



THE WINWICK EFFIGY, HUYTON.

JOHN DE WINWICK AND HIS CHANTRY IN HUYTON CHURCH.

By Frederic Crooks.

Read 29 October, 1925.

AT the east end of the south aisle of Huyton church rests a tonsured effigy* of 14th century date. This is believed to represent John de Winwick, who died in 1359,¹ and who was buried in his chapel on the south side of this church.² His father, William de Winwick,³ mother and other relations were also buried at Huyton.⁴

John de Winwick belonged to a Lancashire family of some importance, and there are numerous references to the early Winwicks in the Lancashire pipe rolls and early charters. One of them was William de Winwick, lord of Thornton in Amounderness, who was a witness to a charter c. 1199-1206.⁵ His father was Robert de Winwick who previously held land in Thornton and died c. 1194.⁶

John de Winwick was actively devoted to the service of Edward III and honours and wealth were showered upon him. He was one of the king's clerks, warden of the chapel of Clitheroe Castle, rector of Wigan (instituted 26 April, 1349), and treasurer of York minster, to which

* The measurements of this alabaster effigy are:—Length from head to foot 6 ft. 2½ ins. Across the chest 1 ft. 7 ins. Extreme length of slab 6 ft. 8 ins. Width 2 ft. 1 in. I am indebted to Mr. F. C. Larkin, F.R.C.S., for the photograph of the effigy which appears with this paper.

¹ See abstract of will; also Raines, *Lancs. Chantries*, i, 95n.

² *V.C.H. Lancs.*: iii, 156.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Cal. of Papal Reg., Petitions*, i, 355/6.

⁵ Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe Rolls and Early Charters*, p. 335.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 136.

he was appointed by Edward III, 29 July, 1349, and confirmed by patent 1 Aug., 1351.¹ In the *Calendar of Papal Registers—Petitions to the Pope* (i, 210), the following occurs:—

“ King Edward. Whereas on the voidance of the treasurership of York by the death of Francis Orsini, papal notary, provision was made of it to Anibaldus, bishop of Tusculum, who died before obtaining possession of it, he prays the Pope to give it to his clerk, John de Wynwyck.”

This was granted 4 June, 1351.

It may be noted here that the manor of Mottisfont, Hampshire, formed part of the revenues of the treasurer of York, and in 1351 Edward III by charter granted to John de Winwick, and his successors, a market every Wednesday at Mottisfont, and two yearly fairs.²

Winwick is also stated by Le Neve to have held stalls at Lichfield, Salisbury, Wells and Chichester,³ but according to a note in *Chetham Society publications*, xv, 48, no authority is given and John's name does not occur in the lists of prebendaries at any one of these cathedrals. Le Neve, however, certainly appears to be correct in regard to Lichfield, Salisbury, and Wells, as is shown by the following extracts taken from the *Calendar of Papal Letters*, iii, 241 and 342. These extracts also throw some further light on other offices he held.

“ 13 July 1347. To John de Winwick. Reservation at the request of King Edward, whose clerk he is, of the canonry and prebend of South Muskham in Southwell, value 20 marks, about to be void by the consecration of John, bishop elect of St. David's, notwithstanding that he has the church of Stanford in the diocese of Lincoln, the canonry and prebend of North Newbold, in York, and a modest prebend in the chapel of St. Mary and the Angels, York.”

“ 1349. To John de Winwick. Provision of the canonry and prebend of Salisbury, reserved to the Pope in the lifetime of John

¹ Sinclair, *Hist. of Wigan*, i, 97, and Le Neve, *Fasti.*, iii, 160.

² *V.C.H. Hants.*, iv, 506.

³ Le Neve, *Fasti.*, ii, 116.

Giffart, notwithstanding that he has the canonries and prebends of York, Lincoln, Wells, St. Mary's, Southwell, and St. Mary and the Angels, York."

In 1352 John de Winwick obtained the canonry and prebend of Eccleshale in Lichfield, by exchange with John de Melburne for the church of Stamford, and the prebend of Ulften in Lichfield.¹

On 27 Nov., 1342, he was deputy constable of the Tower of London, and on 20 June, 1345, he had letters of protection "to go abroad with the King."² According to Sinclair's *History of Wigan*, John de Winwick was a much more useful politician than zealous priest³ and he was frequently engaged in the duties of ambassador for his country. In 1351 he was one of the commissioners appointed to meet the Scots at Newcastle-on-Tyne in the negotiations for peace between England and Scotland.⁴

In July, 1352, the dean and chapter of York sent him to the king to announce the death of Archbishop Zouche, and to obtain his licence to enable them to elect the archbishop's successor.⁵ In 1355 John de Winwick was named in a papal letter together with Henry, duke of Lancaster, Richard, earl of Arundel, and others, desiring them to induce the king to listen to the pope's requisitions for the liberation of Charles, duke of Brittany.⁶

In the *Cal. of Fine Rolls* there are also entries in reference to John de Winwick which give as good an idea as anything of the enormous opportunities a man in his position had of making money. The following is one extract:—

¹ *Cal. Papal Letters*, iii, 421.

² Rymer, *Foedera*, ii, 1215, and iii, 46 [quoted by Sinclair in his *Hist. of Wigan*].

³ The following papal grants show that he was in holy orders: In 1347 he was allowed to use a portable altar, and in 1359 he was also permitted to celebrate Mass before daybreak. *Cal. Papal Letters*, iii, 252, 609.

⁴ Rymer, *Foedera*, iii, 225.

⁵ Raines, *Lancs. Chuntries*, i, 94n.

⁶ *Cal. Papal Letters*, iii, 617.

" 1355, Nov. 24, Westminster. Commitment to brother John de Lyndeley, abbot of Whalley and John de Winwick, king's clerk, of the keeping of the priory of Lancaster and all the lands, possessions and goods thereof (saving to the king knights' fees and advowsons of churches), to hold for as long as the priory and lands shall remain in the king's hands on account of the war with France, rendering 120 marks yearly at the Exchequer by equal portions at Easter and Michaelmas, so that they find fit sustenance for the prior and monks there, and sustain all charges incumbent on the priory and lands. Grant, also that they be quit of tenths, etc." ¹

On the 2 April, 1357, and again on 30 Jan., 1358 John de Winwick, being then treasurer of York, was sent to parliament as one of the representatives of the chapter.² In October, 1359, having been appointed keeper of the king's privy seal, he had the great seal committed to his custody,³ but he died shortly after this, and on 11 Jan., 1360, his executors were summoned before the chapter of York to make reparation for the loss of the great bell belonging to the minster, which had fallen down and was broken through the neglect of Winwick and his officers.⁴

The following is an abstract of his will, taken⁵ from the original copy preserved in the library at Lambeth Palace [Register, Islep, fol. 161]; and to which I have added some footnotes:—

I John de Wynewyk, treasurer of the church of York, make my will at Monketon 3 October, 1359.

I bequeath . . . my body to be buried in a certain chapel newly to be built at the church of Huyton, if it chance that I die in the realm of England. If I die out of England, to be buried at the

¹ *Cal. of Fine Rolls*, vi, 446/7.

² Raines, *Lancashire Chantries*.

³ Rymer, *Foed.*, iii, 452.

⁴ Raines, *Lancs. Chantries*, i, 95n.

Cal. of Papal Letters, iii, 460, shows that neglect was not uncommon.—" 1352. To John de Winwick, treasurer of York. Union of the church of Wygan, in the diocese of Lichfield, value 50 marks, to the treasurership, of which he has not yet got possession, its buildings having suffered by the neglect of former treasurers."].

⁵ By Miss E. Stokes.

discretion of my executors and servants with me at the time of my death. Suitable expenses shall be incurred about my funeral, at the discretion of my executors and friends, with a suitable distribution to the poor.

After the payment of all my debts, and the satisfaction to the best of my power of any to whom I may have done amiss, I bequeath to the four orders of mendicant friars of London 40s. for God [*sic*] and to the friars of Werington 100s., to celebrate for my soul.

To Master Richard de Wynwyke,¹ my brother, all my books of civil and canon law, my portuous from which I have been used to say matins, my best bed and all my new hall made in London, one small gilt cup of the gift of Master Thomas de Nevill,² twelve cups of one set of the large cups of "tour de Veerr,"³ with two covers, twelve silver dishes, two chargeours, two silver basins with lavers, and twenty-four spoons. He shall have all the fruits and all the money due from his prebend of Wetewang and his church of Walton of which he has not yet answered me, with the plough, carts, oxen and working cattle in the same.

I bequeath to Emma de Assheton, my sister, £20 and all my beds, brass pots, pewter and other household utensils at Wygan and le Wolfall.⁴

To John de Assheton and the said Emma his wife, the term I have in the manor of Mourholm⁵ of the demise of John de Coupland and Joan his wife, to wit, for twelve years, of which about three years have now elapsed, paying the rent of £20 a year.

¹ Richard was in his 20th year in 1350 [*Cal. of Papal Letters*, iii, 335]. He was canon of York and of Lincoln. In 1364, when on his way from Rome to England, he was made prisoner along with William Molyneux, clerk, a member of his household. [*Cal. of Papal Letters*, iv, p. 9, 59 and 66]. Richard de Winwick was also rector of Walton-on-the-Hill, and founded a chantry in Huyton dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel. [*V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 156]. He was buried in Lincoln cathedral in 1405. [Raines, *Lancs. Chantries*, i, 95n.]

² Sir Thomas de Nevill was a son of Sir Robert de Nevill of Hornby [Arms. Argent, a saltire gules]. Sir Thomas held the manor of Aintree and died before 1387. [*V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 101].

³ Can this be the Castle of Vire? See Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe Rolls and Early Charters*, p. 370.

⁴ In 1354 Adam son of Henry de Wolfall released to John de Ashton [husband of Emma named in will] the messuage in Wolfall, which had descended to him, and Thomas de Wolfall of Huyton and Joan his wife released their right in the same [*V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 173].

⁵ The manor of Mourholm included part of the township of Carnforth. [Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe Rolls and Early Charters*, 258n.]

To John, son of the said John de Assheton, £10, and to Richard and Thomas,¹ sons of the same, 10 marks each, and to his younger daughter, in aid of her marriage, £20.

To my servants:—Thomas de la Forde,² Richard de Messelegh,³ Roger Haukesey,⁴ £10 apiece; to Robert de Bayley, John de Duddele, John le Walssh,⁵ Robert de Snoweden, 10 marks each; to Thomas de Salforde, Robert de Huyton,⁶ and John Hamme, 100s. each; to John de Hertborne, 60s. and a bed; William le Cok, 5 marks; Henry le Hunt, 60s.; Richard le Palfreyman 40s.; Little Darlyng, 40s.; Robert de Burnhill,⁷ 60s.; Robert de Wyrale and Thomas Proudfoote, 40s. each; Sir Richard de Ely, 40s. and one of my gowns; to old Robert de Daventree, 20s. and a gown; to John de Bouland, 60s.

All my servants not mentioned above shall have reasonable remuneration for their services at the discretion of my executors.

I bequeath to the abbot and convent of Whalley £40 of the arrears of a pension due to me by them.

To the priors and convents of Burscough, Holande, and Lancaster to each house £10, to pray for me.

I will that the bridge near Wygan called Adambrig⁸ shall be properly repaired at my expense, in the way I already arranged when I was last at Wygan.

¹ The *V.C.H. Lancs.*, vi, 93n., states that it was no doubt through the connection with the Winwicks that Thomas de Ashton, "esquire of King Henry and formerly lord of Croston," came to be buried in Lincoln cathedral. He died 17 Oct., 1407. His son Sir William Ashton was in possession of one moiety of Croston in the first half of 15th century [*V.C.H. Lancs.*, vi, 93]. William de Ashton was rector of Prescot from 1393-1403. [*V.C.H. Lancs.* iii, 343n.]

² Early in the 14th century the Ford family held land in Huyton [*V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 175n.]. A John del Ford granted land in Litherland to the rector of Sefton early 14th century. [*V.C.H.*, iii, 99n.]. A Thomas del Ford was described as "of Roby" c. 1372 [*V.C.H.*, iii, 116n.].

³ The Mossley family held land in Speke early in 14th century [*V.C.H.*, iii, 140].

⁴ Probably identical with Roger Hawkshaw, who was instituted rector of Sefton 31 Aug., 1404, Richard de Winwick being then a patron. Roger was described as "cousin" of Richard de Winwick. [*V.C.H., Lancs.*, iii, 63n.]

⁵ Probably related to Simon le Walsch, who was instituted Vicar of Huyton 23 Sept., 1349. [Lich. Epis. Reg., ii, fol. 124, quoted by *V.C.H.*, iii, 154.]

⁶ In 1369 a Robert de Huyton was prosecuted by Robert de Standen for cutting down trees at Huyton [*V.C.H.*, iii, 170n].

⁷ Burnhull=Brindle. The Burnhulls were lords of Brindle in the 12th century. [Farrer, *L. P. Rolls*, 412, 453.]

⁸ Possibly first erected by Adam de Wigan, who was vicar there, and who is named in the Pipe Roll of 11 John (1208-1209). [Farrer, *L. P. Rolls*, 232/3.]

I bequeath to the brotherhood of St. Mary of Stanford roos., and a chasuble with parures of the same set, for the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary there.

To the dean of Wells, the best cup of silver gilt I have, with my better Bible, in remembrance of me.

To Sir Henry de Ingilby, another gilt cup, and a silk girdle that I had of the gift of our lord the king, and a small enamelled silver table, which used to stand in my chapel on the altar.

To Sir Henry de Haydok,¹ my third best gilt cup and a vestment I had of the gift of the lady of Clare.

To Sir John de Dutton,² a silver cup called a bikre, in the shape of a chalice, from which I have been used to drink when travelling, one of my best beds, and six silver dishes with their salts, and the term I had by the king's commission in the custody of Wassingle, provided my executors shall be wholly discharged in respect of the issues thereof.

To Sir Matthew de Assheton, another cup of the same set, and my beautiful missal that belonged to Sir William de Walcote.

To Master Adam de Hilton, a gilt cup with a foot, which belonged to Sir William de Sharesull, and my second Bible.

To Sir William de Pikewell, another cup called a bikre and my small missal, upon which he shall be bound to celebrate masses for my soul.

To the lord abbot of Whalleie, a beautiful cup [formed] of a "grifon's" egg, which I had of the gift of Sir Matthew de Assheton.

To Matthew de Rixton,³ a large heavy cup, called a bikre, which I had from Sir William de Sharesull, in remembrance of me.

To Master John de Branketre,⁴ a suitable bikre, likewise in remembrance of me.

To Ellen, daughter of Sir Robert de Langetone, 40 marks in aid of her marriage, if she be married and not otherwise.

Also I will that the chapel work begun at the church of Huyton be properly completed at my expense, and that there be assigned to the same chapel a certain gilt chalice which I had by bequest of Sir Henry my brother, together with a certain vestment which I

¹ Brother of Sir Gilbert de Haydock [*V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 325n.], who held the manor of Bradley (Warrington) in 1344. [*Ibid.*, iii, 327].

² A John de Dutton appears in a claim *c.* 1337 against the manor of Tarbock [*V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 178].

³ Held lands in Rixton and Glazebrook which were sold by his son William in 1384 [*V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 335n]. Another of this family, Richard de Rixton, was accused of the murder of John, son of Henry de Whittle and in 1348 brought an action for false imprisonment [*Ibid.*].

⁴ Appointed treasurer of York 9 July, 1361. [*Le Neve, Fasti*, iii, 160].

had by gift of the lady countess of Kent, there to remain for the souls of the same John and Henry for ever. Also that there be acquired lands or rents wherewith there may be made and founded in the same chapel a perpetual chantry¹ of two chaplains or one at least [to celebrate masses] for our lord the king and for my soul and the souls of my father and mother,² of the aforesaid Henry

¹ This chantry was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and John de Winwick's brother, Richard de Winwick, rector of Walton-on-the-Hill, founded another dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel. In 1386 the bishop of Lichfield sanctioned the statutes of the chantry, details of which are given in the *V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 156, notes (quoting from the Burscough register). The following are some extracts:—Considering that the said chantry was founded for the honour of God, and the no small increase of divine worship, the bishop ordained that Master Richard de Winwick, should be patron whilst he lived, and then Master William de Ashton; afterwards the heirs of William de Winwick father of Richard

The two chaplains were to live together in the same house, namely the manse by the churchyard recently built for them, without strife or discord; but should one of them be quarrelsome or a frequenter of taverns, or otherwise be found a transgressor against good morals, he must be deprived. They were to have a suitable tonsure, and to wear a gown not too short. They were not to be absent longer than twenty days at a time. Masses were to be celebrated in the chantry at a convenient hour for rousing the devotion of the people and without inconvenience to the vicar. . . . They were to keep solemn obits *cum nota* for John de Winwick and certain others. After vespers, the two chaplains were to recite the *De Profundis* and other suitable prayers at the tomb of John de Winwick

Among their other duties, they were to preserve and transmit to their successors the various vestments and ornaments provided by the founder, or others as good, viz. a good missal, worth five marks; a beautiful and heavy chalice, worth 100s.; a beautiful and well painted "Table de Lombardia"; a beautiful vestment of red velvet two other suits of vestments, one being for everyday use, altar linen and banners, two crosses and a "paxbride," a black cloth for covering the tomb, and a box bound with iron The chaplains were not only to find their ordinary food from their stipends (viz. 10 marks each) but bread, wine and wax for divine service, "unless the vicar out of his courtesy should be willing to give these to them." A list of priests of both chantries with references to the Lichfield Epis. Reg. is given in *V.C.H.*, iii, 156*n*.

² In the *Cal. of Papal Registers*, i, 355/6.—*Petitions to the Pope*—(1360), there is the following:—"John de Winwick, the king's secretary, treasurer of York. Whereas he has built a chapel in the church of St. Michael, Huyton, in the diocese of Lichfield, where his father, mother, and other relations are buried, and has founded and endowed therein certain chaplaincies, and made ordinances for the same, he prays for confirmation of what he has done, and for an indulgence of one year and forty days to those who visit the chapel on the feasts of St. Mary, St. Michael, Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost, and give alms.

my brother, Sir William de Kildesby and all my benefactors and all faithful departed. I bequeath to the church of Wygan and to my successors there all the vestments and a doiser of Arraz, which I had from the executors of Sir Henry de Dale, a portuous that I had of the gift of William de Farington, there to remain so long as they last; provided my successor demands nothing else from my executors, for defects or repairs of the church or houses.

To the future treasurer of York, a doiser of Arraz which is there, if he be an Englishman,¹ otherwise not.

Satisfaction shall be made to the Chapter of York for the sum they claim after the death of every prebendary for a cope; and in like manner with the other churches, where I am a prebendary, and where it is due of right.

To the hospital of St. Katherine near the Tower of London, all the vestment of "Inde" camock,² with golden stars, which I had of the gift of Sir William de Kildesley, to remain with the lord of the hospital for the souls of the said William and myself.

I will that 20 marks shall be expended on the repair of the chancel and rectory of North Newbold, provided that money is not converted to other uses.

Distributions shall be made among my poor parishioners in divers places, in money, and in coin and other victuals, at Wigan to the sum of 20 marks, and in the other benefices in proportion, at the discretion of my executors. And £40 shall be given among the poor, and all my gowns and other clothing not above bequeathed, shall be distributed among poor chaplains and clerks, who may be most in need, to pray for my soul.

£100 shall be distributed among poor religious houses, both of men and women, where there may be most need, at the discretion of my executors.

I will that Sir Henry de Walton,³ or some other friend if he does

[Note.—Granted as to the indulgences; the ordinances must be exhibited in the chancery, and, if reasonable, confirmed. Dated as above (1360)."]

It may be mentioned here that the Chantry Well is shown on the six-inch Ordnance map of 1848, about 100 yds. north of Huyton church. This well has since been filled in and the site is now occupied by some cottages known as Stanley Terrace. It seems a pity that the site is no longer marked on the Ordnance maps, and that the cottages were not named after the well.

¹ John de Winwick's successor was John de Branketre; see footnote above.

² Precious cloth from the Indies. [Du Cange].

³ In 1354 Henry de Walton, archdeacon of Richmond, purchased two parts of the manor of Huyton from John le Noreys of Speke [*V.C.H., Lancs.*, iii, 170]. He belonged to the Waltons of Walton-le-Dale, who bore for arms:—Argent, a chevron gules between three falcon's heads erased sable beaked or. [*Ibid.*].

not wish it, shall have the term I have in the inn outside the bar of the New Temple of London, to wit, for the life of the archbishop of Dublin, on condition that whoever shall hold the said inn shall find a special chaplain to celebrate for my soul during the said term in the chapel of the said inn.

The yearly rent of £10, which Sir Thomas Lucy, knight, owes me till the lawful age of the heir of Sir Thomas Danvers, knight,¹ shall be spent every year, so long as it lasts, in finding chaplains at Wygan and Huyton to celebrate for the estate of the king and for my soul.

I bequeath to Master Richard de Wynewyk, my brother, and to Mathew de Rixton² the term I have in all the lands and tenements that belonged to Sir William le Boteller³ of Weryngton, they paying to the said Sir William 20 marks a year beyond the yearly farm of 120 marks, in which I am bound to him; but I will that all the marriages which fall in by reason of the said lands and tenements shall be reserved and ordained for children of my blood, at the disposition of my executors so that the said Richard and Matthew shall claim nothing therein.

There shall be expended by good and faithful men in the repair of the church and priory of Lancaster, the £35 that Lawrence and John de Skerton owe me upon their bond.

The advowson of the church of Radclive upon Sore shall be assigned to the chapter of Lichfield, upon condition that they found and find for me and my benefactors a perpetual chantry of two chaplains in the cathedral church of Lichfield, and that a distribution shall be made there every year on the day of my death to 300 poor people, each receiving 1*d.*, and provided also that the chapter shall not make any demand upon my executors in respect of pension out of the church of Wygan during the time I have had it. Also I will that for four or five years after my death they shall find 20 poor scholars at Oxford, at my expense, each receiving 8*d.* a week for their expenses, in the same way as do the scholars that I am finding there now. And if these things can be done, it will be the very greatest satisfaction to me.

A suitable sum shall be distributed among the poor of the churches of Huyton and Wygan, every year on my anniversary, for a suitable time.

¹ Owned the manor of Bradley, within Appleton, Cheshire. Fought under Edward III in France. [*The House of Lyme*, by Lady Newton, 1].

² The Rixton family were landowners in Kirkdale in 1338 [*V.C.H. Lanes.*, iii. 39*n*].

³ The Botellers (Butlers) were lords of Warrington.

If it seems feasible to my executors, I will that my obit shall be celebrated every year in the church of York for ever.

All my holy relics shall be distributed to churches and other places at the discretion of my executors, provided that a silver reliquary that is used to stand in my chapel, on the altar, shall be assigned to the abbot and convent of Whalley, and a silver gilt image of St. John the Baptist be given to Sir John de Duton, and that a ring with a beautiful sapphire, described in a certain paper as that with which St. Anne was wedded, be given to Sir Matthew de Assheton.

All the rest of my goods shall be faithfully applied by my executors in finding chaplains, in marriages of poor women, in distributions to the poor and other works of charity in the kingdom of England, and not elsewhere, and especially in my birthplace and the places where I have held benefices, for my soul and the souls of my benefactors, so long as the same may last.

And I make executors of this my will Master John de Carleton,¹ dean of Wells, Sir John de Lyndelay, abbot of Whalley, Sir David de Wellore, Sir Henry de Ingelby, Sir Henry de Haydok, Sir Matthew de Assheton, my brother Richard, John de Duton, Adam de Hilton and Matthew de Rixton, of whom the said dean and abbot, Ingelby, Haydok and Assheton shall be the principal overseers of its due execution.

Given in the Isle of Thanet, in the chapel of the prior of Christ Church, Canterbury, at Monketon, 3 October abovesaid.

Notarially certified by John de Branketre, clerk of the diocese of Norwich, in the presence of Sir William Pikewell, rector of the parish church of Froston, and John le Walssehe, clerk, of the dioceses of Lincoln and Lichfield.

Proved 4 kal. July [28 June], 1360, with certain additions, to wit: That the advowson of the church of Radclyve on Sore [given above to the chapter of Lichfield] should be assigned to the maintenance of scholars dwelling in Oxford in a hall to be built by his executors.²

¹ Most probably of Carleton in Amounderness [Farrer, *Lancs. Pipe Rolls*].

² The *V.C.H. Lancs.*, iii, 156, states:—"John de Winwick appears to have procured the rectory of Radcliffe upon Soar in 1358, with the intention of endowing at Oriel College, Oxford, exhibitions for poor scholars. He died the following year, and his brother obtained, in 1381, the appropriation of the rectory to the priory of Burscough on the grounds of the poverty of the house; the canons, however, in addition to paying the vicar of Radcliffe, were to pay stipends of 10 marks each to two fit secular priests in Huyton Church." Further light is thrown on this matter by the following extract from *Cal. of Papal Reg.*,—Petitions—i, 458/9, stating that John de Winwick, "in his will

He added five marks to the legacy to Robert Bayley, and bequeathed 60s. to John de Boyland, clerk.

As an ending to this paper it should be recorded that in the year of John de Winwick's appointment to the rectory of Wigan, he obtained from the king a full confirmation of the charters granted to John Maunsell and Robert de Clyderhou (earlier rectors) with special additions thereto. The king granted the latter "because of the special affection which we bear to the aforesaid John [de Winwick] on account of the diligent service he has rendered to us for a long time past . . ." ¹

The Rev. Canon G. T. O. Bridgeman in his *History of the Church and Manor of Wigan* [Chetham Soc., xv, Introduction] states: "The history of the church and manor of Wigan possesses an interest of its own, not only from the close connection of the one with the other, but also from the fact of its being the only instance, as far as I know, in which a secular priest held, in right of his church, such plenary powers as were conferred upon John de Winwick and his successors by King Edward III. There

bequeathed to the said college [in the University of Oxford] the patronage of the church of Radcliff-on-Sore, in the diocese of York; the pope is prayed to order the bishop of Lincoln, as ordinary of the place, to see that the heirs and executors carry out the provisions of this will, and to grant faculties for the observance of the statutes and ordinances made in regard to the said foundation. *Note*:—Granted in regard to the foundation made from the goods of the deceased, but not for the appropriation of the church. Avignon, 8 Id. Sept. (1363)."

I wrote to Oriel College asking if they had any records in reference to John de Winwick, and I received the following reply from the Rev. G. C. Richards, D.D.: "The only college document in which, so far as I am aware, he is mentioned is a release by him and another of a half share in some shops at Carfax to various persons acting on behalf of the College on April 19, 1357. Patent Rolls 40 Edward III, pt. 2, m. 43, have a licence to his executors to give the advowson of Radcliffe upon Soar to the college called La Oriole (6 July, 1366) . . . I have never been able to find out how the College failed to make good its claim to this living. It is never mentioned again. . . ."

I sent Dr. Richards a copy of the passage in the will relating to Oriel, and also a copy of the "petition" in the *Calendar of Papal Regs.*, i, 458/9, already quoted above. The latter shows how it was that the advowson never came into the possession of Oriel College.

¹ *Chetham Soc.* N.S. xv, p. 48/49, quoting from Wigan borough charters.

were others who became lords of the manor as parsons of their churches . . . but I am not aware of any, beside the rectors of Wigan, who enjoyed a view of frankpledge, acquittance for themselves and their tenants from attendance at the sheriff's tourns, cognizance of all pleas as well concerning lands, tenements and rents as concerning transgressions, covenants and complaints, together with issues, forfeitures, amercements, fines and redemptions in cases of this sort arising within their town, manor or lordship, and also pleas of assizes concerning tenants within their manor, who should happen to be arraigned before the king's justices appointed to hold assizes within the county, so that the said justices, when called upon by the parson or his bailiff, should give them up to him to be tried in his own court. The parsons, moreover, were empowered to enquire into all felonies perpetrated within their town or liberty, and to keep the felons in their own prison until the next gaol delivery. These, with other privileges, were conferred upon the parsons of Wigan for ever by a charter of Edward III."

A full copy of the original charter is given in Sinclair's *History of Wigan* (i, 101-103). By this charter of 1349 a borough seal was ordained to be used in confirmation of acts done by the corporation. It consisted of two pieces, the greater part of which was to remain in the custody of the mayor, or keeper of the borough, and the lesser piece in the safe keeping of a clerk appointed by the crown. In the charter the rector [John de Winwick] is for the first time styled the "lord of the borough."

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