



THE
ANTIQUITIES AND MEMOIRS OF MYDDLE,

BY RICHARD GOUGH.

THE SITUATION OF THE PARISH OF MYDDLE.

MYDDLE PARISH is whoaly in the hundred of Pimhill, in the county of Salop. Neverthelesse part of the said parish is in the allotment of Myddle and Loppington, and part of it is in the libertyes of Shrewsbury. That part of the parish which is in the allotment of Myddle and Loppington contains Myddle Lordship, and the towne and township of Balderton, and is comonly called this side of the parish. (Now the Lordship of Myddle contains the townes and townships of Myddle, Marton, Newton on the Hill, and Houlston.) That part of the parish which lyes in the Libertyes of Shrewsbury, contains Hadnalls Ease, the towne and towneship of Alderton and Shotton Farme, and is called the further side of the parish. Hadnalls Ease containes the townes and townships of Hadna'll, Haston, Smethcott and Hardwick Farme. It is not very needful to observe, that according to the computation of geographers, the middle of this parish is distant northwards from the world's Equator 52 deg. 53 min., and is in longitude from the meridian of the Isles Azores or Fortunate Islands 21 deg. 37 min.

THE BOUNDS OF THE PARISH.

Myddle Parish is bounded on the east, with Wem parish, Broughton parish, Clive Chappelry, Greensell parish, and Shawbury parish; on the south, with the Chappelry of Astley; on the west, with Battlefield parish, Adbrighton parish, Preston Gubballs parish, Baschurch parish, and Petton; and on the north, with part of Petton, Loppington parish, and part of Wem parish.

BROOKES THAT DIVIDE THE PARISH FROM OTHER PARISHES.

There is a small brooke on the east side of the parish, which hath its rise head att a certaine old marle pitt, called Dunstall Pitt, in Newton on the Hill, this brooke passing awhile through land in Newton, turns south east, and for a short space parts the lands belonging to Newton from the towneship of Alderton, and afterwards it parts Myddle parish and Broughton parish, (leaveing Myddle parish on the westward,) and passing over the lane called the Old Feild Lane, it has there got the name of the brooke in the Old Feild Lane. (Noate that the lane from this brook unto Haremeare Heath is whoally in the parish of Myddle). From this lane the brooke passeth through lands in Broughton parish untill it comes to a common called Yorton Heath, and there passing along the lower side of that common it again parts the parish of Myddle from the parish of Broughton, and near the lower end of the common Broughton parish steps over this brooke, and there is a small tenement, held by one George Yeomans, which is on the west side of the brooke, and is in Broughton. Again att the lower end of this common this brooke receives the waters of a litle brooke, which comes from a place called Yorton Bridge, and having augmented its waters it passeth along the lower end of Sandsaw Heath, where it parts Myddle parish and the Chappelry of Clive, and passing by a place called Watergate, it runs through the lands belonging to Hardwick Farme, (here the men of Greensell say that the parish of Greensell steps over the brooke (*fide majus*), but of this hereafter). When this brooke hath almost passed through Hardwicke grounds it comes to a place called Stanvill dam poole, which is in the south limit of Hardwicke ground, and from thence passing through a common, it parts Myddle parish and Shawbury parish, and has there got the name of Peine's brooke. In this common there is a bridge over this brooke. The West end or half of the bridge is maintained by the owners or tenants of Hardwicke; and the east end or half, by Shawbury parish, by which it appears that the brooke is in both parishes. From this bridge, the brooke going southward, and parting the said parishes, soon after is augmented by the waters of a litle brooke which hath its rise Head near Smethcott, and passing over crosse the street of Haston it comes to Hadnall, and there passing over crosse the street at the lower end of the towne it soon after empties itself into this brooke. Afterward this brooke passeth through lands belonging to Hadnall, for here the parish of Myddle steps over the brooke towards Shawbury Heath. Afterwards this brooke leaveing Myddle parish, comes to Astley, and passing thence, and receiving the waters of other small currents it comes at last to Pimley Mill, and soon after empties itself into the river of Severn.

There is another little brooke on the west side of Myddle parish, this brooke hath its rise Head near Petton, and passing on the south-east, it parts Myddle parish, and Baschurch parish, and comes over cross the lane that leads from Marton to Weston Lullingfield, from this lane it passes through meadows (still parting the said parishes) and receiving some increase by the waters that issue out of the Burgh poole, and afterwards comes to a lane that leads from Marton to Baschurch, at which place it has got the name of the old Mill Brook. For it is likely that a mill stood here formerly, but now there is onely a tan house, which was first erected by Richard Acherley, great grandfather of Andrew Acherley, now (1700) living.

There is a bridge over this brook in the said lane, which bridge (some years past) was out of repaire, and the parishioners of Baschurch parish did require the parish of Myddle to repaire the

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one half of this bridge alleageing that Thomas Acherley of Marton had formerly done so. Rowland Hunt, of Boreatton, Esq., being a justice of the peace, and living in Baschurch parish, was very sharp upon the inhabitants of Myddle parish because they refused to repair half the bridge. But the parishioners of Myddle answered that the brooke was whoaly in the parish of Baschurch, and was the Hayment or fence of the men of Baschurch parish, betweene their lands and the lands in Myddle parish. And as to the objection, that Thomas Acherley had repaired the one half, they answered that Thomas Acherley had a considerable estate in lands in Baschurch parish, which hee held in his own hands at the time of repairing of the bridge, and that Thomas Acherley, was then liable to work att the highways (with his teame and servants) in the parish of Baschurch; and the parishioners of Myddle were ready to prove, that by agreement between the surveyors of the high ways in Baschurch parish, and the said Thomas Acherley, hee was to repair half the bridge, and to be excused for that year for working at the highways. The parishioners of Myddle desired that search might be made in the parish books of Baschurch concerning the repairs of this bridge, for there was nothing in the parish books of Myddle to that purpose, because Myddle had nothing to do with it.

Not many dayes after John Husband, one of the surveyors of the parish of Baschurch, came to Myddle Church, and there acquainted several of the inhabitants of the parish of Myddle (of which number I was one) that upon search of the parish books of Baschurch, it was found that Baschurch parish had formerly repaired the said bridge whoally; and he desired that the men of Marton would repair the causeway at the end of the bridge next to Marton, and would lay a good stone at the end of the causeway for the end of the bridge to rest upon. This being done the surveyors of the highways of the parish of Baschurch provided and laid a broad stone flagge over the said brooke for a bridge, which continues to this day. From this bridge the brooke runs eastward, still parting the said parishes, and at last empties itself into Marton Poole.

There is another Brook which takes its rise Head at a little pond or moate in Preston Gubballs, and passing thence to Haremeare, it goes through the middle of it, and leaves it at a place called the Meare House, and passing still northward it goes over cross the lane or road way that leads from Ellesmeare to Shrewsbury; it there runs under a stone bridge, built about sixty years past att the parish charge, and att the instigation of Robert More, brother, and farmer, of Mr. Thomas More, then Rector of Myddle. This bridge is called Bristle Bridge, the reason of this name was thus: there is a certain cave in the rock near this bridge, this cave was formerly a hole in the rock, and was called the Goblin Hole, and afterwards was made into a habitation, and a stone chimney built up to it by one Fardo, after whose death one William Preece, son of Griffith ap Reece of Newton on the Hill, (a wealthy tenant there holding the lands of Mr. Corbett, Esq., in Newton) dwelt in it. This William Preece was set an apprentice by his father to a goldsmith in London, but hee soon out went his master, and went for a soldier, (in Queen Elizabeth's time,) into the Low Countries. At his return hee married the daughter of Chetwall of Peplow, in the parish of Hodnett, and came to live in this cave. After his return from the wars he told so many romanticke storyes, of his strange adventures, that people gave him the name of Scoggan, by which name (at last) hee was better known than by the name of William Preece. But amongst the rest of the storyes that were told of him, or by him, one was, that hee had killed a monstrouse boar, of soe large a size that the bristles on his back were as big as pikeeavell grains. This story being fresh among the neighbours and the workmen that

were building the said bridge, they gave it the name of Bristle Bridge, which name still continues. From thence the brook runs to Myddle, and, crossing the street there, it goes under a piece of building, built over it by the said Robert More; soon after it comes again to the roadway that leads from Ellesmeare to Shrewsbury, and going over cross that way it has got the name of Penbrooke, and passing thence it comes to certain meadows called Myddle Pools, and passing thence it goes to a large pasture called the Lessuages, at the further side whereof it receives a small brooke which comes from Burlton moors, and then turning eastward it parts the parish of Myddle and the parish of Wem, and passing between Sleape Hall and Sleape Towne, it has got the name of Sleape Brooke, and passing on (still parting the said parishes) it comes to Tilley park, and there leaving Myddle parish it soon after joins with a brook that comes from Burlton Mill, and afterwards passing by Tilley it empties itself into Wem Mill-pool, and so mixeth its waters with the river of Roden.

OF THE CHURCH OF MYDDLE.

As to the time when, and by whom, this church was built, these things are long since buried in the depth of antiquity that it is impossible to make any other discovery of them; but yet the steeple was built in our Fathers' time or about the beginning of my time, for I believe it was about the year of our Lord 1634. The steeple was at first built of stone as high as the walplatt of the church, and upwards it was built of timber. In the time that Mr. Ralph Kinaston was rector of Myddle, the timber part of the steeple was ruinous, and the said Mr. Kinaston did desire the parishioners to take it wholly down, and rebuild it, and offered that at his own charges he would lay the ground work and would build above ground the height of his stature, and there place a stone in the wall to show how high hee had built at his own charge. But the parishioners not agreeing, Mr. Kinaston died, and soon after part of the steeple did fall, and then the parishioners of Myddle parish were forced to rebuild it, and I doubt had little or noe assistance from Mr. Moore then rector. The mason that built it was one John Dod, who afterwards lived at Clive. I have heard that he had for his wages £5 a-yard for every yard from the bottom of the foundation to the toppe of the battlements. Thomas Jukes of Newton on the Hill (a person very able and fitt for any country employment) was one of the churchwardens at that time, but who the other was I have not heard, so that I believe this Thomas Jukes went through with the whole concern and that it may be said of them, as it was of Julius Cæsar and Bibulus, when they were consuls of Rome, viz:—That such a thing was done when Julius and Cæsar were consuls.

“Nam Bibulo factum consule nil memini.”

HADNALL CHAPPEL.

This Chappel was built by the ancestors of the inhabitants of Hadnall's Ease, and is a chappel of ease as appears. First, because no other persons have any seats or kneeling within this chappel, save only the inhabitants of Hadnall's Ease. Secondly, because there is no allowance or maintenance for a minister there, save only what is given as of free gift. Thirdly, because the inhabitants of Hadnall's Ease do maintain and repair this Chappell at their own proper charges, and yet they doe pay Leawans to the churchwardens of Myddle for the repairing of the parish church.

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The inhabitants of Hadnall's Ease have endeavoured several times to get an allowance from the rector of Myddle, for the maintenance of their minister, and also to have seats in Myddle church, but their endeavours have proved ineffectuall. The last time they endeavoured was by a petition, presented to the Reverend Bishop, Dr. Lloyd, formerly Bishop of St. Asaph, and then Bishop of Coventry and Litchfield, and now Bishop of Worcester. He was one of the seven Reverend Bishops that had ventured to present a petition to the late King James, for which they were all comyted to the Tower, and soon after tried at the King's Bench, and there acquitted, to the great comfort and rejoicing of all good people in England.

I have here inserted the petition concerning Hadnall's Ease, as it was presented to the said Bishop by some of the inhabitants of Hadnall at Shrewsbury, in his primary visitation of this part of his Diocese of Coventry and Litchfield, and also the Bishop's answer as it was given by him at Adbaston, a little town in this nearer side of the county of Stafford, where the Bishop then dwelt, because his castle at Eclesall was in repairing.

I believe the petition was drawn by Francis Berkeley, of Hadnall, Esq., for Chappeldry is writte instead of Chappelly, and I know of no other one but Mr. Berkeley that writes it soe.

HADNALL PETITION.

To the Reverend Father in God, William, by Divine Providence,
Lord Bishop of Litchfield and Coventry.

The Humble Petition of the Inhabitants of the Chappeldry of Hadnall, in the Parish of Myddle, in the County of Salop, within your Lordship's Diocese, humbly sheweth, that whereas your Petitioners, being thirty families, and three long myles distant from the Mother church of Myddle, and having a chappell at Hadnall, which your petitioners doe maintaine at your petitioners own charge, and likewise doe contribute a fourth part towards the maintenance of the said Church of Myddle, and whereas the tythes of your said petitioners' estates, within in the said Chappeldry being a fourth part of the said parish, are worth fifty pounds per annum; and your petitioners having noe seates in the said parish Church of Myddle, to have divine service, and to participate of the holy sacraments,

Your petitioners doe humbly pray that your Lordship, out of your religious care for the welfare of your petitioners in the premisses would be pleased to order the present incumbent to provide for your petitioners, a competent curate to read divine service, and administer the holy sacrament to your petitioners, or to make such reasonable allowance, for the maintenance of such a Curate, as your Lordship, in your most pyouse charity, shall think fitt.

And your petitioners shall ever pray.

MY LORD BISHOP'S ANSWEARE.

Adbaston, 21st Aug. —93.

GENTLEMEN,—Having spoken with Mr. Dale concerning your demand, and a better allowance for the Chappell of Hadnall, hee told mee hee is not bound to make any allowance, because it is only a chappell of ease built by your ancestors for their own better convenience ; and that there was never anything paid towards the serveing of that chappell by any of his predecessors. However, hee did of his own accord give five pounds a-year, and so much hee is willing to continue as long as you will take it of free gift, but if you will stand with him for more, you shall have only what the law will give you.

This being the sume of his answeare, as I understand it, I thought good to acquaint you with this, to the end that if you can prove any contract for the payment of any salary to your curate by the Rector of Myddle, or if you can prove such custom of payment, you would acquaint me with it, for by either of these you may oblige the present Rector to do what has been done formerly ; but, if that which you desire bee a new thing without either contract or custom, it is not in my power to impose it ; and at present, this being a time of extraordinary payments, I know not how to persuade him to it.

For your seates in the parish church of Myddle, it seems very reasonable that they should be in proportion to your payment, which you say is one-fourth part of what is paid for the whole parish ; but this should have been long since considered when the seats were first disposed of, or at least before there was a prescription against you, which the lawyers will tell you puts it out of the bishop's power to give you any remedy. All the power that I have, is only in such parts of the church to which there is no prescription, and if you can find any voyd place in that parish church, I shall do you all the reason you can desire in disposing of it.

I am your assured friend and servant,

W. COV. & LICH.

To my respected friends, the Inhabitants of the
Chappelry of Hadnall, in the parish of Myddle.

This paper contains a true copy of a petition delivered to my Lord Bishop of Coventry and Litchfield by the inhabitants of Hadnall, in his Lordship's primary visitation, held in the yeare 1693, together with his Lordship's answeare thereunto, being both compared and examined by us.

5th Sept. 1699.

FRA. EVANS, NOT. PUB.

THOS. HUGHES, NOT. PUBLIG.

ADVOWSON AND PATRONS.

“Jus Patronatus est jus honorificum, onerosum et utile.”—*Juv : Sat :*

The Advowson of Myddle church did formerley belong to the ancient and worthy family of the Chambres of Petton, many of which family are interred in the Chancell there, as appears by a large

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gravestone lying toward the south side of the said chancell, within the communion rails with several brasses upon it; there is an inscription upon it, and there is a brass with the coate of arms of the Chambres and of several of their matches upon it.

When the Right Honourable Lord Keeper Egerton had purchased the Manor of Myddle, he soon after purchased the advowson of Arthur Chambre, Esq. (some say for 100*l*.) and now the patronage belongs to the Right Honourable John, Earl of Bridgewater, who is lineally descended from, and right heire of, the said Lord Keeper.

RECTORS OF MYDDLE.

Note that one Tong was Rector of Myddle between the time of Foster and Wilton, but I can say nothing of him.

I have heard of one Foster, or Forester, formerly Rector here. But because hee lived here before the Reformation, (as I believe,) wee have nothing memorable of him; I will therefore begin with Mr. Thomas Wilton, a Reverend divine, and the first (as I conceive) after the Reformation. He continued Rector of this place many years. He was careful to Reforme those things, that through negligence, were grown into disorder, and to settle things in such a way as might conduce to the future peace and benefit of the parishioners.

The parish Register before Mr. Wilton's time was written in several pieces of parchment or paper, but hee caused a Parchment book to be made, and therein transcribed, I believe, with his own hand,* all that had been before entered on small parcells. Att the time of transcribing the Register, Richard Gough (my great-grandfather, or my father's great-grandfather, I know not whether, for they had both the same christian name of Richard, as likewise all that were chief of our family have had for many generations) was churchwarden, with one Humphrey Reynolds, a wealthy farmer of the farm called the Holling; the Churchwardens subscribed their names (I suppose with their own hands,) at the bottom of every page of the Register that was then transcribed.

Mr. Wilton wrote down with his own hand in the Register book, the agreement made between the inhabitants of Hadnall's Ease and those of this side of the parish concerning the payment of Church Leawans, and subscribed it with his own hand; and also the order or manner of repairing the church-yard hayment, and likewise the usual way or custom of paying publick taxes in this Allotment of Myddle and Loppington, but of these I have spoke more at large in my book of Leawans.

I have not heard that he ever had any child. He died at Myddle in a good old age, and lies interred about the middle of the chancel, under a large grave-stone, with a brass upon it and this inscription:—

“Here lyes the body of Thomas Wilton, Gent., M.A., preacher of God's word, and parson some time of this church, who married with Elizabeth Longford, daughter of Mr. Richard Longford of Treffalin in the county of Denbigh, Esq., who deceased the 5th day of July, Anno Domini 1596.”

About forty years ago, a certain Reverend grave divine came to Myddle and sojourned with Mr. Joshua Richardson, then Rector. They called him Dr. Richardson. I suppose hee was outed of some

* These I mistook for Mr. Kinaston transcribed the Register.

benefice by the Parliament party. Hee preached sometimes at Myddle, hee wore always, (yea, even when he was preaching,) a dagger at his girdle under his upper garment. He died at Myddle and was buried under Mr. Wilton's grave-stone. I saw the bottom of Mr. Wilton's coffin taken up ; it was a plank of about two or three inches thick, and was not consumed although Mr. Wilton had been buried above fifty yeares.

Next to Mr. Wilton, was Mr. Ralph Kinaston who was well descended, deriving his pedigree (though by many descents) from the ancient and worthy family of the Kinastons of Hordley.

Hee was a person of bold and undaunted spirit, which appears in that hee adventured the lists in a great suit at law, (about the bounds of the parish in some part of Hardwick farme) with Sir Humphrey Lea, of Lea Hall, who was a person brought up to the law, but when his eldest brother died without issue hee cast off his Barre gown and entered upon his paternall estate. He was one of the first Baronetts that were created in Shropshire by King James I. This Sir Humphrey Lea was impropiator of the tythes of Greensell parish, and he then claimed and carried away the tythes of some peices of land belonging to Hardwicke which were then, and still are by some persons, reputed to bee in the parish of Myddle.

There is a small brooke that runs through the lands belonging to Hardwicke farme, which leaves part of the lands of this farme on the east side of the brooke towards Greensell, and leaves Hardwicke Hall and the rest of the lands on the west side towards Myddle parish. This brooke, before it comes to Hardwicke grounds, and after it leaves them, parts Myddle parish from other parishes, and is the bound of Myddle parish. Mr. Kinaston claimed all the lands of Hardwicke that were on the west side of the brooke to be in Myddle parish ; but Sir Humphrey Lea aleaged, that Greensell parish did in this place step over this brooke, and that part of the lands of Hardwicke that lay on the west side of the brooke were in Greensell parish. This was the matter in variance. The suit proved long and tedious, perhaps by the subtellyes and delays of Sir Humphrey Lea, who usually carried all before him in matters of law. Howbeit, it came at last to comission to examine witnesses, when Sir Humphrey Lea produced a record, (as I may call it,) out of the leger booke of the Abbey of Lylshull, to which Abbey the towne of Greensell and the farme of Hardwicke did formerly belong. And here we must noate, that every Abbot kept a monastery registry (which they called a leger booke,) of all material things belonging to the estates of their Abbey, and did likewise make another Leger booke of the same and deposit it in the hands of some neighbor-abbot thereby to prevent fraudulent dealing in erasing or altering, and to prevent the losse of their bookes by fire or other accidents. So that a leger book of Lylshull Abbey was kept at Haughmond Abbey as well as at Lylshull. The copy taken out of the leger book concerning this matter was as followeth ;—

E MONASTICO REGISTRO DE HAUGHMOND, FOL. 65.

Limes quidem villæ de Grisull alias Grilleshill.

Imprimis unus limes incipit ad milne poole de Hardwick in austro et se extendit per ductum aquæ ad viam quæ ducit ad Grilleshill et ab illâ viâ usque ad portam de small Heath, et ab illo loco usque ad Le Ker et ab illo loco usque ad Griesty et ad Hawis Cross, et usque ad Pinchbrook, et ab illo loco

usque ad Heathend, et usque ad Brickhill et sic ad portam de Oakeley, et sic ad locum primum ubi incipit. See page 29 postea.

What benefit this blind account of the Limitts of Greensell could doe Sir Humphrey Lea I cannot conceive, since there are only foure places of these limits known at this day, and one of them is much suspected wheather it be right. The men of Greensell say, that the brooke that runs from the mill-poole and is called Peinsbrook, is the same which was formerly called Pinchbrook, but they have only the vicinity of the name to prove it; and it is possible that this Pinchbrook is some other place that has long since lost its name, as well as those other places, viz. Small Heathgate, Griesty, Hawis Cross, Heath End, Brickhill, Oakeley Gate, have lost their names, and are at this day utterly unknown, whatever Greensell men would have others to conjecture.

But those three places that are apparently known are the Mill-poole, the way that leads to Greensell and the Scar of the Rocke. Now two of these places doe make it plainly to appear, that the brooke that runs through Hardwicke grounds, does there part the parish of Greensell and the parish of Myddle, and that Greensell parish comes no further westward but to the brooke. For thus it is. The limitt begins at the Mill-poole of Hardwicke in the south, and extends itself along the water-course into the way that leads to Grilleshill. Now this Brooke or water-course enters into Hardwicke grounds, at the way that leads to Greensell, and going through those grounds, it goes out of the grounds of Hardwicke in the south, just below the Mill-poole. Therefore it is plaine, that Greensell parish goes no further but to the said brooke or water-course, and that this water-course is the bound or limitt of the parish of Greensell on the west side.

But to proceed. After the said comission, Sir Humphrey Lea was forced to procure, or least wise to submit to a reference. The Arbitrators were Sir Andrew Corbett, of Morton Corbett, and Sir Francis Newport, of High Erchall, grandfather of the now (1700) Earle of Bradford. I have heard that there was an award made, and Mrs. Aletha Clifford, of Lea Hall, (mother of Mr. Richard Cleaton, now an infant, and impropiator of the tythes of Greensell,) told me, that she had this award in her custody, and that it was made in the 7th yeare of King James, A. D. 1609, from whence to this yeare 1700, is about ninety-one yeares. She told me further, that Mr. Kinaston had some compensation towards his costs of suit; but, perhaps, it was for the tythes during his life, for it is unlikely that the Arbitrators would give him costs if he were in the wrong. To conclude, our adventurouse Rector might justly say of his contest with this great person, as Ajax did of his combat with Hector,

—————“ Si quæritis hujus
Fortunam pugnæ, non sum superatus ab illo.”

This Mr. Kinaston kept good hospitality and was very charitable. An instance of the latter, I will briefly mention. There was a poor weaver, named Parks, who lived in Newton on the Hill, he had eleven children, all baptized by Mr. Kinaston; at the baptizing the tenth or eleventh, Mr Kinaston said (merrily,) “Now one child is due to the Parson,” to which Parks agreed, and Mr. Kinaston choase a girle, that was about the middle age among the rest, and brought her up at his own house, and she became his servant; and when she had served several years, he gave her in marriage with thirty, some

say sixty pounds' portion to one Cartwright, who lived beyond Ellesmeare, and had an Estate to balance such a portion.

Mr. Kinaston had a good estate in Llansanfraid, in the county of Montgomery. I have heard of but two sons that hee had, (viz.) Ralph and Nathaniel. To his son Ralph hee gave his Estate in lands.—Hee had issue, Nathaniel, who married Eleanor, daughter of Mr. Thomas Acherley, of Marton, in this parish. Nathaniel, the second son, was brought up a scollar, and died at Oxford. Mr. Kinaston died at Myddle, and lies interred in the Chancell there, in the passage that goes out of the Chancell into the middle of the Church, under a gravestone, with a brasse upon it and this inscription :

“Here lyeth the body of Ralph Kinaston, M. A. Prebend of St. Asaph, Chapline to King James, Parson of Myddle ; where after thirty-three years, he had carefully and religiously performed his calling, his Soule went unto his Maker to give an account thereof, Nov. 8th., A. D. 1629 A^o. Ætat. 69.”

Mr. Kinaston was succeeded, (but not exceeded,) by Mr. Thomas More, a Yorkshireman, the first Rector that was presented by the Earl of Bridgewater. This Mr. More was Rector of Myddle, and Vicar of Ellesmeare. His residence was at Ellesmeare. Hee kept a curate at Myddle and let out the whoale tythes to his brother, Robert More, at a dearer value than ever they have been since sett for. Hee had his rent paid weekly, not daring to adventure his brother too far. Hee was much comended for an excellent preacher and as much blamed for his too much parsimony, or covetousnesse, and want of charity. Hee came constantly once a month to officiate at Myddle. Hee would ride to the church-style, goe straighte into the Church, and after the Service and Sermon ended, he would take horse at the church-style and ride back to Ellesmeare. Hee regarded not the repaire of the parsonage-house and buildings, one large barn whereof went to ruine in his time. The riches and money that hee had got together, he lived to see most of them spent by his children. Hee was a loyal subject to King Charles the 1st., and therefore to avoid the troubles that the Parliament forces did put him to, he left his places, and fled to London. During his absence, his places were slenderly and seldom served. About the year 1646, or soone after, the Parliament (having gained the upper hand of the King's forces,) began to displace all scandalous and insufficient ministers, and all malignants, (for so they called all such as had adhered to the King,) whereupon Mr. More came into the country seeking to retain his places. Hee was entertained by Robert Corbett Esq., who had a great respect for him, upon the account of his excellent preaching. During his stay, he preached every Lord's day in Cockshutt chappell. But notwithstanding Mr. Corbett's and his own endeavours, hee was outed of both his places, and preaching his farewell sermon in the said chappell, (because hee could not be admitted into either of his parish churches,) hee went back again to London, and never returned again into this country.

The same power that displaced Mr. More did, in his stead, place in Myddle Mr. Joshua Richardson, M.A., son of Joshua Richardson, of Broughton, upon condition that hee would allow the tythes of Hadnall's Ease, or pay a salary much what equivalent to the value thereof to a preaching minister, to bee constantly resident in Hadnall's Ease.

This Mr Richardson was an able and laborious minister. His whoale employment was about the concernes of his ministry ; his wife being a prudent and careful woman, managed the rest of his affaires