

The Lives of the First Seven Incumbents

(1846 - 1930)



St. Mark's Church
Worsley

Charles Cameron (1846-1850)

Charles Cameron had the honour of being the first Perpetual Curate of St. Mark's Church, Worsley. The church was founded in 1844 and consecrated by the Bishop of Chester, Dr. John Bird Sumner, on 2 July 1846. The first entry in any of the church registers was the Baptism on 5th July 1846 of John Harrison, son of John Harrison and Sarah Georgiana, of Worsley. The boy was born on 26th August 1846 and he was baptised by Charles Cameron

His parents were the **Rev. Charles Richard Cameron**. and Lucy Lyttelton Butt. She was the daughter of Rev. Dr. George Butt, Chaplain to George III. They married in Worcester on 12 June 1806. His father (born 1779) was a clerk, firstly, in Shropshire and, subsequently, in Lincolnshire. The younger Charles (born April 1807) was the eldest of twelve children – three of whom became clergymen.

Charles Cameron was born on 12th April **1807** at Snedshill, Shropshire. He was the first son of the Rev. Charles Richard Cameron and Lucy Lyttelton Butt. He was baptised on 17th Jun **1807** at St. George's, Shropshire. At the age of 19, he matriculated at QUEENS College, Oxford, on 18th May **1826** and eventually graduated with a B.A. in **1831**. He gained his M.A. in **1834**.

The genealogies of his mother, Lucy Lyttelton Butt, and his wife, Marcia Sarah Elizabeth Burrell, are very interesting and worth a study in their own right.

***Cameron [née Butt], Lucy Lyttelton** [known as Mrs Cameron] (1781–1858), children's author, was born on 29 April 1781 in Stanford-on-Teme, Worcestershire, daughter of George Butt (1741–1795), vicar of Stanford-on-Teme, and his wife, Martha Sherwood (d. 1817), daughter of a London silk merchant. He held various livings and was distinguished as a tutor before being appointed Chaplain in Ordinary to George III in 1783. The youngest of three children, Lucy took her name from her godmother, Lady Lucy Fortescue Lyttelton, daughter of the first Lord Lyttelton and wife of Earl Mountnorris.*

In 1787 Lord Foley appointed George Butt vicar of Kidderminster where, under the supervision of her parents, Lucy Lyttelton Butt's education began a year later with Latin, extending to French, Italian, and Greek. In 1792 she was sent to the Abbey School in Reading, which she attended until 1797. About 1794 the family returned to Stanford parsonage; one year later, on 30 September 1795, George Butt died there, and shortly afterwards the family moved to Bridgnorth.

From her earliest years Lucy Lyttelton Butt had the advantage of constant exposure to a highly literary and intellectual society. Her father was among the close friends of Anna Seward, 'the Swan of Lichfield', a factor that possibly played a significant part in his daughter's own career as a writer, which began in 1798 with the writing of The History of Margaret Whyte.

*On 12 June 1806 Lucy Lyttelton Butt married the **Revd. Charles Richard Cameron** (1781–1865) of Christ Church, Oxford, the eldest son of Dr Cameron, physician at Worcester; they had a large family. Through her husband Mrs Cameron met Gerrard Andrewes (1750–1825), dean of Canterbury and rector of St James's, Piccadilly, whose rectory was the meeting place for much of London society. There she met Elizabeth Carter and Humphry Davy. While visiting Bristol Mrs Cameron was introduced to Hannah More, Mary Anne Galton (later Mrs. Schimmelpenninck), and other members of the literary coteries of London.*

Mrs Cameron's acquaintances included writers for children with whom she was soon to be ranked. Although overshadowed at the time by the works of her sister, Mary Martha Sherwood, Mrs Cameron's narrative tracts, such as the Two Lambs, written in 1803 but not published until 1827, effected similar changes in children's religious literature of the period. With its concern for the individual's life, background, and sentiments, their work replaced the earlier eighteenth-

century moral tracts that concentrated not upon the individual but upon society and the individual's duties within it. Works such as Mrs Cameron's *Margaret Whyte* (1799) and her sister's *History of Little Henry and his Bearer* (1814) both have, according to Margaret Nancy Cutt, a quality of detail and expression that anticipates Victorian fiction for children. After starting to compose penny books for children in 1816, Mrs Cameron continued to write rapidly, completing one of her books, *The Raven and the Dove* (1817), in only four hours. This book, together with others such as *The Caskets* (1820), *Memoirs of Emma and her Nurse* (2nd edn, 1821), Marten and his *Two Little Scholars at a Sunday School* (1827), and *The Faithful Little Girl* (1823), and those of Mrs Sherwood, became for the children of the time a natural part not only of each Sunday but of childhood itself. By the 1870s, however, Mrs Cameron's works, including *Addresses to Children on the Beatitudes* (1828), *Englishwomen* (1841), and *The Farmer's Daughter* (1843), like those of Mrs Sherwood and Hannah More, were no longer circulated beyond the confines of the Sunday school.

Beyond her writing Mrs Cameron's life was the busy one of a clergyman's wife. Shortly after her marriage her husband was appointed to a church in Donnington Wood in the parish of Lilleshall, Shropshire, recently built on the estate of Lord Stafford for the colliers of the district; the Camerons lived in Snedshill. Mrs Cameron's mother died in 1817; the death of her sister-in-law, Mrs Butt, followed shortly after in 1818. Her brother, Marten Butt, unable to cope with the shock of his wife's death, became ill, and found himself unable to look after their children; Mrs Sherwood took charge of his four sons and Mrs Cameron, already caring for her own children, most of whom died before her, took in his three daughters. That summer, in 1818, Isaac Hawkins Browne MP, a close friend of Mrs Cameron's father, died leaving a legacy of £50 a year for life to Mrs. Cameron.

In 1831 Charles Cameron accepted a cure at Swaby near Alford in Lincolnshire, but continued to live with his family in Snedshill, serving his old parish as curate until 1836. They then moved to Louth and finally, on the completion of the rectory, settled at Swaby in 1839. In 1856, while visiting the Lakes, Mrs Cameron was caught in a storm on Ullswater and caught a cold from which she never recovered. She died at Swaby rectory on 6 September 1858 and was buried in the churchyard there.

(© Oxford University Press 2004–14 All rights reserved)

Berrow's Worcester Journal of Saturday 18th September 1858 announced the death of his mother, Lucy Lyttelton, thus:

'September 7 in her 78th year, Lucy Lyttelton, wife of the Rev. Charles Richard Cameron, MA, Rector of Swaby, Lincolnshire, and daughter of the late Rev. George Butt, D.D., formerly vicar of Kidderminster and Rector of Stanford, in this county.'

Her fame rests on her religious tales and allegories, written chiefly for the young. Of these, Dr. Arnold was a warm admirer. He wrote: *'The knowledge and the love of Christ can nowhere be more readily gained by young children than from some of the short stories of Mrs. Cameron, such as "Amelia," the "Two Lambs," the "Flower Pot".'* (ARNOLD, *Sermons*, i. 45).

Charles Cameron was ordained Priest on 7th July 1833 at Lichfield, having been appointed Assistant Curate at Wombridge, Shropshire, on 24 June 1832. He married Marcia Sarah Elizabeth Burrell at St. Mary, Stoke, Ipswich, on 24 April 1851. Together they had six children - 1 son and 5 daughters.

He was at St. James, Dudley, from 1840 to 1848. A newspaper article at the time praised his contribution to the parish. *Berrow's Worcestershire Journal*, dated Thursday 2nd March 1843, stated:

'The large school-room belonging to St. James' Church, Dudley, is now complete, owing to the exertions of the Rev. Charles Cameron and the worthy vicar. It is capable of holding

600 or 700 children; and will be opened in the present month. It is built in a populous district, where no school existed, and till lately no church.'

The church of St. Mark, begun in June **1844**, was consecrated by the Bishop of Chester on 2nd July **1846**. By the time of that ceremony, the Rev. Charles Cameron was the Incumbent of the parish. Sadly, there seems to be no contemporary account of the service in 1846. However, from an account in the national press of a provincial grand meeting of Freemasons held at the Temperance Hall, Bolton, on 2nd July, a few facts can be deduced. The weather that day *"was exceedingly unpropitious."* Lord Francis Egerton (provincial grand master) *"had been prevented from attending as early as was expected in consequence of the consecration of the new church at Worsley."* The business of the lodge was conducted and the Earl arrived at 1.30pm. Clearly, the consecration service must have been held in the morning. The weather by early afternoon *"fortunately had now cleared up."*

In July **1849**, a young 16-year old boy came to Worsley, having moved in those years from the north-east, to London, and thence to Newton-le-Willows with his sickly father. He had already shown an inclination to painting and had followed courses during his time in London. His father having returned to London for hospital treatment, the young boy stayed in Manchester, and on 2nd August wrote to his father that he intended to come to Worsley.

"I intend to go down to Worsley in the course of two or three days with my drawing of the church. I hope that I may see the Earl or the Rector."

This he duly did, though it was not until 1st October that he made the journey.

"MY DEAR FATHER, I received your kind letter of the 27th ult. (but I thought I would not answer you until I had seen either the Earl or the Rector. I went yesterday to Worsley, and saw the Rector; he told me to make him another drawing of the church, in addition to the one I have already done. He gave me a shilling."

Then, on 27th November, he wrote again to his father, whose illness was now incurable.

"I went to the Hall yesterday, the day appointed. I was shown in to Mr. Rasbotham, whom I found seated at his desk writing. Upon my entrance he rose, and bade me good morning. I returned his salutation. We then proceeded to business. He seemed to like the view of the Church very well and took it in to show his lordship. He returned with the gracious information that his lordship was very well pleased with it, and that I was to execute two more views of the hall, to be sent down to the house in London, 10 Belgrave Square, where they intend proceeding on Friday. He then gave me 2 for the view of the Church, and I consider that I was exceedingly well paid."

This young man's name was Frederick James Shields (1833-1911), who became a well-known British artist, illustrator and designer, and who was deeply impressed by pictures in the Manchester Art Treasures Exhibition of 1857. He became closely associated with the Pre-Raphaelites through Dante Gabriel Rossetti and Ford Madox Brown. The rector mentioned above must have been Charles Cameron. For the two drawings, the Earl of Ellesmere paid the boy the (then) fabulous sum of five pounds, and he also drew the portraits of several of the servants at the Hall for five shillings a head. After this, his career developed immeasurably. More can be learnt of him in *The Life and Letters of Frederic Shields* by Ernestine Mills.

The Liverpool Mercury of Tuesday 26th March **1850** announced that Charles Cameron was to leave the living of Worsley:

"The Rev. Charles Cameron, MA, has resigned the incumbency of St. Mark's, Worsley. The living is in the gift of the Earl of Ellesmere, the Patron."

The census of **1851** showed that he (aged 42) was unmarried. He was then Curate of Frankley, and was recorded as a Visitor, staying at Stoke Park, Ipswich, the home of Robert Burrell and his sister Marcia (30). The census was taken about two weeks before he and Marcia married. **Marcia Sarah Elizabeth Burrell** was the daughter of the Hon. Merrick Lindsey Peter Burrell, of Stoke Park, Ipswich, and Frances Daniell. Her parents were married at St. Martin-in-the-Fields 13 July 1807. Merrick was the second son of

Peter Burrell, First Baron Gwydir, and Priscilla Barbara Elizabeth Bertie, Baroness Willoughby of Eresby. He held the position of Secretary of Legation at the court of Dresden. Charles Cameron was Curate at St. Leonard's, Frankley, Worcs., for one year, **1850-1851**. The incumbent was listed as the Hon. William Henry Lyttelton, most likely in plurality with the parish of Hagley.

Incumbent of the Donative of Oxhey, Watford, Dio. of Rochester, **1853-1858**

In **1854**, he had been Chaplain to the Watford Union, a workhouse built in 1836/7. The Union comprised six parishes close to Watford. The inmates were in the main elderly Watford residents who by old age found it increasingly difficult to manage either their domestic or financial affairs and gradually became classed as paupers.

Incumbent of Christ Church, Trusley, Derbys., **1859-1861**. Interestingly, this church was, like St. Mark's, a new church, completed in 1859, when it was created out of the parishes of Sutton-on-the-Hill, Trusley, and Brailsford. It was consecrated by the Bishop of Lichfield on Saturday 8th October 1859 and Charles Cameron, as Incumbent, elected to preach at 6pm on the Sunday. The census of **1861** records that Charles (aged 53) was living with his wife Marcia (37), Charles H. (8), Maria F. L. (7), Georgina E. (6) and Clara (6), twins, and an unbaptised infant - Lucy - (1 mo.) at The Parsonage, Trusley, Derbyshire.

The Morning Post of Saturday 7th December **1861** reported the death of Charles Cameron in the following way:

'As the Rev. Charles Cameron, vicar of Christ's Church, Trusley, Derbyshire, was officiating at Heckington on Sunday, he was seized with paralysis whilst giving out the text, and fell on the seat in a totally unconscious state. He was removed to the vicarage as soon as possible, but he never rallied and died the same afternoon. He was 54 years of age.'

He was about to preach as a guest at his brother's church. He had just ascended the pulpit and given the text of his sermon (from the 93rd Psalm, verse 5) when he was *'attacked with paralysis.'* At first, it affected his speech, but within 3 or 4 minutes he became inaudible and fell onto the seat, totally unconscious. His brother and several others immediately went to his assistance and he was carried down into the church, where he was attended by Mr. Franks, a surgeon, who happened to be present. From there, he was carried to the vicarage, but never rallied. He died at about 4pm that afternoon.

Charles Cameron was also the author of various sermons, pamphlets and religious articles, some of which are preserved in the local history section of Manchester Central Library, and two are in the British Library. Amongst the pieces he had written were *Parochial Sermons; Two Sermons on the Difference between Justification and Sanctification;* and *The Tyranny of Popery*, by an Eye Witness, as seen in Italy in 1852.

The National Probate Calendar shows that he died on 1 December **1861** in the pulpit of the church at Heckington, Lincs. Probate was granted on 16 January **1862** to Marcia Sarah Elizabeth Cameron, widow. His widow, Marcia, later married Walter Whittington in April **1868**. She died on 22 October **1889** at 67 Oakfield Road, Clifton, Gloucestershire, aged 68. Probate was granted to the Rev. George Thomas Cameron of Heckington Vicarage, Sleaford, Lincs., her brother-in-law. His own father, the Rev. Charles Richard Cameron, died three years after his son on 19 January 1865 at Swaby, Lincs.

Rev. St. Vincent Beechey
(1850 - 1872)

St. Vincent Beechey had the distinction of being the first vicar of the parish. He was a son of Sir William Beechey, painter [R.A.], Court Painter, of 13 Harley Street, London. He was born on 7th Aug. **1806** in London, the sixteenth of twenty-one children of Sir William Beechey! His mother was Ann Phyllis Jessop (3 August 1764; 14 December 1833), second wife of Sir William. He was named after his godfather, Sir John Jervis, 1st Earl of St Vincent, in recognition of his great naval victory over the Spanish fleet on 14 February 1797 and was baptised at St.Marylebone on 18th Jan **1807**. Sir William Beechey painted a portrait of Admiral John Jervis, 1st Earl of St.Vincent, and a close friend, in 1804.

Sir William Beechey was a close friend of the sitter and this portrait is thought to have been given by the Earl of St Vincent to the artist's son, St. Vincent's godson and namesake, the Reverend St. Vincent Beechey (1806–1899). A second version of the work is in the collection of the National Portrait Gallery (NPG), London. It has been suggested that the NPG work was painted by another of the artist's sons, George Beechey. This is one of four portraits that Beechey painted of St. Vincent, although multiple versions of each exist. William Beechey died on 28 January 1839. He was appointed portrait painter to Queen Charlotte in 1793 and was knighted in 1798 in recognition of his most ambitious painting, the huge Review of the Horse Guard with King George III and the Prince of Wales. The painting was destroyed in the 1992 Windsor Castle fire.

The young St. Vincent Beechey was educated in Boulogne, France, and in Sidcup, Kent, at a school run by the father of James Sheridan Knowles. He matriculated at Caius College, Cambridge, on 2nd July **1823**. Whilst a scholar there, he was fond of rowing and was bow-oar in the college crew. He graduated with his B.A. in **1827** and was awarded an M.A. in **1830**. He was ordained Deacon in 1829 and Priest in **1830** by the Bishop of Rochester. A summary of his clerical life would show that he first served as curate of St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, Aylesford, Kent (1829-1830) and from there became a curate of All Saints, Hilgay, Norfolk (1831-1840), a village near to Downham Market. Whilst at Hilgay, he became Inspector of Schools for the Diocese of Norwich (1838-1840). Hilgay was to feature prominently later in his life.

A timeline of his life as a clergyman would simply show:

Curate of Aylesford, Kent, 1829-30.

Curate of Hilgay, Norfolk, 1831-40. *Also, Inspector of Schools for the diocese of Norwich, 1838-40.*

Vicar of Thornton, Lancs., 1840-50. *Also, Founder of Rossall School.*

Perpetual Curate of Fleetwood, 1840-50.

Vicar of Worsley, 1850-72. *Also, Curate of Ellenbrook Chapel, 1854-72. Domestic Chaplain to the Earl of Ellesmere and Lord Grantley.*

Rector of Hilgay, Norfolk, 1872-99.

He married Mary Ann Ommanney, the widow of Frederick Woods Ommanney, on 19th September **1836** at Hilgay, Norfolk. She had 2 children from her first marriage – Mary Ann (bp. 27th Jan 1832 at Putney) and Frederick Francis (bp. 27th Sept 1833, also at Putney).

[The death of Frederick Woods Ommanney was announced as follows:

14 July 1834. At East Sheen, in his 30th year, Frederick Woods Ommanney, Esq., of Putney, after a lingering illness, which he bore with much fortitude. His loss is much lamented by his family and friends. (The Asiatic Journal – 1835)

Probate was granted on 7 September 1836.]

They had 7 children - 4 sons and 3 daughters.

Emily Elizabeth B. b.30 June 1837 @ Hilgay

William Innes B. b.17 March 1839 @ Hilgay

St. Vincent B. b.7 March 1841 @ Woodhall, Hilgay

Charlotte bp.16 April 1843 @ St.Peter, Fleetwood

Sophia B. 27 April 1845 @ St. Peter, Fleetwood

Edward B. 13 June 1847 @ St. Peter, Fleetwood

Charles Grantley 5 November 1848 @ St. Peter, Fleetwood

His first position was as curate of St. Peter and St. Paul's, Aylesford, Kent - **1829**-1830. On the death of the rector, the churchwardens and parishioners petitioned the dean and chapter to give him the living, but it was bestowed upon a senior canon in the diocese.

During his first period of time at Hilgay, he was already showing a great interest in education. The following advertisement appeared in *The Norfolk Chronicle and Norwich Gazette* on Saturday 25th January **1840**.

HILGAY NATIONAL SCHOOLS

Wanted

A man and his wife as Master and Mistress of the above Schools. They must be active and experienced Teachers, thoroughly acquainted with the National System of Education, Members of the Church of England, and produce unexceptionable references as to Character and Ability.- Salary £70 per annum, with a cottage and other advantages, which will be stated at an interview.

All appointments must be made either personally or by letter to the Rev. St. Vincent Beechey, Woodhall.

This desire to improve the education of the young went with him to Lancashire, when he moved with his family to Fleetwood. An announcement appeared in *The Preston Chronicle* on Saturday 2nd July **1842**.

Fleetwood Colleges: A meeting of the provisional commission of the Fleetwood Colleges Association, and of gentlemen interested in the intended education establishments on the principle of life insurance, was yesterday held at the North Euston Hotel, Fleetwood-on-Wyre, the Rev. St. Vincent Beechey, AM, incumbent of Fleetwood and Chaplain to Lord Grantley, in the chair. It is intended that these colleges should be founded and supported on the principle of life insurance, for the education, the one of five hundred boys, and the other of five hundred young ladies, between the ages of seven and eighteen. The pupils according to their ages will form separate departments, entirely distinct in residence and management.

The outcome of this was the founding of Rossall School. St. Vincent Beechey is now credited with being the founder of Rossall School in **1844**, viewed as a sister school to [Marlborough College](#) which had been founded the previous year. Its establishment was "to provide, at a moderate cost, for the sons of Clergymen and others, a classical, mathematical and general education of the highest class, and to do all things necessary, incidental, or conducive to the attainment of the above objects." The Northern Church of England Boarding School, renamed Rossall College under the later headship of William Osborne, opened on 22 August 1844. It was soon established that there was little hope of founding the girls' school and this idea was abandoned, with the boys' school pupil numbers reduced to 200. At this stage in the development of the school, St. Vincent Beechey first came into contact with Lord Egerton, who contributed to the school's funds, together with other notables.

After the prize-giving ceremony of Wednesday 17th June **1846**, the Rev. St. V. Beechey related the following incident:

"The Poet Wordsworth invited Professor Adams. Mr. Hext, and the Rev. Edward Spencer, Mathematical Master, and myself, to visit him at Rydal Mount. We all went over together in the steamer to Ulverston and accompanied him to Rydal. He was full of anecdote. and entertained us most hospitably . . ."

Elsewhere, after repeating this account, Beechey enlarges upon it:

"Wordsworth told us of a nobleman, a friend of his, who had two sons and said. 'I do not know what to do with the younger.' 'Not know. my Lord?' said Wordsworth, 'I will tell you. Make him agent to his elder brother. He will soon be the richer of the two!' We arrived

safely at Rydal Mount, and slept there two nights. It was a time of much domestic affliction for Wordsworth, the cause of which it would be painful to relate. But he took us some beautiful walks, and especially to the lovely spot on Rydal Water, where there was the old tree on a rock which I believe is still called Wordsworth's Chair, and where he is said to have written several poems."

William Wordsworth had, at that time, two grandsons at the school.

In December 1851, the newly-formed University of Sydney appointed Rev. Dr. John Woolley (Rossall 1844-1849; Norwich G.S. 1849-1852) as its first Principal and professor of Classics. His application was accompanied by 121 testimonials, including one from William Wordsworth. He had originally had to resign from Rossall because of a fall in the number of boys and certain deficiencies in his leadership. Sadly, he drowned in *'The SS London'* in the Bay of Biscay on his return to Australia after a visit to this country. Of 239 persons onboard, only 19 survived.

One event which aroused great pride in St. Vincent Beechey was the visit of Queen Victoria to Fleetwood in September **1847**, her first visit to the Duchy of Lancaster. In his book, *The Rise and Progress of Rossall School*, written to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the school, St. Vincent Beechey recalled this memorable event. This is best appreciated in his own words:

I was the first Vicar of Fleetwood, and it fell to my lot to read the address which Sir Hesketh Fleetwood, three Officials of the Town and Railway Company, and myself presented to the Queen. It was printed in gold, on white satin cloth, and received by Lord Palmerston on board the 'Victoria and Albert', immediately on its arrival in the harbour.

My brother, Admiral Beechey, the Arctic navigator, who at four different times explored the Arctic regions, viz. twice under Franklin and Parry, and twice in his own command of 'The Blossom', was acting as Pilot on board the Royal yacht. He had so entirely surveyed the Irish Channel that he was able to tell Prince Albert, who was his frequent companion on board, the depth of every cast of the lead, the shells at the bottom, and the exact moment when the cry of "No bottom!" should indicate their arrival over the Lune Deep. He was also, perhaps, the only Naval Officer who was so thoroughly acquainted with the coast and islands from Ardrossan to Fleetwood that he was enabled to put Her Majesty into still water as often as Prince Albert requested him to do so, in consequence of her sea-sickness; for she was in delicate health....

But the third point of interest in the Queen's visit was the presentation of a Latin address by the Rossall boys to Her Majesty. I will not transcribe it here, for I believe it is printed in full in the Rossall Register. How far Dr. Woolley was concerned in its composition I do not know. No doubt he revised it, but I believe it to have been the genuine work of the Upper Form, one of whom, Sharpe, the captain of the school, was quite equal to the performance. The address contained, however, a little cupboard love for it concluded in a manner peculiar to schoolboys. My wag of a brother would perhaps have translated the last lines something like this:

*'Patron of Art, England's well-beloved Queen,
Royal mother of children, the fairest e'er sen,
Long mayest thou live to reign over our Nation,
But grant us poor boys a week's longer vacation.'*

I regret to add that the Address was printed too late for presentation, but was sent up to town to the Secretary of State, and a gracious reply was received and the holiday granted.

Two years later, it was reported in *The Manchester Courier* on Saturday 11th August **1849** that St. Vincent Beechey led a deputation to the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company '*on the subject of the grievous desecration of the Lord's Day, caused by the cheap Sunday Trains on your line.*'

Throughout his lifetime, he was an effective speaker and lecturer, During his spell at Fleetwood, in January **1849**, he delivered lectures on Ancient and Modern Astronomy at the Annual General Meeting of the Kendal Natural History and Scientific Society. At that meeting, he was elected an Honorary Member of the society. Then, in November 1849, He read a paper on '*The Sabean character of the winged lion and bull of Nineveh*' in the lecture theatre of the Royal Institution in Manchester.

By mid-1850, his time in charge of Fleetwood was coming to an end. His final sermon was to be given on Sunday 23rd June at St. Peter's Church. *The Manchester Times* of Saturday 20th July **1850** reported that '*The Earl of Ellesmere has nominated the Rev. St. Vincent Beechey to the Perpetual Curacy of Worsley, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Charles Cameron.*' Then, on Tuesday 29th October 1850, a presentation was made to St. Vincent Beechey at Fleetwood. £80 had been raised to allow the purchase of an excellent microscope and case, and a beautiful rosewood cabinet, made by a local cabinetmaker. His speech of thanks took 1½ hours to deliver!

Shortly after taking up the curacy of St. Mark's, he continued to attend and give lectures. On Monday 12th August 1850, he attended the '*Congress of the Archaeological Association in Manchester Committee*' as a member. Later, on 13th January **1851**, Beechey delivered the third lecture in the series '*The Architecture of Man*' at the Royal Manchester Institution. This series was presented by a Professor of Anatomy and Physiology. The Rev. St. Vincent Beechey '*exhibited a large number of illustrations by the use of his trinoptic lantern.*' There are full reports in national newspapers of some of his many lectures.

The year 1851 was a momentous one in the life of Manchester, Salford and Worsley. From 9th to 11th October, Queen Victoria and her Consort were guests of the Earl of Ellesmere at Worsley New Hall. After her visit to Manchester on Friday the 10th, she returned with Prince Albert to Worsley and, at about 4pm, she made a visit to St. Mark's. The royal party consisted of Her Majesty and Prince Albert, the Countess of Ellesmere, the Viscountess Brackley, the Ladies Alice and Blanche Egerton, the Marchioness of Westminster, the Earl and Countess of Wilton, together with other members of the party at the Hall. The Queen and the Prince Consort were greeted at the church door (south porch) by the incumbent, the Rev. St. V. Beechey, and they proceeded down the main aisle. Victoria seemed very pleased by the architecture and sculpture of the church, and its rich stained-glass windows.

On the final morning of her stay, St. Vincent Beechey led a large number of local pupils (about 1,400) with their parents and 200 teachers onto the slopes and lawn of the New Hall to deliver an address to her Majesty. It read:

May it please your Majesty,

The Clergy, Teachers, and Scholars in connexion with the Sunday and Weekly Schools of Worsley, Walkden, and Ellenbrook approach your Majesty on this auspicious occasion with the sincere expression of their devoted loyalty and attachment to your Majesty, His Royal Highness Prince Albert, and your August Family. The visit of your Majesty to our munificent Patron most powerfully demands such an expression of our sentiments; for in no portion of these realms has the epoch of your Majesty's accession been connected with greater cause for thankfulness than in these three districts.

Previously to that event, of happy memory, a small extra-parochial Chapel, at Ellenbrook, was the only place of worship within the distance of three miles which our Established Church possessed, and great moral and physical degradation accompanied the want of religious instruction and beneficent superintendence which prevailed.

But it has so pleased Divine Providence that the very year in which Your Majesty was mercifully called to the Throne of these realms should be also a year of regeneration to these districts, and that each succeeding year should add a blessing to our labouring population.

Since that time, Sunday, Daily, Infants', and other Schools have sprung up in rapid succession; Libraries, a Dispensary, and Clubs for various purposes have been established; two Churches have been erected, and

their officiating Clergy provided, thus offering additional means of worshipping God, free of any payment whatever, to upwards of 1,300 of the population.

Through the Divine blessing on these means, aided as they have been by the Acts passed by your Majesty prohibiting the daughters of our poorer inhabitants from the unfeminine labour of the coal-pit, as well as by the great impetus given to education by the grants and inspection of the Committee of Council, whose examiners have already been enabled to pronounce the Schools of Worsley as amongst the best in this country, the happiest results have taken place.

It is not without pride, mingled with the deepest gratitude where it is so justly due, that we present before your Majesty this day nearly 1,400 children of our labouring population, now receiving Daily or Sunday instruction according to the pure principles of our Protestant Established Church, with nearly 200 Sunday Teachers, from a population not exceeding 5,000, within the three districts immediately connected with our generous Patron, whom your Majesty has graciously delighted to honour.

We believe, on the other hand, that it will greatly rejoice your Majesty to be thus assured, from personal inspection, that the great cause of sound Religious Education which your Majesty and your Royal Consort have so much at heart, is here progressing in some degree proportionate to your desires. And on the other hand, we are persuaded, that thus to behold their Queen and the Royal Princes, of whom they have so often heard, and for whom they have so often prayed, will leave upon the hearts of even the youngest of these children indelible impressions of duty, loyalty and love, and cause them to join their Pastors and Teachers in offering up more ardent prayers that Almighty God may long preserve your Majesty upon the Throne of these realms, and bless your Royal Consort and your hopeful Children, "in health and wealth long to live, strengthened to overcome all your enemies," if such there be, "and finally, after this life, to attain everlasting joy and felicity."

Signed in behalf of the Clergy, Teachers, and Scholars,

St. Vincent Beechey, M.A.

Incumbent of Worsley

Worsley, October 11th, 1851

Transcribed from '*The London Gazette*', Tuesday 14 October, 1851.

Throughout his time in the parish, he found himself involved in a great deal of work outside it, delivering sermons as a guest at churches within the Manchester Area, attending the distribution of prizes at the Royal Manchester School of Medicine and Surgery, helping to illustrate lectures at the Royal Manchester Institution with his trinoptric lantern, notably on 'The Architecture of Man', supporting the Deaf and Dumb School in Old Trafford in their drive to provide means for religious services for the 50 or so members, and delivering lectures to the Manchester Mechanics' Institution.

By **1855**, he had become an active member of the Manchester Photographic Society and was its President from 1865 to 1870. He also attended the quarterly meetings of the Manchester Diocesan Church Building Society and helped to promote an Exhibition of Art and Industry at Stretford in 1856 in aid of the schools of Flixton and Urmston.

In **1860**, the Reverend St. Vincent Beechey, M.A., was appointed Honorary Chaplain of the 4th Battalion Lancashire Rifle Volunteers. This was dated 29th October, 1860. Then, 16 years later, *The London Gazette* announced that the Honorary Chaplain, the Reverend St. Vincent Beechey, resigned his Commission. (dated 26th March, 1873).

In November **1864**, a movement began '*with the view of amusing and instructing the men of the cavalry and infantry regiments stationed in Hulme and Salford.*' The chaplain (the Rev. B. Harris) managed to put together a programme of lectures and concerts, and St. Vincent Beechey was one of those approached to deliver a lecture. The lectures and concerts were to be given alternately each week, to which the men were admitted free of charge.

His deep interest in education continued unabated, and in October **1866** he took part in a meeting in connection with the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science in Manchester, its purpose being to '*consider if in any way they could give employment to women who possessed a certain amount of education*'. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided over the meeting, and he made reference to the fact that women were already employed in bookkeeping, printing and in telegraph offices, and not just in mills, factories or in service. He proposed a motion that '*a society be formed in the city of Manchester, similar to the societies in London and Dublin, for promoting the employment of women.*' St. Vincent Beechey

seconded the motion, stressing that *'to provide for the occupation of women was becoming every year of greater importance.'* By May **1867**, he was placing an advertisement for the Cambridge University Examination for Girls, to be held in Manchester. He had become the Honorary Secretary of the committee appointed the previous year and he placed further adverts in the following years.

In June **1868**, he was nominated by the Bishop of Manchester to be an honorary Canon of Manchester Cathedral and this was confirmed on 4th August at the Diocesan registry. He thereafter occasionally performed baptism and marriage ceremonies at the Cathedral, on one occasion officiating at 3 weddings on the same day (2 Nov. 1871).

As for the parish of Worsley, when he was invited to come to here, the income was doubled and a new parsonage was proposed for him and his family. Since St. Mark's was having regular large attendances, it was decided to apply for a faculty to enlarge the church by adding a north aisle. This was granted and the extension was opened in **1852**. Five years later, the patron, the First Earl of Ellesmere, died on 18th February 1857. He was buried in a vault at the south-east corner of the church. In **1854**, the Earl offered him the donative of Ellenbrook, with an increase in his stipend and, with it, the ability to engage a curate.

On the death of the Rev. William J. Parkes, the rector and patron of Hilgay (his old curacy), he was offered the living which he accepted in **1872**. During his years there, but in age becoming an old man, he remained an active and energetic parish priest, often preaching two or three sermons on Sundays, and still delivering lectures for literary and scientific institutions in the week. He installed electric lights in the rectory, church and schools, the generator being situated in the rectory grounds. He erected an observatory in his garden and spent a good deal of time studying astronomy, the result of which was two letters sent to *The Times* about his sighting of comets in **1881** [those being Schaeberle's, 24th July 1881, and one unnamed - possibly *Tebbutt's comet* - on 23rd June 1881. Ed].

On the 21st August **1899**, the *Manchester Guardian* carried a long obituary following his death on 19th August 1899. It reported that, at Cambridge, he was awarded a second senior optime degree (a second class degree in Mathematics), and that he might have gained an even higher degree but for a fall from a horse on the second day of the examination. During his first post at Aylesford in 1829, he was instrumental in establishing the first elementary school in the parish. At Hilgay, he gave the parish its first National school. Whilst at Cambridge, he showed a deep interest in medicine, and when there was an outbreak of Asiatic cholera at Hilgay (1831-2), he was able to render a service to those affected.

When he came to Lancashire in 1840, he was presented to the perpetual curacy of St. Peter's, Fleetwood, to which was added the benefice of Christ Church, Thornton. Assistance in setting up the foundation of Rossall School came from the Preston and Wyre Railway Company with a grant of £200 towards the scheme and, in order to help him facilitate his work, he was granted a free pass on their line!

During his time at Fleetwood, he was the life and soul of the school. *'He undertook the responsible duties of local manager of the funds of the establishment, superintending the admission of pupils and representing the Council in the business affairs of the school.'* He even introduced scholarships, one of which was named "The Beechey" to the value of £50 per annum, tenable for three years at any college in Oxford or Cambridge. He ceased active connection with the school in 1873.

The Guardian then reports that:

'When on a visit to his former parishioners at Worsley in February 1896, he remarked: I have now been Rector of Hilgay twenty-three years - exactly one year longer than I spent at Worsley. I am now in my 90th year, in perfect health, in possession of all my faculties taking two or three services every Sunday. He preached morning and evening, the church being crowded; and in addition he visited in the afternoon a large number of the aged, sick, and poor of Worsley...

Canon Beechey often recounted his father's friendship with the great naval hero Nelson, who in 1805 fell on board the Victory at Trafalgar.'

Mary Ann, St. Vincent Beechey's wife, died on Sunday 21st October 1888 at Hilgay Rectory, Norfolk, aged 82. The parish registers for St. Mark's show that she was buried in the churchyard on the 25th October 1888, aged 81, and that the ceremony was performed by Charles Lowe (curate of St. Mark's, 1866-1871, and later vicar of Bolton-le-Moors).

The Morning Post of Monday 21st August **1899** announced the death of St. Vincent Beechey at Hilgay, aged 93, in common with several other regional and national newspapers. *The Huddersfield Daily Chronicle* referred to him as the 'oldest clergyman in England.' He was buried at St. Mark's on 23rd August 1899 by the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, vicar, assisted by the Rev. Hugh Bryan, vicar of Stoke Golding (and former curate at Hilgay, 1872-1880), and other clergy. His body had been brought by train from Hilgay that day, arriving at London Road Station at 3pm. From there, it came by road to Worsley. The service, to a full congregation, was fully choral and contained two pieces by Handel, his favourite composer.

The memorial to the Canon and his wife is located beneath the East window. It may look as though it has been vandalised, but it is designed to express a 'work in progress.'



Constantine Charles Henry Phipps
(Earl of Mulgrave)
(1872 - 1890)

Constantine Charles Henry Phipps was born on 29th August **1846** at Mulgrave Castle, Yorkshire, (58 days after the consecration of the church), the eldest son of George Phipps, 2nd Marquess of Normanby, and Laura Russell. He was baptised on 2nd November 1846 at the church of St. Oswald's, Lythe, which stands on the estate of Mulgrave castle, north of Whitby. When his father succeeded to the marquessate in **1863**, Constantine took the title Earl of Mulgrave. He had a sister, Katherine Louisa (born 1850), and she later became the wife of the 3rd Earl of Ellesmere. Constantine duly became the 3rd Marquess of Normanby on 4th April **1890**.

In 1870, he was ordained Deacon and Priest in **1871** by the Archbishop of York. In **1882**, he was awarded an Honorary MA of the University of Durham.

He married, on 30th December **1903**, Gertrude Stansfield Foster OBE DGStJ (d. 12 Mar 1948), the 3rd daughter and coheir. of Johnston Jonas Foster, of Moor Park, Ludlow, Shropshire, by his wife Hannah Jane Stansfield, daughter of Robert Stansfield, of Field House, Sowerby, Yorkshire. They had 2 daughters and then a son, Oswald Constantine John, who became the 4th Marquess of Normanby and a Knight of the Garter.

A timeline of his life as a clergyman would simply show:

- 1870 - 1872: Assistant curate at Lythe
- 1872 - 1890: Vicar of Worsley with Ellenbrook Chapel
- 1879 - 1897: Lancashire Commissary for the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster
- 1884 - 1893: Honorary Chaplain of All Saints' Church, San Remo, Italy
- 1891 - 1897: Chaplain to the Archbishop of York
- 1891 - 1907: Canon of Windsor. Appt. to the ninth stall
- 1910 - 1929: Chaplain to York Lay Readers

1872-90: Vicar of Worsley with Ellenbrook Chapel.

- He served the parish from late 1872 to mid-1890. (12 Nov. 1872 to 12 July 1890)
- He introduced the Festival of the May (Rose) Queen. (by 1879)
- He was a keen supporter of the Temperance Movement.
- He introduced a robed choir to St. Mark's. (1873)
- He began the Church Magazine. (1874)
- He started choral Matins and Evensong.
- He installed a new organ in the renovated Chancel (1881).
- He spent the winters at San Remo.
- He helped to establish the Lady Ellesmere Coffee Tavern.
- He arranged retreats for clergy, held at St. Mark's in the summers.
- A stained-glass window was unveiled as a parish tribute in the west end. (8 March 1891)
- The bell peal was increased from 3 to 8. (1873)

1884 - 1893: Honorary Chaplain of All Saints' Church, San Remo, Italy.

By March **1883**, rumours had started to circulate about the health of the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave. Newspapers were requested to state that his Lordship has been suffering from an attack of bronchitis, but that he was now considerably better. He was told to stay in London, and in order to recruit his strength, he was advised to absent himself from his parochial work until towards the end of April. Following this, over the course of three winters, when he was vicar of the parish, Mulgrave had to spend several months at a time in San Remo, because of ill-health. By 1st September 1883, the Earl of Mulgrave had already accepted the chaplaincy of the new English church at San Remo. Owing to several bouts of ill-health, he

began to winter in San Remo. The first such visit began in November 1883 and he stayed there for six months. This was repeated in the winters of 1884/5 and 1885/6. He made a similar visit in the winter of **1890/1**, by which time he had left the parish. This need to seek the warmer climes continued during some of his time at Windsor.

1879-1897: Lancashire Commissary for Diocese of New Westminster.

One of the curates who served under him at St. Mark's was the Rev. Acton Windeyer Sillitoe. Born in Australia in July 1840, his family returned to England in 1854 and he was educated at King's College School, and afterwards at Pembroke College, Cambridge. Here he graduated in 1862. Ordained Priest in 1870 by the Bishop of Lichfield, he eventually came to Worsley, as curate in charge of Ellenbrook, from November 1873 to September 1875. As a result of his time here, the Earl of Mulgrave (then the vicar) became a lifelong friend. Sillitoe accepted the offer of the new Bishopric of New Westminster, in British Columbia, and on 1st November 1879 he was consecrated in the parish church of Croydon, by Archbishop Tait of Canterbury. The sermon was preached by the Bishop's old friend and former rector, the Earl of Mulgrave, who continued to be his commissary till the close of his arduous episcopate. Bishop Sillitoe returned frequently to England to raise money and funds for his work and always made time to spend a few days in Worsley.

1891-1907: Canon of St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Appointed to the Ninth Stall.

On 8th May **1891**, a Mandamus and Grant was issued by order of Queen Victoria *'to install the Marquis of Normanby as a Canon of the Free Chapel of St. George, or Collegiate Church, by the promotion of the Rev. Philip Frank Eliot to the Deanery of Windsor.'* In this capacity, he spent some time at the Chapel, maybe a few weeks at a time, and the remainder of the time he spent doing other work in the wider community or at Mulgrave Castle. The *Fasti Wyndesorienses* states that Canon Phipps, Marquess of Normanby, was appointed to the ninth stall. The canonries were numbered as the first to twelfth stalls, but these do not indicate seniority amongst canons or the assignment of an actual stall in the Chapel to a canon. They are just a method of organisation.

He wasted little time in getting down to business at the Chapel. On 22nd January **1892**, he sent a strong letter to the Dean of Windsor, offering to take over the present and future management of the choir school, as discussed in the November Chapter meeting. He declared that he was *".. ready to undertake the entire control, religious and moral instruction, and supervision of the boys, the general regulation of their work under a schoolmaster, and the management of the weekly expenses of the school"*. This proposal was roundly rejected five days later!

On the 16th January **1900**, it was reported in the national press that *'The Rev. the Marquis of Normanby, for some years vicar of St. Mark's, Worsley, has replaced Bishop Barry as the canon-in-residence at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, for the next three months, and has taken up his residence in the prebendal house in the Cloisters.'*

After almost 16 years as Canon, the following announcement was made in the *London Gazette*:

Whitehall, March 19, 1907.

The KING has been pleased, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date the 19th instant, to grant unto the Reverend Edgar Sheppard, D.D., C.V.O., Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal, the Canonry in the Collegiate Church or Free Chapel of St. George, in the Castle of Windsor, void by the resignation of the Reverend the Marquis of Normanby.

Educationalist.

Throughout his life, the Earl of Mulgrave displayed a deep interest in education.

On 19th June **1879**, the annual distribution of prizes at the Commercial Schools, Stretford Road, took place. The prizes were handed to the recipients by the Earl of Mulgrave, who addressed them on the aims and objects of their school training. This was but one of similar events to which he was invited.

Whilst at San Remo, he advertised prior to each departure that he *'will be glad to receive into his house there a few young boys as pupils, ages 10 to 14.'* He was charging about £150 for the term of six months. During his time at Worsley, he attended the opening of a new school at Monton (**1880**). If he was not directly involved in the education of pupils, he was busy organising trips, picnics and pantomimes for the local children to enjoy.

In a strong letter, dated 22nd January **1892**, to the Dean of Windsor, he offered to take over the present and future management of the choir school, as discussed in the November Chapter meeting. He declared himself *".. ready to undertake the entire control, religious and moral instruction, and supervision of the boys, the general regulation of their work under a schoolmaster, and the management of the weekly expenses of the school"*. This offer was firmly rejected 5 days later.

In the census of **1901**, during his canonry at Windsor, Constantine Charles Henry Phipps was shown to be the Headmaster of Mulgrave House, Osborne Road, New Windsor. He was also referred to as a Clergyman in Holy Orders, CE. It would appear that this school was not open long, though the building still stands. On Tuesday 8th April 1892, Princess Christian, accompanied by Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, visited the school. *'The princesses watched the boys going through their drill ... and afterwards took tea.'*

Mulgrave married on 30th December 1903. 31 March **1904**. Then, just three months later, it was announced that *'The Rev. the Marquis of Normanby, who has conducted a preparatory school at his ancestral home, Mulgrave Castle, near Whitby, for the past twelve years, is giving up the work, and after Wednesday next Mulgrave School will be a thing of the past. When he commenced the establishment he had nine pupils, but since that time the number has increased, and of late years the average has been thirty. ... Many Mulgravians have entered upon successful careers at Eton and other public schools, and also in the army and navy and the commercial world.'*

Withdrew his resignation from St. Mark's (twice)

Acton Windeyer Sillitoe had been consecrated Bishop in 1879. There had then been a thought that the Earl Mulgrave might follow him to British Columbia, since he had long contemplated devoting himself for a time to missionary work in the diocese of New Westminster, in British Columbia. The *London Guardian* firstly reported in October **1882** that he had signified his intention of resigning the vicarage of Worsley, and proceeding next May to North West America. His object was to establish schools and a college for the training of candidates for the ministry in this recently formed diocese. Then, on 22nd January **1883**, the *Manchester Guardian* announced that *'We are authorised to state that the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave does not now intend to resign the living of Worsley.'*

A further reference to a resignation being withdrawn was announced on 3rd September **1885**. *'On Monday evening a meeting was held in Worsley parish schools, at which were present the Marquis of Normanby, the Earl of Ellesmere (who presided), the Countess of Ellesmere and family, the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave, the Hon. Mrs. A. F. Egerton, Miss Egerton and others. The Chairman intimated that Lord Mulgrave, the Vicar, acting under medical advice, had decided to remain at Worsley. The announcement was received with much enthusiasm. Lord Mulgrave said that the withdrawal of his resignation was conditional on his being allowed to go abroad during the winter months.'* It is difficult to know whether this was merely confirmation of the earlier newspaper report (over 31 months earlier!), or whether a second application had been submitted but subsequently withdrawn, with the proviso indicated above.

His father, who was present at the meeting, had quite recently returned from Australia (in 1881), where he had been Governor of Victoria. Before the close, the Marquis of Normanby gave a short address on emigration, and said that our colonies, especially the Australian colonies, *'were a paradise for working men, provided that the proper persons went there. Those who went out to succeed in the colonies must be sober, honest, industrious and be willing to work at anything they could get. They must, however, resist the temptation to drink.'*

Supporter of the Temperance Movement.

This opposition to drinking was very prevalent in Mulgrave's life. He became a strong and vigorous supporter of the Temperance Movement, both in Worsley and Lancashire, and even across the country, speaking at many rallies and supporting fund-raising activities. An early example of this centred on the Worsley Botanists, of whom Joseph Evans (buried here on 27th June 1874) was a very important member. In June **1875**, a service was held at the church to inaugurate a memorial to him, at which Mulgrave caricatured a botanist as one who *'collected plants on Sunday mornings to make it the occasion for a debauch in the evening at some public-house.'* This led to an outcry and protest from the local Botanical Society. There was much correspondence in the press, both condemning the vicar and applauding him! 15 months later, the local Botanical Association declared that it would no longer hold meetings on a Sunday.

A demonstration of the local branches of the Church of England Temperance Society was held on 27th August **1881** at Worsley. The Earl of Mulgrave and others took part in the proceedings. On 4th August **1884**, he arranged to hold an extensive gala in connection with the Manchester Diocesan Church of England Temperance Society, in the grounds of the Vicarage. Even after leaving the area, he continued to speak at temperance society meetings in Manchester and London. Whilst at Worsley, as a keen supporter of the temperance movement, he established a local 'Coffee Palace & Restaurant', later known as the Lady Ellesmere Coffee Tavern, in the Old Mill at the bottom of Mill Brow. After leaving the area, he continued to speak at temperance society meetings both in Manchester and London.

Campaigner (Rev. S. F. Green 1881/2).

On 27th March 1881, he preached a sermon at St. John the Evangelist's, Miles Platting, in support of the Rev. S. F. Green who was imprisoned in a county gaol. Sidney Faithorn Green (born 1841) was a clergyman of the Church of England, ordained in Manchester in 1866. After serving as curate at St. Peter's, Swinton, he became the incumbent of St John the Evangelist, Miles Platting, in June 1869. He became a follower of the Oxford movement who quickly incurred the wrath of the Bishop of Manchester, James Fraser. He was admonished several times by his bishop, who did not take the ultimate step of removing him from office.

However, the Church Association presented a list of eleven charges against him in December 1878 and Green appeared before various courts. On 19th March 1881, Green was arrested and held in Lancaster Castle. Ultimately, on 4th November 1882, Fraser applied to Judge Penzance for Green's release. The motion was unopposed and Green was released that day. However, his living had already been sequestered and the following year he was appointed to a curacy at St. John's, Kensington.

Frequently suffered ill-health.

Reference has already been made to him spending three winters in the balmy climate of San Remo (1883-1885), for up to six months at a time. By March 1883, exaggerated rumours had started to circulate in the press regarding his health and on 13th March **1883** the papers were requested to state that his Lordship has been suffering from an attack of bronchitis, but that he was considerably better. *'He is at present staying in London, and in order to recruit his strength has been advised to absent himself from his parochial work until towards the end of April.'* Recuperation obviously took longer than predicted, by almost three months, because it was reported on 8th June 1883 that *'The Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave, who has been absent from Worsley for three months through ill-health, arrived at Bridgewater House, London, from the Continent on Monday. His lordship is expected at Worsley on Saturday, and will officiate at Worsley Parish Church on Sunday next.'*

Then, on 29th October **1888**, it was stated that *'the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave, vicar of Worsley, has been ordered by Sir William Jenner a complete rest from all work for three months. During his lordship's absence from Worsley all necessary correspondence should be addressed to the Rev. W. G. Harland, Worsley Vicarage.'* Just 16 months later, on 6th February **1890**, the Earl of Mulgrave, who had been absent for some time in Ireland, returned and resumed his duties at St. Mark's, Worsley. During his time as a Canon at Windsor, he also suffered a bout of ill-health, since on 17th April **1899** it was reported that the

Marquis of Normanby, who is one of the Canons of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, was dangerously ill. Yet another reference to his health issues was mentioned on 8th December **1912**. Lord and Lady Normanby were detained at Dromoland, Co. Clare, (the home of his sister-in-law), where they went for shooting, by his severe attack of influenza. He was said to be very much better by the time of the report.

Generous supporter of underprivileged children.

Throughout his life, wherever he happened to be, in Worsley, in Windsor, in London, or in his native Lythe, he was always a great supporter of underprivileged children, giving them opportunity to learn or simply to enjoy themselves. On 23rd June **1880**, a letter of thanks appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* from Mr. Thomas Johnson to the editor. He wanted to thank the readers for their kindness and support in helping him and others take "*some hundreds of these children over the past two years to Worsley by lurry (sic) for a day, where, through the kindness of the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave, a spacious field was placed at our disposal*". These were children from Charter Street and Angel Meadow. He then wrote about their poor social conditions and his delight at "their happy faces as they sat down to their meals in the field, or their happy hearty laughter as they engaged in various sports". In the first year, 650 children were taken to Worsley, at a cost of one shilling per head, which included two good meals.

On Saturday 22nd May **1882**, the Eccles branch of the Girls' Friendly Society held its annual festival at Worsley. There were about one hundred and fifty members present, under the superintendence of the clergy of Eccles Parish Church and several ladies from Eccles. After visiting the Worsley Hall Gardens, the party proceeded to the Parish Church at 4.30, where there was choral evensong and sermon by the Earl of Mulgrave. The party then adjourned to the Worsley Schools, where a substantial tea was provided for them by Lord Mulgrave.

Then, on Saturday 5th August **1888**, the members and associates of St. Mary's (Higher Crompton) Girls' Friendly Society, numbering 65, came to Worsley, '*and through the kindness of the Rev. Lord Mulgrave sat down to an excellent tea at 4.30 in the schools. It being wet, games were indulged in and several glees sung.*' At seven o'clock a short service was held in the church, at which Lord Mulgrave gave an address. An offering was made for the Diocesan Home.

These events took place together with trips for the members of the choirs at St. Mark's and St. Mary's. These trips were day-long affairs, by train, to either Southport or Blackpool. The costs were borne by donations and assistance from Lord Mulgrave. He also took some choirboys to his home at Mulgrave Castle for weekend visits.

Supporter of his local community.

The annual show of the Swinton and Worsley Cottagers' Floral and Horticultural Society was held on Friday 24th and Saturday 25th August **1877** at Moorside, Swinton. The exhibition was opened by Lady Ellesmere, who was accompanied by Lady Sandwich and the Rev. the Earl Mulgrave. It consisted of plants, flowers, fruit and vegetables, of which there were over 300 entries.

At the Whitsuntide Festivities of 9th June **1878**, Worsley Parish Church was represented by the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave, rector; Rev. J. Cater and Rev. H. R. Hopwood, curates. The number of scholars was given as 1,000 and there were 34 teachers. These festivities were an annual event and there were similar numbers of participants from the church each year.

The local May-Day Celebrations had been revived by the Earl, sometime before **1879**. The report of the festivities on 2nd May **1879** gives a flavour of the scale of the event and what took place. Worsley Park was, as usual, thrown open to the public. An entrance fee of a shilling was charged, besides which a fee had to be paid for admission to the grand stand. This structure was built for the accommodation of 800 people, and some thousands were admitted into the enclosure, with about as many more in other parts of the park, where the public were free to wander. The procession numbered about 350, with children from the local schools and cricket and football clubs. They were accompanied by the band of the Duke of

Lancaster's Yeomanry, which headed the procession. The Queen was carried on a state chair by four members of the Brackley Cricket Club.

On Wednesday 16th August **1882**, the persons employed at the Manchester and Salford Workshops for the Blind in Bloom Street had an enjoyable trip to Worsley. An entertainment was given by the blind people in the course of the afternoon, at which the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave (Vicar of Worsley) and a numerous company of ladies and gentlemen were present. An address was delivered by the Vicar, and others.

A conference was held on Saturday 5th October **1907** at Whitby to appoint a committee to carry on the work of Mr. Hirst with the Whitby Trust for the Blind. This gentleman, blind himself, had worked for many years in support of blind people in the town, and, though he had now to give up his work through ill-health, it was felt that such good work needed to be continued. The Marquis of Normanby was the chairman of the Whitby Trust for the Blind.

On Sunday 8th October **1911**, Lord and Lady Normanby entertained a party at Mulgrave Castle to celebrate the re-opening of the parish church, which had recently been restored by Lady Normanby. *'Lord Normanby, who is one of the very few Peers in Holy Orders, although he retains his Canonry of Windsor, does not hold his living of Mulgrave, and since his marriage has given up the school which he started there, and so successfully carried on.'* The reconstruction of the church was the work of Sir Walter Tapper.

The lifeboat station at Staithes was closed in **1922** because of launching difficulties through the absence of a protected harbour and a shortage of fishermen. Since that date, the Min. of Ag. and Fish had made a harbour and fishermen were starting to return there to work. The station was therefore reopened on Easter Monday 9th April **1928** and the religious service was conducted by the Rev. the Marquis of Normanby, now in his 83rd year.

Keen Speaker.

A Church Congress took place in Sheffield in early October **1878**. The congress covered a wide range of topics, including: Popular Literature; the Theatre; popular Recreations; Parochial Church Councils; Woman's work within the Church; and The Working Man. The Earl of Mulgrave gave a long speech on the rôle of the theatre and the dangers it was posing to society. Much time was devoted to this and also to the racecourse, the music hall, and the public ballroom - and of course to the public-house.

It was announced that the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave was to preach at Westminster Abbey on Sunday 29th May **1881** at the morning service on behalf of the New Westminster mission fund. He will also preach at St. Peter's, Eaton Square, in the afternoon, on the same subject.

26 September 1881: The Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave, in preaching at St. Mark's Church, Worsley, yesterday morning, referred to the death of President Garfield. His lordship spoke of the loss occasioned to our sister nation by the cowardly bullet of an assassin just at a period when everything indicated a rule of quietness and prosperity. The Earl of Ellesmere read the lessons. At the close of the service Mr. R. F. Coules played the dead march in "Saul."

Th 12 May 1892 With Baroness Burdett-Coutts and others, he addressed a meeting of the NSPCC at the Guildhall, Windsor.

Tu 3 May 1898 He addressed the anniversary gatherings of the Church Army at their training home in the Edgware Road.

Esteemed Clergyman.

The Rev. Mulgrave always carried out his duties as Incumbent of the parish, but he was frequently called upon to officiate at baptisms, marriages and funerals in other parts of the country, as well as at notable services, due to his office and his position in society.

On Tuesday 27th October **1885**, the Bishop of Manchester, Dr. Fraser, was buried at his home parish church of Ufton Nervet (Tuesday). *[Ufton Nervet is in west Berkshire].* A service was held at Sacred trinity

Church, Salford, to coincide with the funeral, at which the Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave delivered an address. In the course of this, he remarked that there were points of ecclesiastical policy, and even of his interpretation of Church doctrine, on which he personally differed from the late Bishop, and the Bishop knew it. But that difference never caused the Bishop to withhold from him in sorrow his sympathy, or in his work words of counsel. The late Bishop had an unflinching and uncompromising hatred of whatever was mean, dishonest, and immoral, while he was sympathetic, charitable, self-denying, and laborious. [*Dr. James Fraser was bishop 1870 to 1885 and died in office on 22 October*].

On Saturday 9th May **1891**, the funeral took place of the Archbishop of York. The remains of the Most Rev. William Connor Magee were interred at Peterborough Cathedral. In the absence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the service was conducted by the Bishops of Lincoln and Beverley, the Marquis of Normanby (Canon of Windsor) and the Dean of Peterborough. The Marquis read the first part of the service at the grave.

On Monday 14th September **1904**, the *Manchester Guardian* announced the death of the Hon. Reginald Egerton. *'The death took place yesterday afternoon, while on a visit to the Rev. the Marquis and Marchioness of Normanby at Mulgrave Castle, of the Hon. Reginald Arthur Egerton, the fifth and youngest son of the Earl of Ellesmere. He was in his nineteenth year, and had been ill only two days. Three weeks ago he took part in theatrical performances at Worsley.'* The funeral service took place at St. Mark's three days later and was conducted by the Rev. the Marquis of Normanby, assisted by the Rev. Dr. J. E. Sheppard, Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal.

On Saturday 28th October **1905**, the marriage took place at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, between Viscount Brackley and Violet Lambton. The officiating clergy were Canon the Marquis of Normanby, assisted by the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, vicar of Worsley. A large number of distinguished guests attended.

The funeral of the 3rd Earl of Ellesmere took place at St. Mark's on Thursday 16th July **1914**. The three officiating clergy were the Rev. the Marquis of Normanby (the Earl's brother-in-law), the Rev. C. B. Hulton, vicar, and the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, former vicar. At noon, when the service began, the church was full and hundreds of people who could not find room gathered in the churchyard and about the gates.

Honoured Guest/Host.

- Wednesday 17th June **1891**. He was invited to a State Concert at Buckingham Palace, and again in 1894, 1895 and 1897 - on the last three occasions with the Earl of Ellesmere.
- Saturday 31st Jan **1903**. He was invited to a Dinner Party at Windsor Castle with the Royal Family.
- Thursday 23rd June **1904**. The International Committee of Olympic Games visited Windsor Castle by special permission of the King. The party, which included the president Baron de Coubertin, also visited St. George's Chapel, where they were escorted by the Marquis of Normanby.
- Saturday 27th June **1908**. The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Davidson gave a garden party yesterday afternoon in the grounds of Lambeth Palace. Lord and Lady Normanby were amongst the guests.
- Wednesday 20th May **1914**. He gave his name to an advertisement for Celmo tablets, in the treatment of rheumatism, neuritis, lumbago and sciatica, together with other '*well-known and distinguished people*' '*who have written to express their appreciation of the remarkable efficacy*' of the tablets.

The National Probate Calendar states that the most honourable and reverend Constantine Charles Henry of Mulgrave Castle, **Yorkshire**, died on 25th August 1932, at 90 Eaton Square, London. Probate (limited to settled land) was granted at **York** on 23rd January 1933 to George Reginald Stansfield and Gerald Robert Foster, esquires. He was succeeded by his son.

Frederick Karlake Hodgkinson (1890 - 1906)

Frederick Karlake Hodgkinson was born in Wells, Somerset, on 25th May **1861** to William Sampson, of Folkestone, and Mary Emily Francis Ayscough. Their fourth son, he was baptised on 27th August 1861 at St.Cuthbert's, Wells, Somerset. He was educated at Winchester, Magdalen College, Oxford, and Cuddesdon Theological College, Oxford. Whilst at Magdalen, he was President of the JC from 1883 to 1884. He matriculated at Magdalen College, from Winchester, on 16th October 1880, and was awarded a B.A. in **1884**. Thereafter, he gained his M.A. in 1887. He undertook his theological training at Cuddesdon in 1885, and was ordained that year by the Bishop of London. He became a priest in **1887**.

He went to Winchester College in September **1874**. Prior to this, he had been educated by the Rev. F. B. Harvey at Chiddingtong Rectory in Tring, Herts. He came to Winchester as a Commoner or fee-payer in G House (then called Culver Lea) and his housemaster was Rev. E.W. Sergeant. The following information also comes from Suzanne Foster, archivist at Winchester:

We can track something of his academic progress by looking at annual lists of boys in the school known as Long Rolls. Boys only progressed through the classes on merit and the rolls were published in October of each year. Frederick starts off, as was usual with new boys, in the bottom of a class called Junior Part in a division called 5th Book. By Oct 1875, he has moved up to the Middle Part of the same division and by Oct 1876, he has jumped up two classes to a higher part of 5th Book and by Oct 1877, he is in the top class of Middle Part...

...As for Revd Hodgkinson's time at Win Coll, there isn't a great deal to tell you. He was involved with a few sports at house level – cricket, rackets and athletics. The attached extracts from our magazine will give you more details. He also attended an Old Wykehamists' dinner in Manchester in 1895 and I've attached details of this too. (He was one of 57 who attended the dinner at the Grand Hotel on 4 Feb 1895. He was listed as entering the school in 1874; his housemaster was the Rev. Sergeant. Ed.).

He married Edith Mary Still (daughter of Robert Still, of Lincoln's Inn) on 15th January **1889** at St. Marylebone. Their first daughter was Eileen Margaret, who was born on 11th November 1889 in Marylebone, London, and was baptised at All Saints, Margaret Street, on 29th November. By the time of the 1891 census, they were already living in the vicarage - the Reverend Hodgkinson having succeeded Lord Mulgrave. Thereafter, they had three other children, all of whom were baptised at St.Mark's - Joyce Mary (29th November 1891), Geoffrey Still (13th August 1893), and Lettice Mary (23rd May 1895). Sadly, Joyce Mary died in 1/4 1893.

His first appointments had been as curate of St.John the Evangelist, Hammersmith, (**1885-87**), and then of All Saints, Margaret Street (**1887-90**). His first entry in our parish registers was on the 24th July **1890**. Lord Mulgrave's last entry had been on 12th July 1890. Officially, he was Vicar of Worsley from 1890 to 1906. The announcement of his appointment to St. Mark's was made on Saturday 12th July 1890 when the *Manchester Times* reported that he had been offered the living by the Earl of Ellesmere and that he had accepted. The living was due to become vacant the following week, owing to the resignation of the Marquis of Normanby.

A timeline of his life as a clergyman would simply show:

Curate of St. John the Evangelist, Hammersmith 1885-1887

Curate of All Saints, Margaret Street, 1887-1890

Vicar of Worsley with Ellenbrook Chapel, 1890-1906

Rector of Stanway 1906-1909

Vicar of St. Peter's, Upton Cross, 1909-1917

Licensed Preacher, Diocese of London, from 1917

Permission to Officiate, Diocese of Chichester, from 1929

His father, **William Sampson Hodgkinson**, (1818-1876), was baptised at Christ Church, Southwark, on 29th January 1818, the son of a stationer. He married Mary Emily Frances Ayscough by licence at St. Mary's, Stoke Newington, on 26th November 1845 and they had 4 sons and 4 daughters. His occupation at that time was a wholesale stationer. Frederick Karlake was their fourth son and last child in 1861. On 4th October 1848, he had registered a paper hanging design (number 54703) with the Board of Trade, from his address at 50 Upper Thames Street, London. By the 1851 census, he was still a wholesale stationer. And yet, by 1861, he had become a paper manufacturer, living in Wells, Somerset, with a large domestic staff.

Wookey Hole Mill is the earliest known paper mill in Somerset, with the first reference to a paper mill on the site occurring in a lease of 1610. The mill changed ownership on a number of occasions and became a prosperous business. In 1853, William Sampson Hodgkinson purchased the Mill outright from the trustees of Wells Old Almshouses, with the sale being completed in 1856. The Mill was purchased for the low sum of £800, due to the buildings being in disrepair as a result of a fire on 20 April 1855.

The following information comes from a website (csaquotes.com), which specialises in American Confederate Notes and Bonds:

The Hodgkinson & Co. Wookey Hole Mill watermark CSA notes are some of the rarest and interesting notes in the series. To actually see a complete collection of the "collectible" varieties of this watermark is a unique experience. There was one watermark per sheet of 8 notes making this watermark even rarer. Only a small number of reams was imported of which some were used for Virginia State currency. All of these notes are Rarity 9+ or better, meaning that there are less than 25 known of each. In most cases, there are less than 10 known of many of these notes making them true rarities in CSA currency...

The new mill began work in 1858 with 4 vats, its construction being far more impressive than before. The main building now spanned the river and enlarged the operation considerably...

There was no Factory Act at this time dictating what hours should be worked. Employees at the mill were expected to work from 4 in the morning until 7 in the evening and on Saturdays until 2 o'clock, there was no limit to the amount of work and little opportunity to clock off early. In spite of up-to-date machinery and the need to attain the highest quality paper the men were urged to produce the equivalent of 9 or 10 days per week.

It was at this time, in this relatively new building and under these working conditions, that paper used in some of the Confederate States currency was produced, though little of it made it through the blockade and into actual use.

When he died in 1876, the business passed to his eldest son. The Mill continued in the ownership of the Hodgkinson family throughout the remainder of the 19th century and well into the 20th century, becoming a highly profitable company. By the census of 1881, the mill was employing 180 people. The son, also William Sampson Hodgkinson, later lived at Glencot House, Wells, Somerset. It was originally built for him, the owner of the Wookey Hole paper mills. Completed in 1887, the house was first called Little Glencot and had burnt down; so Mr Sampson Hodgkinson demolished the remains and built the present house. Glencot House was built by the architects Ernest George and Harold Peto, who were renowned Victorian architects, who specialised in recreating the architecture of bygone eras. Glencot is said to be built in a Jacobean style and today is a privately-owned hotel. It has not been externally altered or added to since its completion in 1887.

The will, with two codicils of William Sampson Hodgkinson, formerly of Wells in the County of Somerset, but late of 13 Clifton Gardens, Folkestone, in the County of Kent, Paper Manufacturer, who died 18 January 1876 at 13 Clifton Gardens, was proved on 28 March 1876 by Mary Emily Frances Hodgkinson, his widow. His effects were listed at under £35,000. He was buried at Cheriton Road, Cemetery, Folkestone, aged 57 years, on 22 January 1876, by the Rev. Frederick Tapley.

Algernon Fulke Egerton had been an M.P. for various constituencies in south-east Lancashire over a number of years from 1859 to 1880. He died on Tuesday 14th July **1891** and his funeral was held 4 days later at St. Mark's. It was described as 'an impressive ceremony' with 'an immense crowd.' His body was buried in an ordinary grave to the south-east side of the church. On the day of the funeral, the coffin was received at the church at 1.30pm by Canon the Marquis of Normanby and the Rev. Hodgkinson, who conducted the service at the graveside.

The second daughter of **Francis Kerslake Hodgkinson**, Joyce Mary, who had been born on 6th November **1891**, was baptised at St. Mark's, and died at the age of 16 months in March 1893. She was buried in the churchyard on 29th March, the service being conducted by A. W. McLaren, the curate. Her sad death was reported in *The Times* of Wed. 29 March **1893**.

Harold Milliken, in his book *Changing Scene*, had this to say of the new incumbent:

In 1890, the Revd. Frederick Karslake Hodgkinson was inducted to the living. He was a comparatively young man, 28 years of age; he had served at All Saints' Margaret Street, a fashionable London church, renowned for its elaborate services and music, and he had no experience of the northern character and way of life. For a short time, it was said, there were misunderstandings, but these soon disappeared when the people recognised that he was a man they could trust and follow.

Further on, when referring to him leaving the parish, Milliken concluded that he had been "*an indefatigable worker and a true parish priest.*"

During his time at Worsley, significant changes and alterations took place to the parish church. In **1892**, the church was cleaned and re-painted. In the same year, the stone chancel steps were replaced with steps made from Carrara marble at a cost of £25, with money raised by the children of the parish and Sunday schools. In **1894**, the present lectern was made for the church. The stand bears the figure of St. Mark. Incandescent gas lighting was installed in **1897**, but it caused problems in the chancel because of the amount of heat generated. In **1899**, screens were erected at the west end of the church beneath the gallery to combat the draught and cold. Then, in **1902**, the chairs now used by the wardens were presented, with their high backs.

The *Nursing Record* of 6th March **1897** published an advertisement for an appointment. It read:

WANTED, for three months, hospital-trained NURSE, for country parish. No midwifery. Board, lodging, and £3 per month. Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, Worsley, near Manchester.

Then, in 1939, *The Times* announced the death of Annie Grimmer on 4th August. It was reported that for 43 years she had been the faithful nurse and a beloved friend in the family of the late Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson and Mrs. Hodgkinson. R.I.P. The assumption must be that she been the successful applicant for the post advertised above.

In **1898**, the Worsley Home for Boys was established. It occupied 4 Mill Brow, Worsley. It opened on 8 August 1898 with a ceremony at St. Mark's Church, Worsley. After a sermon given by the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, the congregation walked in procession to the new Home, which was then officially declared 'open' by Lady Ellesmere. At first the Worsley Home could only accommodate six boys, aged 2-11.

On Tuesday 9th April **1901**, the funeral of Helen Constance Egerton, the youngest daughter of the Earl of Ellesmere, took place at S. Mark's. Her body was then laid to rest in the family vault. Lord and Lady Ellesmere and several members of the family were the chief mourners and the funeral was private. The coffin was carried from Worsley Hall to the church by Lord Ellesmere's workmen. The Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, vicar, officiated.

In the first few years the Home underwent some considerable alterations. In **1904** a new playroom was opened on the ground floor, complete with a seesaw and a swing for the boys. The garden was also transformed in this year, with lots of new shrubs and trees donated by Lord Ellesmere. In the following year, the Home more than doubled in size when the neighbouring cottage came up for sale. The Society promptly secured the lease and, after refurbishment, Worsley Home could accommodate 18 boys.

The Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry (DLOY), Worsley, list for **1902** contained the name of the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson as Honorary Chaplain. It would appear he had been appointed on 7th June 1899. Then, the *London Gazette* of 7th February **1905** made this announcement:

Duke of Lancaster's Own, Honorary Chaplain the Reverend F. K. Hodgkinson, M.A., resigns his appointment. Dated 8th February, 1905.

On Saturday 28th October **1905**, the Rev. Hodgkinson assisted at the wedding of Viscount Brackley, the eldest son of 3rd Earl of Ellesmere to Miss Violet Lambton, the eldest daughter of the Hon. F. W. Lambton, M.P. for south-east Durham, and niece of the Earl of Durham. The ceremony (with 'a fashionable congregation') took place at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster. It was performed by Canon the Marquis of Normanby, who was also assisted by Canon Hensley Henson, rector of St. Margaret's.

His next appointment, to Stanway, (Colchester), Essex, was announced in the national press :

The Rev Frederick Karlake Hodgkinson, from Worsley, Manchester, has been inducted to the living of Stanway, St.Albright's, in the place of the Rev. W. J. Frere, resigned.

In addition, it was announced in *The Times* of Thursday 2nd August **1906** that he was to become Rector of Stanway. The patron of the parish of Stanway was Magdalen College, Oxford, his alma mater. The last register entry for St.Mark's signed by him was a baptism entry on 25th November 1906.

His only son, Geoffrey Still Hodgkinson (born on 22nd July 1893), had been a pupil at Radley College, Abingdon, from 1907 to 1911. Sadly, he was killed in action in France on 24 July **1917**, aged 24. The alumni magazine of the college, *The Radleian*, announced his death in the issue of 27th October 1917 in the following way:

SECOND LIEUTENANT GEOFFREY STILL HODGKINSON, R.F.A. (Radley 1907-1911), was killed on July 24, aged 24. He was the only son of the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, Vicar of St. Peter's, Forest-gate, and was educated at Radley College, where he represented the school in the cricket and football elevens. On leaving school, he entered the Imperial Tobacco Company, Messrs. Lambert and Butler's branch. He was in an H.A.C. battert before the war began, and immediately on the outbreak he went on active service, serving abroad as a gunner from March to December 1915, when he returned home, and received a commission in the R.F.A. in January 1916. He went to France in the following March, and was for part of the time he was there in command of the battery.

He is buried at Brandhoek New Military Cemetery in Belgium. His unit at that time was 'A' Battery 227th Army Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.

The Times on Monday 24 October **1910** announced that .. *On the 19th, the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson (assisted by the Rev. H. Cumberlege), officiated at the marriage of Stuart Heaton, son of the late Capt. H. Heaton of Worsley, to Audrey, younger daughter of Captain Hart Davis, late R.E., of Wardley Hall, Worsley. The marriage took place at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, (London).*

After leaving Worsley, Rev. Hodgkinson became Vicar of Stanway, Essex (1906-1909). In September **1909**, it was announced that the Rev. R. H. O'Reilly and the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson had agreed to exchange livings. And so he became Vicar of St. Peter's, Upton Cross, London (1909-1917); and Chaplain to the Community of St. Peter, Kilburn. He retired in **1929** through ill-health, and was granted permission to officiate in the Diocese of Chichester from 1929. He died at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, March **1936**. The National Probate Calendar gave these details: Frederick Karslake Hodgkinson, of 3 Charles Road West, St.Leonards-on-Sea, died on 5 March 1936, aged 74. Probate was granted on 29th April to Guy Ayscough Hodgkinson and Francis Churchill Still, solicitor.

Thomas Harrison **(1907 - 1910)**

He was succeeded by the **Rev. Thomas Harrison**, who had come from a parish in Yorkshire. He had been ordained Deacon on 24th May **1891** and Priest on the 12th June **1892** by the Archbishop of Canterbury. His first appointment was as Curate of Benenden (1891-1895), and he then became Vicar of Appledore with Ebony (1895-1899). His third appointment was Vicar of St. John the Evangelist, Dewsbury Moor (1899-1907). He stayed at St. Mark's for only three years, until 1910. From here, he moved south to Margate (1910-1920). He finally became a Licensed Preacher in the Diocese of Rochester from 1921. His address then was Cranford, Granville Road, Sevenoaks. During the years 1888 to 1920, he was a Lecturer for the Palestine Exploration Fund.

Thomas was born in Allendale (a small village in S. W. Northumberland) in c1858 to John Harrison and Jane (née Armstrong). In the census of **1851**, they were living in Allendale. John was a butcher and all the family was born there. By 1861, they were living in Whitfield, Northumberland, though his wife Jane had died by then, probably in 1859. John was now an agricultural labourer and Thomas was 3 years old. By 1871, they were living at Greenley Clough, Allendale, and Thomas was a scholar. John and Jane had married on 5th October 1839 at Ninebanks.

At the time of the **1881** census, Thomas had moved to an address in Bootle, Liverpool: 176 Stanley Road - aged 23. He was a visitor/boarder and he was described as a Divinity Student, at Didsbury College. His birthplace was Allendale (sic), Northumberland. This is significant since it shows ties in his birthplace to his move towards the priesthood.

He married Ella Josephine Mardon on 25th March **1884** at Bristol. They had 4 children: Christine Mary, (born 10th January 1885 at Knutsford, Cheshire); Howard Guy (born 25th August 1886); Wilfrid Armstrong, (born 15th April 1888 at Kingston, Surrey); and Edward Gathorne, (born 7th February 1895 at Benenden, Kent). Their first three children were all baptised on 5th March 1892 during his curacy at St. George's Church, Benenden, and Edward at the same church on 13th March 1895.

A timeline of his life as a clergyman would simply show:

Curate of Benenden, 1891-1895

Vicar of Appledore with Ebony, 1895-1899

Vicar of St. John the Evangelist, Dewsbury Moor, 1899-1907
Vicar of St. Mark's, 1907-1910
Vicar of Margate, 1910-1920
Lecturer, Palestine Exploration Fund, 1888-1920
Licensed Preacher, Diocese of Rochester, from 1921

In January **1896**, the *Benenden Parish Magazine* announced that he was about to leave the parish.

It is with feelings of mingled regret and rejoicing that we have to announce the departure of the Rev. Thomas Harrison from amongst us.

He came to us under very exceptional circumstances, with the strong recommendation of the Archbishop, and without so much as a single breath of flattery we can say that he has fulfilled, and more than fulfilled, the high expectation which we formed of him.

For four years and a half, the Vicar has rejoiced in the fellowship of his colleague, and the parish has benefited by his ministrations.

In March, Thomas Harrison wrote a letter of thanks to his former parish for its loyal support.

Thank you very much for allowing me to say a few words through the Parish Magazine to those whom it has been my privilege and happiness to serve as the servant of God and His Church, for four years and a half. I need hardly say that I cannot review those years without being deeply conscious of the manifold imperfections of my service, but over against this saddening feeling there are two other things which afford relief. First, I think I can honestly say that I endeavoured to do my duty, and in the second place, the kindly appreciation of my endeavours, and friendly welcome in the homes of the Parish, always proved a source of encouragement and help. (Benenden Parish Magazine)

Upon leaving Benenden, he went as Vicar to a parish at Appledore with Ebony, Kent, (**1895**-1899), and from there he went north to St. John the Evangelist, Dewsbury Moor (**1899**-1907).

In the **1901** census, the family address was The Elms, Church Lane, Dewsbury Moor. Thomas Harrison was 43, a Clergyman, born in Allendale, Northumberland. His wife Ella Josephine was 38 (born Clifton, Bristol), and their daughter Christine Mary was 16. His son Edward Gathorne was 6. They also had 2 domestic staff. Wilfrid was 12 and a pupil at St. Chad's College, Denstone, Uttoxeter, together with his brother Howard Guy (14). During his time in the parish, he undertook great building and restoration work. A vicarage was begun in 1902 and a committee was formed to "to enable them to undertake the complete restoration and improvement of the Church." The Church reopened on 10th June, 1906.

Thomas Harrison eventually came to St. Mark's, Worsley, in **1907**. During his three years in the parish, no significant works or alterations took place within the parish. However, it is noted that the Education Act placed severe restrictions upon the work of the parish, particularly in relation to church schools. For several years, he was also a member of the Palestine Exploration Fund (the P.E.F.). His name first appears in the church's registers at a Baptism on 29th January 1907 and his last ceremony was a marriage on 29th October 1910.

The PEF was founded '*under the royal patronage of Queen Victoria in 1865 by a group of distinguished academics and clergymen, most notably the Dean of Westminster Abbey, Arthur Stanley, and Sir George Grove. For many years, it was central to the development of archaeology in the region, undertaking ambitious and well-chosen projects that significantly enhanced the knowledge of those working in the area. Its subject-base has never been limited to archaeology alone and includes natural history, anthropology, history and geography.*'

The P.E.F. used to retain several people throughout the UK as authorised lecturers. These people tended to be professionals in some capacity, often clerics, and P.E.F. subscribers, so they would have received

the journal, the 'Quarterly Statement'. Their listing in the Quarterly Statement would occasionally give details of their subjects, and whether their talks would be illustrated with lantern slides.

The following information came from Felicity Cobbing at the Palestine Exploration Fund:

Rev. Thomas Harrison F.R.G.S. was one of the PEF's authorised lecturers from at least 1889 to 1917. His subjects included:

'Research and Discovery in the Holy Land'

'Bible Scenes in the Light of Modern Science'

'The Survey of Eastern Palestine'

'In the Track of the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan'

'The Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea, and the Cities of the Plain'

'The Recovery of Jerusalem'

'The Recovery of Lachish and the Hebrew Conquest of Palestine'

'Archaeological Illustrations of the Bible (Specially adapted for Sunday School Teachers)'

He was also a member of our General Committee from 1893 to 1935, after which date his name is no longer recorded. The General Committee was a group who would attend the AGM, but not the regular Executive Committee meetings.

Julia Collard, archivist at St. George's, Benenden, writes that "*he had given a lecture in 1893 entitled 'The Holy Land, Illustrated.'* The parish magazine stated that "*On Wednesday, March 8th, the Rev. Thomas Harrison, Senior Lecturer for the Palestine Exploration Fund, will give a Lecture upon the Holy Land in connection with its past history, and recent discoveries. The lecture will be illustrated with Magic Lantern views of the various localities.*"

Given his deep interest in the Holy Land, it seems that he was going to Palestine in 1908 when a collision occurred in the English Channel. *The Spectator* of Saturday 3rd October 1908 reported the incident:

The passenger steam-yacht 'Argonaut,' belonging to the Co-operative Cruising Company, which was on a voyage to the Mediterranean, was sunk off Dungeness on Tuesday morning in a fog. There were about a hundred and twenty passengers on board, as well as a hundred and twenty persons forming the crew. All were saved, and only the second officer was slightly injured. The 'Argonaut' was struck by the Newcastle steamer 'Kingswell,' and sank in about half-an-hour. It is immensely to the credit of the crew and the passengers that the boats were filled in so orderly a manner, although the 'Argonaut' threatened to founder before all had left her. No one can read the account without pride and satisfaction. When the two hundred and forty persons had been transferred to the 'Kingswell,' there was a new anxiety, as she too threatened to sink, and the passengers had again to take to the boats. Fortunately, the fog lifted, and the collier 'Southmoor' was signalled. On board this ship, passengers and crew were safely taken to Dover.

(*The Spectator* 3 October 1908)

Among the passengers was the Rev. Thomas Harrison, of Worsley, travelling with his son, Wilfrid (of Keble College). He gave a detailed account of the incident to the *Manchester Courier* (Thursday 1st October 1908), describing the weather conditions, the moment of impact, the response of the crew and passengers and the escape routine. The collision occurred at breakfast time (about 8.35am) on Tuesday 29th September. The people on board the Argonaut lost all their possessions, with one woman losing jewellery worth \$30,000. The 'Kingswell' was on her way from Spain with a cargo of iron ore. The 'Argonaut' foundered within twenty minutes.

Then, in **1911**, the family was living at Allendale Lodge, Bathurst Road, Folkestone. Thomas was now 53 and a Priest, born in the Parish of Ninebanks, Northumberland. Ella was 48 and Christine Mary was 26. (She later died early in 1971 in Devon as a spinster, aged 86). Wilfrid was now a boarder at St. Peter Intra,

Kent, a schoolmaster at a private school. Edward was now 16 and a student at Haileybury College, Hertfordshire.

According to Crockford's 1932, he moved to Margate from **1912** (15th August) to 1920, and thereafter was a Licensed Preacher in the Diocese of Rochester from **1921**. Robin Colyer from St. John's has kindly offered the following details about Thomas Harrison:

Yes, the dates that you have for Thomas Harrison at St John's are right. He was vicar during the First World War. There were obviously many casualties: 429 servicemen, 18 civilians and 10 munitions workers are on the town war memorial. Both churchwardens at St John's lost two sons each. German airships and biplanes were only 40 miles away from us on the Belgian coast and the civilian casualties were in air raids on the town.

Prior to the war, the church had a staff of curates as there were several daughter churches. Thomas Harrison lost most of the curates, probably they became padres and from what I've read in the minute books, his last years at Margate were clouded by ill health. I think it is likely that he suffered a nervous breakdown due to the strain of his pastoral duties. The parish was very lively prior to the war with a lot of visiting of parishioners and I suspect this eventually fell back on the vicar with much less help.

He was replaced by the most famous modern vicar, Rev. David Railton, who suggested the idea of burying the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey.

The National Probate record of his will states that the Reverend Thomas Harrison of Cranford, Granville Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, died on 29th December **1935**. Probate was granted at London on 9th March (1936) to Wilfrid Armstrong Harrison (died Dec. 1980 Kensington) and Edward Gathorne Harrison (died Dec. 1974 Worthing), retired captains in H.M. Army.

Ella Josephine Harrison died a widow at Cranford Nursing Home, Cranford Avenue, Exmouth, on 9th September 1955. Probate was granted on 25 November to Christine Mary Harrison, spinster, and a solicitor. *The Tablet*, a Catholic weekly newspaper, had reported on 2nd April 1927, that 'A generous benefaction to the Pro-Cathedral at Clifton has enriched that building with a new high altar, magnificent in character and proportions; new stained-glass windows; and a new sacristy. The name of the donor is perpetuated in the request-not likely to go unheeded-that the faithful will pray for the good estate of Ella Josephine Harrison, née Mardon.' The Mardon family had been one of great standing in Somerset.

Campbell Blethyn Hulton **(1910 - 1918)**

Campbell Blethyn Hulton was born in Whalley Range on 30 May **1877**, the first son (of three) of Campbell Arthur Grey Hulton (1846-1919) of Manchester, and his wife Florence Burton (1853-1898). They had married by licence at St. James, Birkdale, on 21 April 1875 and the ceremony was conducted by his own father. In the census of 1851, Campbell Arthur Grey Hulton was a five year old boy, living at the rectory at Emberton, with his father Campbell Basset Arthur Grey Hulton!!

Campbell Arthur Grey Hulton, [his father], was born in Manchester on 16 March 1846 and was educated at Rossall from 1855 to 1858, and then Aldenham [Herts.]. He lived in Whalley Range and played cricket for Cheetham Hill. He was described as a merchant in Parker Street, Manchester. He played his first match for Lancashire against Sussex at Brighton on 16th and 17th August 1869, when he opened the innings scored 6 and 4, and took a catch. He played for the county on seven further occasions up to 1882 without any great impact. In 1888 he was elected a member of the M.C.C., and for many years

he managed the Sussex Schools Tours. He was appointed to the committee of that Club in 1913. (Copyright © 2003-2016 Lancashire CCC and Cricket Archive). He is recorded in the county cricket archives as Lancashire Player Number 56. Our former rector's father died on 23 June 1919 at 14 Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square, London, though his abode was given as the Grosvenor Hotel, London. He left his effects of £2,221. 11s. 7d. to his son Campbell Blethyn.

He was born on 30 May **1877** and was baptised on 8 July 1877 at Emberton, Bucks. His grandfather, the Rev. Campbell Basset Arthur Grey Hulton, had been Rector of the parish church of All Saints at Emberton (1860 - 1878) and so the young boy was baptised by his grandfather. C. B. Hulton had 2 brothers - Adam Roger (baptised at Birkdale 20 September 1878) and John Meredith (born in Hulme 8 January 1882). In the census of **1881**, he was living with the family at the 'Cedars', College Road, Withington. His father was listed as a merchant. In **1891**, he was a pupil at Bilton Grange School, Bilton, Warwickshire, a prep. school founded in 1873.

He went up to Magdalen College, Oxford, to read Modern History and gained his B.A. second class in **1900**. Whilst there, he was President of the JCR in the Lent Term 1900. **Campbell Blethyn Hulton** was admitted to the Inner Temple Inn on the 17th November 1898 from Magdalen College, Oxford. His address was given as 33 Lulworth Road, Birkdale, Southport, Lancs. He was called to the Bar on the 27th January 1902, and was disbarred at his own request on the 19th June 1903. He did not practise as a barrister following his call.

In **1903**, he was awarded his M.A. from Magdalen. In the same year, he was ordained Deacon and then, in 1904, Priest by the Bishop of Peterborough. He trained for the priesthood at Cuddesdon College, Oxford, which had been established as a theological college in 1854. In 1903, he followed in his father's footsteps and played one match of cricket for the M.C.C. His scorecard for that match reads 2 innings, 4 runs, highest score 4, at an average of 2!! It is not known where the match took place or who the opposition was.

After studying at Oxford, he returned to Birkdale and was staying with his father, at 33 Lulworth Road, at the time of the 1901 census. His father was then 55 and had retired. The father was now a widower, his wife having died on 12 April 1898 at Whitehall Court, London. By **1911**, he was resident in Worsley at the rectory, with his wife Helen Dorothy. They had married in St. Ives, Huntingdonshire, on 5 August **1903**. She was Helen Dorothy Heelis, the daughter of John and Mary Heelis of Salford. They did not have any children and she died on 18 January 1958, aged 82. Her address was officially 28 Linden Road, Bedford.

He began his ministry as Curate at Melton Mowbray from **1903** to **1905**. In his brief time there, he very much engaged in the life of the district. He combined his love of sport with some skill in singing. At Christmas 1904, he took part in a concert at the workhouse, singing a few solos, and in the following New Year participated in a smoking concert at the Young Men's Institute. He also played cricket for local teams. On one occasion, in August 1904, he played for Egerton Park (Melton Mowbray) in a 2 day game against an M.C.C. team which included his father and his brother John Meredith. In that match, he scored 12 runs in the first innings, batting at number 6. In the second innings, he shared an opening partnership of over a century!

Campbell Blethyn then became Rector of Turvey, Beds, from July **1905** to late **1910**. The *Manchester Guardian* of 6th October **1910** announced his appointment to St. Mark's, Worsley, as follows:

The Rev. T. Harrison, vicar of Worsley, writes in this month's parish magazine: "I am glad to be able to announce that Lord Ellesmere has nominated as my successor the Rev. Campbell Blethyn Hulton M.A., at present rector of Turvey in the Diocese of Ely. The nomination has already been sent to the Bishop of Manchester who will cause it to be exhibited for a month on the church door after the date of my resignation, and before the actual institution to the benefice by the Bishop. I mention this in order to indicate that it

will be very near the end of the year before Mr. Hulton will be able to take up his work here."

His love of sport continued in Lancashire. He was a member of the Manchester Tennis Club and in May 1914 took part in the club's Spring Handicaps. The competition was organised into 3 divisions and he won the First Division title with 8 wins and just 1 loss. This allowed him to progress to the final on 29 May in which he beat F. H. Hollins by three sets, therefore entitling him to hold The Ashworth Cup.

The Worsley Pageant was held on 17th and 20th June **1914**. The pageant was held in the grounds of Worsley New Hall, specifically to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Bridgewater Canal (opened in 1761). According to the Foreword of the Pageant programme, "*the promotion of the pageant is due to the energy and enterprise of the Vicar of Worsley, the Rev. C. B. Hulton, M.A., who found willing helpers in the ladies and gentlemen old whose names are set forth in the following pages.*" His official rôle in the pageant was Director of the Pageant. He was also chairman of the Armada Committee (one of three historical portraits of the community) and a member of the pageant choir.

On Thursday 16th July **1914**, the funeral took place at the church of the third Earl of Ellesmere, Francis Charles Granville Egerton. He had died at 3.15am on the 13th July at Bridgewater House, London. The officiating clergy were the Rev. the Marquis of Normanby (his brother-in-law), the Rev. C. B. Hulton, as vicar of the parish, and the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, a former vicar of Worsley.

In the First World War, Campbell Blethyn served as a driver for the French Red Cross from May **1916** to November 1916 and was awarded the Victory Medal and British War Medal. His brother **John Meredith Hulton**, meanwhile, had joined the army as a serving officer in the Royal Sussex Regiment (commissioned on 4 July 1903) and reached the rank of Acting Lieutenant Colonel. His first theatre of war was Gallipoli!! He was awarded the D.S.O. in May 1918, and was also invested as a C.B.E. In addition, he was awarded the Order of the Nile 3rd Class by His Highness the Sultan of Egypt in November 1918 and later he was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun 4th Class by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan in August 1921. John Meredith died in 1942 in Poole, Dorset. The other brother, Adam Roger, died a few months before Campbell Blethyn in 1947 in Bournemouth. Quite a coincidence!

In the edition of the *London Gazette*, dated 18th August **1916**, the following announcement appeared:

The King has been graciously pleased to sanction the following appointment to the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England:

THE GRAND PRIORY OF THE ORDER OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM IN ENGLAND.

Chancery of the Order,

St. John's Gate.

Clerkenwell, London, E.C.

15th August 1916. (London Gazette 18 August 1916).

Chaplain - the Rev. Campbell Blethyn Hulton

The Order of St. John is a royal order of chivalry first constituted in 1888 by royal charter from Queen Victoria. Today it is best known from its association with service organisations, such as the St. John Ambulance service. Queen Elizabeth II is the sovereign head of the Order of St. John. Over the years, the official title of the order has changed from the one above.

C. B. Hulton wrote a book, *A Book of Courtesy for the Clergy; or, deportment for deacons*. It was published in **1921** by St. Catherine Press and is catalogued at the British Library. However, it is now out of print and it seems that no second-hand booksellers have a copy.

New oak pews were installed in 1931 in the parish church of Emberton, some by Kenneth Sams, Esq. in memory of his father, some by the Rev. C. B. Hulton and his brothers, in memory of Campbell Hulton, Esq. J.P. at All Saints, Emberton, a small village near Olney. The church dates from c.1340. His father, Campbell A. G. Hulton, held the Advowson in 1899. His grandfather, the Rev. Campbell Basset Arthur Grey Hulton, had been an earlier Rector of the parish (1860 - 1878).

C. B. Hulton had a very strong connection with Charterhouse. Catherine Smith, Charterhouse archivist, writes:

He was indeed a pupil at Charterhouse in Godalming between Cricket Quarter (summer term) 1891 and Cricket Quarter 1896. He was Preacher at the London Charterhouse between 1932 and 1941 and Master of the Deo Dante Dedi Lodge (Charterhouse Masonic Lodge) between 1941 and 1943. I should perhaps explain that Charterhouse was originally founded in 1611 as a joint foundation for poor scholars and pensioners, housed in buildings converted from a Carthusian monastery near Smithfield, but in 1872 the School moved out of London to Godalming, leaving the pensioners (or Brothers), in the original buildings.

In the Charterhouse Register 1872-1890, the following entry appears:

Rg HULTON, Campbell Blethyn. b 30 May 1877: I s of Campbell Arthur Gray Hulton of Southport: Cricket XI, 1896: Football XI, 1895: C'96: Magdalen, Ox: MA: Barr 1902: IT: D 1903: P 1904: R of Turvey 1906: of Worsley 1910: of Emberton 1922-32: Preacher of Charterhouse 1932-41: V of Mentmore 1941-7: Chaplain to the Order of S John of Jerusalem, 1916: Master, Deo Dante Ded.i Lodge 1941-3: m. 1903, Helen Dorothy, 2 d of J Heelis of Manchester: d. at Mentmore 10 Apl 1947.

In his book *Changing Scene*, which tells the story of the church and parish life in Worsley, Harold Milliken, a former churchwarden, said this of him:

"[During the war] the Vicar drove a tractor plough on Worsley Farm as part of his war effort, and later both he and his curate served for a time with the forces in France. When that period of duty expired, he undertook additional duties outside the parish. Worsley New Hall, meanwhile, had been converted into a convalescent hospital for wounded officers, and people became accustomed to the sight of their presence in the village and to providing them with comforts and social entertainment.

When the war ended, the task of reconstruction began. It was not an easy one, for as Mr. Hulton said before he left Worsley for Holy Trinity, Southport, "nobody could expect that religion would immediately return to the position it held before the upheaval". The pattern of life had changed and with the change had come a different attitude to religion and to parish life.

Described by one writer as a refreshing and robust Christian, Campbell Blethyn Hulton understood Worsley people perfectly. He remained about four years in his new parish before going to Emberton, Bucks., as Vicar and Rural Dean of Newport Pagnell. Later he was appointed Preacher of Charterhouse where he had received part of his early education. He remained there until the Brothers were disbanded in 1941, just before the lovely building was destroyed in an air raid in World War Two. When he left Charterhouse Lord Rosebery offered him the living of Mentmore, near Leighton Buzzard. He died on 10 April 1947, and was buried at Emberton."

Mentmore is near Aylesbury, Bucks. The parish church is St. Mary the Virgin and dates from the 14th century.

In his will, his address was given as The Aviary, Mentmore, Beds., and his title was Clerk. He died on 10th April 1947 and probate was granted in London on 29th July to Helen Dorothy Hulton, widow, et al. His widow died in Bedford on 18th January 1958, aged 82.

The obituary which appears below is reprinted from *The Carthusian* (July 1947) with the kind permission of the College. It is in itself a very fine tribute to the man, who was so clearly and warmly admired at the school.

HULTON.—On April 10th, 1947, at The Aviary, Mentmore, the Rev. Campbell Blethyn Hulton, aged 69. Robinites—Girdlestoneites, S.Q. 1891—S.Q. 1896. The elder of two Girdlestoneite brothers, he was in the Cricket and Football elevens in his last year. After coming down from Magdalen College, Oxford, he was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1902, but in 1903 was ordained and from 1905 to 1910 was Rector of Turvey, Bedfordshire. From 1910 to 1918 he was Vicar of Worsley, Manchester, and from 1918 to 1922 Vicar of Holy Trinity, Southport.

Then, after ten years as Rector of Emberton, Bucks., he was appointed Preacher of Charterhouse, where he remained until the suspension of the office in 1941, since when he had been Vicar of Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard. As Preacher he was in his element, delighting alike in his position at Old Charterhouse and in the Pensioners under his care, each one of whom he regarded as a personal friend in every detail of whose life he was interested. At the same time he set himself to make Charterhouse a centre for Carthusians in London—at one period he had hopes that it might be possible to build squash and fives courts there for Old Carthusians—and many will recall the warm welcome which always awaited them in those years from himself and Mrs. Hulton. It was a great wrench to him to leave, and at the end of his life he felt it as a bitter disappointment that this part of the Foundation should perforce remain so long dormant at a period when the need for it was greater perhaps than ever before. He was still able, however, himself to do something for Charterhouse : during the War he organized a service in Chapel on Founder's Day, followed by a lunch at a tavern near-by—how successfully, those who were fortunate enough to attend can testify—and he was one of the secretaries of the first official Founder's Day after the War. In his younger days he had been a good cricketer, playing much for the Free Foresters and the Butterflies, and also took a keen interest in tennis, playing regularly first at Manchester and later at Lord's.

His love of sport continued unabated, and others besides the writer have found, after struggling to decipher a letter which they believed to be concerned with business matters, that they were in fact receiving tips almost straight from the stable for the next racing classic. Moreover his preference of the athlete to the scholar was quite unabashed, though he was himself a man of wide reading in the most unexpected directions. His friends will have no doubt of the words by which he would wish to be remembered—a Christian and a gentleman. If the phrase has nowadays an old-fashioned sound to many, he would have cared little for that and would have thought, with reason, that the world is none the better for it. These words formed indeed the theme of his last sermon in the School Chapel at Godalming, and those who knew him will feel that to none could they be applied more fittingly than to himself.

Harry William Thorne
(1918-1930)

Harry William Thorne was born on 13th February **1879** in Hildenborough, in the Tonbridge District of Kent, the first son of William John Thorne and his wife Elizabeth (née Hoath). He was one of six children. They were married in late 1877 in the Tunbridge Wells District.

In the census of **1881**, the young Harry was living with his parents in London Road, Tonbridge. His father (aged 27) was a cricket ball maker; but by 1891, he had become a licensed victualler at the Five Bells Inn, Eastry, Kent. By then, Harry William had 4 siblings. The family was still there ten years later, in 1901, though Harry was now a student at Oxford, aged 22.

He gained his first degree at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, in **1902** - B.A. 2nd Class in Theology. His M.A. followed in 1906. In between those years, he was ordained Deacon in 1903 and Priest in **1904**. A brief summary of his clerical life is as follows:

Curate of St. Mary, Blyth, 1903-1906
Sub-warden of Christ Training College for Lay Readers, 1906-1909
Diocesan Inspector of Schools in Staff. and Stoke Archdiocese of Lichfield, 1909-1917
Temporary Chaplain to the Forces, 1917-1918
Vicar of St. Mark, Worsley, 1918-1929
Director of Religious Education Diocese of Rochester, from 1929
Redwell Mount, Ightham, Sevenoaks - living there in 1932
Rector of Leybourne, Kent, 1933-1948

He married firstly Dorothy Dudley Lampen (born 3rd January 1884), in early **1910** at Eastry, Kent. She subsequently died (aged 49) in 1933 at Malling, Kent. They did not have any children. *The Times* on 10th June 1933 reported that she had fallen asleep on 9 June. Thereafter, he had an 'In Memoriam' printed in *The Times* annually on the anniversary of her death. He married secondly Dorothy's sister, Irene Ethel Lampen (born 1896, died 5th March 1962) in **1944** at Maidstone, Kent. Again, he did not have any children.

At the time of the **1911** census, Harry William Thorne (32) was living at 22 Wolverhampton Road, Stafford, with his wife Dorothy Dudley (27). This is when he was Diocesan Inspector of Schools in Staffordshire. His birthplace was given as Hildenborough, Kent, a village near to Tonbridge and Sevenoaks.

The website of St. Mark's Church says this of his time in the parish:

"Canon Thorne came to St. Mark's on 19 November 1918 as Vicar. Like others who returned to parishes after serving as chaplains in the First World War, he came with shocking experiences of suffering and a deep sense of the importance of prayer for the departed; they also realised as never before the ignorance and alienation from the church of 'ordinary' men. This was a time of social change. Women got the vote – and a say in the councils of the churches too. Locally, his ministry saw the separation of the new parish of St Mary Magdalen Winton, and the departure of the Ellesmeres – both with heavy financial implications. Father Thorne (as he asked to be called) introduced a controversial high church style which divided the parish. He left to become Director of Religious Education in Rochester Diocese, later becoming Honorary Canon of Rochester Cathedral, Rector of Leybourne in Kent, and a Proctor of Convocation. He died in 1948."

One interesting story serves to confirm and illustrate his 'high church style.' A young man named William Gordon Wheeler was born in Dobcross, Oldham, on 5th May 1910, the son of Frederick Wheeler and his wife Marjorie (née Upjohn). The young boy was baptised at St. Mark's on 3rd July that same year. It then would appear that by the time of the First World War, he had moved to Worsley, to live with his grandparents and aunts, for a hitherto unspecified reason. However, both his parents did originally come

from this area and were married at St. Mark's on 6th October 1908. His paternal grandfather was a coal merchant, but his maternal grandfather was Head Gardener at Worsley Hall. Although Normanby had left the parish in 1891, he did return to conduct the service. This may partly explain why he came to Worsley.

Whilst at Worsley, he attended Manchester Grammar School and from there he went to University College, Oxford, in 1929 to study History and then Theology. After graduating at Oxford in 1932, he entered St Stephen's House, Oxford, to train for the Anglican priesthood and he was initially ordained into the Church of England in 1934. From there, he went on to curacies in Brighton and Chesterfield before becoming Assistant Chaplain at Lancing College, Sussex. However, in his youth he had been greatly influenced by the Anglo-Catholic regime at his parish church in Worsley, and in 1936 he finally decided to become a Catholic and was received into the Church at Downside Abbey in September that year. Ultimately, he became Bishop of Leeds in 1966, a position he held until his retirement in 1985. In his later years, he specifically mentioned the influence of Canon Thorne, *'my favourite Vicar, to whom I owe so much'*.

Harry William Thorne was first interviewed to be a Chaplain to the Army on 20th March **1917**. Following an interview with the Chaplain-General, (Rt. Rev. John Taylor Smith), Rev Harry William Thorne MA was appointed as Temporary Chaplain to the Forces (TCF), 4th Class, on 4th May 1917. As far as is known, he may not have served overseas. He was at that time living at his 1911 census address in Stafford. His contract was due to expire on 4th September 1918 and records show that he was not going to renew it, since he was *'probably accepting Lord Ellesmere's living of Worsley'*. The report of the Deputy Chaplain-General (DCG) to the B.E.F, dated 14th October 1918, recorded that he was *'a preacher of outstanding merit. Health not good'*. It says that he might have been an ideal hospital chaplain, presumably, presumably a military hospital.

The London Gazette then announced on 29th October **1918** that Harry William had become an Honorary Chaplain to H. M. Forces in September.

ARMY CHAPLAINS DEPARTMENT.

The undermentioned Temporary Chaplains to the Forces relinquish their commissions and are appointed Honorary Chaplains to the Forces,

The Very Revd. L. Wynne Jones. 1st Sept. 1918.

The Revs.—

T. E. Loder. 30th Aug. 1918.

J. Hughes. 1st Sept. 1918.

H. W. Thorne. 4th Sept. 1918.

G. Hayward. 30th Sept. 1918.

C. Compton. 10th Oct. 1918.

N. K. Leach. 15th Oct. 1918.

F. A. G. Leveson-Gower. 16th Oct. 1918.

Interestingly, the F. A. G. mentioned above was Frederick Archibald Gresham, of Magdalen College, Oxford - bearing the same family name as the Earl of Ellesmere had originally!

Just three weeks after this announcement, he came to Worsley. One of the first tasks he had to oversee was the erection of a suitable memorial to the 105 parishioners who had lost their lives in the Great War. It was decided that a cross, which now stands between the south and west doors, be unveiled by the Earl of Ellesmere, in memory of those parishioners, many of whom are buried "in foreign lands". This took place on Sunday 10th April **1922**.

The years 1922 and 1923 were important in the life and brief history of the parish, because a new church was founded at Winton (St. Mary Magdalene) and the Ellesmere family finally left Worsley. In brief, this

meant that the parish, with a reduced population and a loss of income, was bound to suffer financial difficulties in the future. There is a full account of the problems facing the parish at this time in chapter 5 of *Changing Scene*. In addition to the financial problems, there was considerable concern amongst the parishioners about his high principles, those which demonstrated a leaning towards High Church doctrine and practice. His views often clashed with those in the parish who were opposed to any changes in the existing form of worship.

In **1928**, a scheme was proposed to convert the chapel into an Ellesmere Memorial Chapel. The chapel was furnished with an altar, and an altar rail was erected in the space occupied by a wrought iron screen. That screen was repositioned between the chancel and the chapel, behind the choir stalls on the south side. The altar was the gift of the Marquis of Normanby and the chapel was dedicated by the Bishop of Hulme on Friday 28th September 1928. *The Times* of 5th November **1929** reported that the Bishop of Rochester had appointed Rev. Thorne to be Director of Education for the Diocese of Rochester.

It was announced in the national press on 6th September **1933** that the Rev. H. W. Thorne, director of religious education in Rochester, had also been appointed to the rectory of Leybourne. There is a window commemorating Canon Thorne, their Rector from **1933** to 1948, in the north wall of the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, opposite the entrance to the church, representing the two saints. He subsequently became an honorary Canon of Rochester Cathedral. In January **1936**, he was elected a Proctor in Convocation in the Diocese of Rochester. Then, in April **1938**, he was appointed to an honorary Canonry in Rochester Cathedral.

He wrote *A Short Account of Leybourne Church* which was published in **1940**.

Local newspapers reported that Canon Thorne died on Monday 4th October 1948, aged 69. He had collapsed and died at a Kent Education Meeting. The National Probate Calendar records that the reverend Harry William of Leybourne Rectory, West Malling, Kent, clerk, died on 4th October **1948** at the Kent Education Committee Room, Springfield, Maidstone. Probate was granted in London on 26th January 1949 to Irene Ethel Thorne, widow, and Claude Dudley Lampen, schoolmaster. The newspaper reports also said that the Canon and his widow were both born at Eastry and had known each other from childhood.