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# DR. JOHN WARNER'S VISITATIONS OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, 1663 and 1670

EDITED BY FELIX HULL

## INTRODUCTION

Twice during the first decade following the Restoration, John Warner, archdeacon of Rochester, carried out a visitation of those churches over which he had jurisdiction. The results of those investigations in 1663 and 1670 were recorded in a vellum-covered volume of 125 pages, each 11.75 by 9.0 inches in size. <sup>1</sup>

The visitations were carried out by the officials of the archdeacon (John Lee, professor of theology in 1663, and Edward Alderne, LL.D. in 1670), though on occasions, a surrogate was used and on all visits a notary public was in attendance. It is also clear that the volume, as compiled, was a re-writing of notes made at the actual visitations and that from time to time the scribe misread entries or duplicated them or made other occasional errors in his copying.

The significance of this work and the justification for its editing and publication lie first in that the archdeaconry of Rochester was coterminous with the diocese so that these reports, with one important exception discussed below, cover a whole diocese; and, second, that it is rare, if not unique, to find in one volume the record of two visitations covering the period of ecclesiastical reaction following the Act of Uniformity <sup>3</sup> and, therefore, reflecting the changes taking place or imposed at that time.

The diocese of Rochester, founded in 604 A.D., comprised the parishes of the lower Medway from Allington to Gillingham and the whole of west Kent to Deptford and West Wickham and so, along the Surrey and Sussex border to Lamberhurst and then northwards to Yalding and the west bank of the Medway. In all there were some 130 parishes within this area and these were divided into four deaneries: Rochester comprised the parishes of the lower Medway and along the Thames shore to Stone-next-Dartford and those of the downland; Malling deanery the parishes of Holmesdale and the Weald; and Dartford those parishes from the Darent westwards to the London and Surrey borders. In addition, however, there was the deanery of Shoreham made up of thirty-five parishes scattered throughout the diocese and including such large benefices as Sevenoaks, Wrotham and

1. K.A.O., DRa/Vb6.
2. The itinerary of the visitations is discussed in Appendix 2, below.
3. 14 Car. II, c.4.

Gillingham, but which was wholly in the control of the archbishop of Canterbury as a peculiar jurisdiction. Finally outside the deanery structure there was the peculiar of Cliffe-next-Hoo, a parochial peculiar also subject to the archbishop. It follows, therefore, that the archidiaconal jurisdiction to which this volume relates includes entries for only those ninety-five parishes which lay within the deaneries of Rochester, Malling and Dartford.<sup>4</sup>

The archdeacon had three particular responsibilities: one, the care of morals, including slander and libel and also nonconformity, evidence for which is often found in the Act books of his courts;<sup>5</sup> two, that of the probate of wills; and three, the care of fabrics and proper service arrangements within the parishes under his authority. It is this last responsibility which is illustrated by the entries given here, and it appears that in 1663 the work was carried out between 17 and 26 August and then from 5 to 12 November, while in 1670 the visitation fell between 2 July and 2 August.

In each parish the archdeacon had potentially three duties. First, he charged the churchwardens with such matters as fell within their purview and warned them to carry out necessary repairs, to replace or obtain vessels, vestments or books, or in any other way to make the church and its contents decent before a specific date, a certificate of completion usually being required by a particular court day.<sup>6</sup> Second, he had a comparable duty in respect of the rector, impropiator or his farmer and sometimes relied upon the churchwardens to issue his mandate in this regard. Here the concern lay with the state of the chancel of the church and also with the repair of the parsonage house and its attendant buildings. Third, he had a similar duty in respect of the vicar so far as the vicarage was concerned. There can be, therefore, three entries for any one parish, though the full complement will only apply where there is a lay-rector and the cure of souls is in the hands of a vicar.

The actual records of the visitations are both comprehensive and confused. They cover a wide variety of needs from the decay of roofs and walls, of which there is ample evidence, to the provision of surplices or hoods. On the other hand, there is little order in the entries, and it is not unknown for matters to be entered twice or for specific items to be also covered by a general entry. It is by no means always easy to determine when orders regarding the chancel are directed to a rector for they can appear as part of the churchwardens' charges. Furthermore, with any series or entries such as these, there is a large element of repetition and, as the order of visits in 1663 differs from that of 1670, the original is by no means easy to use.

Another significant factor lies in the considerable number of omissions from the visitation for which there is no apparent reason. In 1663, no fewer than eighteen parishes were omitted and, in 1670, the entries for Bromley and Chislehurst are missing. In 1663, moreover, the distribution of these omissions is curious. In Rochester deanery Aylesford, Burham, Denton, Longfield and Southfleet are missing; in Malling deanery Ashurst and Shipbourne; but in Dartford deanery Beckenham, Chelsfield, Cudham, Deptford, Farnborough, Greenwich, Horton Kirby, Lullingstone, Sutton-at-Hone, West Wickham and Wilmington are all

4. In 1846 the diocese of Rochester was substantially altered and did not return to more or less its original boundaries until 1905. See, *V.C.H.*, (*Kent*), ii.
5. No Act books for this period survive for Rochester except for the probate jurisdiction. See, *Guide to the Kent Archives Office* (1958).
6. Unfortunately, no certificates survive and no check on this aspect of the visitation work is, therefore, possible.

unaccounted for, and the entries recorded cover only half of the parishes within that deanery. The lack of an entry for Bromley in 1670 might possibly be connected with the close association of that parish with the bishop, but for all the other omissions there is no apparent reason.

When one considers detail, however, the significance of the visitations becomes more obvious in the light of the ecclesiastical changes of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Nowhere is this more noticeable than in the pattern of church arrangement, especially in regard to the altar and its use.<sup>7</sup> The Anglican church of the period developed along lines different from those of the reformed churches of the Continent and the pattern established by the early seventeenth century was for the altar to be placed at the east end of the chancel, though for celebration it might, if necessary, be moved away from the wall. Seats were often placed in such a manner that while the main service was held in the nave, the eucharist became a separate service within the chancel itself. Conflict arose, however, because the more puritanically inclined wished to adopt the Calvinist pattern of receiving the elements seated, while the more conservative followed the prayer book instruction of kneeling.

Nigel Yates writes that 'from about 1620 the placing of the altar became a major source of conflict between Anglicans and dominated every other consideration concerning the better arrangement of churches for worship. The placing of the altar in the middle of the chancel with seats around it, although not specifically designed for the purpose, encouraged the Puritan desire to receive communion sitting as the Calvinists did, not kneeling as prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer . . . . During the 1620's and 1630's the Laudian bishops used their powers at episcopal visitations to enforce, despite the conflict that this produced among those of Puritan sympathies, the placing of altars against the east wall of the chancel, their covering with a decent carpet and enclosure within altar rails. After 1640 these arrangements were swept away and provision made for sitting communion'.<sup>8</sup>

After the Restoration and especially following the Act of Uniformity these modifications of the Interregnum period were largely done away in their turn, as is apparent from the visitations of John Warner, but the process was by no means immediate. Instructions to remove altars and replace them at the east end of the church were only made in 1663 at Ash, Fawkham and Frindsbury,<sup>9</sup> though in 1670, similar instructions were issued to no fewer than forty-six parishes, and it is noteworthy that in the case of Frindsbury the 1663 order had to be repeated. This suggests that in approximately half of the parishes covered tradition had not only been broken but that only very gradually were the ecclesiastical authorities able to enforce a uniformity which required the altar to be placed at the east end of the chancel, railed in and in every way arranged 'as in the Cathedral church of Rochester'.

In seventeen cases (seven in 1663 and ten in 1670), it was necessary to obtain a new communion table and it is evident that, on occasions, the rails could be difficult to find. At Aylesford in 1670 it was ordered that 'Mr Duke should

7. In what follows I am especially indebted to Nigel Yates who allowed me to see chapter 2 of his forthcoming book: *Buildings, Faith and Worship: The Liturgical Arrangement of the Anglican Churches, 1600-1900*.
8. *op. cit.* A unique survival of this arrangement, with the altar in the middle of the chancel and stalls along the east, north and south walls, can be found at Deerhurst (Glos.).
9. See sections 3, 36, 37.

deliver up the rails or pay the worth of them' and at Yalding the rails were to be taken down from the belfry.<sup>10</sup> In a like manner seats at the upper end of the chancel were removed. Specific orders were made to this effect at Brenchley, Charlton and Chatham<sup>11</sup> and at Eltham and Hartley the floor of the chancel was to be raised in order to accommodate the altar properly.<sup>12</sup>

The generally lax state of affairs is also reflected in the many entries requiring new communion plate, sometimes it seems placed in supposedly safe keeping during the troubled years. At St. Paul's Cray in 1663 the churchwardens were ordered 'to endeavour to get the old communion chalice out of the hands of John Edwards who had the keeping thereof'.<sup>13</sup> Likewise, a number of orders require the provision of new carpets and linen for the altar, the St. Paul's Cray entry specifying the use of 'Broad cloth' for the altar carpet.

A further feature of the post-reformation Anglican church was the placing of the Commandments, Creed and Lord's Prayer, and sometimes other Biblical texts on the reredos behind the altar or elsewhere on the walls of the church. So, too, under the Elizabethan settlement the royal arms were to be displayed, originally over the screen in place of images and later elsewhere in the church. It is understandable that during the Interregnum these arrangements lapsed and we find that in 1663 the display of the Lord's Prayer, Creed and Ten Commandments was ordered in no less than thirty-six churches, with a further seven in 1670 and that in twelve instances (seven in 1663 and five in 1670) the royal arms also had to be displayed.

What is most apparent is the dilapidated and uncared for state of many of the churches. It is clear that these visitations of the Restoration period uncover the almost total collapse of organised control during the previous twenty years and also, that, by reason of the many occasions when orders made in 1663 had to be repeated in 1670, there was some local resistance or tardiness when it came to making the desired changes. There is ample evidence for the loss of, or inadequacy of, liturgical books: Bibles are to be acquired, repaired or rebound; many parishes lacked books of homilies or of the canons of 1604; Nettlestead in 1670 required a new desk for the works of Bishop Jewell and Erasmus, while at Frindsbury in 1663, Foxe's *Book of Martyrs* and Bishop Jewell's works were to be acquired and then chained to the desk.<sup>14</sup> The pulpits, too, required attention. In a number of churches new pulpits were needed or special arrangements had to be made to provide a seat for the clerk, who normally led the congregation in responses and singing and there is sometimes evidence for the development of the three-decker pulpit. At Ash in 1670 a seat was to be made for the clerk under the reading desk and at Bidborough the clerk was to be seated under the minister's reading desk 'that he may be in view of the congregation'.<sup>15</sup> At Barming a new pulpit with a canopy was ordered and the reading pew was to be set so that the clock may be seen, perhaps more effective than the order at Hoo All Saints, where an hour glass was to be acquired. At Halling the pulpit was to be enlarged and fair stairs made for it, while at Cuxton the minister's seat required a door to it.<sup>17</sup>

10. See sections 5, 95.  
 12. See sections 32, 43.  
 14. See sections 37, 63.  
 16. See sections 6, 45.

11. See sections 10, 15, 16.  
 13. See section 24.  
 15. See sections 3, 8.  
 17. See sections 26, 41.

Indeed seating was plainly a problem and in many churches the seats, pews or benches needed attention especially in the sides and bottoms. More enlightening, however, are the entries at Luddesdown in 1670 where better seats or forms were sought for the youth to sit on; Speldhurst, in the same year, where following repair to the seats the parishioners were to be placed according to ability; or at Stone in 1663 where seats were to be set up for the reception of the parishioners.<sup>18</sup> Even individual seats might be scrutinised: at Foots Cray, Mr Walsingham's seat was to be taken lower, while at Nettlestead the pew for the minister's wife was to be enlarged by taking a foot's breadth from the next pew!<sup>19</sup>

The retention by Anglicans of the screen between the nave and chancel is recalled by the entry, also at Foots Cray, in 1670, that Captain Manning was to set up the screen by him cut down. Nothing it seems escaped the eye of the official: at Addington the clock was to be repaired and set going and a shovel and spade obtained, and at Stoke a shovel, mattock and spade were needed for the digging of graves.

Numerous entries refer to bells being repaired, many churches were to be whitened, walls, roofs and shingling all required attention, even the churchyard did not escape notice. Not only was the removal of trees and bushes ordered which might damage the fabric or spoil the appearance of the churchyard; at Cobham and Horsmonden part of the area was being used as a garden and at Dartford, Mr Powle was 'foddering' his cattle within the precincts. These and many individual references indicate the comprehensive nature of the reports, and, in addition, there are admonitions to rectors and vicars requiring the proper upkeep of chancels and repair, sometimes almost complete rebuilding, of rectories and vicarages with their barns, stables and fences. The overall picture in 1663 is one of gross neglect, barely improved by 1670.

A certain number of non-ecclesiastical items or matters of wider interest are to be found. The reference in 1670 to a fire at Capel in which the bells were destroyed is otherwise unrecorded.<sup>23</sup> This must presumably have been a fire in the belfry only, otherwise the remarkable wall paintings in the church would surely have been damaged. The levying of parish rates and landscots is found occasionally, but in whatever way work was normally paid for the entry at Ryarsh in 1670 has an almost medieval flavour to it. There the patroness was appealed to to build a new chimney for the vicarage 'the which will be taken as a worthy act and so represented to the Lord Bishop'.<sup>24</sup>

A special problem is raised by the report for Trottscliffe where, again in 1670, a commission of enquiry was set up regarding the size, destruction and purpose of a chapel said to have existed in the parish.<sup>25</sup> No chapel is known to have been under the control of Trottscliffe church, and it seems probable that this somewhat cryptic entry refers to the private chapel in the episcopal palace frequented by Hamo de Hethe in the fourteenth century. As the palace is said to have fallen out of use at an early date it seems very strange that an enquiry should have been put in hand as late as 1670, when the existence of such a chapel must already have been little more than a local myth.

18. See sections 58, 78, 80.  
20. See section 22.  
22. See sections 19, 27, 48.  
24. See section 72.

19. See sections 22, 63.  
21. See sections 1, 79.  
23. See section 13.  
25. See section 86.

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Finally, there is the acquittance of the Rev. Mr Crapnell for an augmentation of £ 5 from the Bishop of Rochester towards his living of Tannington and Brundish in Suffolk.<sup>26</sup> Why this wholly extraneous document should be attached to the 1663 entry for Cuxton is unknown - it has nothing to do with the visitations.

The editor of such a volume as this is faced with several problems. The entries are repetitive in the extreme, their order in 1663 and 1670 is unrelated, though at least the deaneries can be recognized, and by reason of the late date neither the Latin preambles nor the English reports have any significance for etymological, palaeographical or place-name study. After careful consideration, therefore, it has been decided that a radical review of the text was needful in order to make its contents of the maximum use to readers. For this reason each numbered section relates to one parish only, arranged in strict alphabetical order, and the entries for 1663 and 1670 are brought together so that comparison is made easy. In each case the deanery concerned and the pages of the original text are given. Then, again, in the original there is no order within the actual reports, though it is usual for the entries to be preceded by an operative verb, e.g. to provide, repair, amend, cut down, etc., the instruction sometimes being given in the passive mood. In order to overcome this difficulty the churchwardens' entries follow a standard classification, even though elements will sometimes be missing from any specific entry. The categories used are: fabric, churchyard, altar, vessels, vestments, books and fittings, which includes furniture. At the end of every entry an indication is given of the completion date. Where the rector or impropiator is involved, or the vicar, these entries follow that for the churchwardens irrespective of the arrangement set out in the original. In the first case the headings chancel and parsonage are used. Occasionally, there is some confusion and the scribe has omitted to indicate that part of the report concerns the rector. Where this occurs and, despite lack of heading, there is an obvious division, this has been indicated by putting the heading '*contra* the rector' in square brackets.

Finally, thanks are due again to Nigel Yates who brought this volume to my attention and gave me the advantage of his wide knowledge in matters of ecclesiastical history.

26.

See section 26.

{1}

## ADDINGTON

(Malling deanery)

(20-1; 80)

### 22 August 1663

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the gutter between the chancel and the church, the roof of the church, the floor and pavements of the church and belfry; the porch to be tiled and paved, both the chapels that belongeth to Mr Walton to be leaded and floored.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elder bushes about the tower; a new gate to be made.

*Altar*: to provide a carpet and a linen cloth.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice, a paten, a poor man's box.

*Books*: to provide a new register book.

*Fittings*: to provide a plug for the font, a shovel and spade; to repair the church clock and set it going, the seats where defective; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to provide a canopy for the pulpit.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

*contra* the rector [no name]

*Chancel*: to be repaired in tiling, glazing and pavements, and to be whited.

*Parsonage*: to be repaired as also the buttresses in the garden, the paling and fences in the yard and the outhouses where need is.

Complete [as above].

### 29 July 1670.

*contra* Richard Hasling, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the roof; the church to be whited; to provide a new door entering Mr Walton's aisle and the same aisle to be repaired in the roof, shingling\*, walling and paving.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes.

*Altar*: to place the Communion table and rail it in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester; to provide a carpet.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice with a foot, a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of common prayer, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a chest with three locks; to repair the seats of the church in the bottoms.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate to the next court.

\* Shingles, shingling: the use of rectangular pieces of wood as roof or wall tiles.



*contra* Mr Peter Davies, rector

*Chancel*: to be repaired in the roof and whited.

*Parsonage*: the washing house, chimney and oven to be repaired and tiled, the out-walls and barn walls to be plastered.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

{2}

## ALLINGTON

(Rochester deanery)

(1; 63)

**17 August 1663**

*contra* Francis Marshall, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church; the belfry loft; to pave the church with brick or tile where defective.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cover for the font; to repair the seats in the bottoms and boarded; to set up the Lord's prayer and the creed.

Complete by 12 October with certificate to the Registry.

[*contra* the rector]

*Chancel*: to be new bricked and whited.

**6 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Littleale, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the roof, belfry and steeple; the church to be whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders and bushes about the church.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin for the Communion table.

*Vessels*: to provide a flagon for the Communion.

*Books*: to provide a book of canons.

*Fittings*: to provide a new pulpit with a canopy.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* John Collins, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the tiling and the seats; the walls to be plastered and whited.

*Parsonage*: to be repaired in the timber work, the west end to be plastered, the floor in the kitchen to be repaired and all the chimneys and tiling; the chambers to be new floored, to make a new window in the chamber to the west and a new pair of stairs.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

{3}

## ASH

(Rochester deanery)

(28-9; 67-8)

### 26 August 1663

*contra* George Middleton and Abraham Edwards, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the middle roof of the church in the tiling, the shingling.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes in the churchyard and the ivy about the church; to repair the fences.

*Altar*: the rail to be set as formerly to encompass the Communion table, the table to be taken out if need be on Communion days.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity; the great Bible and two service books to be in the church.

*Fittings*: to repair the font with a plug, the basin is not to be used; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

### 2 August 1670, by Robert Dixon, surrogate

*contra* Thomas Edmeads and Thomas Beoman, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the body of the church in the tiling, the windows in the church and chancel, the pavements and the buttresses on the north of the church and chancel.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy about the church and the bushes and elders; the churchyard to be railed, paled or walled.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin for the Communion table.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies and a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a canopy cover for the font; to have a seat made for the clerk under the minister's reading pew.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

*Chancel*: to repair the tiling.

*Parsonage*: to repair the outhouses and barn in the walls and thatching.

{4}

## ASHURST

(Malling deanery)

(81)

1663 - no entry

**20 July 1670**

*contra* Edward Lambert, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the roof in the shingling, the church steeple and walls.

*Churchyard*: to repair the fence to the highway, railed or paled.

*Vessels*: to provide a cover for the chalice.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Fittings*: to provide a canopy for the pulpit; to repair the seats in the church and chancel in the bottoms.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: to be new plastered; to repair the underpinning of the barn, the thatch and also to provide a new barn door.

Complete [as above].

{5}

## AYLESFORD

(Rochester deanery)

(62)

1663 - no entry

**6 July 1670**

*contra* John Godfrey and Thomas Ward, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the crack under the east window.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders and ivy about the church and also the bush on the buttress on the north side of the church.

*Altar*: to repair the Communion table; 'Mr Duke to deliver up the rayles for the Communion table or the worth thereof'.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons and a table of marriages.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

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*contra* Mr Robert Brookes farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to repair the pavements, the roof, the chancel door and Mr Duke's pew in the bottom.

Complete [as above]

*contra* Thomas Tilson, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the tiling of the house, to raise the rafters and to repair the stable.

Complete by 10 September.

{6}

## BARMING

(Malling deanery)

(2-3; 84-5)

**17 August 1663**

*contra* Richard Peirce and John Curtis, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church where defective in tiling or shingling.

*Churchyard*: to repair the wall where defective.

*Altar*: to provide a new table and carpet [text defective].

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, the Bible to be new bound.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cover for the font or to amend the old.

Complete by 10 October with certificate.

*contra* Richard Webb, rector

*Chancel*: the whole to be 'ript, repaired and sealed'; the glass windows to be repaired .

*Parsonage*: the house, barn and stables being much decayed to be 'ript' and tiled and all to be sufficiently repaired with stone work; the windows on the top of the house to be repaired.

Complete by 16 October with certificate 'under the hands of the churchwardens'.

**18 July 1670**

*contra* John French and Humphrey Birchett, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof and tiling of the body of the church, the windows.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders, ivy and bushes about the church, churchyard and steeple.

*Altar*: to provide a carpet for the Communion table, a diaper or Holland cloth and a napkin.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a service book of the last edition, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of affinity.

*Fittings*: to cause a new pulpit to be made with a canopy to it, the minister's reading pew to be set so that the clerk may be seen; the seat on the north side to be repaired in the bottom; to repair the wheels of the bells.  
Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr Benjamin Denham, rector

*Chancel*: to be repaired and whited.

*Parsonage*: to repair the house, thatching and walls, a new 'curb' to be made to the well; the stone wall about the yard to be repaired and the thatching and walling of the barn.

{7}

## BECKENHAM

(Dartford deanery)

(110)

1663 - no entry

**27 July 1670**

*contra* Robert Davies and Richard Battersby, churchwardens

*Fabric*: the graves in the chancel to be raised by direction of the farmer; to repair the church porch, the wall under the east window, the windows of the church and the battlements of the steeple.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy, elders and bushes about the church and churchyard.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set to the east window and railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester, as formerly.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons.

*Fittings*: to provide a cushion and a cloth agreeable to it for the pulpit; to repair the seats on the north of the chancel and at the lower end of the church.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate to the court day following.

*contra* Mr Roger Clissold, rector

*Chancel*: to cause the chancel and all things that is fit and necessary to be repaired [see above].

Complete [as above].

{8}

## BIDBOROUGH

(Malling deanery)

(11-2; 82-3)

**19 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the steeple, the glass windows about the church and the crack next the belfry.

*Churchyard*: to cut and take away the ivy growing about the steeple.

*Fittings*: to repair the seats in the church; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; the bell in decay to be new cast and set up for the parishioners use. Complete by 16 October; the bell by Michaelmas.

*contra* Mr Peat, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the buttress against the chancel, the glass windows; to cut away the ivy.

*Parsonage*: to repair the dwelling house, barn and outhousing.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

**20 July 1670**

*contra* Clement Elliard, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the north door of the church and the pavement there, the whole church in the tiling, the church to be whited and floor paved where defective, the steeple to be new shingled.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy about the church.

*Altar*: to provide a new Communion table to be railed in in a decent manner, and a carpet.

*Vessels*: to provide a flagon.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a new service book of the last translation, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a canopy cover for the font, a pulpit cloth, a new chest with three locks; to seat the clerk under the minister's reading pew 'that he may be in view of the congregation'.

Complete by 4 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr James Peate, rector

*Chancel*: to repair where defective, plaster it and white the walls; to repair the cracks in the walls, the roof in the tiling, the pavement and the seats in the bottoms.

*Parsonage*: to repair the thatching and tiling, the 'mantle chimney'\* and the window in the kitchen.  
Complete [as above].

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## BIRLING

(Malling deanery)

(21-2; 81-2,85)

**22 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the window on the north side of the church and the defects in the shingling of the chancel, church and steeple.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy growing about the church walls.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice of silver with a large paten having a foot to it, a flagon for the Communion wine.

*Books*: to provide a book of common prayer for the clerk, a book of homilies.  
Complete by 16 October.

**7 July 1670**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church and aisles, the church porch and the pavement.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church and churchyard; the churchyard to be paled, railed or walled where needed.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice with a paten and a flagon, a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a table of marriages.  
Complete by Michaelmas.

*contra* Neville Godden, farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to repair the drips and pavements.  
Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr Michael Rabbett, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the chamber floor, the tiling and plastering of the house and the walling about the barn.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

\* mantle: timber or stone supporting the masonry of a fireplace. This actual form 'mantle-chimney' does not appear in O.E.D.

{10}

## BRENCHLEY

(Malling deanery)

(6-7; 83-4)

**18 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the spire of the belfry before Michaelmas.

*Churchyard*: to take away the ivy and bushes on the church walls and about the church; to repair the churchyard bounds.

*Altar*: to provide a new carpet and Communion cloth.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies and a book of canons.

*Fittings*: the font to be leaded; to provide a new cushion and cloth for the pulpit; to set up the Lord's prayer and the creed; two bells are defaulted, whereof one of them is to be new cast and the other amended.

Complete by 16 or 18 October with certificate except the spire.

[*contra* the impropiator of the parsonage]

*Chancel*: to repair the roof, pavements and walls with the crack in the north corner, the seats in the bottoms; the chancel to be whited and glazed and the windows on the north to be opened.

**19 July 1670**

*contra* James Whatman and John Bromage, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church, the breach in the roof of the north aisle, the buttress on the west of the belfry; the south aisle to be whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes and ivy about the church, steeple and churchyard; the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed; the 'over-gutting'\* to the house on the south side of the churchyard and 'made out' upon the churchyard to be taken away; the door of Mr Woodgate's house entering into the churchyard to be made up 'unless he can shew to the contrary'.

*Altar*: the seats at the upper end of the chancel to be removed and the Communion table set up there and railed as formerly; to provide a napkin.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a service book of the last translation, a book of common prayer for the clerk, a book of homilies, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: the seats and pews in the church and aisles to be repaired.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* the impropriate farmer [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to repair the roof and to whiten and pave the whole chancel.

Complete [as above].

\* over-gutting: a roof gutter issuing into the churchyard.



{11}

## BROMLEY

(Dartford deanery)

(45)

**10 November 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Churchyard*: to repair the fences on the east part.

*Books*: to provide a book of common prayer for the parish clerk.

*Fittings*: the font to be leaded on the inside the better to hold water.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**1670** - no entry.

{12}

## BURHAM

(Rochester deanery)

(61-2)

**1663** - no entry

**6 July 1670**

*contra* Robert Kempsley and Thomas Day, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the church roof and pavements and the way to the pulpit; the chancel to be whitewashed and the church porch paved.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders about the churchyard.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons and a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cover for the font and a pulpit cloth; to repair the pulpit and the seats in the bottoms; the benches in the porch; the bells to be new hung and frames amended.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Robert Beale, farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to be repaired and the eaves on the north.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* (. . . .) Ellis, vicar

*Vicarage*: the north part to be new plastered; the north, east and south parts to be amended; the roof to be new thatched; to make new stairs to the chambers and the chambers to be boarded; the fences on the front of the house to be new paled as anciently, the garden to be fenced, the barn to be repaired in the roof, under-pinning and floorings.

Complete by Michaelmas.

{13}

## CAPEL

(Malling deanery)

(5; 87)

**18 August 1663**

*contra* John Waggorne and Willian Larkin, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair tbe church in the roof, shingling, steeple and floor, the chancel and paving, and the belfry; the church to be whited.

*Churchyard*: to repair the fences.

*Altar*: to provide a white linen cloth and a new carpet.

*Vessels*: to provide plate for the Communion.

*Books*: to provide a new service book for the clerk.

*Fittings*: the seats in the chancel to be repaired; all the 'belmettle' that was preserved from the fire, with some addition, to be cast into a bell for the use of the church.

*Note*: the belfry is to be repaired by Landscotts\* and also the fabric of the church.

Complete the fences by 18 October with certificate, the church by 25 March 1664 and the belfry by midsummer 1664.

**19 July 1670**

*contra* Francis Stoneham, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the porch.

*Churchyard*: to be railed, paled or walled by the parish unless it appears it is to be done by particular persons.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cloth for the pulpit, a new reading desk for the minister and a convenient pew for the clerk, a cover for the font canopy-wise; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; the rubbish in the belfry to be taken away.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

\* Landscott: a rate or tax based on land values.

*contra* the farmer of the rectory

*Chancel*: to repair the windows, pavements, seats and buttresses on the south; to whiten the chancel and remove the stones therein.

Complete [as above]

{14}

## CHALK

(Rochester deanery)

(41; 59)

**7 November 1663**

*contra* Peter Browne and John Philpott, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the buttresses on the south side of the belfry, the shingling and the hole between the church and chancel on the south, the tiling of the church roof, the north aisle and the porch.

*Churchyard*: to grub up the bushes in the churchyard and those against the church and chancel walls.

*Books*: to provide a book for the clerk, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of affinity.

*Fittings*: to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments.

Complete before Easter with certificate.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage*: to repair the house and fences and set into good 'plyte'.

**5 July 1670**

*contra* Phillipp Raynes and George Senior, churchwardens

*Fabric*: the shingles to be removed into the room on the west end of the belfry; the graves in the north aisle to be paved.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes in the churchyard and the elders and bushes about the church; the churchyard wall in the east to be repaired and the rest of the same fence.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a common prayer book for the clerk, a book of homilies, a table of degrees of marriage.

*Fittings*: the clerk to have a seat under the reading desk; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments as formerly; to provide a chest with three locks.

Complete [date omitted].

*contra* Mr Wrenn, vicar

*omnia bene*

{15}

## CHARLTON

(Dartford deanery)

(50; 112)

**12 November 1663**

*contra* John Whiffen and William Andrewes, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the tiling on Mr Blunt's aisle, the porch and the pavement near the belfry.

*Altar*: the seats about the Communion table to be taken away; to provide a fair carpet and linen cloth.

*Vessels*: to provide a flagon.

*Books*: to provide a service book for the parish clerk, a new Bible, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: the Lord's prayer, ten commandments and the King's arms are to be fitly placed in the church; the decayed bells to be new cast and frames made fit for them.

Complete [no date] with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: the barn to be new built and parsonage house repaired.

Complete by Michaelmas, the order to be forthwith published and put in execution.

**26 July 1670**

*contra* William Andrewes, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the glass in Sir William Ducie's aisle and the roof of the same, the wall under the east window of the chancel.

*Churchyard*: the bushes in the churchyard and about the church to be repaired (*sic*); a new stile to the churchyard to be made.

*Altar*: the seats at the upper end of the chancel to be taken away and the communion table to be set in the east window and railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester as formerly.

*Vessels*: to provide a flagon; a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies and a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a cloth and cushion for the pulpit, a chest with three locks; to set up the Lord's prayer; the bells to be new cast and made tuneable.

Complete by Courtday next before Michaelmas with certificate.

{16}

## CHATHAM

( Rochester deanery)

(32-3; 72-3)

### 26 August 1663

*contra* William Jenman and John Laurence, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the beam in the south aisle, the roof of the church porch, the north aisle over the vestry.

*Churchyard*: to repair the churchyard gate; to make up the door broken through the churchyard wall so that no passages be there; the churchyard next the Waterside to be new fenced, or railed to avoid danger to the passengers there often passing to His Majesty's Docks.

*Books*: to provide a book of common prayer for the clerk, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to take away the seats and 'footpace'\* against the east window in the chancel.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

### 9 July 1670

*contra* William Marles and Walter Fletcher, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the chancel and plaster the walls, to repair the steeple and the window over the chancel; the benches against the east window to be taken away.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the weeds; the doors on the north side to be walled up and no passage to be had there.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set north and south and railed in as formerly.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons and a table of degrees of marriage.

*Fittings*: to provide a cover for the font with cope, a cloth for the pulpit.

Complete by 9 September.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage*: to repair the crack in the walls.

Complete [as above]

*Note*: Mr John Loton, (vicar), not to permit any more rails to be set over the graves or to take any money for it.

\* footpace: probably footpiece, a wedge of wood or part of a slab placed against the footwall.

{17}

## CHELSEFIELD

(Dartford deanery)

(112-3)

**1663** - no entry

**28 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plumer, clerk, surrogate

*contra* Thomas Skeggs and Henry Soane, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church and aisle, the pavements of the church, the buttresses and steeple; the church to be whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes and ivy about the church and churchyard; the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed.

Complete before Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr Wills, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the roof and all other defects in the seats and otherwise.

*Parsonage*: to repair the gatehouse entering the parsonage yard in the thatching and 'doving'\* and the woodhouse in the walling.

Complete [as above].

{18}

## CHISLEHURST

(Dartford deanery)

(43-4)

**9 November 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the east window in the chancel, to raise the gravestones there, the chancel to be whited and the drips repaired; the church to be whited where defective; Sir Richard Battison's chancel to be repaired and the windows and pavements; to repair the buttresses on the south side of the chancel.

*Churchyard*: to cut down and destroy the ivy all about the church and chancel.

*Vessels*: to provide a new flagon.

*Fittings*: to repair the bench on the south side of the chancel.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

\* doving: daub, to coat with plaster or clay.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: to repair the outhouses, the fences around the house and yard, the windows of the principal house, the wall of the forecourt.

Complete [as above].

1670 - no entry.

{19}

## COBHAM

(Rochester deanery)

(30-1: 59)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the vault in the chancel, the walls of the chancel, the roof and pavements of the north chapel; the chancel to be whited.

*Churchyard*: all the ivy growing about the church and chancel to be repaired (*sic*); the fences about the churchyard to be repaired.

*Altar*: to provide a new table and a carpet and linen cloth.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice with a fair paten of silver.

*Books*: the church Bible to be new bound; to provide a service book for the clerk, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to repair the seats on the south side of the church, and the frames and wheels of the bells.

Complete before Easter with certificate. Order to be published and put in execution.

**5 July 1670**

*contra* Edward Carrier, churchwarden

*Fabric*: the Duke of Richmond's aisle to be repaired: the rubbish in the church to be removed.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy generally about the church; to repair the wall on the east side of the churchyard; to demolish the garden now in the clerk's usage.

*Altar*: to provide a new communion table.

*Books*: to provide a new Bible, a book of common prayer, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to repair the cover of the font; to provide a new pulpit and a moving pew for the clerk.

*contra* Mr Venman, impropriator [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to repair the defects in the chancel and the buttress on the north side.

Complete by 9 September.

{20}

## COOLING

(Rochester deanery)

(37-8; 56-7)

**5 November 1663**

*contra* John Tayler, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the chancel totally and whiten and glaze and pave it; to repair the pavement at the lower end of the church and the buttresses about the church and chancel.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy from the church and churchyard; to repair the fences.

*Altar*: to provide a fair Communion tablecloth.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice with a paten to it of silver.

*Books*: to provide another service book; the Bible to be new bound.

*Fittings*: to repair the bottoms of the seats in the church.

Complete by Easter with certificate. Order to be published and put in execution.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: to repair the house, outhouses, barns and stable and all the fences about the premises.

Complete [as above].

**5 July 1670**

*contra* John Tayler, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church, the pavements, the roof and floor of the porch; the rubbish in the lower end of the north part next the belfry to be taken away.

*Churchyard*: to be new fenced part by Sir Thomas Whiteman's tenants and the rest by the parishioners and owners abutting.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a Bible of the last translation, a book of homilies, a table of the degrees of marriage.

*Fittings*: to provide a new pulpit with a canopy; to repair all the seats in the church in the bottoms.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* John Lock, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the roof within and without, the pavements and the two seats; the windows to be glazed and the chancel whited.

*Parsonage*: to repair the whole parsonage within and without, the doors and barns and all the fences about the yard being in great decay.

Complete by Lady Day.



{21}

COWDEN

(Malling deanery)

(11; 87-8)

**19 August 1663**

*contra* Richard Knight gent. and Edward Cripps, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to cause the chancel to be whited where need is; to repair the roof of the church in the tiling.

*Fittings:* to remove the font and place it in the seats next behind the church door; to repair the seats throughout the church.

Complete by 16 October

**20 July 1670**

*contra* Henry Care and John Alchin, churchwardens

*Fabric:* the church to be whited; to seal underneath a (? . . . .) in the gallery; to repair the buttress at the north east.

*Churchyard:* to be railed or paled on the east part.

*Altar:* to provide a napkin for the Communion table.

*Vestments:* to provide a new surplice for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* the rector [no name]

*Chancel:* to be repaired and whited.

*Parsonage:* to be repaired in the tiling and other necessary reparations.

'To make certificate thereof'.

{22}

CRAY, FOOTS

(Dartford deanery)

(47-8; 117-8)

**11 November 1663**

*contra* Anthony Elce and Thomas Marshall, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the steeple, the south aisle with the monuments and archworks, the north aisle formerly called Sir Thomas Walsingham's and now belonging to Mr Henry Martin; the chancel and aisle windows and the chancel in the roof, wall, pavements and glazing.

DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy about the church and chancel.

*Vessels:* to provide a paten for the bread with a foot to it, a chalice and a flagon.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible, two service books.

*Fittings:* to repair the chancel seats; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed, ten commandments and the King's arms.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

*contra* Mr Rowland, rector

'is to do all his parte by Michaelmas next and Certificate to be made as alsoe of the repaire of the Parsonage house and Barne'.

**28 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Nicholas Manny and Stephen Frith, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the steeple in the shingling and the church in the tiling; the tomb in the north aisle and the tomb pertaining to Mr Manning.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church and chancel and on Mr Walsingham's aisle; the bushes in the churchyard to be grubbed up and the fences railed, paled or walled.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be set to the east window and railed in as formerly.

*Vessels:* to provide a paten with a foot for the chalice.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of common prayer, a table of consanguinity and affinity, a book to enter christenings, marriages and funerals.

*Fittings:* Captain Manning to set up the screen by him cut down; to provide a cover for the font with a canopy, a pulpit cloth agreeable to the cushion; the seats in the church to be repaired and made decent and Mr Walsingham's seat to be taken lower.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr Rowland, rector

*Chancel:* to repair the windows and tiling, to pave and white the chancel, the seats to be amended and made uniform.

*Parsonage:* to repair, being decayed.

Complete with certificate.

{23}

## CRAY, NORTH

(Dartford deanery)

(48; 121)

**11 November 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no name]

*Fabric:* to repair the buttress on the west of the steeple, the wall under the east

window, John Scudder's tomb, the chancel windows and porch; the 'matts nayled to the walls'\* to be taken away and walls whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and bushes upon the steeple and walls.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**29 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Daniel Hayward and John Edwards, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the steeple.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the bushes and ivy about the church and in the churchyard; the tombs to be repaired and the stones taken away.

*Altar:* the rails to be set about the Communion table as formerly.

*Books:* to provide a new service book, a book of canons and a table of marriages.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Dr Owen, rector

*Chancel:* to repair the defects in the tiling and other things.

Complete and certify.

{24}

## CRAY, ST. PAUL

(Dartford deanery)

(46-7; 121-2)

**11 November 1663**

*contra* Christopher Bagwell and Richard Seale, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair all the buttresses, walls and windows about the church and chancel, the wall under the east window of the south aisle, the steeple in the shingling and stonework, the chancel window to be repaired and glazed; the aisle on the north next the chancel to be boarded up and a door made for the vestry; the whole church to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down all the ivy and bushes, the churchyard to be better fenced.

*Vessels:* to provide a chalice with a paten having a foot to it and a flagon 'and to endeavour to get the old Communion chalice out of the hands of John Edwards who had the keeping thereof'.

*Books:* to provide a service book for the clerk.

*Fittings:* to make the minister's reading pew decent with a seat for the clerk made under the said reading pew, to repair the seats; to set up the King's arms in a more convenient place.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

\* mats, in the sense of tapestry were often attached to walls for protection or warmth.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: to repair the old kitchen and the walls in the tiling and walling, the house walls, the barn, the portal of the house door.

Complete by midsummer with certificate. 'The middle sommer in the Hall and the whole house to be repaired by the time afore limetted'.

**28 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Robert Shorte and Richard Gunter, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair Sir Leoard Ferbie's aisle, the buttresses of the church.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy, bushes and elders, the churchyard fences to be paled, railed or walled.

*Altar*: to cause the Communion table to be railed in as formerly and the partition to be made between the chancel and the north aisle; to provide a carpet of broad cloth for the Communion table.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book for the clerk, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a cloth suitable to the cushion for the pulpit; to repair the seats in the bottoms.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr Aishley, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the windows and pavements, the pavements to be raised.

*Parsonage*: to repair barns, stables, outhouses and all needful and necessary reparations.

Complete and certify.

{25}

## CUDHAM

(Dartford deanery)

(111-12)

1663 - no entry

**28 July 1670**

*contra* George Pearch and Francis Brasier, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the walls of the north aisle, the walls to be whited and the sunken pavements raised; the church roof to be new tiled, shingled and whited; the rubbish entering the chancel to be taken away and pavements 'levied'\*; the south aisle to be repaired and whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down and take away the alders, ivy and bushes about the church and chancel forthwith and the churchyard to be paled, railed or walled where defective.

\* levied: levelled.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be set up and railed as formerly; to provide a carpet and a linen cloth.

*Vessels:* to provide a chalice with a paten with a foot to it, a flagon; a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a service book of the last edition, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a canopy cover for the font, a new cushion and a pulpit cloth; to repair the seats in the church in the bottoms and sides and the clerk's pew.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Hugo Morris farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel:* to repair the roof with new shingling and the walls whited.

Complete [as above].

*contra* Mr Wheelock, clerk, vicar

*Vicarage:* to repair the tiling, walling and several other defects, the barn doors and the roof and timber work as also the stable.

Complete [as above]

{26}

## CUXTON

(Rochester deanery)

(24-5; 64-5)

**25 August 1663**

*contra* Richard Cosen and Thomas Greenall, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to make request to Sir John Masham (*recte* Marsham) for to cause his aisle to be repaired; to repair the roof of the church, chancel and aisle, the buttresses on the south side of the church; the windows to be glazed and the church whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church; to repair the fences.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible or get the old one new bound and made perfect, a book of common prayer for the clerk.

*Fittings:* to provide a pulpit cloth and cushion; to repair the reading desk and make it higher and longer, to repair the old cover of the reading desk; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to repair the seats next the belfry, the bells to be new hung.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

Mr Crapnell's Acquittance - (Attached)

'Received the 29th of September 1662 by me John Crapnell, vicar of Tannington and Brundish in the county of Suffolk, of Mr John Clayton of Dennington by the assignment of Doctor Wornock, archdeacon of Suffolk, the summe of five pounds for halfe a yeere of that charitable augmentation of ten pounds per annum to my vicaridge by the Reverend Father in God, John, Lord Bishop of Rochester. I say for me received - £ 5-0-0. John Crapnell, vicar.'

**7 July 1670**

*contra* Richard Hawes, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the tiling and floor of the church, the pavements in and through the church, the body, aisles and porch of the church; the chancel to be whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down all the bushes and ivy about the church and churchyard.

*Altar*: to provide a linencloth and a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a paten for the Communion chalice; a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: the clerk's pew to be made under the minister's reading pew, the pulpit to be enlarged or made new with a fair stairs to it; to provide a new chest with three locks; the seats to be made decent and uniform in the chancel.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate at the next court.

*contra* Mr John Hengrave, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the buttery, the entry, the outhouses and walls and the thatching and tiling.

Complete [as above].

{27}

## DARTFORD

(Dartford deanery)

(43; 113)

**9 November 1663**

*contra* John Hughes and John Harebottle, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the windows and glazing, the north chancel in the roof and the windows of the north aisle.

*Churchyard*: to cause the door and passage from the house standing on the west part of the church that openeth into the churchyard to be made up and no passage thence into the churchyard.

*Books*: to provide a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: the font to be leaded; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments in some convenient place; to repair the 'gudging'\* of the bells.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage*: to repair the outhouses, the principal house, the two outhouses on each side of the gatehouse: the fence about the premises.

Complete [as above]. The Order to be published and put in execution.

\* Gudging: the pivots at the end of the beam on which the bell works.

**29 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* John Arnold and James Averell, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the windows totally about the church.

*Churchyard*: 'to give notice to Mr Powle not to fodder cattle any more in the churchyard.'

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set up in the east window of the chancel and to be railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester.

*Fittings*: to repair the pew at the upper end of the north aisle and all the pews in the bottoms.

Complete by next court after Michaelmas with certificate.

[*contra* the farmer of the parsonage tithes]

*Chancel*: to repair the roof.

{28}

## DENTON

(Rochester deanery)

(75)

**1663** - no entry

**25 July 1670**

*contra* Mr James Parsons, farmer of the rectory

*Chancel*: to repair the chancel well and sufficiently.

*Note*: Mr Parsons is to give notice to the owners and occupiers of the lands within the parish to contribute every man rateably towards the repair of the body of the church, roof and walls, pavements, belfry, seats and glazing of the windows.

Complete by the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary with certificate.

{29}

## DEPTFORD

(Dartford deanery)

(113-4)

**1663** - no entry

**27 July 1670**

*contra* William Collet and Marmaduke Royden, churchwardens

DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

*Fabric:* to repair the pavements in the church, the lead in the steeple, the windows about the church in the glass, the roof over the saints bell.\*

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy about the church; the wall on the north part of the churchyard to be repaired.

*Vessels:* to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a new cloth for the pulpit suitable for the cushion.

Complete by 9 September, with certificate to next court following.

*contra* the impropriate rector [did not appear]

*Chancel:* to repair the roof as also the pavements.

Complete [as above]

{30}

DITTON

(Rochester deanery)

(22-3; 64)

**22 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the crack in the east window of the chancel, the whole church and the buttress on the north side; the church to be whitened.

*Churchyard:* to cut down and take away the ivy and bushes growing about the church and chancel; the churchyard fences to be repaired especially that part next the Courtlodge.

*Vessels:* to provide a flagon for the Communion wine.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible of the last translation and a book of common prayer for the clerk.

*Fittings:* to set up the Lord's prayer and the creed.

Complete by 20 October with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

Parsonage: 'the parsonage house being totally in decay as also the fences about the same is to be done part thereof before Christmas the residue before Easter next'.

**6 July 1670**

*contra* Mr William Jole, rector

*Parsonage:* to repair the outhouses in thatching and timber work of those on the south side.

\* saints bell: a bell rung during mass at the elevation of the host.



[*contra* the churchwardens - *Note*: there is no break in the entry which all follows under the admonition to the rector, but which would normally be the churchwardens responsibility.]

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church, the passage to the pulpit.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church and churchyard; the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed where defective.

*Altar*: to rail the Communion table as formerly and the stone to be laid down as formerly and the bricks taken away; to provide a napkin.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cover for the font, a pulpit cloth; the clerk to have a seat under the minister's reading pew.

Complete 9 September

{31}

## EDENBRIDGE

(Malling deanery)

(9-10; 58-9)

### 19 August 1663

*contra* the churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the buttresses of the church and chancel, the defects in the stone work and the coves and walls with the buttress against the south part of the belfry, the tomb called Leigh's tomb, the pavements.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church; to repair the fences of the churchyard.

*Vessels*: to provide a fair chalice with a cover as also a larger paten for the bread.

*Books*: to provide a book for the clerk.

*Fittings*: to provide a pulpit cloth; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to repair the wheel of the trebble bell and provide ropes for all the bells.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

### 20 July 1670

*contra* John Walter and Edward Spatchhurst, churchwardens

*Fabric*: the 'coffinstone'\* to be taken up for the burial of Mr Duke, late curate, and to be laid down in its place as formerly; to repair the roof.

*Churchyard*: to be paled, railed or walled where defective; 'notice to be to those that pretend back waies into the churchyard to shew their titles or else the dore waies to be shut up'.

\* coffinstone: the stone slab covering a grave or vault.

DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

*Altar:* the Communion table to be railed in as formerly up to the window; to provide a napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a chalice with a paten, a flagon; a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister and a surplice.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to provide a cloth for the pulpit, a chest with three locks; to repair the clock and the seats where defective; the little bell to be new cast and hung up unless a bigger bell be procured by the consent of the parishioners; the lumber to be removed from the chancel and also the old chest and placed elsewhere.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* the farmer of the tything\* pertaining to the rectory of Westerham and Edenbridge [did not appear]

*Chancel:* to repair the windows and all the seats, the roof and paving where defective; the chancel to be whited.

Complete [as above]

{32}

ELTHAM

(Dartford deanery)

(48-9; 116)

**12 November 1663**

*contra* Mr John Bewley and Thomas Merrifeild, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the tiling on the north side of the church, the windows, the buttresses on the north side.

*Churchyard:* to cut away the ivy on the upper end of the south chancel; to repair the fences.

*Fittings:* to take away the seats and pews in the upper end of the chancel.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**27 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Nicholas Hayley and John Gay, churchwardens

*Churchyard:* to cut down the weeds in the churchyard.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester and the ground under the Communion table to be raised.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies and a table of consanguinity; the seats in the south aisle to be cleansed.

Complete by 10 September with certificate the next court day.

\* tithing: originally a group of ten families, but later a unit of rural division of local government with its own tithingman, constable or borsholder.

*contra* Richard Comfort, farmer of the rectory  
*Chancel*: to repair the buttresses on the north side.  
Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr Clement Hobson, vicar  
*Vicarage*: to make a new kerb to the well and to repair the tiling of the stable  
Complete by 9 September with certificate.

{33}

## ERITH

(Dartford deanery)

(45; 114-5)

### 11 November 1663

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the north chancel in tiling, roof and pavements, the same to be whited; the body of the church to be shingled or tiled, the 'allyes' paved, the shaft or steeple to be repaired and the chancel to be repaired and shingled.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders, ivy and bushes growing about the church and churchyard.

*Vessels*: to provide a paten of silver with a foot for the chalice.

*Books*: to provide a book for the clerk.

*Fittings*: to provide a chest with three locks to keep the books and ornaments of the church; to repair the pews in the lord of the manor's aisle; the back of the reading pew to be boarded up for the warmth of the vicar; to repair the frames of the bells.  
Complete by Easter with certificate.

### 26 July 1670

*contra* Bryan Russell and Thomas Whitfeilde, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the wall on the west of the steeple.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes in the churchyard and about the church; the fences on the west of the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set up and railed as in the Cathedral church of Rochester as formerly; to provide a napkin and a fair carpet for the Communion table.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a common prayer book, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a cover with a canopy for the font.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr Mills, farmer or occupier of the impropriate rectory [did not appear]  
*Chancel*: the churchwardens are to give notice to the collector of the parsonage tithes to repair the chancel and make it decent and also the window on the south of the chancel; to repair the roof and tiling and buttress on the wall.  
Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

{34}

## FARLEIGH, WEST

(Malling deanery)

(3; 105)

**17 August 1663**

*contra* Walter Barton, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the body of the church in the roof.

*Altar*: to provide a fair new carpet of cloth or silk for the Communion table and a new linen table-cloth.

*Vessels*: to provide a new flagon for the wine.

*Books*: to provide a new Bible of the last translation.

*Fittings*: to provide a new pulpit cloth; the minister's reading desk to be set and adjoined to the pulpit and the clerk's pew set under it.

Complete by 18 October.

[*contra* Mr Wood, farmer of the parsonage]

*Chancel*: 'the defects in the tiling, whitening and seats of the Chancel are to be repaired by Mr Wood the farmer of the Parsonage'.

**18 July 1670**

*contra* Robert Gull, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the pavements of the church and the roof in the shingling, the steeple and stop up the hole in the steeple and the lead to be laid down; a new door to be made for the belfry.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes upon the steeple.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons and a table of consanguinity for marriage; to repair the seats at the lower end of the church.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate to the next court day.

*contra* Mr Oliver North, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the house in the tiling, roof, ceiling and parlour.

{35}

## FARNBOROUGH

(Dartford deanery)

(116-17)

**1663** - no entry

**28 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* George Baldwin and William Peirson, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the windows where defective, the drip between the church and chancel, the steeple in the shingling and the church in the tiling.

*Churchyard*: the fences to be repaired whether by wall, pale or rail.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set up to the east window and railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester; to provide a carpet for the Communion table and a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of common prayer of the last edition, a book of homilies, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a canopy cover for the font.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr Mills, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the chancel in tiling and other defects.

Complete [as above]

{36}

## FAWKHAM

(Rochester deanery)

(29-30; 69-70)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* Richard Kingsland, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the shingles of the roof, the steeple and the church porch.

*Churchyard*: to repair the fences.

*Altar*: the Communion table as formerly to be set up and railed.

*Books*: the great Bible to be new bound.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**2 August 1670**

*contra* Thomas Walter, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the church in the tiling, the steeple.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders about the church; the churchyard to be railed, paled, or walled.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Fittings*: a canopy cover to be made for the font.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate to the next court.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: to repair the walls and tiling and the fences.

Complete [as above].

{37}

## FRINDSBURY

(Rochester deanery)

(32; 74, 78)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* William Pennistone and Henry Younge, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the steeple, the south aisle and the leads; the church to be whited.

*Altar*: the rail to be set up as formerly to rail the Communion table; to provide a new table for the Communion, a new carpet and a Communion cloth.

*Vessels*: to provide a new pewter flagon.

*Books*: to cause the Book of Martyrs and Bishop Jewell's works to be brought into the church and the chained to the desk; to provide a book of canons and a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings*: to set up the Lord's prayer.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be forthwith published and put in execution.

**9 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Ray and John Blake, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the pavements, the roof of the church and the south door.

*Churchyard*: the fences to be paled, railed or walled.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set up to the east window and railed as formerly.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a service book for the clerk, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to provide a pulpit cloth; to repair the seats generally both in the church and aisles; to place the ladder and materials for the church in some more convenient place.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr Robert Watson, farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel:* to repair all the seats in the chancel, the windows and pavements; the chancel to be whited and the Communion table railed as formerly.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

{38}

## GRAVESEND

(Rochester deanery)

(41-2; 75)

**7 November 1663**

*contra* Elias Grigson and William Yate, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the roof of the church, the pavements of church and chancel, the church porch, the buttresses about the church and against the east of the belfry; the church to be whited.

*Altar:* to provide a new carpet.

*Vessels:* to provide another chalice and two pewter flagons.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible, a book of homilies, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings:* to repair the font, the seats against the east door in the chancel; the ten commandments to be made fair.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The Order to be forthwith published and put in execution.

**25 July 1670**

*contra* Michael Edwards and Richard Bishop, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the roof of the church and chancel, the windows and the pavements; the pavements of the chancel to be raised; the church and chancel and roof to be whited.

*Churchyard:* no more rails are to be placed over graves without licence; the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be railed in as formerly up to the east window.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of common prayer, a book of homilies, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to repair the seats in the bottoms and ends.

Complete by 9 September with certificate to the next court.

{39}

## GREENWICH

(Dartford deanery)

(118)

1663 - no entry

**26 July 1670**

*contra* John Clurent and Thomas Patteson, churchwardens

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies 'and such other books and ornaments for the church as the minister by his discretion shall think fit'.

Complete by next court with certificate.

{40}

## HADLOW

(Malling deanery)

(15-6; 86)

**21 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric:* to repair the shingles on the north part of the church and on the roof where defective, the walls throughout the church and the wall over the door that 'cubbes' (?) \* the church; the walls to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut the elders and ivy against the church, the elders against the tomb on the south side of the church with the elders and bushes about the church and churchyard; to repair the churchyard wall and the porch to the churchyard.

*Books:* to provide a book of common prayer for the clerk, a book for the entrance of Christenings, marriages and burials.

*Fittings:* to repair the font, the frames of the bells.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

[*contra* the inappropriate rector]

*Chancel:* to repair the chancel, amend the outside walls and pavements, the chancel to be new shingled where, defective and whited.

Complete [as above].

\* Cubbes: a cob or lump of clay used as a building material; here probably the sealing between the wall and door.



*contra* the vicar [no name]

*Vicarage:* to repair the vicarage where defective, roofs, walls and floors, windows and frames.

Complete [as above].

**22 July 1670**

*contra* William Bassett, churchwarden

*Fabric:* to repair the roof of the body of the church, the porch, the shingling; to place all the timber at the lower end of the church in a more convenient place.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy about the church; the churchyard to be railed, paled or walled.

*Altar:* to provide a napkin and a linen cloth.

*Vessels:* to provide a paten of silver with a foot to it for the bread, and a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Fittings:* to provide a pulpit cloth; to repair the frames for the bells and the benches.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr Rivers impropiater [did not appear]

*Chancel:* to repair the chancel, shingling and walls, the windows on the south part to be made good with glass and a new door to be made to the chancel.

Complete [as above].

*contra* Mr William Wing, vicar .

*Vicarage:* to repair and make habitable for himself, to be thatched, walled and windows repaired, the kitchen 'and all other defects which are many'.

Complete [as above].

{41}

## HALLING

(Rochester deanery)

(25-6; 65-6)

**25 August 1663**

*contra* Thomas Haw and John Lane, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the doors and belfry door, the steeple, church porch, north aisle and the wall on the north west; the church to be whitened.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the bushes and ivy about the church and steeple and to grub up the bushes in the churchyard.

*Altar:* to provide a new carpet and Communion cloth.

*Vessels:* to provide a cover for the Communion cup.

*Fittings:* to provide a plug for the font, a new chest; the clerk to provide a new pulpit cloth and cushion; to repair the reading desk and make it higher and larger, the old cover, the seats near the belfry; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed, ten commandments and the King's arms; to repair the frames for the bells.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**7 July 1670**

*contra* Richard Hawes, churchwarden

*Fabric:* to repair the tiling and floor of the church, the pavements in and through the church, the body, aisles and porch of the church; the chancel to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down all the bushes and ivy about the church and churchyard.

*Altar:* to provide a linen cloth and a napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a paten for the communion chalice; a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* the clerk's pew to be made under the minister's reading pew, the pulpit to be enlarged or made new and fair stairs to it; to provide a new chest with three locks; the seats to be made decent and uniform in the chancel.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate at the next court.

*contra* Mr John Hengrave, vicar

*Vicarage:* to repair the buttery, the entry, the outhouses and walls, the thatching and the tiling.

Complete [as above].

{42}

## HALSTOW, HIGH

(Rochester deanery)

(36-7; 55-6)

**5 November 1663**

*contra* George Cripps and James Paine, churchwardens

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church and chancel; to provide a fair, easy stile or gate to the churchyard.

*Altar:* to provide a cloth and a napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a chalice with a paten, a pewter flagon.

*Books:* to provide a book or common prayer for the clerk.

*Fittings:* to provide a cover for the font, a new cushion for the pulpit; the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments to be fairly written on the walls; to repair the seats in the bottoms.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

**4 July 1670**

*contra* William Hamon and John Lewis, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair by Landscott\* the south aisle of the church, the crack at the lower end of the south aisle and the windows.

\* Landscott: a rate or tax based on land values.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy about the church and churchyard and also the bushes in the churchyard to be grubbed up; to repair all the fences on the east of the churchyard by wall, rail or pale.

*Altar:* to rail in the Communion table as formerly.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of degrees of marriage.

*Fittings:* to provide a new cover for the font and a plug; to repair the frames of the bells and ropes.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* William Carter, clerk, rector

*tam Ecclesia quam domum omnia bene*

{43}

## HARTLEY

(Rochester deanery)

(29; 69)

### 26 August 1663

*contra* John Young, churchwarden

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy.

*Books:* the Bible to be forthwith new bound, to provide a book for the clerk.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

### 2 August 1670

*contra* Thomas Younge, churchwarden

*Fabric:* the church to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the bushes, ivy and elders about the church; the churchyard to be paled, railed or walled.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be railed as formerly and the floor of the chancel raised.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies.

*Fittings:* to provide a canopy for the font; to remove the chest standing in the chancel to the lower end of the church.

Complete by 9 September with certificate at the next court.

[*contra* the rector]

*Chancel:* to be whited; the buttress on the north side to be repaired and bushes cut down.

*Parsonage:* to repair the thatch, walls, outhouses, barn and fences.

Complete [as above].

{44}

## HIGHAM

(Rochester deanery)

(38-9; 57-8)

**7 November 1663**

*contra* Luke Cordell esq., and Stephen Joad, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the chancel belonging to the parson, its windows, roofs and pavements, the tiling, and to be whited; to repair the buttresses both those against the church and aisles.

*Churchyard:* to repair the fences by those to whom it doth properly belong.

*Vestments:* to provide a new surplice and a napkin.

*Books:* to provide a book for the clerk.

*Fittings:* to repair the seats where defective, to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage:* 'the vicarage house being now ready to fall down to be in every respect sufficiently repaired and all the fences about the same to be repaired'.

**5 July 1670**

*contra* Stephen Joad and Thomas Coplin, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the church and aisle in the roof; to whiten the chancel.

*Altar:* to provide a new Communion table, a carpet and a Communion cloth, the Communion table to be railed in as formerly.

*Vessels:* to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies.

*Fittings:* to provide a cushion for the pulpit, a lock and key to the chest.

*contra* Mr George Woodyer, farmer of the lord impropiator [did not appear]

*Churchyard:* that the fences on the east and north of the church be forthwith repaired by the owners or occupiers of the parsonage tithes.

Complete by 9 September.

{45}

## HOO, ALLHALLOWS

(Rochester deanery)

(35-6; 53-4)

**5 November 1663**

*contra* Thomas Borne and George Bennett, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the aisle belonging formerly to the Coppingers now in the tenure of Edward Colebire farmer, the walls and buttresses on the south side of the church, the roof, aisle and steeple.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the churchyard.

*Altar*: (?) to provide a new table.

*Vessels*: to provide a new paten for the Communion cup, a new flagon.

*Books*: to provide a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a new pulpit cushion and a hour glass; to repair the bells.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

*Note*: 'The parishioners to make application to the Dean and Chapter of Rochester for advice and assistance'.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage*: the house and the fences to be repaired and made habitable.

**4 July 1670**

*contra* John Gill and Edward Colebeere, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the south aisle in the pavements and the cracks near the window on the east end, the windows about the church, the aisle, sometime Mr Coppinger's, both within and without.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church; Thomas Scott to remove the pales and rails on the east of the churchyard and leave the trees there free and to provide a new gate to the churchyard.

*Altar*: to provide a carpet for the Communion table and a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a flagon and a new cover for the chalice; a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a table of degrees of marriage, and a book to enter strange preachers.

*Fittings*: to provide a lock and key for the north door; to repair the bells and hang them up.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* (?) Defor Stanley, farmer of the lord impropiator

*Chancel*: the parson or his tennant forthwith to repair the chancel in rafters and tiles and to cut down the ivy.

Complete [as above].

*contra* Mr John Crompe, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the house in tiling and walling, to cause the garden to be fenced, to repair the house of office.

Complete [as above].

{46}

## HOO, ST. MARY'S

(Rochester deanery)

(36; 54-5)

**5 November 1663**

*contra* John Ledis and Daniel Parker, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the church walls, roof in the tiling and shingling, the buttresses about the church and chancel; to glaze the windows and to whiten the chancel.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church and chancel and in the churchyard; the fences to be repaired.

*Fittings*: to set up the creed fairly on the wall.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**4 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Godden and George Cripps, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the body of the church, the shingling of the roof, the floor, loft and door of the belfry.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders, bushes and ivy about the church, chancel and churchyard; the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed round about.

*Altar*: to set up the rails about the Communion table as formerly; to provide a carpet for the Communion table.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister, a surplice.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of degrees of marriage, a book to enter strange preachers' names.

Complete by 29 September.

*contra* George Berling, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the defects in the chancel windows in glazing and in the south aisle.

*Parsonage*: to repair the floor in the hall, the plastering over the chamber stairs, the chamber over the brewhouse and the outlet near the barn.

Complete by 9 September.

{47}

## HOO, ST. WERBERGH

(Rochester deanery)

(34; 51-2)

**5 November 1663**

*contra* John Pett and John Oliver, churchwardens

*Fabric*: the chancel to be whited and shingled; to repair the glass windows, the pillar on the south side of the belfry and the wall toward the bottom there, the church porch and the walls of the church.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church walls and the ivy about the chancel; the churchyard to be railed, or paled; the way from the vicarage house to the church to be repaired and made passable.

*Books*: to provide a new Bible and a service book for the clerk, a book of homilies and a table of affinity and consanguinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a plug for the font, a new pulpit cloth; to repair the seats on the lower end of the south aisle and the pews generally throughout the church; the chest to be amended in the bottom and raised.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

**4 July 1670**, by the Ven. Edward Alderne, official of John Warner, and Peter Stowell, notary public.

*contra* Robert Gibbons, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the crack in the north window and the crack in the belfry, the church porch in the tiling.

*Churchyard*: the fences on the south, paid by the lord of the manor.

*Altar*: to provide a new carpet for the Communion table.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a table of consanguinity and affinity, a book for entering christenings, marriages and burials; to repair the Bible.

*Fittings*: to repair the bells in the wheels and to provide new ropes.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Arthur Broer, impropiator

*Chancel*: to repair the roof, pavements and seats; the chancel to be whited; the fences of the churchyard to be repaired towards the south and west.

Complete [as above; *signed* P. Stowell].

*Note*: the vicarage house there in good repair.

{48}

## HORSMONDEN

(Malling deanery)

(7-8; 89-90)

### 18 August 1663

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the roof adjoining the chancel, the stone work of the body of the church, the chancel on the outside and all the shingling; the walls to be whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church; all the fences about the churchyard to be repaired.

*Altar*: to provide a new carpet of broad cloth for the Communion table.

*Fittings*: the font to be leaded and a fair cover to be made for the same; to provide a fair cushion and cloth for the pulpit; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments.

[*contra* the rector]

*Chancel*: to repair the chancel walls and pavements; the walls to be whited.

*Parsonage*: to repair the house, outhouses and fences thereunto belonging.

*Complete*: 'the most part of all the premises is to be done and the repaire to be certified to the Office at or before 16 October next', the residue by Michaelmas 1664 with certificate.

### 19 July 1670

*contra* John Bowle and Stephen Kirkin, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church next the chancel, the stone at the east head of the church, the buttress of the east end of the north aisle; the roof to be shingled and the whole church whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes about the church; 'the garden planted at the east part of the churchyard to be taken from the enclosure'.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be railed in as formerly; to provide a carpet and a cloth.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister, a surplice.

*Books*: to provide a common prayer book of the last edition, a book of homilies, a book of canons and a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a canopy over the font, a new pulpit cloth and cushion, new ropes for the bells; to repair the wheels of the bells and 'the little bell to be trust up'; the seats under the east window of the chancel to be taken away.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.



*contra* Mr John Crouch, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the ceiling, pavements, seats, roof and buttress on the north side; the walls to be whited and seats under the east window removed.

*Parsonage*: to repair the gatehouse and stable being decayed in the thatching and walling, the henhouses and other outhouses next the stable decaying in walling and roof, the barn at one end and the roof, walls and doors, the stall, the 'foderip\*', the fences about the yard, the roof of the dwelling house and the walls at the north end; the granary to be underpinned and set upright.

Complete by Lady Day with certificate.

{49}

## HORTON KIRBY

(Dartford deanery)

(118-9)

1663 - no entry

29 July 1670, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Francis Marshall and Robert Swaisland, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the south aisle in the pavements, the way to the ringing loft, the church roof, the walls on the east part of the church, the buttress on the south part of the church which is decayed; the south aisle to be plastered and whited; 'the room where the lyme lyeth to be encompassed in with bords as formerly'.

*Churchyard*: to take down the ivy about the church and chancel, the bush on the buttress on the north part of the belfry; the churchyard to be repaired with wall, rails or pale.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set up against the east window and railed as in the Cathedral church of Rochester; to provide a napkin and a new linen cloth.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons and a table of degrees of marriage.

*Fittings*: a canopy cloth to be made for the font; to provide a pulpit cloth; to repair the vane of the steeple; the seats in the chancel against the east window to be taken down.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* the impropriator [did not appear]

*Chancel*: notice to be given by the churchwardens to the parson or his farmer to repair the chancel in the ceiling, roof, tiling and plastering.

Complete [as above].

*contra* Mr Walter Collins, vicar [did not appear]

*Vicarage*: to repair the house being totally decayed and make it habitable.

Complete [as above], certificate to next court after Michaelmas.

\* Foderip: unknown to *O.E.D.*, probably the place where the cattle are foddered.

{50}

## KEMSING

(Malling deanery)

(12-3; 91)

### 20 August 1663

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the windows and pavements; the church to be whited.

*Churchyard*: the fences to be repaired.

*Altar*: to procure a new carpet for the Communion table.

*Books*: the Bible to be new bound, to provide a common prayer book for the clerk, a book of canons.

*Fittings*: the cover of the font to be altered; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments: the old chest in the chancel to be removed into some more convenient place; the stock and treble bell to be repaired.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

*Chancel*: to be whited and the windows and pavements repaired.

*contra* Mr John Stevens, vicar

*Vicarage*: to cause the whole house and the fences 'which belongeth or is reputed to belong to the Vicar of Kemsing' to be new built or so sufficiently repaired that it may be fit to entertain and receive the vicar and his family to reside there.

Complete before 1 January 1663/4 'in regard the said Vicar hath bin in possession of the Vicarage by his own confession seaven yeares and by him suffred to fall into decay. Provided that this order doe not prejudice any former order'.

### 20 July 1670

*contra* John Haltrop and Richard Wingate, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the body of the church in the shingling, the north buttress.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes and elders about the church and churchyard; to repair the churchyard pale on the south part.

*Altar*: to provide a carpet and a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice with a foot to the cover; a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide two books of common prayer for the minister and clerk, a new Bible, a book of canons and a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a pulpit cloth.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr Bunce, impropiator [did not appear]

*Chancel*: notice to repair forthwith the chancel, pavements and roof and to be whited.

Complete [as above]

*contra* Mr Tattersall, vicar [did not appear]

*Vicarage*: to repair the defects in the walls, floors and fences.

Complete [as above].

{51}

## KINGSDOWN

(Rochester deanery)

(24; 68)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* Edward Baker and Nicholas Middleton, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to erect a new gallery for the better reception of the parishioners.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes and ivy about the church and churchyard; to repair the fence; to provide a new stile to the churchyard and a new gate from Hills, his house.

*Altar*: to provide a cloth for the Communion.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies fairly bound, a book of canons, a table of affinity.

*Fittings*: to repair the font and provide a plug or cork to stop the water; to cause to be made a fair new pulpit and a reading desk and to be set up decently by direction of the rector; to set up fairly in a frame the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; all the seats to be boarded at the ends where defective.

Complete: 'to be done with all convenient speed' at the next visitation at Easter with certificate.

**2 August 1670**

*contra* Michael Deane and John Morly, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the church in the tiling, the church porch.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy, elders and bushes about the church and churchyard; the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to repair and new bind the Bible; to provide a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cover for the font.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

*Chancel*: to repair the chancel in tiling and glazing.

{52}

## LAMBERHURST

(Malling deanery)

(8-9,9-10; 93-4)

**18 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the pavements of the church, the buttress and wall on the south side of Mr Dorrell's [*recte* Darell] aisle, the windows of that aisle, the buttress on the neck of the chancel and the crack by the lowest window near the steeple; the church to be whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders and bushes about the church together with the ivy, the nettles to be weeded out or mown out of the churchyard.

*Vessels*: to provide a paten of silver for the Communion bread.

*Books*: to provide a book for the clerk.

*Fittings*: the font to be leaded and a fair cover made for it; to repair the seats; the third bell to be new cast.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

*contra* the impropriate rector

*Chancel*: to repair the roof, the east window and the wall under the window; to cut down the ivy; the chancel to be whited and plastered where need is; the aisle on the south side of the church to be repaired and paved by the owners, the walls to be repaired and the ivy growing on the outside to be cut down.

Complete [as above].

**19 July 1670**

*contra* John Chamberlaine and Thomas Luck, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the lower end of the church and the north aisle, Mr Dorrell's aisle with its pavements and roof.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes on the steeple and about the churchyard and the ivy and bushes about the church.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be railed in against the east window as formerly.

*Vessels*: to provide a cover for the chalice with a foot; a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: the Bible to be new bound; to provide a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to repair and take away the seats in the chancel.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

*contra* Mr Due, farmer of the rectory

*Chancel:* to repair the buttress against the chancel and the ash growing there to be taken away; to cut down the 'hassells' on the east end of the church and the ivy on the south side.

Complete [as above].

*contra* the vicar

*Vicarage:* to repair the barn in the walls and thatching and also the outhouses adjoining.

Complete [as above].

{53}

LEE

(Dartford deanery)

(49; 120)

**12 November 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric:* to repair the buttresses on the steeple and on the north of the chancel east window and on the south side of the steeple; to glaze the east window; to repair the buttresses on the south side of the church; the house adjoining the church on the north to be repaired, glazed and tiled.

*Churchyard:* to repair the fences.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible, a book for the clerk, a book of canons, a table of affinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a cover for the font; to repair the pulpit cushion; the seats in the upper end of the chancel to be taken away.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**27 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Thomas Butler, churchwarden

*Fabric:* to repair the tomb at the north end of the church.

*Churchyard:* to repair the pale by the parishioners or occupiers of lands adjoining.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be placed at the upper end of the chancel and railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester; to provide a napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of common prayer, a book of homilies, a book of canons.

*Fittings:* to provide a canopy for the font, a new pulpit with a canopy over it, a cloth for the pulpit suitable for the cushion; the seats at the upper end of the church to be taken away.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr George Shaw, rector [did not appear]

*Parsonage*: to repair the crack in the walls on the north and south part of the parsonage house and to plaster where defective.

Complete [as above].

{54}

## LEIGH

(Malling deanery)

(14; 92-3)

**20 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the buttresses of the church, chancel and north side of the steeple, the hole in the north side of the church.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes and ivy growing on the walls of the church and chancel.

Complete by 10 October with certificate.

**21 July 1670**

*contra* Giles Rogers and George Oliver, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the pavements of the church, the floor of the belfry, the roof of the church in the shingling, the steeple from bottom to top; the walls to be 'coaped'\*.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes growing on the church walls; to repair the fence about the churchyard.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin for the Communion.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of common prayer, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a canopy for the font; a seat to be erected under the minister's reading pew for the clerk; the bells to be new hung.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* the farmer of the rectorial tithes [did not appear]

*Chancel*: notice to be given to repair the roof of the chancel and the 'sealing withinside', the windows.

Complete [as above].

\* Coaped: the coping of the walls with stone.

{55}

## LEWISHAM

(Dartford deanery)

(44; 119)

**9 November 1663**

*contra* John Groomebridge and Geoffrey Murfew, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the gravestone in the south aisle, the gutter between the chancel and the south aisle, the buttresses on the north aisle, the south aisle in the leads and the roof of the lower end in the timber work; the walls of the church to be cleansed and the church whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and bushes on and about the church and chancel.

*Altar:* to repair the Communion [table]; to provide a fair linen cloth for the Communion table.

*Books:* to provide a service book for the clerk, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings:* to remove the seat at the upper end of the chancel, the two chests into some more convenient place.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**27 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Nicholas Manuel and Stephen Frith, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the buttress at the upper end of the north part of the church; the ground or floor to be raised in the chancel.

*Churchyard:* to cut down and take away the ivy and bushes growing about the church; to repair the churchyard fence where defective; the churchyard wall on the southeast to be new coped.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a service book, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a pulpit cloth suitable to the cushion.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

{56}

## LEYBOURNE

(Malling deanery)

(22; 92)

### 22 August 1663

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric:* to repair the buttress on the north part of the chancel, the roof of the church where defective.

*Churchyard:* to cut down and take away the bushes and brambles about the church.

*Altar:* to provide a new carpet and Communion cloth.

*Vessels:* to provide a silver paten for the Communion bread and a new flagon of silver or some other pure metal.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible of the last translation, a book for the clerk.

*Fittings:* to new lead the font and get a plug or cork of brass for the same; to set up fairly the Lord's prayer and creed.

Complete by 19 October with certificate.

### 23 July 1670

*contra* William Welch, churchwarden

*Fabric:* to repair the passage entering into the north aisle, Sir Francis Clark's aisle and windows, the church roof; the church to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy about the church and churchyard; the churchyard to be paled, walled or railed.

*Altar:* to provide a napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a paten with a foot to the chalice.

*Books:* to provide a book of canons, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a new pulpit cloth.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr Benjamin Oliver, the farmer of the rectory

*Parsonage:* to repair the fences about the parsonage house yard, the stable and hayhouse.

Complete [as above].



{57}

## LONGFIELD

(Rochester deanery)

(70)

1663 - no entry

**2 August 1670**

*contra* George Gardiner, churchwarden [did not appear]

*Fabric:* to repair the church aisles in the tiling.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the bushes, ivy and elders about the church and churchyard; the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed.

*Altar:* to provide a carpet for the Communion table.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a service book of the last translation for the clerk.

*Fittings:* to provide a canopy cover for the font; a cushion and a cloth for the pulpit; to make a canopy for the pulpit; 'the King's arms to be fairly done and sett up in a comly place'.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

{58}

## LUDDESDOWN

(Rochester deanery)

(31; 66-7)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* James Warren and John Lane, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the stone-work of the steeple on the south side; the chancel to be whitened.

*Churchyard:* to grub up all the bushes in and about the churchyard; to repair the fences.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible of the last translation, another service book of the last edition.

*Fittings:* to provide new ropes for the bells.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put into execution.

**7 July 1670**

*contra* James Edmonds, churchwarden and John Lane, oeconomus\*

*Fabric:* to repair the roof and pavements of the church.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the bushes and elders; the churchyard to be fenced, walled, paled or railed where need is.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to provide a new cover for the font, a cloth for the pulpit, a chest with three locks and better forms or seats for the youth to sit on in the south aisle; to repair the pew for the parish clerk, the bells.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr William Whitele, rector

*Parsonage:* to repair the kitchen, the walls on the south west side of the house, the tiling, barn door; the head of the stable to be boarded.

Complete [as above].

{59}

## LULLINGSTONE

(Dartford deanery)

(120-1)

**1663** - no entry

**28 July 1670**, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* James Kingsly, churchwarden

*Fabric:* to repair the aisles of the church, the 'Juttie'† in the tiling; the walls of the church to be whitened.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the bushes about the church and chancel; the churchyard to be railed, paled or walled.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be railed as formerly; to provide a new carpet for the Communion table and a table cloth.

*Vessels:* to provide a paten with a foot to the chalice, a flagon.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a service book, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to provide a canopy cover for the font, a pulpit cloth suitable to the cushion; to repair the seat on the south part of the lower end of the church.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

\* oeconomus: churchwarden, steward or patron. Possibly used here to suggest seniority.

† Juttie: the overhang of the eaves.

{60}

## MALLING, WEST

(Malling deanery)

(18-9; 104-5)

**21 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric:* to repair the buttress on the north side of the church, the shingles on the north side of the steeple, the breach of the chancel door on the north side, the windows under the steeple to keep out the rain, the belfry door, the battlements of the steeple, the hole in the steeple and windows to be made in the steeple, the aisle on the north of the chancel called 'Mr Selby his Isle' in the roof and floor, notice having been given to Mr Selby, the vestry in the floor, walls and roof, the crack over the pulpit; all the church and chancel to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to take away the ivy and bushes growing about the church and steeple.

*Books:* to provide a new large Bible, a common prayer book.

*Fittings:* to repair the font, leaded and with a fair cover to be made, the seats throughout the church; to set up on the walls of the church the Lord's prayer and ten commandments.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage:* the vicarage house to be repaired 'windtite and watertite' in the windows and walls.

Complete [as above].

**19 July 1670**

*contra* Edward Driver and William Wood, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the church where defective, the battlements of the steeple; the church to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy, the bushes on the steeple, the bushes and weeds in the churchyard by the vicar's tenement; the churchyard to be walled or railed where defective.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be railed in as formerly.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible.

*Fittings:* to repair and make decent all the seats throughout the church.

Complete with certificate at the next court after Michaelmas.

*contra* George Smith, farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel:* notice to be given to repair the east end and north wall, the door with provision of a bolt and lock, the chancel to be tiled, paved and whited, the seats and other defects repaired.

Complete [as above].

{61}

## MEREWORTH

(Malling deanery)

(16; 94-5)

**21 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the body of the church where defective, all the buttresses and windows, the steps to the font.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the elders, bushes and ivy about the church; the churchyard walls to be repaired.

*Fittings*: a cover to be made for the font; to set up on the walls of the church the Lord's prayer and creed.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

**22 July 1670**

*contra* Robert Coomber and Abraham Attica, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church and aisles, the buttresses about the church; the walls to be whitened.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church; to repair the walls of the churchyard.

*Vessels*: to provide a paten to the chalice with a foot; a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide two new books of common prayer for the minister and the clerk, a table of affinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a seat for the clerk; to repair the seats in the church in the bottoms, the seats appointed for the poor, the seats in the north of the church.

Complete by 9 September with certificate to the next court.

*contra* Mr William Clements, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the roof and the buttress on the south of the chancel; the chancel to be whitened and the old seat in the north part taken away; the bushes growing on the buttress on the north part to be taken down.

*Parsonage*: to repair the outhouses and barns.

Complete [as above].

{62}

## MILTON next GRAVESEND

(Rochester deanery)

(40-1; 74-5)

### 7 November 1663

*contra* Mr John Talbott and John Fakely, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the drip on the north side of the chancel, all the windows in the glazing, the church porch.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church and churchyard.

*Books:* to provide a common prayer book for the clerk, a book of canons, a table of affinity and consanguinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a fair pulpit cushion; to take away the seats at the upper end of the chancel against the east window.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

### 25 July 1670

*contra* Mark White and William Musgrave, churchwardens

*Fabric:* the church to be paved where defective.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and elders about the churchyard; the fences to be repaired.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a chest with three locks.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr John Lucas, rector

*Parsonage:* to repair his house, barns and outhouses.

Complete [as above].

{63}

## NETTLESTEAD

(Malling deanery)

(17-8; 95-6)

### 21 August 1663

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the pavements of the church and chancel, the windows over the porch, the shingling of the chancel and the glass windows; the walls of both church and chancel to be whitened.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes and ivy about the churchyard.

*Fittings*: to set up or to be written on the wall, the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to repair all the seats in the church and chancel; the second bell to be cast.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: to repair the parsonage house throughout, the pigeon house and (?) the barn.

Complete [as above].

### 22 July 1670

*contra* William Peirson and William King, churchwardens

*Fabric*: the church to be repaired in the shingling.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ashes, elders and ivy about the church; the churchyard to be paled, railed or walled.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be railed as formerly; to provide a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a cloth for the pulpit and a new cushion; a new desk to be made for Jewell's works and Erasmus to be laid on; the pew for the minister's wife to be enlarged by taking a foot's breadth from the next pew.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr James Ward, clerk, rector

*Chancel*: to repair the pavements, the shingles and the seats.

*Parsonage*: to repair the parsonage house where defective, the dairy house in the tiling and walling, the barns and outhouses in the thatching and walls.

Complete [as above].

{64}

## NURSTEAD

(Rochester deanery)

(30; 70)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* Hackett Batt and William Grandsden, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the pavements where defective.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cushion and a new cover for the pulpit; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed, the ten commandments and the King's arms.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published.

**2 August 1670**

*contra* John Batt, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy, elders and bushes about the church and churchyard; the churchyard to be paled, railed or walled.

*Books*: to provide a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a canopy for the font, a cloth for the pulpit.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

{65}

## OFFHAM

(Malling deanery)

(19-20; 96-7)

**22 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the pavements of the church and porch.

*Churchyard*: to take away the trees, ivy and bushes on and about the church wall and steeple.

*Altar*: to provide a fine linen cloth for the Communion table.

*Vessels*: to provide a new flagon.

*Books*: to provide a book of canons and a book of the thirty-nine articles.

*Fittings*: to cause the font to be leaded and a cover made thereto; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

**2 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Watts, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the buttresses on the south part of the church, the west part of the church in the tiling, the roof; the floor to be new tiled.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church, chancel and steeple; to repair the fences of the churchyard by walling, paling or railing.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood.

*Books*: to provide a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cover for the font, a chest with three locks; to repair the (. . .) of the bell wheels; the rubbish at the lower end of the church to be removed.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate to the next court.

{66}

**PECKHAM, WEST**

(Malling deanery)

(16-7; 106)

**21 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the belfry door, the pavements, the leaden gutter between Sir Humphrey Miller his aisle and the chancel, the buttresses about the church.

*Note*: the churchwardens are to request Sir Humphrey Miller, bt., to repair and make decent his aisle.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy, elders and bushes about the church.

*Books*: to provide a new Bible of the last translation of King James.

*Fittings*: to cause the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments to be fairly set up or written on the walls; to repair the seats throughout the church where defective.

[*contra* the farmer of the impropriate parsonage]

*Chancel*: notice to be given by the churchwardens to repair the chancel, pavements, crack over the east window; church and chancel to be whited; to cut down the bushes and elders against the east window.

Complete [no date given]

**20 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Beck and Thomas Barneham, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the step entering into Sir Humphrey Miller's aisle and the wall, the buttresses about the church, the pavements; the belfry to be cleansed; the church to be whited.



DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

*Churchyard*: to cut down and destroy the ivy about the church; to repair the churchyard walls.

*Altar*: to provide a new Communion table railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester; a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: a new pulpit to be made and decently placed with a canopy at the discretion of Sir Humphrey Miller; the reading pew to be raised; to repair the seats including those in the lower end of the church and in the porch: the three seats in the south part of the church to be divided into two seats from the reading desk.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* the impropiator

*Chancel*: to repair the under-pinning and to cut down the bushes and elders.

Complete [as above].

*contra* the vicar

*Vicarage*: to put the house and barn in good repair.

Complete [as above]

{67}

PEMBURY

(Malling deanery)

(6\*; 97-8)

(?) 18 August 1663

*contra* (?) Mathew Church and John Fowle, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the pavement in the middle space of the church.

*Churchyard*: to be repaired where defective.

*Vessels*: 'the plate to be provided as also the clothes where defective'.

*Vestments*: to provide a new surplice.

*Fittings*: to provide a new font where it formerly stood and get a new cover to it; to repair the seats generally throughout the church.

[*contra* the impropriate parson]

*Chancel*: to speak to the impropriate parson to repair the chancel where defective.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage*: to repair the house and fences where defective.

[No completion date given].

\* Heading missing, but Pembury is the only possible parish for this entry.

**19 July 1670**

*contra* William Hartridge and James Hartridge, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the body of the church.

*Churchyard*: to take away the ivy; the churchyard to be railed, paled or walled.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set up and railed in as formerly; to provide a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to erect a new font with a canopy cover over it; to repair the seats in the body of the church and the porch; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; the bell that is cracked to be new cast.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr Borne, impropiator [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to repair the walls and pull down the 'propts' as also the roof and cause it to be well and sufficiently done; to repair the buttresses against the chancel.

Complete [as above].

*contra* Mr Rowland Beresford, vicar

*Vicarage*: 'to floore the ladder way was to be repaired'; to repair the thatch of the house, the barn in roof and wall, the pales about the garden.

*Note*: Mr Beresford to keep his residence and live in the said vicarage house.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

{68}

## PLUMSTEAD

(Dartford deanery)

(46 ; 121)

**11 November 1663**

*contra* John Gossage and Thomas Digby, churchwardens

'to cause the chancel to be repaired by John Poole who taketh the corn and tythes and to use all diligence for the completing of the work as touching the full repair of the said church and to provide such ornaments as are wanting such as the law doth require'.

Complete by Easter with certificate, the Order to be published.

**26 July 1670**

*contra* Peter Denham and John Gossage, churchwardens

*Churchyard*: to repair the fences; the doorway through the pales to Mr Stanburie's house to be shut up unless the said Mr Stanburie show any lawful grant to the same.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a table of consanguinity.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

[*contra* the occupier of the parsonage tithes and glebe]

*Chancel*: to repair the chancel.

Complete [as above].

{69}

## RIDLEY

(Rochester deanery)

(29; 68)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* Richard Whiffen, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to make a new door on the south side of the church or the door to be walled up with stone or brick and plastered over.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes growing about the church and churchyard.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice of silver or pure metal with a paten to it, a flagon to be used only on Communion day and not otherwise.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put into execution.

**2 August 1670**

*contra* Richard Whiffin, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the chancel and church, the buttresses.

*Churchyard*: to cut down and take away the ivy, elders about the church; the churchyard to be repaired in the walls and tiling and the gate to the yard and fences to be repaired.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice and paten of silver.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Fittings*: to provide a font with a canopy to it and a plug to let out the water, a pulpit cloth; the minister's reading pew to be made decent or rather new made and a seat for the clerk before it.

[No date for completion given].

{70}

## ROCHESTER, ST.MARGARET

(Rochester deanery)

(38; 71-2)

**6 November 1663**

*contra* John Ward and Thomas Burnett, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair all the pavements, tiling and shingling; the church and chancel to be whitened.

*Churchyard*: to repair the fences.

*Vessels*: to procure a larger Communion cup with a paten of silver.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, the canons and a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to set up on the walls the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to make new frames to the bells and provision to keep out the rain and wet from the bells.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

**9 July 1670**

*contra* William Ballard and Thomas Upton, churchwardens

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy, bushes and elders growing about the church; to take away the rails set upon the grave of Teoball.

*Vestments*: to provide a 'tippet'\* for the minister.

*Books*: to provide two service books one for the minister the other for the clerk, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of degrees of marriage.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cover for the font; the second bell to be cast anew.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* the Rev. John Codds, professor of theology, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the delapidation of the vicarage house, viz., the out kitchen in the tiling, the well house in tiling and timber work, the main house in tiling and the wall on the south part, the pales parting the churchyard and vicarage garden and all the walls about the outhouses.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate to the next court.

\* Tippet: a cape or muffler, hence ecclesiastically a cope.

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## ROCHESTER, ST. NICHOLAS

(Rochester deanery)

(33; 71)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* Gilbert Younge and Arthur Brooke, churchwardens

*Fabric*: the windows on the north side of the church to be made up answerable to those on the south side; to repair the belfry; to provide, whether by railing or paling, the north side of the church and chancel for the keeping off of that nastiness as hath been of late offered and done there.

*Books*: to provide a new Bible, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to set up on the walls the Lord's prayer and the creed.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

**9 July 1670**

*contra* John Wilmot and William Smith, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the wall on the north side of the chancel, the drip in the south aisle.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a pulpit cloth, a seat for the boys at the lower end of the church near the vestry, new ropes for the bells.

Complete by 9 September.

{72}

## RYARSH

(Malling deanery)

(19; 98-9)

**22 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the shingles on the body of the church, the church porch.

*Altar*: to provide a new carpet for the Communion table.

*Books*: to provide a new Bible, a book for the clerk.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

**29 July 1670**

*contra* Edward Walsingham, churchwarden

*Altar*: to provide a carpet for the Communion table and a linen cloth and napkin for the same.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a Bible of the last translation, a book of common prayer, a book of homilies, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a chest with three locks.

Complete with certificate by next court day [ ? after Michaelmas].

*contra* Maria Watton, impropiator [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to repair the chancel roof and pavements; the walls to be whited.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate to the next court.

*contra* Mr Deans, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the well house 'and that the Churchwardens doe make request to the Patronesse to add a new Chimney to the house the which wil be taken as a worthy acte and soe represented to the Lord Bishop'.

{73}

SEAL

(Malling deanery)

(13-4; 99)

**20 August 1663**

*contra* Thomas Smyth and William Porter, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the buttresses about the church, the windows where defective, the pavements throughout the church, the loft for the bells; the porch to be new tiled.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes generally about the church and chancel.

*Books*: the Bible to be new bound; to provide a service book for the clerk.

*Fittings*: the font to be leaded and a fair cover made for it: to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

*contra* Mr John Stevens, vicar

*Vicarage*: 'to rebuild and make all the Housing that belonged to the Vicar of Kemping and Seale situate in Seale good and habitable for the Vicar and his famile, for that the same did become ruinous cheifely in the time of the said Mr Stevens his enjoyment of the fruits of the vicarage of Seale and Kemping'.

Complete by 25 December with certificate.

**21 July 1670**

*contra* Richard Roberts and (. . . ) churchwardens

*Churchyard*: the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed where defective whether by the parishioners or owners of the lands abutting thereto.

*Altar*: to provide a napkin for the Communion service.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a pulpit cloth.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

{74}

## SHIPBOURNE

(Malling deanery)

(99-100)

1663 - no entry

**21 July 1670**

*contra* Mr Coveney, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the church in the shingling, the crack in the north aisle towards the west, the buttresses on the east and south.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and elders; the churchyard to be paled, walled or railed.

*Altar*: to provide a carpet for the Communion table and a napkin.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of common prayer, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to provide a cloth for the pulpit and the pulpit cushion to be new covered; to repair the seats at the lower end of the north part of the church.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* the impropiator [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to repair the crack in the walls, the shingles; the chancel to be whited and beautified.

Complete [as above].

{75}

## SHORNE

(Rochester deanery)

(40; 58)

**7 November 1663**

*contra* Nicholas Loft and William Baynard, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the roof of the body of the church, the roof seals and pavements of the middle aisle, the roof of the parish aisle on the south side of the church, the crack in the wall there; the door entering the chancel next Mr Parker's seat to be set up and Mr Parker's [seat] to be taken in somewhat lesser; the church walls and chancel to be whited; the pavements of the church and chancel to be amended; the buttresses on the south side to be repaired.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy on the north side, the 'hassell' growing on the buttresses, the elders, ivy and trees growing on the steeple wall and buttress.

*Altar:* to provide a fair cloth for the Communion table.

*Vessels:* to provide a pewter flagon.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible, a book for the clerk.

*Fittings:* to provide a plug for the font, a chest for church goods; the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments to be fairly written on the walls of the church.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage:* the vicarage house to be repaired.

This order to be published and put in execution.

**5 July 1670**

*contra* Edward Warner and William Ward, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the east window, the roof of the south aisle, the walls and pavements of the north aisle, the roof of the church and pavements generally; the church to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the elders, ivy and bushes about the church and the tree growing on the north door.

*Altar:* to provide a napkin.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to provide a cover with a canopy for the font; to repair the seats in the north side; a seat for the clerk to be set up by the minister's appointment.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* Mr William Webb, farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel:* notice to be given to repair and whiten the chancel.

Complete [as above]



{76}

## SNODLAND

(Rochester deanery)

(27; 78-9)

**25 August 1663**

*contra* Nicholas Paine and William Read, churchwardens

*Fabric*: the chancel to be whited; to repair the roof over the Communion table, the buttresses on the north side of the church, the roof and tiling of the north aisle, the buttresses on the west side of the church.

*Churchyard*: to take away the bushes and ivy about the church.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be amended.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice and a paten of silver with a foot to it, a chest to keep the Communion plate.

*Fittings*: the font to be new leaded and a plug to it; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments and the King's arms.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: the churchwardens are to desire the parson to repair his parsonage house, outhouses, barns and fences.

'You are to certifie of the doeing of all the premises at or before the feast of Easter next. This order to be forthwith published and put in execution'.

**7 July 1670**

*contra* Stephen How and William Usher, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the north aisle in the shingling, the north door, the roof of the church in the tiling and ceiling, the windows on the south and west; the north aisle to be whited and paved; the boards there to be taken away and seats or forms placed there.

*Altar*: to provide a new Communion table and a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a table of degrees of marriage.

*Fittings*: to provide a cloth for the pulpit, a chest with three locks; to repair all the seats in the bottoms where defective.

Complete by Michaelmas.

*contra* Mr Luke Procter rector

*Chancel*: to repair the tiling, ceiling and pavements 'as also the timber at the assent there'; the seats to be made decent.

*Parsonage*: the whole parsonage house very much decayed as also the barns, stables, outhouses and fences.

Complete by the Annunciation.

{77}

## SOUTHFLEET

(Rochester deanery)

(76)

**1663** - no entry

**25 July 1670**

*contra* John Nicholas alias Hollomby, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the vestry being totally decayed and to be made good as anciently, the beam on the north aisle, the shingling of the church, the steeple.

*Churchyard*: to take away the ivy about the church.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a new surplice and hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a pulpit cloth; to new cast the great bell.

Complete by 9 September.

{78}

## SPELDHURST

(Malling deanery)

(10; 100-1)

**19 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the cracks in the steeple, the window in the belfry, the old tomb in the chancel, the pavements in the chancel, the windows in and the buttresses against the chancel.

*Churchyard*: to 'monish' the parishioners interested in the churchyard fences to repair their parts; to provide a new gate at the entrance into the churchyard and a decent porch thereon.

*Vessels*: to provide a paten of silver with a foot.

*Books*: to new bind the Bible.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cushion and cloth for the pulpit; to repair the Lord's prayer and creed; to repair the bells with all convenience to them.

Complete by 16 October.

**20 July 1670**

*contra* John Jeffery and Robert Lewin, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church, the pavements.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church and steeple; the churchyard to be paled 'at the parish church [ ? expence] unless it hath been done by the occupiers of lands adjacent'.

*Altar*: to provide a new Communion table and to set it up to the east wall as at the Cathedral church of Rochester and to be railed in like manner; to provide a napkin.

*Books*: to provide a book of common prayer of the last translation, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to repair the seats 'the parishioners to be placed according to their abilitie', the seats in the porch.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* the Ven. Dr. Cordall, rector [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to repair the pavements, the roof and windows, the tiling and the seats in the bottoms.

Complete [as above].

{79}

## STOKE

(Rochester deanery)

(34-5: 52-3)

**5 November 1663**

*contra* Ralph Wood and Thomas Dodd, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the walls, roof, pavements and windows of the chancel, the cracks on the east part of the south aisle over the window, the buttresses on the south side of the church, the defects of the church left unrepaired; the chancel walls to be whited and buttresses on south side cleaned.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy against the south side of the chancel and about the church and steeple; the fences generally to be repaired.

*Books*: to provide a new Bible, a service book, a book of canons.

*Fittings*: to repair the pulpit cushion.

Complete before Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage*: the vicarage totally decayed to be repaired.

**4 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Jeffs and Thomas Boreman, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the windows in the belfry and elsewhere about the church, the door in the belfry.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes about the walls of the church.

*Vessels*: to provide a cover for the chalice.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a new Bible of the last translation, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of degrees of marriage.

*Fittings*: to provide new ropes for the bells, a shovel, a mattock and a spade for the digging of graves.

*contra* (. . .) Swann, esq., impropiator, represented by Thomas Jeffs, farmer

*Chancel*: to repair the roof in the tiling, the wall on the east, the seats in the bottoms; a new door for the chancel; to cut down the ivy about the chancel.

Complete by 9 September and report to the next court at Rochester.

*contra* Edward Turner, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the vicarage house on the south, the stable; the kitchen to be taken down and rebuilt: the garden ground to be fenced as formerly.

Complete [as above].

{80}

## STONE

(Rochester deanery)

(42; 77-8)

**7 November 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the whole body of the church.

*Altar*: to provide a new carpet cloth for the Communion table together with a fair linen cloth.

*Vessels*: to provide a chalice with a paten and foot to it of silver, a flagon for the wine.

*Books*: to provide a book of common prayer.

*Fittings*: to erect a new font with a cover to it; to cause seats to be set up for the reception of the parishioners.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

'Ordered likewise that the parsonage house, the outhouses belonging to the same, the barns, stables and fences about the house and lands to be repaired as before . . .'

**25 July 1670**

*contra* Joseph Ward and Jonathan Ware, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the church by land-scot\* and abilitie, the vestry, the windows in Capt. Mandiford's aisle, the pavements and walls, the porch on the west side of the church, the buttress on the south part of the south aisle.

\* Landscot: a rate or tax based on land values.

*Churchyard:* the ivy and elders about the church and chancel to be cut down; the fences of the churchyard to be paled, railed or walled.

*Altar:* to provide a new Communion table to be set up as at the Cathedral church of Rochester.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of common prayer, a book of homilies, a table of consanguinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a pulpit cloth, a font with a cover.

Complete by Michaelmas.

*contra* Mr Richard Chase, clerk, rector [did not appear]

*Chancel:* to repair the pavements.

*Parsonage:* to repair the house, outhouses, barns, stable and stalls being in great decay.

Complete by the Annunciation with certificate by the next court.

{81}

## STROOD

(Rochester deanery)

(31-2; 73-4)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* Mr James Crips and Samuel Head, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the chancel, the south aisle in the roof and leads, the windows about the church, the pavements; the chancel to be glazed and whitened.

*Books:* the Bible to be new bound; to provide a common prayer book.

*Fittings:* the font to be leaded and a cover made to it; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to repair the treble bell.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**9 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Paine and William Burford, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the body of the church and aisles, the walls, the pavements in the south aisle, the porch, the buttresses on the north side of the church; the south aisle to be raised and the seats there set up at the discretion of the churchwardens, the benches in the porch to be set up; the 'sullage'\* in the church to be removed. The church and aisle to be whitened.

*Churchyard:* the wall to be repaired.

*Altar:* to provide a napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a new chalice with a paten of large size; a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

\* Sullage: filth or refuse

*Books:* to provide a new Bible, two service books of common prayer the one for the minister the other for the clerk, a book of homilies, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings:* to provide a pulpit cloth; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed, ten commandments and the King's arms; the seats in the north and south aisles to be repaired in the ends and bottoms.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

*Chancel:* notice to be given to Mr Watson to repair the chancel by Michaelmas next 'or to appeare and shew cause to the Contrary at the Instance of the Churchwardens. But if the Churchwardens will not prosecute against him, Then the parishioners to repair the said Chancell'.

{82}

## SUTTON-AT-HONE

(Dartford deanery)

(122-3)

1663 - no entry

29 July 1670, before Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Thomas Lenham and John Dorman, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the chancel roof, the steps to the north door; the chancel wall to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy, bushes and elders about the churchyard; the churchyard to be railed, paled or walled.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be set up to the east window and railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible.

*Fittings:* to repair the font and provide a cover with a canopy; the seats in the chancel to be repaired.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

[*contra* the parson impropriate]

'Notice to be given to the Parson Impropriate to doe his part in the said worke'.

*contra* Dr Stradling, vicar [did not appear]

*Vicarage:* the vicarage house being much decayed to be repaired, *viz.* the inner room next the hall the floor there, the stairs leading to the chambers, the window and walls there, the chamber over the parlour the window and ceiling, the chamber over the hall, the room within the hall being much decayed; the barn, stable and fences being much decayed.

{83}

## SWANSCOMBE

(Rochester deanery)

(59; 76-7)

**7 November 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the porch, the buttresses on the south side of the church, the lattices of the steeple windows; the chancel to be whited and paved, the north aisle to be paved.

*Churchyard*: to cut down and take away the ivy on the north part of the church and the bushes about the church and churchyard.

*Altar*: to provide a new table.

*Books*: to provide a common prayer book for the clerk.

*Fittings*: to provide a cover for the font; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; all the seats in the church to be mended in the bottoms.

Complete before Easter with certificate.

[*contra* the rector]

*Parsonage*: to repair the house in the beams, walls, thatching and the fences between the house court and barn yard.

**25 July 1670**

*contra* Godfrey Berkett and William Cally, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the partition doors between chancel and church, the aisle on the north part of the church and paving, the porch, the windows in the tower, the leads especially on the south side, the buttresses on the outside.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes about the church, churchyard, tower and buttresses; the tomb on the south of the churchyard to be repaired; no more rails to be set over the graves.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be raised as at the Cathedral church of Rochester; to provide a new Communion table and a napkin.

*Vessels*: to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments*: to provide a 'whood' for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of common prayer for the clerk, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a chest with three locks; the chancel to be cleared of the chest, rubbish and stone on the north part and other encumbrances.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate to the next court.

*contra* John Watts, clerk, rector

*Chancel:* to repair the chancel being much defective, walls to be whited, windows, walls and roof repaired, the seats on the south part, the rubbish to be taken away, the graves repaired, the roof in the tiling and where the rafters are damaged; the glazing to be repaired.

Complete [as above].

{84}

## TESTON

(Malling deanery)

(20; 101-2)

**21 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric:* to repair the shingles on the body of the church and the roof.

*Books:* to provide a new large Bible.

*Fittings:* the font to be leaded and a new cover made; the seat by the font to be repaired and raised equal to the other seats.

Complete by 16 October.

*Note:* 'The Vicar's house is in good repaire'.

**18 July 1670**

*contra* John Frencham, churchwarden

*Fabric:* the church to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy about the church.

*Altar:* to provide a napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a flagon.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of common prayer of the last edition for the clerk, a book of homilies, a table of degrees of marriage.

*Fittings:* to provide a canopy cover for the font.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr John Corbett, vicar

*Vicarage:* to repair the kitchen, the room or chamber over the kitchen in the tiling, ceiling and walling; to make a pair of stairs to the closet over the room within the hall; a new 'reason'\* on the north side of the kitchen to be put in; to repair the outlet of the barn, the barn walls on the west part, the barn door and the thatching of the barn.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate at the next court.

\* Reason: reason or raisen, the master beam of a timber building. (O.E.D.)



{85}

## TONBRIDGE

(Malling deanery)

(14-5; 101)

**20 August 1663**

*contra* George Petley, gent., and Edward Harbert, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the chancel; with its pavements and windows, the 'seeling' on the church head; the chancel and church to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and bushes about the church and chancel and on the walls; the fences about the church to be repaired.

*Fittings:* to repair the seats about the church on the ends or in the bottoms, especially those on the north part.

Complete by 16 October.

**31 July 1670**

*contra* Richard Goodhew and William Lock, churchwardens

*Fabric:* the church eaves to be 'beam filled up' \* on the south side.

*Churchyard:* to take away the green stuff growing on the north buttress of the steeple; all the doors entering the churchyard to be stopped up unless the owners can show to the contrary; no more rails to be set up over the graves of the dead.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* the impropriator of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel:* to repair the seats on the north side and to cause the seals in the chancel to be underpinned.

Complete [as above].

{86}

## TROTTISCLIFFE

(Malling deanery)

(27-8; 102-3)

**26 August 1663**

*contra* David Well and Thomas Parvin, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the chancel, in the pavements, the windows, the wall behind the pulpit, the steeple, the bottom or underpinning of the north wall; the body of the church in the tiling, the chancel to be tiled and chancel and church whited.

\* Beam filled up: probably filling in the space between the beam and the roof.

DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

*Churchyard:* to take away the ivy and bushes; to repair the fences, wall coping and pales.

*Altar:* to provide a new carpet for the Communion table and a fair linen cloth.

*Vessels:* to provide a new chalice with a paten and foot to it.

*Vestments:* to provide a surplice.

*Books:* to provide two service books, a large Bible of the last translation, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings:* to repair the stone work of the font; to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to put the bells in good order.

Complete by Easter with certificate. The order to be published and put in execution.

*contra* the rector incumbent

*Parsonage:* to repair the house forthwith, viz., the kitchen chimney, the roof of the kitchen and the chamber floor over it, the hall chimney, the oven and chimney in the kitchen, the out-walls of the house, the tiling, the dove house, the fences generally about the house.

Complete [as above]

**23 July 1670**

*contra* John Pace and William Davies, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the steeple being decayed.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the ivy and bushes; to repair the walling, the rest to be walled, paled or railed.

*Altar:* to provide a new Communion table and a new carpet and napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a paten with a foot to it; a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood and a surplice for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible, a service book, a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to provide a cushion and cloth for the pulpit, a chest with three locks; to set up the Lord's prayer, ten commandments, sentences of scripture and the King's arms; the seats throughout the whole church to be repaired and made decent; two of the bells to be new cast and better to be hung.

*Note:* 'The Minister, Churchwardens and some other discrete men of the parish' to take a view how far the chapel annexed to the church did extend and by what order was the same chapel taken down and whether there be any other building set upon the same ground. The parishioners are to consider of and examine Mr James Godden sometime churchwarden his accounts and to reimburse him what you find due to him by way of assess.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr Edward Archbold, rector

*Chancel:* to repair the windows, roof and tiling and the stone bench to be taken down.

*Parsonage:* to repair the kitchen, the roof of the house in the timber work; the barn to be thatched and walls repaired; other defects of the principal house and the door entering the yard.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

{87}

## TUDELEY

(Malling deanery)

(4-5; 103-4)

**18 August 1663**

*contra* Soloman Ware and William Merzell, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the breach near the belfry. *Note*: 'repair Michaelmas 1664, all things saving that breach as also the tiling down'.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy and bushes from the walls of the church.

*Books*: the Bible to be new bound; to provide a book for the clerk.

*Fittings*: the clerk's seat to be removed and set under the minister's reading pew; the great bell to be new cast.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

[*contra* the farmer of the parsonage]

*Chance!*: the churchwardens are to give notice to repair the east window, the crack in the wall and the seats where defective.

Complete [as above].

[*contra* the vicar]

*Vicarage*: to repair the house in the walls and fences.

Complete [as above].

**19 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Sotling, churchwarden

*Fabric*: to repair the tomb-stones in the lord's aisle, the pavements in the church, the steeple, the buttress on the north.

*Churchyard*: to be walled paled or railed.

*Altar*: to provide a cloth for the Communion table.

*Vessels*: to provide a cover for the chalice.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings*: to provide a new pulpit cloth and a new pulpit, the old pulpit seat in the chancel to be taken away; to get locks for the poor man's box; the bell frames to be repaired.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* the farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chance!*: to repair the pavements and roof and cause the chancel to be whited.

*contra* Mr Vaulier, vicar

*Vicarage*: to repair the walls of the house and the 'Juttie'\*<sup>†</sup>, the penthouse† of the dwelling house, the roof in the tiling.

Complete [as above].

{88}

## WATERINGBURY

(Malling deanery)

(19; 107)

**21 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair the buttresses on the north side of the church, the porch with shingles, the shingling of the church, the wall against the steeple to be whited.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes and elders against the buttresses.

*Books*: to provide a table of degrees of affinity and consanguinity.

*Fittings*: the font to be leaded; to set up the Lord's prayer and creed.

Complete with certificate [no date given].

[*contra* the farmer of the parsonage]

*Chancel*: the churchwardens to give notice to repair the defects in the chancel.

Complete [as above].

**22 July 1670**

*contra* John Burgess and John Champe, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the steeple in the shingling.

*Churchyard*: to take away the gate on the west of the churchyard and wall up the place.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be railed in as formerly: to provide a napkin.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of homilies.

*Fittings*: to repair the pews where defective and to seat the clerk before the minister's reading pew.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mrs Stoles, farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel*: to cause the chancel to be repaired and whited as also the ceiling, walls and pavements.

Complete [as above].

\* Juttie; here the projection of the upper floor.

† Penthouse: either an attic in a sloping roof, or a subsidiary structure attached to a wall.

*contra* Mr Benjamin Cutter, [vicar]

*Vicarage*: to repair and glaze the windows of the house; to repair the roof and tiling, the thatching on the east side, the walls and hall.

Complete [as above].

{89}

## WESTERHAM

(Malling deanery)

(11-2; 107-8)

**19 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric*: to repair all the windows and the walls on the east part of the church.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the ivy growing on the east part of the church, the bushes about the church and churchyard.

*Fittings*: to provide a new cover for the font or the old cover to be [?] 'doye'; to repair the seats in the chancel; to set up the Lord's prayer and creed.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

**21 July 1670**

*contra* William Swan and William King, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the roof of the church in the tiling, the buttresses of the steeple.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes, elders and ivy about the church and churchyard; to take away the rails upon Whiteacre's grave; the gates or by-ways entering the churchyard to be stopped up and the churchyard to be railed, paled or walled where defective.

*Altar*: the Communion table to be set to the east wall of the church and railed in as formerly.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a book of canons, a book of homilies, a book of common prayer and a table of marriages.

*Fittings*: to repair the seats and pews where defective; to provide a new set of bell ropes.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* the impropiator

*Chancel*: to repair the roof, walls and pavements.

Complete [as above]

{90}

## WICKHAM, EAST

(Dartford deanery)

(46; 115-6)

**11 November 1663**

*contra* Clement Foster, churchwarden

*Fabric:* to repair the walls and pavements of the chancel, the north and south walls of the church; the chancel to be whitened.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings:* to take away the benches about the chancel.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**26 July 1670**

*contra* Anthony Neighbour, churchwarden

*Fabric:* to repair the roof of the church.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the bushes and elders about the church and churchyard.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be set up in the east window of the chancel, north and south, and railed in; to provide a carpet for the Communion table and a napkin.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to repair the pulpit and provide a new pulpit cloth; to provide a chest with three locks; to take down the bench against the east window.

Complete by 9 September with certificate at the next court following.

*contra* Mr Isaac Sanderson, vicar

*Chancel:* to repair the roof of the chancel and the south wall.

Complete with certificate by the next court.

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## WICKHAM, WEST

(Dartford deanery)

(123-4)

1663 - no entry

27 July 1670, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Edward Cowper and Robert Phillips, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the steeple being in great decay, the tiling of the church, all the windows.

*Altar:* to provide a new Communion cloth, a napkin and rails for the Communion table, the table to be set under the east window.

*Vessels:* to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Fittings:* to provide a canopy cover for the font, a pulpit cloth.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*contra* Mr John Bunting, rector

*Chancel:* to repair the chancel being decayed and the tiling.

*Parsonage:* to repair the parsonage house being in great decay, viz. the roof, walls, tiling, floors, all the fences utterly decayed, woodhouse, barn and stable.

Complete [as above].

{92}

## WILMINGTON

(Dartford deanery)

(124-5)

1663 - no entry

29 July 1670, by Mr Thomas Plume, surrogate

*contra* Henry Hayte and Richard Everest, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the chancel in the roof, walls and tiling, the body of the church in the tiling, the north part in the shingling, the steeple and the east window in the steeple; the chancel to be raised in the rafters and beam filled, the north part of the chancel be beam filled, the eaves on the north part of the belfry to be beam filled.

*Churchyard:* to cut down the bushes about the church and churchyard; the churchyard to be walled, paled or railed.

DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

*Altar:* the Communion table to be set up to the east window and railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester; to provide a napkin.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a service book, a register book for to enter christenings, marriages and burials, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* a new pulpit to be made and placed somewhat lower than the old one; to set up in public view the Lord's prayer, creed, ten commandments and also the King's arms; the bells and wheels thereof to be repaired.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate.

*Note:* 'The Churchwardens are to give tymely notice to the parson or his Tennant for to doe his part'.

*contra* Mr Robert Beale, vicar

*Vicarage:* to repair the house, viz. the rafter fallen in on the south side, the tiling and walls, the outhouse in the tiling and walls and other parts of the house.

Complete [as above].

{93}

## WOOLWICH

(Dartford deanery)

(49-50; 123)

**12 November 1663**

*contra* Robert Sugar and George Baker, churchwardens

*Books:* to provide another common prayer book, a book of canons, a table of consanguinity and affinity.

*Fittings:* to set up the Lord's prayer, creed and ten commandments; to take away the seats against the east of the chancel.

Complete by Easter with certificate.

**26 July 1670**

*contra* Mr Paul Lymby and John Clarke, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the windows about the church.

*Altar:* the Communion table to be set up to the east window and railed in as at the Cathedral church of Rochester.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a book of homilies, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to provide a cloth for the pulpit; to repair the seats in the church and make them decent and the pew in the chancel to be taken in a little narrower.

*Note:* 'To seate Mr Rayland in the seate where Mrs Pett hath usually sate and Mrs Pett to be seated according to her quality at the discretion of the Churchwardens'.

Complete by Michaelmas with certificate on the next court day.



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## WOULDHAM

(Rochester deanery)

(23; 60)

**22 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens [no names]

*Fabric:* to repair the church wall on the south, the pavement throughout the church, the breach on the west side of the church, the whole church in the tiling and the shingling; to make request unto Sir John Masham (*recte* Marsham), to repair his aisle and it to be made decent; the belfry to be cleansed of the rubbish there.

*Churchyard:* to repair the churchyard porch.

*Altar:* to provide a new Communion table, a cloth and a napkin.

*Vessels:* to provide a pewter flagon for the Communion wine.

*Books:* to provide a new Bible or the old one to be new bound.

Complete by Easter 1664.

**6 July 1670**

*contra* Thomas Woodland and Moses Tomlyn, churchwardens

*Fabric:* to repair the roof of the church, the pavements, windows, porch, windows in the steeple; the walls to be whited.

*Churchyard:* to repair and 'coop' the churchyard walls.

*Vessels:* to provide a poor man's box.

*Vestments:* to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books:* to provide a service book for the clerk, the books of canons and homilies, a table of marriages.

*Fittings:* to provide a chest with three locks; the bells to be new hung with new ropes.

Complete by 9 September.

*contra* Isaac Goslin, clerk, rector

*Chancel:* to repair the roof tiling, walls and pavements and the seats to be boarded in the bottoms.

*Parsonage:* to repair the roof and tiling of the house towards the Medway, the plastering on the outside of the house, the barn roof and walls.

Complete by next court after Michaelmas with certificate.

{95}

## YALDING

(Malling deanery)

(4; 108-9)

**17 August 1663**

*contra* the churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair the south side of the roof.

*Churchyard*: to cut down the bushes and ivy about the church and chancel.

Complete by 16 October with certificate.

[*contra* the impropiator or his farmer]

*Chancel*: the churchwardens to cause the impropiator or his farmer to repair the chancel where defective in the roof, walls, pavements or seats.

**18 July 1670**

*contra* John Rich and John Martin, churchwardens

*Fabric*: to repair a buttress in the stonework, the steeple in the shingles, the windows of the steeple.

*Churchyard*: to take away the ivy and elders on the buttress on the north side of the church; the churchyard to be new paled, railed or walled and the doorway from Owsman's house entering into the churchyard to be stopped up unless cause be showed to the contrary.

*Altar*: to cause the rails to be taken down in the belfry and the same to be set up and rail in the Communion table as formerly.

*Vestments*: to provide a hood for the minister.

*Books*: to provide a new common prayer book of the last translation.

*Fittings*: to repair the seats in the body of the church.

Complete by 9 September with certificate.

*contra* Mr Ambrose Ward, farmer of the rectory [did not appear]

*Chancel*: the chancel to be whited and the pavements raised and amended.

Complete [as above].

**Appendix 1: Two Sections of the Original Text (pp. 27 and 51-2)**

The entries for Trottscliffe, 1663 and Hoo, St. Werbergh, 1670

(p. 27) Trottescliffe

Die Mercurij xxvj die mensis Augusti, 1663

Officium Domini contra ) Quo die comperunt David Well et Thomam  
gardianos ibidem ) Parvin gardianos Ecclesie parochialis predicti et  
humiliter submissunt se, etc., et in spectu per  
dominum judicatum ruinam et dilapidacionem in

dicta Ecclesia Primo et ante omnia monuit gardianos predictos to cause the  
Chancell to be repaired in the pavement. The walls to be whited, the windowes to  
be repaired, the wall to be repaired behinde the Pulpitt, to provide a new Carpett a  
faire Linnen Cloth for the Communion Table. To provide two service Bookes, and  
a large Bible of the last Translacion, to provide a new Challice with a patten and a  
foote to it, a booke of homilies, a booke of Cannons, a table of consanguinity [and]  
affinity, the Church to be whited and walls amended, the Lords prayer, Creede and  
Tenn Commandementes to bee sett up, to provide a new Surplice, the Steeple to be  
repaired, the Ivie and bushes to be taken away, the Chancell to bee Tyled, the  
underpinning or bottom of the north wall of the Church to be repaired, the bodie of  
the Church to be repaired in the tyling, the Churchyard wall coaped and pales to be  
repaired, the buttrices to be repaired. All which premisses are to bee done at or  
before the Feast of Easter and Certificate thereof to be made accordingly.  
This order to be forthwith published and put in execution.

Ordered that the Rector Incumbent doe forthwith cause the Parsonage house to be  
repaired, vizt. the Kitchen chimneys to be repaired and the roofs of the same  
Kitchen to bee repaired and the Chamber flower over it to be repaired, the Hall  
Chimney to be repaired, the Oven & Chimney to be repaired in the Kitchen, the  
out walls of the house to bee repaired, the Fences generally about the house to be  
repaired, all which premisses are to be done at or before the Feast of Easter and  
certificate thereof to be made then accordingly.

DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

(p. 51) Hoo St. Werbergh

Visitacio parochiali incipe 4 Julij 1670

Visitatio Ecclesie parochialis de Hoo per venerabilem virum Eduardum Alderne Legum doctorem officialem venerabilis viri Johannis Warner sacre theologie professoris, dominum Archidiaconis Archidiaconus Roffensis tenta in dicta Ecclesia die Lune quarto, vizt. die mensis Julij Anno domini 1670 presente Petro Stowell notatorio publico Registro.

Officium Domini contra ) Quo die comperit dictus Arthurus Brooker et  
Arthurium Brooker ) humiliter submitit se correccuini Domini  
Impropriatorem ) Judicarii et in sept' [*sic for spectu*] per dominum  
ruinam et dilapidacionem in et circa Cancelli  
dicte Ecclesie et Cemitorio, Primo et ante omnia  
monuit Dominum, To cause the roofe of the Chauncell to be repaired and whited  
and the pavements and seats ther to be repaired. Et ulterius monuit dictum  
Impropriatorem to cause the fences of the Churchyard towards the south and west  
to be repaired a [*sic*] to bring a Certificate of the finishing of the same upon the  
nynth day of September next to Court at Rochester ther to be holden. Ita est  
P. Stowell, Regr.

Eodem die per Judicem iudicium

officium Domini contra ) Quo die comperit personaliter Robertus Gibbons  
Gardianum ibidem ) gardianus et humiliter submitit se, etc., quem  
dominus monuit to provide a new carpet for the  
Communion Table, the Bible to be repaired, to  
provide a booke of homilies, a table of consanguinity and affinity, a hood for the  
vicar, a book for entering christenings, marriages and burialls, to cause the cracke  
in the north window to be repaired and the cracks in the belfry to be amended, to  
cause the bells to be repaired in the wheeles and to provide new ropes, likewise  
to cause the Churchporch to be repaired in the tiling alsoe the fences of the church  
yard on the south in default, Paid by the Lord of the Mannor. Et ulterius monuit  
gardianum predictum to bring in a Certificate of the doing of the premisses upon  
the ix th. day of September next.

in prox. 30 ) The Vicarage house ther in good repair.  
[*added in a different hand*]

**Appendix 2: The Itinerary of the Visitations, 1663 and 1670**

Although each entry is dated there is some complication in determining the exact itinerary followed. This arises from the manner in which the compiler of the volume used his original returns. In 1663 it would appear that the intention was to record the places visited in the actual order in which visits took place, but in the cases of Teston and Kingsdown the compiler seems to have misplaced his papers so that these places appear on the wrong page for the date of visitation. Nevertheless, in so far as there appears to be a clear intention to record the actual order that has been followed in the list printed below. In 1670, however, the compiler was more concerned to keep places within their deaneries, and, although the Rochester deanery gives the impression of being arranged according to visit, both Malling and Dartford were arranged in approximately alphabetical order. Even so there were occasional muddles so that the entries for Birling, Frindsbury and Snodland appeared on different pages with the entries for the churchwardens and those for the rectors or vicars occurring separately. A curious anomaly appears with the entry for Offham in 1670. The date given is clearly 2 July, and this has been adopted. But the visitation is stated to have begun on 4 July and internal evidence suggests that the correct date may have been 22 July. The 1670 entries are listed here in alphabetical order under each date.

**The Visitation of 1663**

**August:**

- 17 Allington; Barming; Farleigh, West; Yalding
- 18 Tudeley; Capel; Pembury; Brenchley; Horsmonden; Lamberhurst
- 19 Edenbridge; Speldhurst; Cowden; Bidborough
- 20 Westerham; Kemsing; Seal; Leigh; Tonbridge
- 21 Hadlow; Mereworth; Peckham, West; Nettlestead; Malling, West; Teston  
[on page with 22 August]; Wateringbury
- 22 Ryarsh; Offham; Addington; Birling; Leybourne; Ditton; Wouldham
- 25 Cuxton; Halling; Snodland
- 26 Kingsdown [on page with 25 August]; Trottscliffe; Ash; Ridley; Fawkham;  
Hartley
- 27 Nurstead; Cobham; Luddesdown; Strood; Frindsbury; Chatham;  
Rochester, St. Nicholas

**November**

- 3 Hoo, St. Werbergh; Stoke; Hoo, Allhallows; Hoo, St. Mary; Halstow,  
High; Cooling
- 4 Rochester, St. Margaret
- 7 Burham; Swanscombe; Shorne; Milton next Gravesend; Chalk; Gravesend;  
Stone
- 9 Dartford; Chislehurst; Lewisham
- 10 Bromley
- 11 Erith; Plumstead; Wickham, East; Cray, St. Paul; Cray, Foots; Cray, North
- 12 Eltham; Lee; Woolwich; Charlton

DR. WARNER'S VISITATION OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

**The Visitation of 1670**

**July:**

- 2 Offham [may be a mistake for 22 July]
- 4 Halstow, High; Hoo, Allhallows; Hoo, St. Mary, Hoo, St. Werbergh, Stoke
- 5 Chalk; Cobham; Cooling; Higham; Shorne
- 6 Allington; Aylesford; Burham; Ditton; Wouldham
- 7 Birling; Cuxton; Halling; Luddesdown; Snodland
- 9 Chatham; Frindsbury; Rochester, St. Nicholas; Rochester, St. Margaret; Strood
- 18 Barming; Farleigh, West; Teston; Yalding
- 19 Brenchley; Capel; Horsmonden; Lamberhurst; Malling, West; Pembury; Tudeley
- 20 Ashurst; Bidborough; Cowden; Edenbridge; Kemsing; Peckham, West; Speldhurst
- 21 Leigh; Seal; Shipborne; Tonbridge; Westerham
- 22 Hadlow; Mereworth; Nettlestead; Wateringbury
- 23 Addington; Leybourne; Ryarsh; Trottiscliffe
- 25 Milton; Denton; Gravesend; Southfleet; Swanscombe; Stone
- 26 Charlton; Erith; Greenwich; Plumstead; Wickham, East; Woolwich
- 27 Beckenham; Deptford; Eltham; Lee; Lewisham; Wickham, West
- 28 Chelsfield; Cray, Foots; Cray, St. Paul; Cudham; Farnborough; Lullingstone
- 29 Cray, North; Dartford; Horton Kirby; Sutton at Hone; Wilmington

**August:**

- 2 Ash; Fawkham; Hartley; Kingsdown; Longfield; Nurstead; Ridley

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Since most of the persons included are ecclesiastical officers, it has been decided to use standard identifications, viz. 'c' - churchwarden; 'r' - rector; 'v' - vicar. Other positions are given in full.

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