

GEORGE AND BRIDGET LOWTHIAN'S CHARITY.

It is stated in the terrier above alluded to, that there was belonging to this parish, the sum of 53*l.* the use of which was solely applied to the relief of the poor.

It is generally understood, that this sum was made up of two legacies, one of 33*l.* left by *Bridget Lowthian*, in 1745; and another of 20*l.* left by *George Lowthian*, in the same year.

This money is now in the hands of the vicar, and John Dixon of Ainstable, who have given a joint and several promissory note for the amount, with interest at five per cent.

The sum of 2*l.* 13*s.* which is paid by them, is distributed annually on St. Thomas's day, amongst 8 or 10 poor persons, not receiving parish relief.

Ainstable.
George and Bridge
Lowthian's Charity.

RICHARD LOWTHIAN'S CHARITY.

A rent-charge of 5*l.* was left by *Richard Lowthian*, to the poor of this parish, in the same manner as a similar rent-charge was left to the parish of Kirkoswald, as hereafter stated. This is regularly paid by Richard Lowthian Ross, esq. of Staffield-hall, and is distributed amongst the poor not receiving parish relief.

Richard Lowthian's
Charity.

PARISH OF ALSTON WITH GARRIGILL.

FAIRHILL ESTATE, INCLUDING MRS. GRAHAM'S GIFT.

By indenture dated 15th September 1739, between John Friend, of Annot Walls, of the first part; Thomas Vipont and others, churchwardens and overseers of the parish, of the second part; and Nicholas Whitfield and others of the third part.—

Reciting, that there had theretofore been bequeathed to the poor of the parish of Alston, to the school in Alston, and to the poor and school within the chapelry of Garrigill, several sums of money, amounting in the whole to 217*l.* 5*s.* of which there belonged:—

| | £. | s. | d. |
|--------------------------------------|----|-----|----|
| To the poor of Alston - - - - - | 83 | 6 | 8 |
| To the school in Alston - - - - - | 81 | 5 | — |
| To the poor of Garrigill - - - - - | 27 | 13 | 4 |
| To the school in Garrigill - - - - - | 25 | — | — |
| | £. | 217 | 5 |

Alston with
Garrigill.
Fairhill Estate,
including
Mrs. Graham's
Gift.

And reciting, that the churchwardens, overseers and inhabitants of the said parish, for the better securing the said charities, had contracted for the purchase of the premises thereafter mentioned, and that they had ordered the same to be conveyed to John Friend in trust, to be by him assigned to such persons as should be by them afterwards appointed; and reciting, that Nicholas Whitfield and others, of the third part, had been appointed by them trustees. It is witnessed, that the said John Friend, in consideration of five shillings, conveyed to the said trustees a messuage or tenement, with the appurtenances, at Netherfair Hill, in Alston Moor, being freehold property, and assigned to them a fourth part of the pasture called Fairhill Pasture, in Alston Moor, and an inclosure at Netherfair Hill, adjoining the messuage above-mentioned, being leasehold property, held for the remainder of a term of 1,000 years, upon trust that they should let the same, and apply the rents thereof in the following proportions:—

| | £. | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|----|
| For the overseer of the poor of Alston, for the use of the poor of the said parish - - - - - | 4. | 3. | 4. |
| For the schoolmaster of Alston - - - - - | 4. | 1. | 3. |
| To the overseers of Garrigill, for the use of the poor - - - - - | 1. | 7. | 8. |
| To the schoolmaster of Garrigill - - - - - | 1. | 5. | 0. |

And if the rents should amount to more or less, that an increase or deduction should be made from each part in the like proportions.

It appears, that the whole of the consideration money was 274*l.* of which 68*l.* was to be paid for the completion of the purchase, within six months after the death of Mary Wallis, as may be collected from a bond, dated 8th May 1738; and by indorsement thereon, the sum of 68*l.* is stated to have been paid 4th September 1756.

By indentures of lease and release, dated 30th April, and May 1st 1756, the trustees, churchwardens and overseers mortgaged the premises to Ann Whitfield, for securing the sum of 68*l.* which was probably raised for the completing the purchase as above-mentioned.

Alston with
Garrigill.

Fairhill Estate,
including
Mrs. Graham's
Gift,
continued.

By indentures of lease and release, dated 19th and 20th June 1797, reciting, that the trustees were entitled to the several premises above-mentioned upon certain trusts, by means whereof they had become chargeable with the payment of 68*l.* to John Wallis, who had called upon the trustees for the same; and reciting, that the said trustees had borrowed 68*l.* of Ann Graham, formerly Ann Whitfield, and had mortgaged the premises above-mentioned as a security for the same; and further reciting, that the said Ann Graham, by will, dated 4th April 1796, had directed her executor, George Mowbray, within 12 months after her death, to assure the 68*l.* so secured as above-mentioned, in such manner that the yearly interest might be applied towards the augmentation of the salary of the master of the school at Alston.

It is witnessed, that the said George Mowbray conveyed and assigned the said freehold and leasehold premises to Joseph Thompson and other persons for the remainder of a term that had been vested in the said Ann Graham, upon trust to apply the interest of the said mortgage in augmentation of the salary of the said schoolmaster.

On the inclosure of Alston by Act of Parliament of 43d George III, allotments were made to this property in respect of the freehold and leasehold interests; the former consisting of 43*A.* 1*R.* 32*P.* and the latter in two parcels (one 3*A.* 1*R.* 6*P.* the other 39*A.* 3*R.* 16*P.*), amounting in the whole to 86*A.* 2*R.* 14*P.*

The above allotments (except about two or three acres) are let on lease for 21 years, from 1st May 1811, to William Pearson, at 16*l.* a year. The letting was by tender, public notice having been previously given. The tenant is to make boundary and subdivision fences, and to lay not less than 2,200 Carlisle bushels of lime on the land within the last seven years of his term, and to keep all fences and gates in repair.

The original Fairhill estate, consisting of 22 acres, together with about two or three acres of the new allotment, is let to Mary Yates for one year, at 36*l.* 10*s.* This estate has lately been let yearly to the best bidder, and is generally let to the person who has the care of the poor, the workhouse being situate on this estate.

We have particularly inquired, whether this estate is not let for a less value, by reason that the person who takes the land also agrees to farm the poor at a certain rate. It appears, however, that this land is let at its full value, and that the allowance for the poor varies with the times. We find, that in 1818 the estate was let at 30*l.* a year, the tenant farming the poor at 2*s.* 10*d.* per head per week. In 1819, 35*l.* was the rent of the land, and the poor were taken at 2*s.* 8*d.* In the present year, as before stated, 36*l.* 10*s.* is the rent, and the poor are taken at 2*s.* 5*d.*; by which it appears, that the rent has increased regularly, whilst the allowance for the poor has diminished.

The poor-house is supposed to have been built long ago at the expense of the parish, by whom it is now repaired. No rent is allowed by the parish in respect of the occupation of these premises, which seem to supply the place of a farm-house for the land.

The application of these rents is very irregular, the whole having been carried to the general account of the parish poor-rate for several years. On the other hand, there have been payments made thereout to the schoolmasters of Alston and Garrigill. For the last few years these payments have been,

| | £. | s. | d. |
|--|-----|----|------|
| To the schoolmaster of Alston - - - - | 26. | 4. | 0. |
| To the schoolmaster of Garrigill - - - - | 7. | 0. | 10½. |

Whilst the remainder has been improperly applied to the general purposes of the parish.

We could not discover by what calculation the schoolmasters received these several sums, which are not in proportion to the scale drawn out in the indenture of 1739. It does not appear whether interest for the sum of 68*l.* given by Mrs. Graham, is included in the payment to the schoolmaster at Alston, but it probably forms a part of his salary.

For the last year nothing has been paid to either of the schoolmasters. A demand of about 70*l.* has been made by the commissioners for the expenses incurred relating to the inclosure. A former demand of 69*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* for the same purpose, was paid out of the poor-rate; but several of the parishioners have objected to the payment of this second demand, and, until this question is settled, the payment to the schoolmasters has been withheld. But considering, that

that for several years the parish has received the benefit of the surplus, which ought to have been distributed in charity to the poor, we trust there will be no difficulty in this respect, and that, in future, a more correct distribution will be made of the rents of this property, according to the scale laid down in the trust-deed; first setting apart 3*l.* 8*s.* as the specific interest of Mrs. Graham's legacy, to be paid to the schoolmaster of Alston.

The Alston schoolmaster receives all children coming to him at a quarterage settled by the vestry, which is considered a lower rate than would be paid if the school had no endowment. Six children were formerly taught free; but for the last four or five years the parish have not insisted upon the master teaching any children gratuitously.

No children are taught free for the share paid to the schoolmaster at Garrigill.

Since this report was drawn up, we have been informed, by the vicar of Alston, that it has been agreed at a vestry meeting, that the rent of the Fairhill estate, as far as relates to the poor of the parish of Alston, shall, in future, be applied and given by the churchwardens and overseers to such poor persons as have not received parochial relief; and that two persons are to be appointed to survey the estate and ascertain the rent, in order that each establishment may receive its due proportion.

SHIELD'S GIFT.

John Shield, of London, by indenture dated 5th June 1617, gave 40*s.* a year to the poor of the parish of Alston.

This sum is paid annually by the Cooks' company, London, and is distributed amongst the poor of Alston and Garrigill on Christmas-day, yearly; two-thirds being given to the former, and one-third to the latter place.

A more particular account of this donation will be given in our Report of the Charities vested in or under the management of the Cooks' company.

WILKINSON'S CHARITY.

Robert Wilkinson, by will, dated 24th February 1685, gave 100*l.* to the village of Garrigill, where his mother was born, to purchase lands of the clear yearly value of 5*l.* to be disposed of in the following manner; viz. 20*s.* a year to a schoolmaster at Garrigill, towards his maintenance, and 40*s.* a year to the said schoolmaster, for teaching six poor children of the poorest inhabitants of Garrigill, gratis, till they could read the Bible through, and then others to be put in their stead; 10*s.* to a minister, for preaching a sermon every year in Garrigill chapel, upon the 1st day of February; and 10*s.* to be distributed yearly to such poor inhabitants in Garrigill, as his trustees and their successors should judge most needful, in the said chapel, immediately after the said sermon; and the remaining 20*s.* a year to his four trustees, and their successors, to each of them 5*s.* a-piece. Provided always, that if the said trustees and their successors should neglect or refuse to nominate and appoint six poor children, to be taught as aforesaid, for the space of one month after they should be desired by the said schoolmaster, then the said 40*s.* a year, left for their learning, and the said 20*s.* a year, left to the said trustees, should, for ever after be paid to the said chapel-wardens and overseers of the poor, and should be by them distributed yearly and every year to the poor in the said chapel, upon the 1st day of February, in manner aforesaid.

In 1689, this sum was laid out in the purchase of an annuity or rent-charge of 5*l.* issuing out of certain premises situate at Bowes, in the county of York, for the uses of the said will, which is now paid regularly by the Rev. John Headlam, rector of Wycliffe, the owner of the property. Twenty shillings are paid to the schoolmaster at Garrigill, and 40*s.* more for teaching six poor children there, gratis, who are appointed by the trustees. The vicar of Alston receives 10*s.* yearly for preaching a sermon in the chapel of Garrigill; and on that same day, 10*s.* are distributed to the poor people there. The remaining 20*s.* are retained by the trustees for their own use.

STEPHENSON'S CHARITY.

John Stephenson, by will dated 29th May 1759, desired his executor, Matthew Stephenson, out of the personal estate to which he would be entitled by the said will, to pay yearly and every year for ever, to and amongst 16 poor widows who should have legal settlements in the parish of Aldstone and chapelry of Garrigill, in the county of Cumberland, 5*s.* each; and to eight poor

Alston with Garrigill.

Fairhill Estate, including Mrs. Graham's Gift, continued.

Shield's Gift.

Wilkinson's Charity.

Stephenson's Charity.