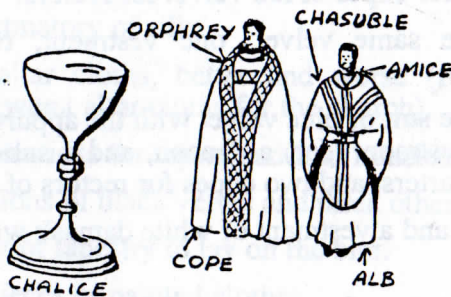


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CHURCH INVENTORIES 1552 CHIPPING BARNET & EAST BARNET



In consequence of alterations made in the church services in the reign of Edward VI, inventories were ordered by the government to be made of the goods, plate etc., in the churches; whatever was not necessary, for the reformed ritual, to be sold. The lists for Chipping Barnet and East Barnet were as follows:-

CHEPYNGE BARNET

This bill indented made the first day of November in the sixth year of the reign of...Edward VI, between John Butler, John Brocket, knights, John Pen, Nicholas Bristowe, esquires, Commissioners appointed to take a view of the goods, plate, jewels and ornaments of every church and chapel in Hertfordshire, of the one part, and William Bellamy of Chipping Barnet, husband-man, of the other part; witnesseth that we have delivered to the said William all such parcels of goods etc., belonging to the parish church of Chipping Barnet, safely to keep the same until such time as the King's majesty's pleasure be further known therein. (This paragraph omits unessential words in the original. The year was

1552.)

Imprimis. Four bells and a saunce bell in the steeple.

Item, a chalice of silver gilt, 21½ ounces. (For the church).

Item, a chalice of silver, partly gilt, 23 and a quarter ounce.

Item, a chalice of silver, partly gilt, 11 ounces.

Item, a pair of organs. (For the church.)

Item, two copes of red velvet embroidered.

Item, two other copes of red velvet for rectors.

Item, of the same velvet, one vestment, two tunicles with their albs.

Item, a whole suit of blue velvet with the appurtenances, which is a cope, a vestment (for) a deacon, and a sub-deacon, embroidered with garters, and two copes for rectors of the same.

Item, a cope and a vestment of white damask with their albs complete.

Item, two hangings for the altar, of Brydges satin.

Item, an old vestment with two tunicles and their albs complete.

Item, an old vestment of red say, and two tunicles and their albs complete.

Item, an old vestment of party velvet.

Item, an old vestment of red velvet.

Item, a vestment and two tunicles of black satin with their albs.

Item, a cope of black satin.

Item, a vestment of tawny satin with flowers.

Item, two vestments of dornick with one alb.

Item, one vestment and two tunicles of checkered velvet with their albs.

Item, one vestment of white taffeta and the alb.

Item, one old vestment of red taffeta and the alb.

Item, one vestment of red satin having angels and flowers upon

it, with the alb.

Item, one canopy of party silk, with flowers.

Item, a fringe of cloth of gold and another of tissue.

Item, a cloth of needlework and another of silk for the pyx.

Item, ten diaper towels and three others of linen (four towels for the church.)

Item, three corporas cases of cloth of tissue and two others.

Item, one great streamer and a cross cloth, both of silk.

Item, one christmatory of silk.

Item, eleven altar cloths, better and worse (two of the best and two of the worst altar cloths for the church).

Item, two candlesticks for tapers and four nozzles.

Item, two cushions of black velvet and three others of silk.

Item, a coverlet of tapestry to lay on the bier.

Item, sixteen pieces of painted clothes.

Item, one latten basin.

The chalice, organs, towels, and altar cloths noted "for the church" were to remain.

EAST BARNET

Imprimis, 3 bells in the steeple.

Item, a chalice of silver, 10 ounces (For the church).

Item, three copes, one of red velvet and the other of green silk.

Item, seven vestments for the altar, whereof one is dun silk, another red and green silk, another white and yellow silk, another blue and green silk, and two of red crewel, and one of white crewel.

Item, a cross of Tyne.

Item, one cushion.

Item, five altar cloths of linen. (For the church.)

Item, a font cloth.

Item, two chests.

Item, two curtains of green silk.

Joan Dudman, who lived in the house later called The Clock House, in East Barnet Village, facing the end of Church Hill Road, and made her will in the year 1540, bequeathed to the parish church of St. Mary, three altar cloths, that is to say, to every altar within the said church one altar cloth. Doubtless this bequest formed part of the collection given above. The goods were given into the keeping of Thomas Rauffe.

The much larger number of vestments at Chipping Barnet Church is probably accounted for by the existence there of the Guild or Fraternity of the Holy Trinity, founded in 1449, dissolved in 1548. There were 8 copes, 10 tunicles, 14 albs, and 15 vestments or "chasubles". The cope was a sleeve-less coat, reaching from the neck nearly to the feet, open in front, except at the top, where it was united by a band or clasp. The alb was a full-length vestment, usually of white linen, with close-fitting sleeves, and confined by a girdle; worn over the cassock and amice. The chasuble was the outer vestment worn by the priest, usually elaborately embroidered with a pattern and with orphreys. These vestments were worn by the priest celebrating the sacrament of the mass. The dalmatic worn by the deacon resembled the alb in form, but had slits in the sides. The sub-deacon assisting wore a tunicle, a short, close-fitting vestment, somewhat smaller than the dalmatic. Both were usually ornate.

The meaning of other unfamiliar words was as follows:—"Dornick" was a coarse kind of damask. "Say" was a fine, thin kind of serge or woolen cloth. "Tawny" was a dull, yellowish-brown colour. The "Christmatory of silk" covered the vessel in which the consecrated chrism oil, used in baptism, confirmation, and extreme unction was kept.

Contrasting with the above, all the Commissioners found at Totteridge Church was "a cup of silver, partly gilt, 8 ounces", and three bells in the steeple.

Others besides Mrs. Joan Dudman had made gifts to the churches, and it must have been a sad day for many local ladies when their embroidery and needlework in these beautiful things was ruthlessly swept away to the benefit of the royal exchequer.