, we took full admeasurements.<sup>445</sup>

Nothing new in the church, the repairs of which, in progress when I was here before, have been completed & it is now in a proper state.

Left Lidgate, with regret, & returned to Swaffham.

*Tues. June 17th*

Left Swaffham on my return home. Having an hour to spare at Bury in the Evg. I went into the church yard, with the intent of taking the Inscriptions in the Cemetery there; but the evening was so cool, that after a very short attempt, I thought it most advisable to give up, for another opportunity. Besides I found that it would be necessary, to do the matter properly, to go within side the iron palisades, & there was but little time to spare to go in search of the key.

*Weds. June 18th*

Left Bury for Ipswich; & having 3 or 4 hours there to spare, I spent them in taking copies of all the Inscriptions in the churchyd. of St. Lawrence, where great alterations have been made, since I took them before.

I afterwards reexamined St. Matthew's Churchyard, where I found two or three novelties, tho' a few months only had elapsed, since I was there before.

Returned home.

*Tues. July 15*

Being at Yoxford, Geo. Barlee<sup>379, 512</sup> drove me to Leiston, where I had not

<sup>512</sup> George Barlee, attorney, of Yoxford, was a son of William Barlee by his first marriage to Ann Smith. His wife Charlotte was daughter of Revd. N. T. O. Leman, R. of Brampton and Worlingham.

been for more than 20 years: I therefore found employment for an hour or two. Several monuments have, since my last visit, been erected in the churchyard, & one or two stones in the church.

*Mon. July 28th*

Darby called upon me this morning & proposed taking me with him to Shottisham to which I readily acceded. I found that, since his coming into possession of the living, he had done a good deal in ornamenting the church; he has collected a large quantity of carved wood, of different sorts, which he has fixed up at the East end of the chancel, in not very regular order. I am not quite satisfied as to the propriety of any of it being there, & whether it be really ornamental or not. Old carved backs of chairs, fronts of chests, testers of beds, &c. seem very odd decorations for a place of divine worship: but many men, many minds.

*Thurs. Augt. 21*

Having an opportunity of returning from Yoxford to Ufford, by a carriage of Mr. Leman's<sup>513</sup> which was going to Melton for one of the family, I was detained a couple of hours at Saxmundham, while the horse was baited. I made use of the time in examining the church, & collecting what was new to me there. I found so much that I was obliged to leave a part undone: & Mrs. Long's death<sup>514</sup> which took place the evening before will, probably, add somewhat to the novelties which I shall find at my next visit.

Flatt<sup>515</sup> told me that Mrs. Long had agreed to give the parish a small piece of land to add to the churchyard; but when application was made for having it consecrated, it was found, that as she had only a life interest in the land, a good title could not be made [to] it; an indispensable requisite previous to consecration. The piece of land, therefore, tho' added to the churchyard, remains useless for its intended purpose.

<sup>513</sup> Probably George Barlee's father-in-law.

<sup>514</sup> Mrs. Jane Long, widow of Charles Long who built Hurt's Hall in 1803, was lady of the manor and patron of the living. Her monumental inscription was merely an addition on her late husband's monument. Their hatchments, which hung in the church in 1840, are now lost.

<sup>515</sup> John Flatt, senior, grocer and draper, died himself in Oct. 1834. It may have been his son John whom Davy quotes here. Both Johns were interested in antiquities and provided drawings for Davy's collections.

*Sat. Sept. 27*

On a visit at the Parsonage at Stutton. I found in the church a monument recently erected in memory of Mr. G. Badeley;<sup>516</sup> it is a Cenotaph: he and his wife being burd. at Bath. Tho' well acquainted with the fertility of the soil of the Parsonage garden, I could not but be astonished at the wonderful growth of the trees & shrubs there; every thing becomes gigantic, even to the *Tussilago petasites*<sup>517</sup> the leaves of which growing round the pond were many of them more than 2 feet across.

Mr. Mills had in the summer a bazaar in his garden, for the purpose of raising a fund for building a school house;<sup>518</sup> it produced very nearly £100, which is to be forthwith laid out, as at first proposed.

*Mon. Sept. 29*

In my way home from Stutton, I stopped 3 or 4 hours in Ipswich; these I employed, for the time at least that I could stand abroad, the day being showery, in the churchyard of St. Mary Stoke. It was some years since I was there before, & tho' I found little new within side the church, I had a good deal to do in taking the inscriptions on the Table Monuments in the church yard, at length; these employed the whole of the time I had to spare, & I obtained all I wanted.

*Mon. Oct. 13*

I set off this morning upon an excursion with Darby, & met him by agreement at Stowmarket, about 12 o'clock. Our first visit was to Great Finborough, where we found 2 or 3 new monuments in the churchyard, & one recently put up in the church.

From Finborough we came to Buxhall, where we stopped, but found nothing whatever new.

From Buxhall to Brettenham, quite new ground to us. We found a good deal here; & we were detained rather longer than we expected. The Parsonage here adjoins the north side of the church yard, & is rather a curious looking cottage. Mr. Cole<sup>519</sup> the present Rector cannot find it a very cheerful

<sup>516</sup> Gill Badeley, d. 1815, & Mary his wife, d. 1821, of Crepping Hall.

<sup>517</sup> Davy probably means *Petasites hybridus*, Butterbur, which quite commonly has leaves of this size.

<sup>518</sup> The National School erected by the Rector in 1838 was maintained at his expense solely until his death.

<sup>519</sup> Samuel Cole, R. since 1798 in this Crown living.

residence.

Passing the entrance to Brettenham Hall, which seems an ordinary house<sup>520</sup> seated in a very heavy bad country,<sup>521</sup> we turned sharp to the right towards Thorpe Morieux; there was barely light enough to enable us to take the necessary notes here; & when we had done, it was too late to think of examining the Hall, which seems a large farm house standing at a short distance to the S.W. of the church; from the house, the land slopes slightly to the East, & at a short distance below the church, there is a large pond or moat; which was all I could observe.

We had agreed to make Lavenham our head quarters for the night, & having 5 miles to travel, we had no time to lose: we luckily found the road good, & about 7 o'clock we reached Lavenham, & went to the Greyhound Inn where we had been at our last visit here; as it was so near Mich'mas day<sup>522</sup> we found the town very full, & had some little difficulty in obtaining accommodations, which however, we at last accomplished, & found every thing very comfortable. Tho' our Inn was quite full enough, another on the opposite side of the street was still fuller, & music and dancing were there kept up to a late hour: there was a good deal of bustle in the town, tho' every thing went off very peaceably, & the streets were [not] entirely cleared till near one o'clock.

Our landlady told us that from the extraordinary dryness of the season, nearly all wells in the town had become dry, & their pump was one of the very few that had not failed.

*Tues. Oct. 14*

This morning before breakfast, we visited the church, to see if any thing new had been put up since we were here in 1826, we found a few in the church, but little or nothing in the churchyard. Upon enquiry, I found Mr. McKeon<sup>164</sup> had been buried in the churchyard, but the Clerk could not exactly point out the spot, tho' it was near the S. side of the Steeple. The Town seems to be in an improving state; the houses are in better repair, & kept cleaner than they were; some new ones appear to have been lately erected; & a large building,<sup>523</sup>

<sup>520</sup> The house is far from ordinary by any standards. It is now Old Buckenham Hall School.

<sup>521</sup> But in 133 acres of it.

<sup>522</sup> The butter and cheese fair was held on Oct. 10th and the three days following.

<sup>523</sup> Davy is probably referring to the Congregational Chapel of 1827, in late classical style, stuccoed.

having the appearance of a Dissenting Meeting House, shews a little more taste than such things in general discover. I did not make any enquiries about it.

I find I omitted to take the names on the head stones; nor did I take a ground plan of the church: Taylor's *Engravings*<sup>524</sup> will remedy this latter omission.

From Lavenham as soon as we had breakfasted, we went to Cockfield; which we found rather rich. Having finished our notes here, I was anxious to obtain some information about Colchester Green,<sup>525</sup> which lies about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the church, & from whence I had received part of a Roman brick from Dr. Colville.<sup>526</sup> I inquired of the Clerk, who appeared to be also the Schoolmaster, but he had heard nothing about the discovery; he offered to go with me to the Green, but as I did not know on whose land the brick had been found, I thought it would be in vain to go in search of it, without better information; & so gave up the intention I had of visiting it.

The Parsonage stands upon high ground, half a mile from the church; it is much exposed, & must be very cold & miserable in winter: the soil appears very wet & stiff.

From Cockfield we went to Bradfield St. Clare, a small church, containing little in any way interesting. Mr. Walton,<sup>527</sup> a farmer, & considerable proprietor in the parish, gave us some information: he & Mr. Davers<sup>528</sup> are the two principal owners.

Our next visit was to Bradfield St. George; I had been here before, but many years ago: I had little therefore to do, but some trifles, which I had before omitted, such as the Ichnography, *oi polloi*, &c: the church itself appears to have undergone little alteration. We were a good deal puzzled at first to know how to get at the church; there appeared to be no road to it, but thro' Mr. Davers's premises; but upon application to a farm-house adjoining, we were directed to a foot path which conducted us into the churchyard, but which we should hardly have found, had it not been pointed out to us. While we were in the churchyard, Mrs. Davers came to us, & expressed a wish to know what

<sup>524</sup> Isaac Taylor II (1759–1829) in 1796 published 40 engraved *Specimens of Gothic Ornaments* from the church here.

<sup>525</sup> Davy's drawing of this brick in BL Add. MS 19,077 f. 243 shows an imperfect Roman flue tile. The name Colchester is of an early 14th cent. owner of the manor, so has no Roman connections *per se*. There are many small and as yet incompletely recorded sites in the area.

<sup>526</sup> Nathaniel Colville, D.D., R. of Lawshall from 1810, patr. N. Lee Acton Esq. For his son see Note 326.

<sup>527</sup> Thomas Walton, Esq., of Bradfield Lodge.

<sup>528</sup> Revd. Robert Davers, R. from 1802, patr. the Marquis of Bristol.

the inscription<sup>529</sup> was on the buttresses of the Steeple; this we were able to give her a copy of; but it was not very graciously received.

After taking some refreshment at Siclesmere, where we were induced to stop, chiefly by the appearance of the weather, we got to Bury between 7 & 8 o'clock, & took up our quarters at Mr. Haggitt's<sup>530</sup> in St. Mary's Square: where we were expected, & where we were to continue during our excursions in the neighbourhood.

*Weds. Oct. 15th*

We this morning drove to Horningsheath; & called upon Mr. Edward Gould,<sup>531</sup> the Curate; we did not find him at home, but putting the poney into his stable, I proceeded to examine the church; Darby had already made his notes. A good many memorials both within & withoutside the church, employed me 2 or 3 hours: the church is very neat, having been within a few years made so, at a great expence by Mr. A. Brook,<sup>532</sup> who gave the parish at the same time a clock; but such is the spirit of the present times that the parishioners will not be at the expence of paying a person to wind it up; & it is therefore a useless ornament. Before I had done, Mr. Gould returned, & when I had finished, we adjourned to his house, to lunch.

This important business having been dispatched, we walked thro' the park, past the House, to Ickworth Church: was rather surprized in walking over the park, to find the land left in so very rough a state; it is full of little hills, no bigger than mole hills, & tho' well adapted, perhaps, to the feeding of sheep, it did not appear to me in that sort of state, wch. we expect to see, round a nobleman's house. We saw his Lordship<sup>533</sup> on horseback, carrying before him on the pomel of his saddle, a favourite lap dog: & were not, a little surprized at it. Ickworth Church appears to have very recently subjected to a thorough repair & improvement by his lordship; he has certainly made it look very neat, but I was not altogether delighted with the taste shewn: it is fitted up rather too much in the drawing room stile, to please me. It contains numerous memorials of the Hervey family, but all in the shape of black marble slabs in the floor of the chancel, which is almost entirely paved with

<sup>529</sup> Her begynyth Joh' Baco' owthe' of the fu'dacyon Jhu p'serve hym.

<sup>530</sup> George John Haggitt was also C. of St. James here since 1819, patr. the Corporation.

<sup>531</sup> He was C. to Henry Hasted (see Note 535).

<sup>532</sup> Arthur John Brooke, Esq., of Brook House in 1818.

<sup>533</sup> Frederick William Hervey, F.R.S., created Marquis of Bristol in 1826.

them: there is not a single mural monument to any one of them; & many of those in the floor are most probably fictitious, as was suggested to me by Mr. John Gage:<sup>316</sup> I allude to those of the earlier periods. We were detained here a long time, by these numerous inscriptions, as also by some difficulty & delay in obtaining the key of the church: so that I had not time to examine the Horningsheath Registers which Mr. E. Gould had prepared for me in my return to his house. We got back to Bury just in time for a late dinner.

*Thurs. Octr. 16th*

Drove this morning to Timworth, which we had twice before in 1829<sup>534</sup> been unsuccessful in obtaining a sight of. We were fortunate this time, but found little to repay us for our trouble; a short time therefore satisfied us; & returning to Bury, we visited St. Mary's Chh. & picked up a little there; here we found Mr. Hasted,<sup>535</sup> who as the weather was not very favourable for standing abroad, invited us to a sight of his curiosities. We were much amused here for an hour. He has a small collection of fossils, some antiquities from Egypt; but what interested me most, were, a ring with some hair of Mary, Queen of France,<sup>536</sup> set in it; some hair also of Thos. Beaufort, Duke of Exeter, lately dug up in the Abbey Church,<sup>537</sup> (a small portion of which he presented me with), & part of a rude urn found in digging the foundations of the new church at Westley.<sup>244</sup>

Col. Rushbrooke,<sup>538</sup> who had called at Mr. Haggitt's;<sup>530</sup> & accompanied us to the church, promised to send me an account of the first disinterment of the Duke of Exeter in 1778, drawn up by his grandfather, who was present at the examination of the body; this promise he was kind enough to perform the next morning.<sup>539</sup> I mentioned to him the circumstance of the Roman brick which I had received from Dr. Colvile, from Colchester Green; he had not heard of it, but knew that there were some earth works there, & promised he

<sup>534</sup> August 25th and 26th.

<sup>535</sup> Henry Hasted was P.C. of St. Mary's from 1802 (a Corporation appointment), R. of Braiseworth from 1812 and Horringer from 1814.

<sup>536</sup> Widow of Louis XII and sister of Henry VIII, d. 1533. Her remains were removed from the Abbey at the Dissolution, and examined by antiquaries in 1731.

<sup>537</sup> Of this discovery there is an account in *Gent. Mag.* 1772, 92.

<sup>538</sup> Lt. Col. Robert Rushbrooke, M.P. for the Western Division of the County 1835 to 1845, of Rushbrooke Hall.

<sup>539</sup> Now bound in BL Add. MS 19,191, f. 93.

would take an early opportunity of examining the spot.

We [occupied] the rest of the day in copying the Inscriptions in the Mausoleum in the church yard of Bury.

Mr. Barnwell<sup>540</sup> dined with us, & from him I obtained a List of Arms of Suffolk families, which I had not before been fortunate enough to meet with: besides other information.

*Fri. Oct. 17th*

As soon as breakfast was over, we returned to our work in the churchyard. We obtained the keys of the Mausoleum, & took all the inscriptions both inside & out, & I then began the Altar & other Tombs, in the Western part of the churchyard, & by one o'clock had finished all those to the W. of the Walk leading from the Gateway to the church.

At 2 o'clock, we took leave of our host, & set off for Rougham. I had not been here for more than 20 years, & therefore found a good deal to do, which I at length accomplished, not omitting to rub off the magnificent brass to Sir Roger Drury.<sup>541</sup> From Rougham we went on to Stowmarket, which we reached as it began to grow dark, & took up our abode there for the night.

*Sat. Oct. 18*

After breakfast, Darby took his way home to Framlingham, & I for Ipswich; but previous to the arrival of the Coach, I had time to go over the churchyard of Stowmarket, & to take the names on head stones &c.

On my arrival at Ipswich, I found I had an hour or two to spare; which I employed in the town, but found little to take, except in St. Clement's churchyard.

I afterwards found in Tacquet Street, a Carver & Gilder, of the name of Jennings,<sup>542</sup> in whose shop I met with a small collection of Prints, &c. relative to Suffolk, which I had not time to examine thoroughly; & it must therefore be the subject of a future examination.

Returned home in the afternoon.

<sup>540</sup> Frederick Henry Turnor Barnwell, Esq. F.R.S. and F.S.A., (1770–1803), lived at Bury and was buried in St. Mary's. He was a friend of the Cullums at Hardwick. Davy wrote of him 'He was a good herald, & very fond of the study'.

<sup>541</sup> Sir Roger Drury, d. 1410, and his wife Margery, dau. and heir of Sir Thomas Naunton, d. 1405.

<sup>542</sup> Thomas Jennings' tradecard illustrates his barometers and mentions Improved Thermometers for Brewers and Hot Houses, but not Prints.

1835

*Tues. April 28th*

Walked from Wherstead to Freston Church; a Mont. lately erected to Rev. J. Bond.<sup>543</sup>

*Tues. May 12*

At Westleton Church, from Darsham. Took some additional Inscns. in the church; & Table Monts &c. in the churchyard: Also the Ground plan of the church.

*Sat. May 16*

At Darsham, a new table Mont.

*Sun. May 17th*

At Yoxford; Some new Table Monts. Took further notes out of the Registers.

*Tues. June 9*

Again at Yoxford: another Table Mont.

*Mon. July 6*

Passing thro' Hoxne, went into the church. Found a few trifling additions in both church & churchyard.

1836

*Tues. May 10*

At Great Bealings from Martlesham. Picked up a few additions in the church yard: did not go into the church.

*Weds. May 11*

In Woodbridge churchyard: found 2 or 3 new table Monts. &c.

<sup>543</sup> John Bond, R. here from 1795 to his death in 1831, was at Bungay Grammar School, but nearly 10 years senior to Davy. His successor at Freston was Wilkinson of Holbrook.

1836

*Mon. May 16*

Walked to Bredfield Church, & found two or 3 additional Altar tombs.

*Tues. June 28th*

From Yoxford, went to Theberton, where I had not been for many years, during which time several new Monts. in the church yard have been erected. I had not before the ground plan: finished what I before wanted.

*Mon. Augt. 1*

Revisited Dennington Church from Kettleburgh: very little new.

*Augt. —*

Walked from Kettleburgh to Monewden; nothing new.

1837

*Fri. April 21*

Revisited Letheringham ch. yard from Kettleburgh; found some little new.

*Thurs. April 27th*

Walked from Kettleburgh to Cretingham. A new Mont. in the church, & some small matters in the churchyard.

*Weds. May 3rd*

Geo. Turner drove me over from Kettleburgh to Southolt, where I had not been before. Made my church notes complete, but could not find the Registers & Terrier.

*Tues. Augt. 29th*

Bredfield Church having undergone a thoro' repair,<sup>544</sup> I paid it a visit: no very material alterations.

<sup>544</sup> George Crabbe, son and biographer of the poet, and Edward FitzGerald's friend, V. here from 1837, must take the credit.

1837

*Thurs. Decr. 14*

Being at Mills's, walked to Holbrook Ch. where a new window has been put in.<sup>545</sup>

*Fri. Decr. 15th*

At Stutton. A new inscrn. in the Chancel.

1838

*Tues. May 15th*

Went with Turner from Kettleburgh to Otley. A new Parsonage building: a new School house just compleated;<sup>546</sup> & great repairs to the church, a few trifles only I found new. I did not go into the church.

*Thurs. May 24*

Darby drove me to Wingfield: where I made some additions to my former notes: a School house has been built in the churchyard: by the exertions of the late Curate, Mr. Bicker.<sup>547</sup>

In our way back, looked into Wilby Church. Some improvements lately made in the church by Mr. Owen<sup>548</sup> the Rector; & some Arms put in the E. window.<sup>549</sup>

*Weds. June 6th*

Yoxford Church having received a considerable enlargement, & alterations having been made about it, I took notes thereof. Much has been done, & well done; & at considerable expence.

<sup>545</sup> There is no window of the period remaining.

<sup>546</sup> According to White's 1844 *Directory* the house cost £1400 'borrowed of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty.' The Rev. Francis Storr built this and the School, which cost £500, in 1839.

<sup>547</sup> John Bicker, P.C. from 1832 to his death in 1836, patr. the Bp. of Norwich. He was buried under the pavement of his National School on which he spent £200.

<sup>548</sup> H. Owen was patron and incumbent from 1831.

<sup>549</sup> The east window today is one of 1904 by Clayton & Bell.

1838

*Weds. Sept. 5th*<sup>550</sup>

Walked from Yoxford to Sibton Church. A new E. window<sup>551</sup> has lately been put in; with some Coats of arms: A new Mont. in Chancel.

*Fri. Septr. 28*

Walked from Dennington to Brundish; but found little new.

*Sat. Decr. 15th*

Being at Blaxhall, walked to Lt. Glemham to see Mr. North's Monument,<sup>552</sup> lately erected there: a statue of him in white marble, sitting in a chair, sculptured at Rome; I did not think it like him.

1839

*Mon. June 17th*

Being on a visit at Darby's at Framlingham, I walked with him to Cransford,<sup>553</sup> his Curacy.<sup>554</sup> I had not been in the church for 30 years. I found little or nothing new, but got access to the Regrs. & Terriers, & some old Account books.

*Weds. June 19th*

Went with Darby to Worlingworth; a number of years having elapsed since I was before here, I found considerable matter: obtained impressions of the brasses, but had no time for the Regrs: tho' sufficient to make my church notes complete to the present time.

In our way back to Framlingham, looked into Tannington Church; nothing new: But picked up a little in the ch. yard.

<sup>550</sup> D.E.D. to G.B.J., 11 June 1838: 'Being at length a. fixture at home, at least for a short space . . .'

<sup>551</sup> Another new E. window by Ward & Hughes replaced this one in 1872.

<sup>552</sup> Dudley Long North died in 1829 and his monument was made by John Gibson in Rome in 1833. According to Whites *Suffolk*, 1844, the first statue sent was lost at sea, and this is a replacement.

<sup>553</sup> J. Chevallier was V. from 1831 in this family living.

<sup>554</sup> This is another church where Darby was Curate, and here again, in 1843, he put up armorial shield decorations.



*Statue of Dudley Long North, Esq. at Little Glemham*



*The south side of Ringsfield Church showing the Garneys monument. See p. 154*

1839

*Thurs. June 20th*

Visited Bedford Church: where I got the ground plan, & some Insns. in the church yd. Then to the remains of Ashfield Church.<sup>554a</sup>

*Fri. June 21st*

Took the Union Coach<sup>555</sup> from Framlingham to Harleston; from whence I walked to Mendham Church, where I had not been before; I had just time before it was dark to copy all the inscriptions, to take rubbings of the brasses & to make my church notes full & complete. Had no time to enquire after the Registers which would probably take a long time to examine properly: returned to Harleston, & slept at the Pye.

*Sat. June 22nd*

After breakfast this morning hired a Gig to take me back to Fressingfield, but stopped in my way, at Weybread Church, where I found a good deal new, & some former omissions to fill up: numerous additional Table Monuments. A new Parsonage has lately been built by the present Rector, Mr. Daniel.<sup>556</sup> Having finished here —

Went to Fressingfield Church, where I took an impression of the brass in the chancel & had just time to complet my notes in the church & church yard before it began to rain, which it continued to do nearly the whole of the afternoon. Returned home in the Evening by the Union Coach.

*Tues. June 25th*

Again walked from Yoxford to Sibton, to obtain better rubbings of two of the brasses, of which, however, I found only one in its place, but afterwards learned that the other was preserved in the church chest.<sup>557</sup>

<sup>554a</sup> This church was rebuilt in 1853, after which Thorpe St. Peter nearby (visited 19 Nov. 1833) was allowed to fall into ruin.

<sup>555</sup> The Union Coach left the Crown & Anchor at 11.45 a.m. and reached Harleston at about 1.30 p.m.

<sup>556</sup> J. E. Daniel was patron and V. from 1829.

<sup>557</sup> There have been no losses of brasses at Sibton since Davy's earliest visit.

1839

*Fri. June 28th*

Walked from Yoxford to Middleton Church, to get the two brasses in a better state; nothing new, of any consequence.

*Thurs. July 11th*

Being on a Visit to Blaxhall, Wade drove me to Butley Church, which I had not seen for more than 30 years: got full notes.

*Fri. July 12th*

To Chilsford in the same way: the brass in the Chancel was my chief object here, but I found several new table Monuments in the churchyard. Paid a visit to Mr. Dewing,<sup>558</sup> the new Rector, who very kindly shewed me the Regrs. & lent me the Terrier.

*Tues. July 15th*

Went with Wade to Sudborn, where I got full notes: afterwards visited the Crag pits in that parish; & from thence proceeded to Orford. I met Mr. Geo. Randall<sup>559</sup> the present Claviger, by whose means I obtained a sight of the Archives of the Corporation. These, however, I found very deficient, Mr. Randall informing me that some years back Mr. Peacock, agent for Lord Hertford, had taken away large quantities of them. The Charters remain still in the Town Hall, & some of the Court books, with other documents, which however appeared to be of very little value. Mr. Randall allowed me to borrow a bundle of old deeds, which proved of no value. I also borrowed of him, the Reports of the Municipal Commission,<sup>560</sup> which lay open scenes of most extraordinary malversation in this as well as in other Boroughs. Dined at Mrs. Wade's<sup>561</sup> at Orford, & returned to Blaxhall in the evening.

<sup>558</sup> James Dewing was patron and incumbent.

<sup>559</sup> George Randall, described as gentleman in the 1830 Pigot, held the keys to the Corporation Archives.

<sup>560</sup> The Commission reported in 1835, giving 431 pp. to Orford and only 213 to Ipswich.

<sup>561</sup> Mrs. Elizabeth Wade, dau. and heir of Edward Ellis of Orford, the mother of Ellis Wade, had been widowed since 1825.

1839

*Sat. Augt. 31*

Being at Yoxford, I visited Saxmundham; I had at my last visit here, left several of the table monumental inscns. uncopied, I now took the opportunity of finishing them: in the church also I found two new Monuments.

*Tues. Sepr. 3rd*

At Brampton; visited the church, where I found a lately erected monument in memory of the late Mr. Leman.<sup>562</sup>

Walked to Westhall, where I had not been for many years. Obtained a rubbing off of the brass plate, & otherwise completed my church notes there.

Afterwards walked to Shaddingfield Church, where I found very little new.

*Thurs. Octr. 24*

From Yoxford visited Dunwich to see the New Church,<sup>563</sup> a neat modern chapel; but Mr. Barne<sup>564</sup> threatens to convert it into an ancient church, by new windows & flint walls. It is hardly finished yet, tho' it has been built 8 or 9 years.

Paid a visit at the same time to the old church of All Sts. & got the Ichnography, &c.

A great alteration, much for the better, has taken place in the general appearance of the place, since I was here last: by inclosing, planting, cultivating &c. the land within & without the Town.

1843

*Mon. July 3rd*

After so long an interval of rest from my visitations, I had almost given up the hopes of seeing the few remaining churches in the County, which I had had no opportunity of examining, when my friend Wade of Blaxhall, having expressed a Wish to see Bildeston, from whence he supposed his family to have originally sprung, & offering to carry me there, or to any part of Suffolk with which I was not acquainted, I gladly accepted his offer, & this morning

<sup>562</sup> White marble, mural, for the Rector for 43 years, N.T.O. Leman, d. 1837, aged 77.

<sup>563</sup> The church was built by subscription, at a cost of £1600 in 1830. It had a round tower originally.

<sup>564</sup> Lt. Col. Michael Barne, Esq., of Shrubbery Hall held the advowson jointly with Lord Huntingfield.

he took up, & we proceeded towards Bildeston. We baited our horse at Coddendam & I had therefore an opportunity of revisiting the church there, where I made some additions to my former notes; & found the E. window had been filled with stained glass, of arms, &c. of the families connected with the property in the Parish, placed there, apparently at the [cost of the] late Revd. John Longe,<sup>203</sup> his arms being conspicuously placed in the upper tracery.<sup>565</sup>

From Coddendam, we passed thro' Barking, &c. & stopped a few minutes at Wattisfield, where I examined the outside of the church, & churchyard, but did not go into the former. At Bildeston we stopt to dinner, & afterwards visited the church, where I made considerable additions to my former notes.

From Bildeston we went on to Bury where we took up our quarters for the night. In passing thro' Cockfield we observed by the road side a stone,<sup>566</sup> on which is cut,

This marks the bounds  
of three Hundreds & three towns.

This was a long day's journey for our horse; being not less for him than 45 miles, but he stood it well.

*Tues. July 4th*

After an early breakfast at Bury, we set off for Thetford, on our way, we stopt at Ingham, but I did not go into the church, contenting myself with notes on the style of architecture, & what I found new in the churchyard. From thence to Barnham, which I had not seen before. After having fully taken this church, we went on to Thetford, & while our steed got his dinner, I went to St. Mary's Church, where I found a good deal new. After spending 2 or 3 hours here, during which my companion had an opportunity of seeing the Town, the Hill, &c. & visiting the incumbent Mr. Collett,<sup>567</sup> a friend of his, who also shewed me much civility, we went on to Euston. After working here till past 6 o'clock, & finding a good deal more to do, it became a question where we should go for a night's lodging: the Inn at Euston, The Fox, might have afforded us sufficiently comfortable accommodations to people not very fastidious, but that was quite full, & we therefore returned to Thetford,

<sup>565</sup> This window by S. C. Yarrington of Norwich put in in July 1832 was removed by a faculty of December 1892.

<sup>566</sup> Still there today near Stone Farm at TL 926561.

<sup>567</sup> William Collett, P.C. since 1828, patr. the D. of Norfolk.

where we found excellent quarters at the Bell.<sup>568</sup>

*Weds. July 5*

We left Thetford after breakfast, & proceeded again to Euston, & had more than two hours' work in taking the 7 brasses in the church. The day was excessively hot, & my work was therefore tiresome & fatiguing; by 12 o'clock, I had completed my operations here, & took Fakenham, in full.

From Fakenham we went to Ixworth, without stopping any where on the way: — here we found it necessary to refresh both men & horse, & having done so at the Pickerell, we drove to Pakenham; but we found so much here, that having worked as long as we could well see, we returned to Ixworth to sleep, leaving what was left undone, till the morning. We found very comfortable accommodation at Ixworth.

*Thurs. July 6*

This Morning we returned to Pakenham, & having finished there, we went to Stowlangtoft. We here met with great civility from the Rector, Mr. Rickards,<sup>569</sup> who took our horse into his Stable, & gave us a lunch. I found much to do here, but succeeded in obtaining full notes, except as to Mr. Wilson's Mausoleum<sup>570</sup> which being inclosed in palisades & the gate into it locked, & the key not forthcoming I could not examine so closely as I wished. It is a large piece of ground, too large indeed to be appropriated to one person's sole use; it is planted with shrubs, & in the centre is a low but large tomb, on the top of which is engraven a coat of arms, which I could not exactly make out.

From Stowlangtoft we found our way tho' not without some difficulty to Hunston, the church of which stands in so retired a situation, that we did not see [it] till we arrived at the churchyard gate. It is a very dark damp building, without much about it interesting. We were not long detained here. In our way to the church, we passed Mr. Heigham's house;<sup>571</sup> a very nice looking

<sup>568</sup> Bell Inn & Posting House. Prop: Robert Edwards.

<sup>569</sup> Samuel Rickards, R. from 1832, patr. H. Wilson, Esq. of Stowlangtoft Hall. See also Note 485.

<sup>570</sup> The Wilson vault was remodelled, but not reduced in size, about 1875, with red granite balusters replacing the palisades. The latest to be buried there was 'Jumbo' Wilson of World War II fame.

<sup>571</sup> John Henry Heigham, Esq. of Hunston Hall, Chairman of Guardians for the Stow Union.

snug dwelling, without pretensions; the situation rather low, & much inclosed with trees.

Our next stop was at Ashfield, a rather more open country; but neither a picturesque one, nor a desirable one for residence. Here are however, two gentleman's seats: Lord Thurlow's,<sup>572</sup> & Mr. Norgate's<sup>573</sup> both of which are inhabited by the owners. I was able in a short time to obtain here all the notes I wanted.

From Ashfield we proceeded to Badwell Ash, where we dined, & afterwards visited the church. The son of the Clerk, who attended us, told us, that some of the family of Norgate had been buried at Ashfield, but that for some reason or other, their bodies had been removed to this church; & one of the monuments which now appears here, was at first erected in Ashfield Church. I did not notice the inscription<sup>574</sup> on the Steeple, which is preserved in T. Martin's Ch. Notes; indeed I had not finished here before it was getting dusk, when we were glad to make our way back to our quarters at Ixworth.

*Fri. July 7th*

Before breakfast this morning, I visited the church, & within it I found an additional monument or two; & the same in the ch. yard. The inscription on the S. side of the Steeple, is become nearly illegible, the glazing of the pammments having peeled off.

After breakfast we drove to Langham. The church stands in the grounds of Langham Hall, & is a building of little interest, either internally or externally; I was not long here. Langham Hall is rather prettily situated, has the appearance of a comfortable residence, tho' by no means large; we found that Mr. Wilson<sup>575</sup> the present owner was pulling down the stables, which were evidently much too large for the house: & probably before long, the house itself will share the same fate.

Walsham le Willows was our next object. I found here a large & handsome church, & it took me several hours to get complete notes. Mr. Golding,<sup>576</sup>

<sup>572</sup> Edward Thomas Hovell, 3rd Baron Thurlow, of Great Ashfield Lodge.

<sup>573</sup> The Revd. Thomas B. Norgate, lecturer, but not P.C. John Steggall held the incumbent curacy from 1823.

<sup>574</sup> An '*orate*' for John Fincham and his wife.

<sup>575</sup> Joseph Wilson, Esq., purchased the estate from the Blake family. The Hall did not in fact share the fate of the stables.

<sup>576</sup> Samuel Golding, Esq., solicitor, held the advowson.

who has a very comfortable residence in the parish, & who is Impropiator of the Living, was very attentive to us, shewing us an old Font in his garden, which he supposes may have come from Ixworth Abbey, & some carvings in a house<sup>577</sup> adjoining the church yard, which was formerly the Parsonage, & which Mr. Golding proposes to make so again, when his son, who will have the living, will have it for his residence. Here is another good house, the residence of Mr. Hooper Wilkinson,<sup>578</sup> with others. The country here is a good deal inclosed, is well wooded, & appears very productive.

From Walsham we made our way thro' Hepworth & Barningham to Coney Weston; passed Mr. Bridgman's;<sup>579</sup> situated on a flat, without any pretensions. The church contains nothing particular, & I soon was satisfied.

From Coney Weston to Knattishall. Misled by the appearances of this part of the county on the map, I had expected to find this neighbourhood uninclosed, & somewhat wild: on the contrary, the whole is well wooded, inclosed, & good land. The church is small, & I found very little in it.

We proceeded on therefore to Hopton, & having ordered something for dinner, we walked to the church: but I had only time to make a few notes as to the style of architecture, & to make a ground Plan. Having satisfied nature, we drove to Botesdale, where we took up our abode for the night.

*Sat. July 8*

The morning proved a very wet one, & we were detained by the rain much longer than was agreeable. I walked cross to the chapel, examined that, & took a copy of the inscription over the door.<sup>580</sup> About 10 o'clock seeing some appearance of its being about to clear up, I walked to Rickinghall Superior, leaving my companion to pick me up as soon as the weather would permit. I found no inconvenience from the rain in my walk, of a mile & half, & I had well nigh finished my notes, before Wade made his appearance, & when it had ceased raining, tho' the weather still looked rather threatening:

We then made our way to Gislingham, & just as we reached that place, it

<sup>577</sup> The Priory House did become the Vicarage again and still is today. The inscription on two wooden shields fixed to beams in the Parlour reads: SWR/RICH/ARD and ALD/RIH'C/HANV'. Richard Aldriche was a canon of Ixworth from whence were sent Chaplains to serve the parish of Walsham and to live at the Priory. Aldriche filled this parochial office from before 1519 to 1526 or 7.

<sup>578</sup> Hooper John Wilkinson, Esq., lived at Walsham House.

<sup>579</sup> Edward Bridgman, Esq., lord of the manor, of Coney-Weston Hall.

<sup>580</sup> The usual 'Orate' for John Sheriff and his wife, for whom this was a Chantry chapel.

began to rain again heavily. We fortunately found the means of getting horse & gig under shelter, & I proceeded to the church, where I worked hard for 2 or 3 hours, but as this was the last day of the week, & my companion was obliged to get home, & we had still a long journey to take, I was obliged to leave this church unfinished; but chiefly on the outside; Wade however, has promised that if nothing happens to prevent it, he will, before many weeks have elapsed, accompany me again, when I hope to compleat this, & to visit the only two churches in Suffolk, *viz.* Hinderclay & Mellis, which now remain, unseen by me.

We drove on, for a considerable distance in the rain, thro' Thornham, Thorndon, Stoke, Rishangles, & Kenton, to Earlsoham, where we stop'd to dine. It was fine, before we reached this last place, & the rest of the evening was the same. Between 7 & 8 o'clock, I was set down at my own door, after a week of very hard work, but of great interest & amusement.

1844

*Tues. June 18*

According to agreement, Wade called me this morning to carry me to visit the only two churches in the County which I had not seen. We were to dine by engagement, at his nephew's, Mark Wade,<sup>581</sup> at White hall in Debenham. We passed thro' Dallingho, Charsfield, Cretingham, & Ashfield, & in our way visited Winston Church, which I had not seen for more than 30 years. Having thoroughly examined the church, we proceeded on to Mr. Mark Wade's, from whence, after dinner, went to Eye, where we slept.

*Weds. June 19*

After breakfast this morning, we drove to Mellis Church; it stands by the side of a common, which even at this time of the year had a very dreary & miserable appearance: what must it be in Winter? Mr. Creed,<sup>582</sup> the Rector, was kind enough to come to the church, & offer any assistance in his power. After I had taken full notes at the church, I walked with Mr. Creed to his house where he shewed me the error in the dates of the Monuments on the Yaxley family in the church, compared with the Register.<sup>583</sup>

<sup>581</sup> Mark Edward Wade (1817–83), son and heir of Mark Wade, eldest brother of Ellis Wade.

<sup>582</sup> Henry Creed, R. of this Crown living, contributed extracts from Mellis Churchwarden's Accounts and Registers to *P.S.I.A.* I, (1848–53).

<sup>583</sup> D. E. Davy's Catalogue in *Top. and Gen.*, II, 162 gives the details.

Our next object was Hinderclay, the only remaining church in the County unvisited by me. Passing thro' Burgate, we were persuaded by a man we met on the road, not to pass thro' Botesdale, but to take our way over Wortham Common, & Redgrave Common, as our nearest road; this was new ground to me but we certainly found it the furthest way about. The day now began to cloud over, & a light rain fell, I obtained what I wanted at the church, tho' it was very bad doing in the open air.

It was my wish to stop in our way, at Gislingham to finish what I had left undone when I was here last year; but as I only wanted notes in the church yard, I found the rain too much to allow me to do that. I was therefore obliged reluctantly, to leave that church unfinished; & returning by Yaxley, I visited that church for the purpose of obtaining rubbings off of the brasses therein. Of the four which I found when I was here in 1806, I could find now only two; tho' since my return home, I have referred to my former notes, & have no doubt I overlooked them, as they lie in one of the pews on the S. side of the Nave.<sup>584</sup> From thence we came back to Eye, where we dined & slept again.

Wade this day had been suffering much from an attack of his old complaint, the asthma.

*Thurs. June 20*

Wade had so bad a night, & was so ill this Morning, that it became absolutely necessary that he should return home, as speedily as possibly. He was complaining to Mr. Creed, when he was at Mellis Church, that he was asthmatic, & Mr. C. having ascertained that Eye was our head quarters, observed that several of his friends who suffered under the same complaint, could never sleep in this town with [out] suffering an attack of the disorder; & the truth of the observation received strong confirmation from the case of my companion. We were not able to leave Eye till near 12 o'clock but before that I was enabled to pay a visit to the church, which I had not seen for 38 years, & to pick up a few additional notes.

Passing the Castle Hill, I found a lofty scaffold erected & operations going on, which upon enquiry, I heard were the building of a castle<sup>585</sup> on the top by Sir Edward Kerrison: the structure was to be of white brick formed in moulds for the purpose, & to cover the whole top of the hill: about 12 or 14 feet seemed to be all then finished.

I had intended to have paid a visit in our return home to Occold to have rubbed off the brass there, & to have picked up any thing new there;

<sup>584</sup> There are still 4 brasses at Yaxley.

<sup>585</sup> A wall remains from this building.

1844

afterwards to have stopped a short time at Rishangles, & perhaps taken a look into Kenton: but we made the best of our way to Blaxhall where I had engaged to stay a few days, & got there about 5 o'clock.

*Fri. June 21*

Walked up to the church to see a Piscina just opened; & the Font now entirely cleaned from white wash & dirt: but very neat & great improvements to the church.

*Sat. June 22*

Wade being much recovered from his severe attack, drove me this morning to Tunstall, in hopes I might obtain an examination of the Registers there. Mr. Ferrand,<sup>56</sup> however, being from home, the Books were locked up, except the modern ones; those I looked over but found little to extract. I went into the church, chiefly for the purpose of noting the style of its architecture. I found little new.

From thence we went to Wantisden; Mr. Barnardiston<sup>500</sup> had just ordered a new Window to be put in at the E. end; & the workmen had not completed it. The Piscina had been just opened, & the Font cleaned at Wade's suggestion.

*Mon. June 24*

Wade drove me to Sweffling, & I completed my church notes; made extracts from the Registers, which have been very irregularly kept, particularly in earlier times, & borrowed the Terrier of Mr. Skinner;<sup>586</sup> when I had finished, I found Wade taken so ill that we returned immediately to Blaxhall, when he was obliged to take to his bed, & to send for medical advice. I staid there that night, & finding him somewhat better in the morning, I returned home.

<sup>586</sup> Russell Skinner, R. from 1835 to 1882, patr. Thomas Williams Esq.

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