

Further Report of the Commissioners [*County of Rutland*] For Inquiring Concerning Charities - 1821

Parish of Langham

The Bainton Poor's Land

By indentures of lease and release, the release dated the 1st May 1682, a message, with the appurtenances, in Baynton, alias Baddington, in the county of Northampton, and the lands thereto belonging, containing 15 acres, lying in the fields, parishes and precincts of Baynton, Barwick and Ulford, in the said county, were conveyed, in consideration of 111*l.* 5s. (given by several benefactors for the church and poor people of Langham,) to Henry Hubbard and others and their heirs, in trust with the rents of the premises to succour and relieve the said poor people, and repair the church of Langham, in such manner as should generally be agreed upon and thought meet by the chieftest part of the inhabitants of Langham for the time being.

There appears to have been no renewal of the trust since the original conveyance. The estate is under the management of the churchwardens.

On an inclosure, which took place about 22 years ago, allotments were awarded in lieu of the lands lying in the open fields of Bainton, Barwick and Ulford.

The estate now consists of a farmhouse, yard and garden, with the appurtenances, containing 37 perches ; two closes in Bainton, containing together 13A. 3R, 27p. ; and an allotment of 1A. 2r 7p. in lieu of right of common in Borough Fen, in the county of Lincoln. The whole is let to William Phillips, on lease for 21 years from Lady-day 1820, at the rent of 30*l.* a year, which is the full annual value.

The sum of 30*l.* the amount of two benefactions given by Thomas Sewell and Mary Harris, for purchasing bread for the poor on St. Thomas's day, having been applied towards defraying the expenses of inclosing the land when the Bainton inclosure took place, a deduction is made of 30s. annually from the rents of the estate, which sum is laid out in bread, distributed yearly on St. Thomas's day among the poor.

Two further benefactions, of 10*l.* each, given by William Sharrard and a person unknown, for the general use of the poor, were also applied, as is understood, towards the expenses of the inclosure.

The sum of 16s. a year is paid for land tax, and 18s. a year are deducted from the rents for the repairs of the church ; the remainder of the rent, together with the rent of the Bilsdon poor's land, and 10*l.* a year under Clarke's gift, mentioned below, is applied by the homage jury for the manor of Langham, and the parish officers, for the benefit of the poor of the parish, in a distribution of Money, coals and clothing materials. A book is kept, containing an account of the receipt and expenditure, the names of the poor persons relieved, and the allowances to each. A preference is given to the poor who are most necessitous, have the largest families, and do not receive regular parochial relief.

The Bilsdon Poor's Land

By indentures of lease and release, dated the 14th and 15th of April 1685, conveyance in fee was made, in consideration of 51*l.* 10s, to Henry Hubbard and others (described as trustees for the poor of Langham, for a legacy given by Elizabeth Chamberlain,) of a fourth part of one yard land, lying in the fields, precincts and territories of Bilsdon, subject to a mortgage for 30*l.* in trust for the use of the poor decayed inhabitants of Langham, such as the trustees, together with the overseers of the poor of Langham, should think fit objects of charity.

On the inclosure of Bilsdon, which took place many years ago; a close of six acres was allotted in lieu of the land mentioned in the deed. The estate is not now subject to any incumbrance, but it is not known when the mortgage for 30*l.* was paid off.

No conveyance of the estate for renewal of trustees has been made, and the property is managed by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor.

The estate is in the occupation of John Mansfield, as yearly tenant, at a rent of 12*l.* 12s. which is the utmost value.

Frances Clarke's Gift

The sum of 10*l.* a year is received by the minister and churchwardens from the Tallow-chandlers company in London, on account of this charity for the particulars of which, see the Report of Charities under the management of the above-named company.

Hubbard's Gift

Henry Hubbard, by will, dated 15th November 1714, gave 40*l.* to be put out at interest by his executors, for the use of 10 of the poorest widows of the parish of Langham ; the interest thereof to be yearly paid and disposed of amongst them, at the discretion of his executors and the overseers of the poor of Langham ; and he gave 10*l.* to be put out at interest by his executors, and the interest thereof to be yearly paid and applied for and towards the repairs of the parish church of Langham aforesaid ; and the testator appointed his son, William Hubbard, and son-in-law, John Sharpe, executors of his will.

The sum of 1*l.* 5*s.* was paid as interest of one half of the legacy by William Hubbard one of the executors and his representatives, until eight or ten years ago when it was charged by deed on an estate at Sewsterne, in the county of Leicester, sold by a descendant of Hubbard to Thomas Frisby, and which is now the property of Mr. Stowe, of Wickham in Leicestershire. We have been unable hitherto to ascertain in whose possession the deed is, or to obtain a copy of it. Out of the sum Of 1*l.* 5*s.* twenty shillings a year have been distributed among 10 poor widows, and 5*s.* applied to the repairs of the church.

The sum of 1*l.* 5*s.* interest of the other moiety of the 50*l.* was paid by the other executor, and his representatives or descendants, until the year 1814, since which time, Mr. Richard Sharpe, who had long paid the interest, has declined doing so. A solicitor has been consulted by the churchwardens, as to the means of enforcing payment of the sum of 25*l.*; but Mr. Sharpe is in such reduced circumstances, that no hope is entertained of recovering the fund or the interest of it.

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Record Office