

Rectors and curates of St Anne's Sutton Bonington 1848-1920

REV JAMES FYLER BA

In 1848 the Rev James Fyler or Filer BA, came to live in St Anne's Rectory (now 12 St Anne's Lane). He was a British Subject though born in Italy around 1819. In the 1851 census he employed a housemaid, a cook and a page. He was married though his wife was not present when the census was taken. He resigned from the parish and was succeeded by the Revd John Cooke Tylden Pattenson BA in June 1855.

REV JOHN COOKE TYLDEN PATTENSON BA

Rev Pattenson came to the village aged 32. According to Rev Buckland's 'Notes and Jottings about Sutton Bonington', he was not resident in the village, however he seems to have been well regarded as a window in St Anne's chancel is dedicated to him. He suffered from some sort of breakdown and resigned from the parish around 1862. The contents of the Rectory were sold by his committee in May 1862. A report in the Derby Mercury details the 'valuable contents' of the rectory. Here is a sample of the items:-

'A suite of carved walnut chairs, stuffed with hair, upholstered in chintz; a walnut loo table with richly carved pillar and claws; two serpentine white marble slabs upon gilt burnished brackets; Spanish mahogany sideboard with cellaret and centre cupboard; elm writing table; polished rim fender and fireirons; Handsome carved mahogany Tudor bedstead with suitable hangings; Kidderminster carpets; small dinner service in gold and white, two sets of breakfast and tea services, handsome barometer by Carpenter and Westleys, London; a small quantity of Madeira, Sherry and La Rose, the former purchase at Gen. Sir James Kemp's sale at a very high price.'

The furniture could be inspected the day before the sale by applying to Mrs Brown, the housekeeper. The Rectory is described as being 'a short walk of Kegworth Station'.

The Rev Buckland describes Rev Pattenson demise as 'died insane'. It is not known where he went when he left Sutton Bonington, but in the 1891 census and in 1901 he was living in Westcliffe Lunatic Asylum, St Leonards on Sea. This was a branch of the Ticehurst House Asylum and opened in 1889. The original meaning of 'asylum' was sanctuary or place of refuge. Treatment at Ticehurst House was a benevolent affair with tobacco, snuff, wine, books, fishing, and riding among other country pursuits. Some patients even came with a retinue of servants. Rev Pattenson died there on 31st August 1902 aged 79 and he is buried at Biddenden Kent with other family members where there is a memorial 'To the glory of God and in memory of Reverend John Cooke Tylden Pattensen'.

The first window in the chancel behind the choir stalls on the north side is a representation of St Anne and St Joachim, the Blessed Virgin Mary's parents. A brass plaque bears the inscription 'AD DEI GLORIAM AT IN MEM J C TYLDEN PATTENSON BA HUIUS PAROCHIAE OLIM RECTOR AD 1855. PER TENEBRAS AD LUCEM.' (To the glory of God and in memory of J C Tylden Pattenson, once Rector of this parish AD 1855. Through darkness into light.)

REV JOHN F BATEMAN

While Rev Pattenson was ill, St Anne's Church was being repaired and restored. According to a report in the Nottinghamshire Guardian, the Church was re-opened on Friday 10TH February 1860 and the Rev J F Bateman was the curate. Rev J F Bateman was the son of Rev J Bateman, rector of East and West Leake and he was living in St Anne's Rectory with John and Maria Brown, his gardener and housekeeper, and looking after the parish.

REV WILLIAM RUMANN

By 1871 another curate had moved into St Anne's Rectory, Rev William Rumann with his wife Mary E Rumann. William was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1822, but was a British Subject. At the age of 29 William was running a boarding school with his first wife, Sarah in Rochford, Essex where his three daughters were born. By 1861 Sarah had died and William was living with his three daughters in Sutton Bonington as curate at St Michael's. He later married Mary E who was 17 years younger than him and they had two children, Winifred and William B, both born in Sutton Bonington. Unfortunately Rev Rumann died in 1873 at the age of 51. The font cover in St Anne's Church was given in his memory and bears the inscription 'VIDUA SUPERSTES 1879' (widow surviving 1879). A silver chalice was also given, inscribed 'In piam memoriam Gul: Rumann, nuper in hac parochia animarum curam agentis MDCCCLXXIII' (1873). His effects were sold when he died.

REV EDWARD STUART TAYLOR MA

Rev Edward Stuart Taylor MA became Rector of St Anne's in 1875. He was unmarried and lived at what is now known as The Old Rectory, 9, Rectory Close, (built in 1845) with a series of housekeepers. The previous St Anne's Rectory was sold in 1877. He was born in Lancashire around 1832. In 1861 he was the curate of Chiddingstone, Kent. He devoted himself to visiting his parishioners of all denominations. He oversaw the renovation of St Anne's chancel, the installation of altar rails, the pulpit and the organ and the repairing and rehangng of the bells. From his articles in the Deanery Magazine, it is clear he was a sincere Christian, deeply concerned for the spiritual welfare of his flock. He arranged services with special preachers with collections taken for good causes and held an annual garden party at the Rectory for the elderly and friends of the church. Rev Taylor died in 1902 and as a memorial to him, the window to the east of the south door was put in, depicting St Barnabas and St Matthew, surmounted by a gold chalice. The vestry was also built in his memory.

REV WILLIAM ROBERT HAMILTON BA

Rev William Robert Hamilton was born in Co Down, Ireland and, following curacies in Wellington and Stoke on Trent, he became vicar of St George's, Wolverhampton, where he served from 1896 to 1902. His mother and brother (also a priest) and 3 sisters lived in the vicarage with him. There he met his wife, Edith Henrietta Fowler, an author, the younger daughter of Henry Fowler, a Liberal MP who was made Lord Wolverhampton in 1908. Rev Hamilton moved to Sutton Bonington in 1903 at the age of 33 as Rector of St Anne's parish and lived in what is now the Old Rectory which he extended in 1903. When the land was sold in 1904 to build Hollyhurst and Oakland Cottages (now 46-68 Main St), 823 square yards were purchased to add to the Rectory garden. Rev Hamilton married Edith, who was 37, in 1904. A year later their first son was born, Gavin Robert Fowler Hamilton and in 1908 a second, Henry Fowler Hew Hamilton. In 1911 the house was extended further and the

Hamiltons employed a full staff having maids, nanny, Swiss governess, chauffeur and gardeners.

Rev Hamilton and his wife took a great interest in the young people of the parish, running Bible classes and giving them references when they started work. Mrs Hamilton told the girls the facts of life when they were leaving home and she continued to write and have books published. One of her books, 'The Young Pretenders', published in 1895, is an entertaining and amusing children's book which was republished in 2007.

During the First World War, Rev Hamilton served as an ambulance driver (chauffeur) in Italy (on the side of the Allies in the First World War). He was in the British Italian Unit No 3 B.R.C.S. (British Red Cross Society) O.ST.J.J. (Order of St John of Jerusalem). Rev Hamilton was awarded the British War Medal and the Allied Victory Medal (awarded to everyone who took part in WW1) and also the Croix de Guerre, a French medal awarded for bravery, the equivalent of the British 'being mentioned in despatches'. He won an Italian medal, Croce al Merito die Guerra, also awarded for bravery, the star indicates that it was awarded twice. These last two medals could be awarded to an individual or to the whole unit. Rev Hamilton was also awarded the Medaglia Dell Guerra, the Italian War Medal given to everyone who took part in the war.

After the war Rev Hamilton returned to Sutton Bonington where he stayed until 1920 when he exchanged livings with Rev W E Buckland from East Malling, Kent.

Acknowledgements:-

Remembering Sutton Bonington by Sutton Bonington Local History Society

Notes and Jottings about Sutton Bonington by Rev W E Buckland

The Fowler Legacy by Anthony Perry

Census returns and information from the internet