

**THE RECTORS OF MANCHESTER,  
AND THE WARDENS OF THE  
COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF  
THAT TOWN. PART I, PP. 1-100**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649468966

The Rectors of Manchester, and the Wardens of the Collegiate Church of that Town. Part I, pp. 1-100 by F. R. Raines

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**F. R. RAINES**

**THE RECTORS OF MANCHESTER,  
AND THE WARDENS OF THE  
COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF  
THAT TOWN. PART I, PP. 1-100**



THE  
**Rectors of Manchester,**  
AND THE  
**Wardens of the Collegiate Church**  
OF THAT TOWN.

BY THE LATE  
**REV. F. R. RAINES, M.A.,**  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

PART I.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.  
1885.

THE NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASTOR, LENOX AND  
TILDEN FOUNDATION  
1897.



PRINTED BY CHARLES E. SIMMS,  
MANCHESTER.

## INTRODUCTION.

---

THE contents of the present volume are derived from the *MSS.* of the late Canon RAINES, the notes on the early Rectors being from vol. xli. of the Raines' Bequest, and the Lives of the Wardens being from vol. xl.

It is evident that an accurate account of the Wardens was a project that had occupied a large share of the attention of this indefatigable compiler, who justly viewed the College as the spot around which the ecclesiastical history of the district was gathered,—“that noble and useful foundation for learning and propagation of religion in those northern parts” (Strype *Annals*, vol. II. i. p. 515).

Sir William Dugdale might perhaps properly be regarded as the antiquary who supplied the first incitement to the compilation of a continuous history of the College, for he printed a copy of the charter of Henry V. for the collegiation of the parish church. (*Monasticon*, vol. iii. pt. ii. pp. 174-5, 1st ed.)

An investigator of considerable diligence, animated by sentiments arising out of local attachments, arose in the Rev. Richard Hollinworth, Fellow of the College before the civil troubles, and afterwards minister of the town.

His *MS.* called *Mancuniensis*, which has not yet been worthily edited, mainly centres round the Wardens of the College; and it has been the compilation to which subsequent writers have been largely indebted.

An older *MS.* list of the Wardens, comprising also particulars of the founders of the chantry chapels, was also in existence in the town, and more copies than one have been referred to. The original compiler of this list must have had access to authentic papers, and conversed with persons who had preserved some memories of the past. Canon Raines was inclined to attribute one copy of the *MS.*, dated *c.* 1730, to the Rev. Robert Asheton (*Lanc. Chantries*, p. 19; and see p. 14 of this work and other subsequent references). Another small copy, known as Aynscough's *MS.*, was in the hand-writing either of the Rev. Radley Aynscough, M.A., Fellow of Manchester College, 1727, who married a daughter of Dr. Wroe, and who died in 1728, aged 47; or of his son, the Rev. Thomas Aynscough, M.A., Fellow in 1761, who died 1793, aged 74; and one of these clergymen made some additions to it. Another copy of the *MS.*, fuller in detail, was in possession of the Rev. Joshua Brookes, of witty memory, brought down to the date of 1684 or 1686. This may perhaps be identified with a copy which was printed in *Local Gleanings*, 4to., vol. ii. p. 291. Another was in possession of a Mr. Reynolds. Two or three of these *MSS.* were in existence in the time of the Rev. John Greswell, M.A., Master of the Chetham College School about the year 1807, who has quoted them in his



collections for the history of Manchester, and he was perhaps the last person to use them. Canon Raines, who quotes Aynscough's *MS.* occasionally, had never seen the original, but derived the passages from Greswell's *MS.* What appears to be a copy of the original *MS.* occurs in No. 5836 of the additional *MSS.* in the British Museum; and another very indifferent copy was published in the *Manchester City News*, 3 October, 1885.

A very good list of the Wardens, based partly on one of these old *MSS.*, was published in 1773 (8vo, pp. 16) entitled, *An Account of the Wardens of Christ's College Church, Manchester, since the Foundation in 1422, to the present time.* Illustrated with an elegant view of Christ Church. (London: Printed by W. E. And sold by A. and J. Clarke, Booksellers, at the Bible and Crown, Market place, Manchester. MDCCLXXIII.) The similarity of phrases, &c., indicate that the compiler of this list had one of the old *MSS.* before him. The printed list of 1773 was used by the author of the very excellent *Description of Manchester* published in the town 1783, 8vo., said to be drawn up by "a native of the town," who refers to it as "an account printed here of the original foundation of the College, and a succession of Wardens, which was brought down to Warden Wroe." (pp. 23-4.) He further says: "The author had certainly seen good records, and has reported facts in a stile rather pedantic, and too diffuse for our narrative. There are some strictures on his characters, a little heightened with the acrimony of party; but as they throw light on the former

state of the town and its history, we shall endeavour to preserve the order and substance of this account, making such remarks in the course of it as may justify our observations."

Mr. Greswell, in the *MS.* already alluded to, made the Wardens the central figures of his researches. His position at the College gave him facilities for investigation in a wide range of literature; but he never lived to give perfection to his labour. His work, contained in a large and thick folio, brought down to the year 1782, is now at the Chetham Library, and its condition as well as its character are pretty fairly set forth in the Latin motto which he has placed upon the title-page, *Dum lego colligo*. A more finished work might have been looked for from one who was brother to the great scholar, the Rev. W. P. Greswell of Denton. In the year 1808 the compiler endeavoured, but in vain, to persuade Sir Richard Phillips to publish the *MS.*

After Mr. Greswell's death the *MS.* (according to Dr. Hibbert-Ware, vol. i. p. 415) became the property of Mr. Wm. Ford, the Manchester bookseller, who in 1817 proposed to issue it, with notes, to form what was to be an illustrated history of the Church and College; the architectural portion to be undertaken by Mr. John Palmer, and the whole to be on the same scale as Britton's *Architectural Antiquities*. This proposal fell through; and the *MS.* next passed into the hands of Mr. James Midgeley of Rochdale for £50. Dr. Hibbert-Ware mentions another transcript of this collection (vol. i. p. 46), which had been

submitted by Greswell to Dr. T. D. Whitaker, after whose death it was bought by Mr. Thos. Heywood of Swinton Lodge.

When Dr. Hibbert's ambitious *History of the Manchester Foundations* was projected, a transcript of Greswell's *MS.* was placed in his hands; and a large part of the collection is embodied in that work. The materials, however, were far less complete or useful than Dr. Hibbert had been led to expect, though he speaks favourably of them in his preface as "forming altogether a body of matter far more valuable and comprehensive than any which had been previously collected." He also said afterwards of the copy which he used that he could "scarcely depend upon the accuracy of a single line."

Dr. Hibbert's great work appeared in 1830, in two volumes, much of it being edited by that industrious scholar while resident on the continent. It was dedicated to Dr. Calvert, "Warden or Dean." Its plan is to a large extent that of Greswell. This *History* has been the standard work on the Wardens and their surroundings, and it has always been consulted with pleasure by reason of the pictorial embellishments, and its ample description of the old church. Canon Raines's work largely supplements the notices of the Wardens, adds some names to the list, and corrects several of the inaccuracies.

In the supplementary volume, dated 1848, entitled *The Ancient Parish Church of Manchester and Why it was Collegiated*, Dr. Hibbert-Ware dealt with the history of the lords of the manor and the early Rectors. For this