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*H. G. Keeler F.S.A.  
with the writer's  
best wishes*

THE PEWTER COMMUNION  
VESSELS OF ESSEX  
CHURCHES

*1910/27*

By The Rev. W. J. PRESSEY, M.A., F.S.A.

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## THE PEWTER COMMUNION VESSELS OF ESSEX CHURCHES.

BY THE REV. W. J. PRESSEY, M.A., F.S.A.

IN the contemplation of the beautiful silver altar vessels which grace so many of our churches, it is difficult to realise that there have been periods in the past, when the church was accustomed to use for its highest service, vessels of pewter.

Yet there are very few of our more ancient churches in which at some time or another pewter communion vessels have not found a place, and now and again these pieces are still to be seen, though probably relegated to some obscure shelf in a cupboard of the vestry, or locked up in some out-of-the-way corner in the rectory or vicarage.

The first official recognition of pewter as a substance suitable for a chalice, is to be traced to the synod which assembled at Rouen in 1074, at which the use of wood for that purpose was forbidden, and the adoption of pewter enforced—where it was found impossible to provide gold or silver as a material for the sacred vessels. A resolution of similar character was passed by the Council of Winchester some two years later.

At a Council held at Westminster however, a century later, the further use of pewter for this purpose was proscribed, and it was decreed that for the future no bishop should consecrate a chalice made of pewter, vessels of gold and silver only being deemed worthy of use for so sacred a purpose.

But this limitation was only intended to apply to such vessels as were actually to be used in the services of the church; for those chalices, which at that period it was customary to place in the coffins of ecclesiastics and to bury with them as significant of their

rank and calling, were often fashioned of pewter, though they are also found of silver (as in the case of Bishop Longespée (1207) at Salisbury, when the alterations to the pavement of the Lady chapel were carried out in 1789), and likewise of copper, and tin.

Mr. Nightingale mentions (*Church Plate of Wills.*, edit. 1891, p. 5) that by the constitutions of William de Blois, bishop of Worcester, A.D., 1229, two chalices were to be required for every church, one to be of silver for use at Mass, and the other unconsecrated, and fashioned of tin, which should be placed in the coffin of the priest at his burial.

If reference is made to *The Church Plate of the County of Essex*, p. 319, it will be seen that among the extracts given from the *Visitations of Churches belonging to St. Paul's Cathedral*, there are several entries shewing that this rule was being observed, and others where attention is drawn to the fact that the chalice of tin is lacking :

- NAVESTOCK. Item : j calix argenteus partim deauratus, etc.  
Item : calix stagneus.
- BARLINGE. Item : calix argenteus partim deauratus, etc.  
Item : defecit calix stagneus.
- HEYBRIDGE. Item : calix argenteus totum deauratus, etc.  
Item : calix stagneus defecit.

While in mediæval days most churches possessed chalices of silver, silver-gilt, or parcel-gilt, the two cruets which contained the wine and the water necessary for altar purposes were usually made of pewter. In the case of the wealthier churches and cathedrals—as for instance at Saffron Walden and Salisbury—cruets of silver were in use, but when the spoliation under Edward VI. occurred, and it became evident that the parish churches were to be stripped of their “superfluous” plate, the first vessels which the church authorities took care to negotiate were the silver cruets, as being those which could most easily be replaced by something less costly, the money obtained by the sale being expended in repairs to the church, or for some other parochial need. During the temporary re-action under Mary, such cruets as had been sold, but were nevertheless required by the injunctions of Bishop Bonner (1554) to be found in every church, would probably have been replaced in Essex churches (then in the diocese of London) by vessels of pewter.

Indeed the church accounts belonging to the abbey church of Waltham Holy Cross, shew that at this date certain other vessels of pewter were obtained to replace those that had been sold or made away with during the previous reign (*cf. Essex Church Plate*, p. 107).

That these pewter cruets, which must at this period have formed part of the communion vessels in most churches, have not survived, may be explained by the fact that their provision having been made under Papist influence, they would in the next reign be looked upon by the more extreme reformers as coming under the category of "feigned monuments of superstition," and treated accordingly.

Nor is it only with these vessels of pewter in actual use in the services of the church at this period that the decrees of fate have dealt harshly, but also in the case of those other vessels which were furnished by our forefathers for use in connection with their numerous guilds and fraternities.

These institutions were in their origin religious, and although with the advance of time their social and commercial character became more pronounced, yet at the date of the Reformation they were still so closely identified with the organisation of the church, that any movement which affected the one, would be certain to have more or less direct influence upon the other.

Accordingly the Act for the dissolution of the religious houses in 1536 was followed at no very long interval by another for the suppression of the chantries and guilds, and as a result, the vessels belonging to these latter, which were usually of pewter, were eventually sold or otherwise disposed of, by those who had the charge of them.

That Chelmsford possessed the pewter which most probably formed part of the goods of one or other of its four fraternities in 1560, seems clear from an entry which appears in the accounts of the churchwardens under that date :

Fol. 14. The inventorye of the Churche goods of Chelmesford the xxj<sup>t</sup> day of July Anno Dnī 1560 and in the seconde yere of ye Reigne of owr Sovran Lady Elizabeth the Quenes maiestie that now is :

Item : ij Basens and an old Ewer of pewter.

Item : xv dosen pewter and ix peces yt is to say in platters, dysshes, and sawsers, as follow<sup>th</sup> that is iij doss of large platters, ij doss of mydle sort platters, ix doss of pewter dysshes, and xxj<sup>t</sup> sawsers in the hands of John Myldmay the which pewter and the rent thereof comyng is to the use of the Churche, and he oweth for the Rent thereof iij yeres.

It seems probable that after the first so-called "survey" of church goods in 1549, when the parochial church authorities, taking alarm at what was evidently coming, began to part with a certain portion of their church plate, vessels of pewter would be made to do duty for those silver pieces which had been disposed of, and thus in 1552, when the second survey occurred, and the King's commissioners actually got to work, there are instances of churches such as Hawk-

well, Heybridge, Tolleshunt major, and most probably Greenstead, by Colchester, having nothing but pewter to show, and of others, such as Tillingham and Lawling, being left with just an ordinary glass from which to administer the holy mysteries. Cases of this kind, however, seem to have been quite exceptional, and in most cases the assignments shew that the Essex churches, although severely handled by the commissioners, managed to retain one, or, even in some instances, two chalices, although it must be admitted that the vessels which were left were usually the worst and not the best examples.

The promulgation of the canons of 1603, with the injunction that the sacramental wine should be "brought to the communion table in a clean and sweet standing pot or stoup of pewter if not of purer metal," led to a very considerable increase in the number of pewter flagons in the churches, occasional examples of which are still to be seen. Orders to procure, or in some cases to reconstruct these flagons, are constantly found among the entries in the books belonging to the archdeaconries of Essex and Colchester, and it seems probable that by the earlier part of the eighteenth century most of our churches were provided with them.

Thus, between the years 1683 and 1686, these Visitation books shew that on the Essex side, out of 120 churches visited, for which inventories of the communion vessels are given, 92 are recorded as possessing flagons of pewter. Silver flagons were in use at Barking, North and South Ockendon, Orsett, Sandon, Stifford, Theydon Garnon, and Woodford; while the remaining 20 parishes, not having altar flagons, were in most cases ordered to obtain them.

In the case of Leigh-on-Sea, a marginal note added somewhat later, shews that the order to procure a flagon was obeyed in the same year (1684), and though the metal is not specified, it was most probably pewter.

Chelmsford—which at the date of the Visitation (1686) possessed a pair of pewter flagons, purchased in 1634 for the sum of 19s. 7d., as appears by an entry in the old account book of the churchwardens,—was ordered to change them for vessels of silver; and although the order was not carried out as promptly as in the case of Leigh, it was eventually obeyed, as the two massive silver flagons fashioned by William Gibson (1697), now at the cathedral, testify.

The Visitation of 1685 shews that Corringham was ordered *inter alia* to provide "a flaggon for y<sup>e</sup> Comunion table," and this injunction was obeyed that same year, as is evidenced by the discovery of a pewter flagon which was advertised for sale by a London dealer, as recently as last June.



THE CORRINGHAM FLAGON.  
(1685).

This piece, which has been alienated from its church for many years and of which a representation is given here, bears the inscription, evidently contemporary with the vessel, and encircling the barrel—"These beeloning to the parish of Coringham Peeter Lodwicke and John Marten Churchwardens 1685." The wording of this inscription is identical in character with that upon the silver cup (1685) belonging to Corringham, which, together with its cover, was substituted for vessels of an earlier date in obedience to an order given at this visitation.

The flagon—which is about 8 inches high, and slightly extended at the base, is just a plain tankard with a lid, having a thumb-piece shaped to the design of two birds respecting each other. The S handle has a shield-shaped terminal. The marks, four in number, correspond with the period when the pewterers were stamping their wares in imitation of the marks upon silver, and take the form of the lion, the leopard's head, a buckle, and the mark of the maker, P L, a pellet below within a plain shield. Unfortunately this mark does not appear to be represented upon the touch-plates at Pewterer's Hall.

On the Colchester side, out of 138 parishes visited, for which inventories of the communion vessels are given, 64 are scheduled as having flagons of pewter; silver flagons were in use at Little Bentley, Great Braxted, Faulkbourne, Messing, and Saffron Walden; while of the remaining 69 parishes, quite a fair proportion were enjoined to procure pewter flagons.

In several instances there are entries shewing that the plain tankards were to be changed for flagons which were more up-to-date, as witness the following:

MORETON (1683). "The pewter Tankard to be changed for a faire fflaggon."

OAKLEY MAGNA (1683). "The pewter Tankard that is for the use of the Comunion must be chang<sup>d</sup> for a fflaggon."

Similar orders were given in the case of Alresford, Hadleigh, Great Holland, and Lawford. The following entry, which occurs in the visitation of 1685 for the parish of Little Totham, is a little more explicit:

"A flagon of pewter without a Cover wch must be changed or a new Cover made to y<sup>e</sup> old one."

In all these instances it seems evident that the object of the change being ordered was to substitute for a plain and perhaps lidless tankard a vessel with a lid, or to replace the short and somewhat squat vessels with flat lids, of the Corringham type, for the taller flagon with a domed lid, such as may be seen at West Bergholt, Dovercourt, Sturmer, and other places (pl. p. 210).



At the Visitation of 1684 S. Lawrence Newland was ordered to provide a flagon of pewter, and this piece, which has fortunately survived (see p. 210), is inscribed as follows:

"John Spuner bought this Flaggon for the parish of St. Larance when he was Churchwarden in ye yeare 1700."

This vessel—which is simply a large tankard or pot, having neither spout nor lid—is apparently the sole remaining example of this type of pewter vessel in any of the churches of Essex.

In some of the more important churches, as for example at Colchester (S. Peter), Great Clacton, Danbury, Kelvedon, Rochford, Springfield, Great Tey, South Weald, and others,—pewter flagons were to be found in pairs, and, as we have already seen, Chelmsford was ordered to change the two in use there for others of silver. In the case of Rivenhall, the archdeacon in 1685 gave instructions for "the old flaggon to be changed for two new ones of about three pints a peece" (*sic*), while at the Visitation at Witham in the same year, the old flagon belonging to that church was "to be changed for two of about two or three quarts apeece." Maldon at this date possessed no less than three flagons of pewter, which were probably parted with when the church was presented with the handsome pair of silver vessels given in 1705 by the Rev. Dr. Plume.

It is evident also from these Visitation books that at this period the use of pewter patens and plates in the churches became very general. For while in the larger and more fortunately situated parishes credence patens were usually forthcoming, many of the smaller country churches had, as a rule, little beyond the customary cup and cover. With regard to the statements made in the various entries in the Visitation Records, as to the character of the vessels, it is not always clear whether the word "Plate" is intended to signify a pewter plate or paten. The word paten is constantly used, but it may have been intended to indicate either a standing paten (*i.e.* a paten on a foot) or just the ordinary plate of pewter. Parochial descriptions of communion vessels found in terriers are often very misleading, both in respect of the type of vessel signified, and also of the material of which it is fashioned. It is quite possible, however, that pewter patens such as are to be seen at Brightlingsea (see p. 205), Bulphan, and Margaret Roothing, were in fairly general use towards the end of the seventeenth and in the early part of the eighteenth century. It seems fairly evident from the orders given in the Visitation books that they would be used as credence patens, except in those instances where there was no cover to the cup, and where a paten of any other description was lacking, as appears to have been the case at Ashingdon, the entry for which is as under:

"There is a Cup of silver for the Cōmunion :  
There wants a fflaggon of pewter and two plates of pewter,  
one for ye bread at ye time of Administration of ye  
Sacrament, and ye other for ye offerings."

This entry, which is taken from the Visitation held 15 June, 1684, is a sample of many similar entries, which gives the impression that in a few instances pewter patens, or (as in this case) plates, were being supplied as altar vessels and used for the administration of Holy Communion, and in a larger number of cases for credence use, and for the collection of the alms, as is appropriately indicated by the inscriptions upon the two pewter plates at Wethersfield, which as follows :

On No. 1—"This do in remembrance of ME."

On No. 2—"Honour the Lord with thy substance."

Alms dishes of pewter (as far as Essex is concerned) seem to have been very few in number, and only two examples appear to have survived, namely those belonging to Newport and Coggeshall. The oldest of these pieces is that of Newport (*circa* 1670), apparently the work of Nicholas Kelke, who became Master of the Pewterer's Company in 1665 and held the same position some years later, and whose "Touch" is stamped upon the first plate (No. 5) among the marks upon the touch-plates of the Company at Pewterer's Hall. This vessel, which has a broad flat rim, a somewhat deep basin, and measures upwards of 14 inches in diameter, may possibly at one time have been a piece of household plate, made over to the church for an alms basin. There is unfortunately no mention of it in the entries for the Visitation of Newport in 1686, and it is quite possible that it may not have been acquired until later.

The record for Coggeshall, shewing that a Visitation was held on 16 July, 1684, has the following entry :

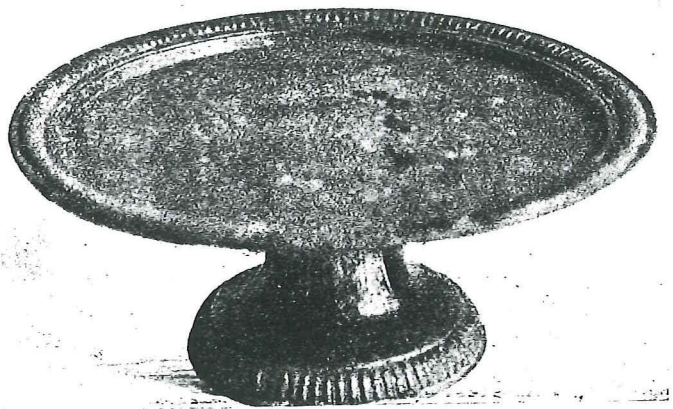
"There is a Challice & Cover of silver, and a flagon & dish of pewter."

The dish, which is in evidence to-day, is a plain broad-rimmed plate nearly 14 inches across, inscribed with the letters R S and W H. These are evidently the initials of the two churchwardens of that date—Richard Shortland and William Hudson, who held office from 1678 and onwards, and the alms dish is without doubt the vessel indicated by the entry given above.

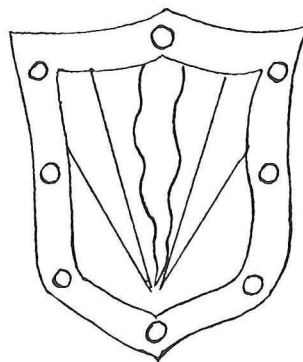
Another instance of a pewter alms dish which occurs in the Visitation Records of this period, is given under date 14 June, 1684, for Rayleigh. The entry is as follows :

"There is a plate for receiving of ye offerings  
bosswork (?) of pewter.

This may mean (if the doubtful word, which is very indistinct, is correctly rendered) that Rayleigh was then in possession of an



BRIGHTLINGSEA.



ARMORIALS ON THE BULPHAN PATEN  
(see p. 209)

embossed alms plate of pewter, which, if only it had survived the vicissitudes of time and circumstances, would to-day have been one of the most interesting treasures of the county.

Pewter communion cups in actual use must have been very few in number. As has already been stated, the ecclesiastical authorities had laid down the rule that pewter was not a material of which cups for the service of the altar should be fashioned, and the Visitation books shew that in most of the churches cups with their covers of silver were to be found, or failing this, the church would usually have its silver cup with a paten of either silver, or in some cases pewter. But there were nevertheless one or two instances of churches in which for some reason the entire set of altar vessels were of pewter only. Thus in 1683 we have the following entry for Greenstead, by Colchester :

"fflaggon Challice and Patten all of pewter,"

and it is by no means improbable that these vessels continued in use until the present communion cup of silver—made by Hutchinson of Colchester, but unfortunately un-dated—was procured.

Another church, which at this date (1684) possessed only vessels of pewter, was S. Lawrence Newland. At the visitation held there on 16 June in that year, the following order was given :

"A silver Challice and Patten of silver . . . . to be provided."

The pewter flagon which was likewise ordered on this occasion, was procured, as has already been mentioned, by the churchwarden in 1700. It seems very doubtful, however, whether the cup of silver was substituted for the pewter vessel until a date considerably later than this, and it is not at all improbable that the pewter cup, flagon, and the two plates which are still at the church (pl. p. 211), are the vessels which were in use until the present silver cup made its appearance in 1821.

Pleshey is the only other parish in Essex to-day which is fortunate enough to be still in possession of its complete set of pewter communion vessels (pl. p. 211). The cup and paten are both dated 1724, and although this date is only roughly scratched upon the vessels, there seems no reason to doubt that it may be reliable. The paten is the only piece which is marked, and it bears the stamp of the maker, Robert Nicholson, who became Warden of the Pewterer's Company in 1725, and who may have been the maker of all three vessels. The silver cup, which is in use at Pleshey to-day, is dated 1860, and may possibly indicate that until a comparatively recent period, Pleshey was still using pewter communion vessels.

By the commencement of the eighteenth century the larger number of Essex churches were possessed of flagons and patens or

plates of pewter, which must at that date have been in more or less constant use. On the Essex side there cannot have been less than 100 flagons, and probably an even larger number of patens and plates; while the Colchester Archdeaconry must have had at least from 70 to 80 flagons, and as many, if not more, patens and plates. An approximate estimate of the number of pieces for both archdeaconries would give a total of about 350 to 360 vessels of pewter. This number, which certainly does not err on the side of magnitude, is in striking contrast to the number of pewter pieces of all kinds which are to be met with in Essex churches to-day, the sum total of which amounts to about 139 examples all told.

It remains, therefore, to trace out some of the causes which have led to the disappearance of so much of our church pewter, rendering any example a comparative rarity in our parish churches to-day.

It must be remembered that it is not that these old and formerly-used vessels have simply been discarded and laid aside in favour of others of more acceptable metal and make. It is that they have disappeared entirely, and where in former days these old pewter pieces were to be met with in nearly every church, to-day, in by far the larger number of our ancient churches, not a vestige of pewter remains.

There would, in the first place, be the very natural desire to obtain for the service of the altar the most valuable metal attainable. Chaste and beautiful as no doubt many of the pewter vessels of higher quality are, they would not take rank in respect of value for altar purposes with vessels wrought of silver; and thus where it was found possible to substitute silver for pewter, this would assuredly be done. Then again, the introduction of Sheffield plate (*circa* 1742) furnished an opportunity which archdeacons and others were not slow to use, for suggesting to incumbents and churchwardens the advisability of doing away with their pewter pieces, and substituting for them the more attractive-looking vessels of plated ware. Thus, during the years 1815 to 1817, the Visitation Records disclose that the Ven. F. J. Hyde Wollaston, who was at that period Archdeacon of Essex, gave frequent orders to this effect, as may be seen by the following entries:

LAINDON HILLS. "Pewter plate for Comunion to be changed for plated."

ABBOTS RODING. "Sell pewter Paten & Flagon and provide a Paten for bread and offerings."

BELCHAMP RODING. "Sell pewter Paten & Flagon and provide a Paten plated or silver."

CHIGNAL SMEALY. "Sell pewter Plates and buy new Paten for bread and provide new Paten for offerings."

LITTLE LEIGHS. "Sell pewter Flagon & Plate, and provide a plated or silver Paten instead thereof."

NAZING. "Sell pewter Flagons and Plates and provide a plated one for the offerings."

SANDON. "Sell pewter Flagons and Plate for offerings, and buy plated Paten for offerings."

SPRINGFIELD. "Sell pewter Flagon and dish, and provide new silver Paten or Plate for the offerings."

Entries of this description, and there are many such, will go a long way towards explaining how it is that in such a large number of cases these old pewter vessels, which formed at one period no insignificant portion of the communion plate of our churches, have gradually disappeared and passed out of existence. It may quite possibly be owing to some such order, that the flagon belonging to Corringham, which has so unexpectedly come to light again, was in the first instance alienated from its church. Had those archidiaconal directions quoted above been all complied with, the churches of Little Leighs and Springfield would to-day be considerably poorer by the loss of two most interesting and valuable pewter vessels.

The substitution of Sheffield plate for pewter ware was not, however, without its compensations, for vessels fashioned of the former material were far in advance of pewter in the matter of durability, and closely rivalled silver in beauty, style and finish. In addition to this, Sheffield plate lends itself very readily to decorative detail, whereas the chief charm of pewter lies in the fact that its beauty is at its best when unadorned; and it is hardly to be wondered at, that in the growing desire to bestow upon a church communion vessels of a more attractive character, Sheffield plate—which could then be obtained at a very reasonable cost—should take the place of the more homely vessels of pewter. Moreover, with the onward march of time, the Sheffield plate pieces have become very greatly enhanced in value, and are to-day in a number of instances worth far more than the pewter which they displaced, and indeed have surpassed even silver in value.

So long therefore as the disposition for change confined itself to the substitution of vessels of Sheffield plate for those of pewter, the result was not all loss to the church. True, that old and interesting vessels, hallowed by many years of sacred associations, were being parted with—a point which in matters of this kind is far too often lost sight of,—but their places were being taken by other vessels neither inartistic nor unworthy of holy uses, and, as time has proved, vessels which have in not a few instances proved a marked addition to the treasures of our churches.

## SUMMARY.

Appended is a list of the communion and other vessels of pewter belonging to Essex churches at the present time. References are given, shewing the positions in which the marks will be found upon the Touch-Plates at the Pewterer's Hall.

## CUPS.

PLACE.	DATE.	MAKER.	INSCRIPTION.
Birchanger (a pair).	19th century.	No mark	None.
Newland (S. Lawrence) (1).	Late 17th century.	No mark.	<i>On the bowl</i> —"St. Lawrence Parish."
Pleshey (1).	c. 1724.	No mark.	<i>On the bowl</i> —The sacred monogram within rays. <i>Scratched on the foot</i> —"1724."

## PATENS.

Brightlingsea (Paten on a foot)	c. 1720.	I K, within a shield.	None.
Bulphan (flat Paten with a broad rim)	c. 1698.	(?) A lion rampant between R W, the whole within a beaded circle. (Plate II., No, 93.)	<i>On the rim</i> —A coat of arms: <i>Three piles issuing from the chief, the middle one wavy within a bordure charged with eight roundels.</i> (Bury.)
Chesterford, Little (Paten on a foot).	18th century.	Illegible.	None.
Latton (a pair of flat Patens).	17th century.	A crowned swan between R S, within a beaded circle.	"LATAN."
Pleshey (a Salver on three feet).	c. 1724.	An eagle standing upon a globe, between R N, the whole within a beaded circle. (Plate II., No. 110.)	<i>Scratched on the Reverse</i> —"1724."
Roding Margaret (Paten on a foot).	c. 1670.	T H, with crossed sceptres in saltire a bird perched upon them, the whole crowned and placed within a beaded circle. (Plate I., No. 173.)	None.

## FLAGONS.

Barnston (1).	18th century.	No mark.	<i>Cut into the handle</i> —"BARN STOIN."
Bentley, Great (1).	c. 1739.	Dixon.	None.
Bergholt, West (1).	c. 1772-80.	The device of Richard Yates: a griffin's head erased surmounted by a coronet, at each side between scrolls a mullet. (Plate IV., No. 180.)	None.



THE BARNSTON FLAGON (eighteenth century).  
(Shewing the name 'BARNSTON' cut into the hinge of the handle).



THE PEWTER COMMUNION VESSELS OF ESSEX CHURCHES. 13

PLACE.	DATE.	MAKER.	INSCRIPTION.
Chappel (1).	?	No mark.	None.
Clacton, Little	18th century.	Illegible.	None.
Colchester (S. Leonard) (1).	subsequent to 1705.	No mark.	<i>On the barrel</i> —"S. Leonard Colchester."
Colchester (Holy Trinity) (1).	Late 17th century.	Illegible.	None.
Dovercourt (2).	(No. 1) 18th century (early).	No mark.	None.
	(No. 2) c. 1773.	No mark.	<i>On the barrel</i> —"James Clements Esqre High Churchwarden of Dovercourt Essex 1773 Wm Chaser Churchwarden of Dovercourt Essex."
Fairsted (1)	?	No mark.	<i>On the barrel</i> —the letter F.
Heydon (1)	18th century.	R B, a mullet below (? Rich Bache. 1799). (Plate IV., No. 197.)	None.
Latton (a pair)	17th century	Illegible.	None.
Leighs, Little (1)	c. 1688.	I E, a bird below, and 75, within a beaded circle. (Plate I., No. 244.)	None.
Maplestead, Great (1).	1700.	No mark.	<i>Beneath the base</i> —"Maplestead Magna 1700."
Mersea, West (1)	17th century.	No mark.	None.
Newland (S. Lawrence) (1).	1700.	No mark.	<i>On the barrel</i> —"John Spuner bought this Flagon for the Parish of St Larence when he was Churchwarden in ye yeare 1700."
Notley, White (1)	? 17th century.	No mark.	<i>On the handle</i> —"H."
Pleshey (1)	? 1724.	No mark.	None.
Southminster (1)	17th century.	No mark.	<i>On the barrel</i> —"South Minestar John Gray Gent Churchwarden."
Springfield (1)	<sup>15<sup>th</sup></sup> 17th century.	Illegible	None.
Sturmer (1).	c. 1680.	No mark.	None.
Tey, Little (1).	Early 18th century.	No mark.	None.
Thorington (1).	17th century.	No mark.	None.
Totham, Great (1).	Re-constructed from an earlier vessel.		<i>Round the neck</i> —"1825. Restored A D 1878."
Ugley (1).	18th century.	T and C within a plain oblong stamp.	None.
Wennington (1).	17th century.	No mark.	<i>On the body</i> —"Wennington Parish."

14 THE PEWTER COMMUNION VESSELS OF ESSEX CHURCHES.

ALMSDISHES.

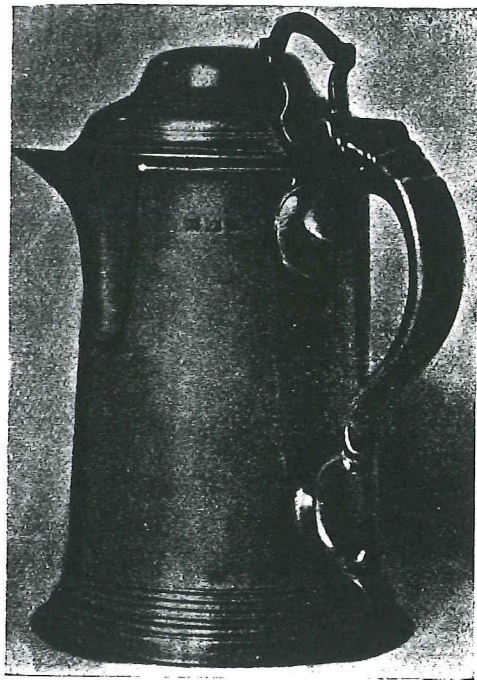
PLACE.	DATE.	MAKER.	INSCRIPTION.
Coggeshall (1).	c. 1678.	No mark.	<i>Initials—R S. W H</i>
Newport (1).	c. 1670.	The mark of Nicholas Kelk: a dexter hand grasping a flower, with the initials N K below, the whole within a beaded circle. (Plate I., No. 5)	None.

*Note.*—There are six almsbasins of pewter at S. Peter's Church, Colchester, having neither marks nor inscriptions.

There is a modern pewter almsdish at Horndon-on-the-Hill.

PLATES.

Alphamstone (1).	Early 18th century.	Illegible.	None.
Barling (a pair).	c. 1678.	Marks on one Plate are illegible. On the other the device of Thomas Deacon: a flaming beacon between the letters T D, palm leaves below: the whole within a plain circle. (Plate I., No. 272.)	None.
Bentley, Great (a pair).	c. 1739.	Dixon.	None.
Berden (1).	18th century.	Illegible.	None.
Boxted (a pair).	c. 1800.	Watts & Harton.	None.
Birdbrook (a pair)	18th century.	No mark.	None.
Bradwell-juxta-mare (1).	c. 1700.	The mark of Thomas Wigley: an armed figure holding the dragon's head between the letters T W, and with the legend Guy, Earl of Warwick. (Plate III., No. 15.)	None.
Bradwell-juxta-Coggeshall (1).	18th century.	Marks almost obliterated: perhaps for Jonathan Cotton, 1704. (Plate III., No. 9.)	None.
Braintree (3).	All 18th century.	Each with different marks. (1) The device of Samuel Ellis: a golden fleece between rings and a fleur-de-lys (Plate IV., No. 158). (2) ? John Jupe, a fleur-de-lys issuing from a rose (Plate IV., No. 28). (3) This Plate has only the name Richard distinct, the rest is obliterated.	None.



WEST BERGHOLT.



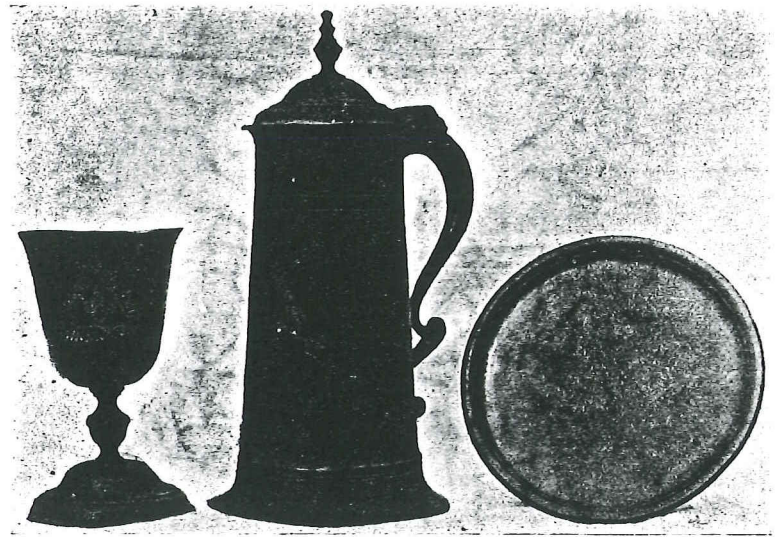
STURMER.



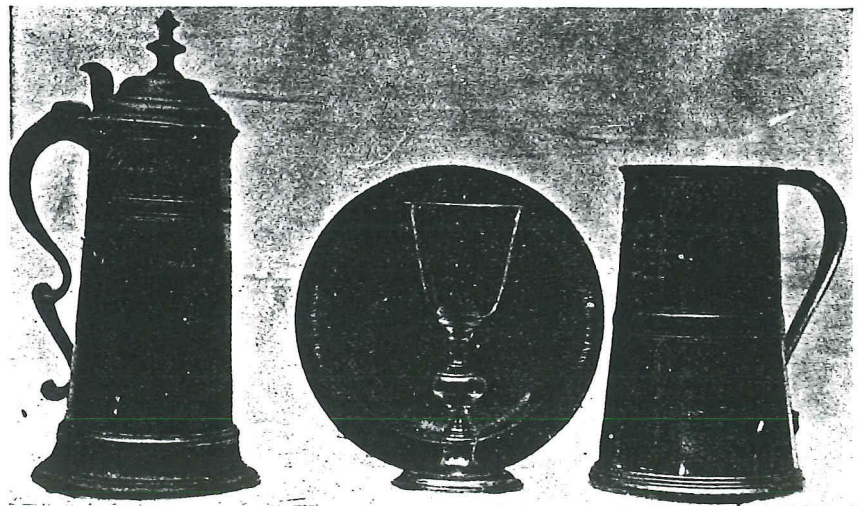
SPRINGFIELD.



GREAT MAPLESTEAD.



PLESHEY, 1724



DOVERCOURT.

NEWLAND S. LAWRENCE

(see p. 6.)

THE PEWTER COMMUNION VESSELS OF ESSEX CHURCHES. 15

PLACE.	DATE.	MAKER.	INSCRIPTION.
Bursted, Great (a pair).	18th century.	No mark.	None.
Burnham- on-Crouch (1).	c. 1780	The device of John Watts: a globe mounted upon a stand. (Plate III., No. 186.)	None.
Canewdon (a pair).	c. 1720.	The device of Richard King: a demi ostrich with out-stretched wings, in its beak a horseshoe. (Plate III., No. 108.)	None.
Chishill, Little (1).	c. 1800.	Compton, in an oval: perhaps for Thomas Compton.	None.
Chrishall (a pair).	18th century.	Rose and crown.	None.
Clacton, Great (a pair).	18th century.	? The worm of a screw.	None.
Colchester (All Saints) (a pair).	c. 1680.	The device of William Burton: a hand grasp- ing a sceptre within a beaded circle. (Plate I., No. 38, and Plate II., No. 3.)	None.
Colne, Wakes (1).	c. 1750.	The device of either Robert or John Jupe. (Plate IV., No. 28.)	None.
Dunmow, Little (a pair).	c. 1738.	The device of Timothy Fly. (Plate III., No. 60.)	None.
Elmdon (a pair).	c. 1724.	A lion rampant, a mullet below.	Elmdon, 1724.
Farnham (1).	c. 1780.	The device of Richard Yates (see West Berg- holt). (Plate IV., No. 180.)	None.
Finchingfield (1).	c. 1750.	The device of a horse's jamb issuing from a coronet.	None.
Hallingbury, Great (a pair).	1723.	The device of Luke John- son: a crowned arrow, point to base, between the figures 2 and 3 be- tween wings, palm leaves below. (Plate III., No. 134.)	<i>On the rim — A crest: Two arms embowed vested and cuffed, between the hands a garb (Wheatley).</i>
Hanningfield, South (1).	c. 1750.	The device of Aquila Dackombe: a bee. (Plate IV., No. 63.)	None.
Hockley (a pair).	c. 1760.	The device of John Vaughan; between pil- lars a holy lamb and flag. (Plate IV., No. 135.)	None.

## 16 THE PEWTER COMMUNION VESSELS OF ESSEX CHURCHES.

PLACE.	DATE.	MAKER.	INSCRIPTION.
Horndon-on-the-Hill (a pair).	c. 1700.	Perhaps the device of Thomas Spring: a fountain with two small birds and palm leaves below. (Plate II., No. 171.)	The letters B over I M.
Leighs, Great (a pair).	c. 1737.	The device of Timothy Fly: a fly. (Plate III., No. 60.)	None.
Maplestead, Great (1).	c. 1760.	The device of Joseph Spackman (Cornhill): a ducal coronet between fleur-de-lys, two crosses paly above, and palm leaves below. (Plate IV., No. 132.)	None.
Mersea, East (a pair)	? 1750.	Marks quite obliterated.	None.
Newland, S. Lawrence (a pair).	c. 1737.	The device of Timothy Fly (see Great Leighs).	None.
Orsett (a pair)	c. 1842.	James Dixon.	Inscribed with the sacred monogram and on the Reverse—"Parish of Orsett Essex 1842."
Paglesham (a pair).	c. 1767.	The device of Thomas Munday: the bust of a man in a wig, within an oval stamp. (Plate IV., No. 128.)	None.
Parndon, Great (a pair).	?	No marks.	Inscribed: "N Platt Rector of Grt Parndon 1891."
Ridgewell (a pair).	c. 1806.	Compton.	None.
Rochford (a pair).	c. 1737.	The device of Timothy Fly (most probably). (Plate III., No. 60.)	None.
Roydon (1).	c. 1700.	Perhaps the device of Jabez Harris: a leopard's head jessant-de-lys within a plain circle. (Plate II., No. 185.)	"ROYDON" in curves.
Saffron Walden (6)	19th century.		<i>Roughly scratched on the Reverse</i> —"Walden Church April 26th 1833."
Saling, Great (1)	c. 1782.	The device of Nathaniel Barber: the arms of John Home— <i>A lion rampant impaling party per bend sinister six martlets.</i> (Plate IV., No. 185.)	None.

THE PEWTER COMMUNION VESSELS OF ESSEX CHURCHES. 17

PLACE.	DATE.	MAKER.	INSCRIPTION.
Stanway (2).	c. 1760.	(No. 1) The device of T. Scatterwood: two hands with hammers beneath a rose. (Plate II., No. 256.)	Inscribed with the letters $\frac{I.C}{W}$ $\frac{W}{M.}$
	c. 1750.	(No. 2) The device of J. Carpenter: a globe and compasses. (Plate III., No. 103.)	None.
Steeple (a pair).	1736.	The device of Timothy Fly. (Plate III., No. 60.)	Steeple cum Stanesgate A D MDCCXXXII.
Stock Harward (a pair).	1841.	The device of Samuel Cocks: two cocks affronté within an oval stamp. (This mark is a later variation of the mark on Plate I., No. 262.)	"Parish of Stock Henry Knightsbridge Churchwarden 1841."
Tey, Great (1).	c. 1760.	The device of John Townsend: a lamb beneath a dove bearing an olive branch, between curved scrolls. (Plate IV., No. 162.)	None.
Thaxted (4).	c. 1740.	The device of Martha Fly.	None.
Thorpe-le-Soken (3).	18th century.	? The worm of a screw.	None.
Thorington (1).	c. 1736.	The device of Timothy Fly.	None.
Warley, Great (1).	c. 1678.	Stamped W G, and with a device: a winged pegasus, all within a beaded circle. (Plate I., No. 313.)	None.
Wenden Lofts (1).	c. 1838.	No mark.	"Wenden Lofts 1838."
Wickford (1).	c. 1760.	The device of Thomas Swanson: a golden fleece between four rings and a fleur-de-lys. (Plate IV., No. 158.)	None.
Wimbish (a pair).	18th century.	The device of Thomas Townsend (see Great Tey).	None.
Woodham Walter (a pair).	c. 1680.	? An armed figure treading upon a serpent (? S. George and the Dragon).	None.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Barnston (an inkstand).	18th century.	No mark.	None.
Dunmow, Little (two inkstands).	18th century.	No mark.	None.
Latton (the base of a candlestick).	17th century.	No mark.	A crest: <i>A demi-lion gu., in his forepaws a ship's rudder sa.</i> (Altham.)
Pleshey (a measure).	18th century.	No mark.	Beneath the base—"W C Plushey."

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

Cups-	-	-	-	4
Patens	-	-	-	7
Flagons	-	-	-	27
Almsdishes	-	-	-	9
Plates	-	-	-	88
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	4
Total number of pieces	-	-	-	<u>139</u>

For the illustration of the Corringham flagon I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. H. W. Lewer, F.S.A.; for that of the Barnston flagon to the Rev. C. J. Ward; for all other photographs to the Rev. Canon F. W. Galpin.

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