

CCXCVIII Turkdean Parish Register, etc

By Frederick Biscoe, MA

CCXCVIII. — TURKDEAN PARISH REGISTER, ETC. ----The old register of this parish, in which the earliest entry is of a baptism in 1572, contains some noteworthy particulars :--

"xii. Die Julii, 1643. Mr<sup>d</sup> quod die et Anno sup<sup>a</sup> dict., Ego, Roulandus Wylde, Cler'us, dedi Thome Wilde, cler'o, realem, actualem, et corporalem possessionem eccl'ie parochialis de Turke-deane, in Conu. et Dioces. Glouc. in omnibus suis juribus, membris, et pertinentiis comsis in pidia [?].

Thome Warde,	Rowland Wylde
William Elbrowe,	Rector de Stowe,
Anthony Arkell.	In Com. Et Dioces.
	Gloces."

" Mrs Mary Coxwell was buried on the 22 May, 1683, in linnen contrary to statute, whereof Rowland Corbett was the informer, and rec<sup>d</sup> 50s. of the forfeiture. The other 50s he p<sup>d</sup> in the Ch: Porch to the overseers of the poore on the next Sunday following." [See No. CCII, p. 187.]

" Mr Robert Coxwell was buried on the xxvij<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1683 [1683-4], in linnen contrary to the statute, whereof Rowland Corbet was the informer. The 50s. that was due to be p<sup>d</sup> to the overseers M<sup>r</sup> Henry Coxwell himself p<sup>d</sup> to the poore on Easter Eve, 1684, in the Church porch, as followeth : to Goodman Curtis, 15s. ; to John Cook, 15s. ; to Widdow Collet, 10s. ; to Widdow Freeman, 10s. ; w<sup>ch</sup> was allowed by the parishioners."

" M<sup>rs</sup> Lenna Coxwell, wife of M<sup>r</sup> Henry Coxwell, Gen<sup>t</sup>, was buried in woollen only December y<sup>e</sup> 26th, 1700." On a stone in the chancel there is this inscription : -- " Here lieth the Body of Leanna, wife of Henry Coxwell, and youngest daughter of Paul Dodwell, Gen<sup>t</sup>, and the Lady Ralleigh. Buried Decem. y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup>, 1700. Also Mary, third daughter of Henry and Leanna. Coxwell, Jan<sup>ry</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 12, 1700."

1718. " Dame Elizabeth Nelthrop was buried in Linnen contrary to Act of Parliam<sup>t</sup>, for w<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Penalty was paid to y<sup>e</sup> Poor of y<sup>e</sup> Parish y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> day of April." Within the communion rails there is a stone with the inscription : -- " Here lieth interred the Body of Dame Elizabeth Nelthrop, wife of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Sir Montague Nelthrop, Bar<sup>t</sup>, eldest daughter of Henry Coxwell, Gen<sup>t</sup>, buried Ap. y<sup>e</sup> 14, 1718."

1720. " Sir William Banastre, Knight, late Baron of y<sup>e</sup> Exchequer, was buried in woollen Jany 19<sup>th</sup>. Cert : y<sup>e</sup> 26<sup>th</sup>." He also was buried within the church ; and there is this inscription to his memory on a large blue stone :-- " Here lieth interred the body of Sir William Banastre [ two lines illegible], one of the Barons of the Exchequer in the reign of Her late Majesty, Queen Anne, who departed this life the --- of January, 1720, in the 69 year of his age."

The Banasters and Coxwells seem to have been the chief families in the parish. On an oak door of a bedroom in a house now occupied as a farmhouse and belonging to Edmund Waller, Esq., there is this inscription :-- " William Banastre, Anno 1588." Of the name (which, according to Rudder, was Bannister) there are four different spellings in the register - Banaster, Bannaster, Banastre, and Bannastre.

" The Vicarage House was rebuilt in the year 1733, by Henry Massey, Vic."

"The Yew in the Church-yard was planted in the year 1736."

At the end of the marriages the following lines, which would be more appropriate after the burials, occur : --

" Nacsimur et morimur ; sors haec certissima vitæ ;

Sic animas coelum, corpora pulvis habet."

There are three bells in the church tower. One of them, which is very old, bears this inscription : -- " Æternis annis resonet campana Johannis " ; and the others are of the 17th century, and were cast at Burford. - *Frederick Biscoe, M.A., Turkdean Vicarage, North-leach.*