

THE BRANDSBY MISSION

THE following is an attempt to trace such records as exist of the priests who served Brandsby from penal times up to April 1934, when the last Mass was said in the house of Mr W. Radcliffe. It has been impossible to form anything like a complete history because throughout no official record has been kept. Accordingly, it has only been possible to put together such scattered evidence as exists of priests who have served the mission there. It may be well to mention at the outset where this evidence is to be found.

From 1820 up to 1923 a baptismal register was kept at Brandsby. This gives the names of priests who have served the mission on occasion, but it does not follow that they were the regular chaplains at the time when they signed the register. In some cases we know that they were not. The Catholic population being so small there are sometimes gaps of several years in which there are no entries, and it is impossible to say who may have been serving the mission. For the years covered by the registers I have only been able to give some account of the priests whose signatures occur. For the period before the register began, the evidence is still more scanty and consists of scattered references among documents published by the Catholic Records Society and elsewhere. I believe I have mentioned all those which deal with the mission at Brandsby, but they form no complete record.

Brandsby came to the Yorkshire Cholmeleys through a marriage with a de la Ryvers in 1568. Whether there was a chapel in the Cholmeleys' house at Brandsby when they first came there we have no means of knowing. There certainly was one in the present Hall, which was built about 1746. It was on the north west of the Hall, and entered by the family from the first floor corridor. On this corridor a priest's hiding hole was provided. The Catholics of the district entered the chapel from the court-yard by a narrow staircase. The predecessor of the present Hall was built about a hundred years earlier, and

during the seventeenth century at least it is not likely to have had a permanent chapel. There were however often priests there, and Mass was no doubt said in a room, as it was in the drawing-room at Gilling.

The first mention of priests being at Brandsby is in the year 1604. In a "list of the Roman Catholics in the County of York, transcribed from the original MS. in the Bodleian Library, and edited with genealogical notes" in 1872 by Edward Peacock, there appears the following: "Memorandum that many strange persons repaire to the house of Mrs. Ursaley Cholmley which come not to the Church and there hath been seminaries kept in her house" (p. 121). Who those seminary priests were, or how long they stayed, we have no means of knowing.

In "Father Pollard's recollections of the Yorkshire Mission" printed in *Troubles of our Catholic Forefathers*, by Fr Morris (Third Series), there is an interesting reference to the Cholmeleys of Brandsby at this time. The recollections are printed from the original MS. at Stonyhurst College which is endorsed: "Annals of F. Polla(rd). Divers examples of cruelty and persecution in England especially abt York and of the constancy of Catholics in the time of King James 1610 Oct." The passage reads: "I omit likewise as ordinary the taking of priests by searches in gentlemen's houses and to what troubles they have been taken as namely Mr Chumley who being betrayed by his own servants, had two priests taken in his house and being begged by a nobleman, the Lord Montgomery, was forced with charges of £1000 and a half (£1500) to redeem himself" (p. 464).

In the list of the Roman Catholics in the County of York in 1604 published by Peacock (p. 121), there appears the following entry: "Richard Cholmeley Esquire married with Mary Hungate in the presence of John Wilson (Nelson), William Martin, Hugh Pope, and Christopher Danyell in a fell with a popish priest as they hear."

In the records of the Dean and Chapter of York under the date March 1st, 1603-4, is a deposition by one John Nelson

concerning this romantic marriage in a wood at ten o'clock at night by the light of a candle-lantern. It is quoted at length in a footnote to the above passage from Fr Morris' *Troubles of our Catholic Forefathers* (p. 464).

It is possible that the two priests were taken in Mr Cholmeley's house as a result of the betrayal of this marriage. Fr Morris assumes that this was so, but it need not have been, as the marriage took place in January and the deposition was not made till March 1st. As this Richard Cholmeley was the son of Mrs Ursula Cholmeley it is likely that the priest who performed this marriage was one of the "seminaryes" said to have been in her house. The dates correspond.

The earliest record of what might properly be called a chaplain to the Cholmeleys at Bransby is in a list containing particulars of priests in England and Wales compiled in 1692 and preserved in the archives of the "Old Brotherhood." It was published by the Catholic Records Society in 1911 (Vol. IX, p. 116). Under the heading "In the City of York" mention is made of "Mr Robert Vintner of Doway about 55 and been I believe 15 or 16 years on the Mission. An able discreet and portly man but grown so fatt, unwieldy and infirm of late that he can act little, so was forced to give over Holdonter parish of 15 lb a year or better and has now only some few at York, Esq's Cholmly at Bransby and 2 or 3 Familys there about to assist. I hear he will winter at Bransby 8 miles from York." Nothing further is known of this secular priest, and the next reference to a chaplain at Bransby is in Birt's *Obit Book of the English Benedictines* (p. 79). Here it is stated that D. William Philipson, a monk of St Edmund's, was probably at Bransby in 1714. In the obituaries of secular priests, 1722-1783, belonging to the Old Brotherhood, formerly the Old Chapter of England, and printed by the Catholic Records Society (Vol. XII) there is the following entry (p. 6): "Mr Henry Kenett died at Mrs Cholmeleys at Bransby in Yorkshire Feb. 6th 1742-3."¹ This Fr Henry Kennett appears also in the

¹ 1742 according to the dating of the time, as it was only in 1751 that a law was passed in England making the year begin on Jan. 1st instead of March 25th.

list of recusants contained in Archbishop Blackburn's visitation returns of the diocese of York, 1735. Among the recusants put down by the rector of Brandsby there appears "Henry Kennett a Popish priest." It was added "Mass is understood to be performed in the house of Thos Cholmley esqr to wch also there is a Resort of Papists on the Lord's Day." (C.R.S., Vol. XXXII, p. 224). A note adds that he was an alumnus of Doway and came on the Mission in 1691. In June 1728, Bishop Williams, O.P., the Vicar Apostolic of the Northern district, made a visitation at Brandsby and confirmed thirty. In the official record of this Fr Kennett is mentioned as chaplain (C.R.S., Vol. XXV, p. 112), so that he was at Brandsby by 1728, though how much earlier he came there we do not know. In the absence of any evidence to the contrary we may presume he stayed there until his death in Mrs Cholmeley's house in 1743.

Canon Ollard in an appendix (A) to his edition of Archbishop Herring's Visitation Returns, York Diocese, 1743,¹ commenting on the returns for Brandsby writes: "Ten of the thirty-four families here were Roman Catholic, but the curate in charge states clearly that there was 'no meeting house of any sort' in the parish. He wrote no doubt from accurate information for at the time of this visitation the post of missionary seems to have been vacant. The Cholmleys of Brandsby were Roman Catholics and had a chaplain resident in the house, the Rev. Henry Kennett, a secular priest trained at Douay, left there in 1691, and was at Brandsby for fifty years till he died a few months before this visitation began, 6th Feb. 1742". This presumes that Fr Kennett came straight to Brandsby when he came on the mission in 1691, but I do not think that there is any definite evidence that he did and Fr Vintner seems to have been here in 1692 (see p. 116 above). According to Birt, Dom William Philipson was probably there in 1714, but I do not know what further evidence there is for this and he may have been there with Fr Kennett for a short time. Canon Ollard continues: "He seems not to have been permanently

¹Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Record Series, Vol. LXXVII, p. 199.

replaced till Fr Philip Rogers, S.J., came between 1745 and 1747. During the vacancy the Roman Catholics were probably served from missions at Gilling, Oulston, and Easingwold, all within a few miles." I am indebted to Fr Fitzgibbon, S.J., of Farm Street for the information that Fr Philip Rogers, S.J., appears in the catalogues of the English Province of 1746, 1748, 1750, 1752, as serving the Worcester District. There is no catalogue for 1745 or 1747. He was stationed in the Yorkshire District from 1753 and died there in 1761. It is conceivable that Fr Rogers had to leave the Worcester District at the time of the rising of the '45, but I know of no evidence for this.

In "An account of the missions served by the English Benedictines" compiled by Abbot Allanson,¹ and which is an appendix to the third volume of his history, a few of the priests who served Brandsby are mentioned. They first come under the entry "1761 Fr Bennet Catteral who left in 1764." He was a monk of St Edmund's, who had been professed in 1743 and died in 1791, the confessor to the nuns in Paris for the last seven years of his life. Allanson's next entry is "1771 Fr Michael Lacon who left in 1792." This Fr Lacon was professed for St Gregory's in 1761 and was Provincial of York from 1785-1806. The years intervening between Fr Catteral's leaving and Fr Lacon's arrival are not accounted for by Allanson, though part of this gap is apparently filled up by D. Lancelot Bede Newton who, according to Birt, was at Brandsby, Plompton and Beaufront between 1766-1774. Since Fr Lacon came to Brandsby in 1771, Fr Newton must have been there between 1766-1771. Dom Bede Newton, according to Birt, was professed at Lambspring in 1732, was Prior in 1748 and sent on the English Mission in the South Province in 1750. He was later transferred to the Northern Province and was at Gilling Castle till 1761.

In a volume at Farm Street entitled *Catalogi Varii Provinciae Angliae* and published by the Catholic Records Society (Vol. XII) there is a list of the addresses of the Stations in England

¹ He was an Ampleforth monk and became Provincial of the Northern Province and Annalist of the English Benedictine Congregation.

served by the Jesuit Fathers 1727-34. Among these is mentioned (p. 162) Brandsby, Co. York, but with the date 1767 after it in brackets. There seems, however, to be no trace of which Fathers were there; Fr Henry Kennett was certainly there in 1728 and 1735, and Dom Bede Newton in 1767.

In a list of addresses for 1768, however, also at Farm Street, Fr Fitzgibbon tells me that Fr Thomas Meynell, S.J., is given the address Brandsby Hall, Easingwold. From the Records of the English Province S.J. (Collectanea, Part I, p. 504) it appears that this priest was serving the Yorkshire missions (being chiefly with the Stapletons at Carlton) from 1764-1773. After the suppression of the Society he lived in London where he died in 1804.

The appendix to Allanson's History quoted above gives Fr Jerom Coupe as succeeding Fr Lacon in 1792 until 1794. After a couple of isolated references referring to a later date which will be considered in their proper place, the document goes on: "Fr Jerom Coupe being dismissed from Brandsby in 1794 to make room for a French Priest who was to be employed in teaching the French language to the children at the Hall, he attempted to fix his residence at Coxwold, but my Lord Fauconberg's steward would not allow him to live on any part of the estate; so he purchased a cottage and small garden at Craike, which was the nearest place to Oulston, which he could meet with, and there built a chapel in 1794, where the people of Oulston attended until the following year, when a chapel was built in the village of Oulston. From this period he continued to say Mass alternately on Sundays at both places. His means of support at first were scanty, as he had only £15 a year for attending Oulston and £30 from Mr Cholmeley for attending the Brandsby congregation." The French emigré priest was evidently unable to do more than to teach the children French and Fr Coupe continued to look after the mission.

In this same appendix to Allanson's History, just before the names and dates quoted above, appears the statement: "The Cholmeley family was originally served by the Jesuits,

but they were superseded by the Benedictines till a French priest was taken into the family in 1794. After some years the convent at Ampleforth undertook to send a priest to Brandsby to say Mass on Sundays and Holydays and the practice continued till 1849 when a resident Benedictine was fixed there." We have seen the references to Jesuits being stationed at Brandsby, and also that it is probable that Fr Henry Kennett was there at least from 1728 until his death in 1743. Such records as exist of Benedictines who served it later in the century have also been mentioned.

With the foundation in 1802 of what Allanson calls the "convent" at Ampleforth the stage was set for a new era in the history of the Brandsby mission, as it came to be served direct from that house, but precisely when this was, unfortunately we do not know.

After 1794 Fr Jerome Coupe was receiving £30 a year to look after the Brandsby Congregation from Craike. He continued to serve Craike and Oulston until 1826 when he retired to Ampleforth (Birt's *Obits*, p. 136). As a special baptismal register began to be kept at Brandsby in 1820 it is likely that Fr Jerome Coupe continued to serve it until that date, and then priests began to be sent over from Ampleforth. But of this we cannot be certain. The first Brandsby register is a small note book with baptismal entries extending from November 19th, 1820 to August 2nd, 1840, and at the back of the book the registration of one marriage performed at Brandsby on 13th November, 1839 by Thomas Margison. In 1840 the book was sent to the Commissioners at Somerset House where it still is. From 1840 until 1923 the Brandsby baptisms were entered in another book which is now at Ampleforth. From the latter date there has been no special register for Brandsby and the baptisms have been entered in the Ampleforth register. For the period covered by the entries in these books the only indication of the chaplains at Brandsby is the signatures of the priests who performed the baptisms. In some cases it is clear that these were only there for the occasion, but as the entries are so few (often only one or two in a year) it is not

always possible to tell whether a priest served the mission regularly for any length of time or not. Under the circumstances it has seemed best to give a list of the signatures and the years in which they occur, adding in the form of notes such comments or elucidation as may be possible.

For the sake of clarity the foregoing results may first be summarised.

- 1604 "Seminaryes."
 c. 1692 Fr Robert Vintner.
 1714 Dom William Philipson (St Edmund's).
 1728-43 Fr Henry Kennett (and possibly earlier).
 1745 or 1747 for an unknown period possibly Fr Philip Rogers, S.J.
 1761-64 Dom Benet Catterall (St Edmund's).
 1766-71 at Brandsby, Plompton, and Beaufront, Dom Lancelot Bede Newton (Lamspring).
 1768 Fr Thomas Meynell, S.J.
 1771-92 Dom Michael Lacon (St Gregory's).
 1792-94 Dom Jerome Coupe (St Laurence's).
 1794-1820 apparently served by Dom Jerome Coupe from Crayke.

The following is the list of signatures :—

- 1820 Thomas Rooker 1 (Miss : Apost :)
 1822 " " (twice.)
 1823 " "
 1824 " "
 1825 " " (six times.)
 1826 " "
 1827 Christopher Shann 2
 1828 " "

1. Thomas Rooker was clothed at Ampleforth on October 12th, 1806. He was ordained subdeacon on January 25th, 1819 by Bishop Slater, and deacon and priest probably on the days following. In 1830 he went to Prior Park with Prior Burgess. In 1849 he became President of Prior Park. He died in 1857.
2. Christopher Austin Shann was clothed at Ampleforth in 1818, ordained in 1824, and went on the mission to Scarisbrook 1824-26. He returned to Ampleforth 1826-29, when he apparently served Brandsby. From 1829-31 he was at Morpeth, returning to Ampleforth 1831-34. According

1829	Thomas Rooker
1829	(repeated) William Hampson 1 (twice.)
1835	Placid Sinnot 2
1838	James Dowding, M.A. 3
—	James Sheridan 4
1840	” ”

to Birt he served Brandsby from Ampleforth 1833-34, but there are no entries in the register for these years. He was the last resident priest at Brandsby (see below). The fund for the maintenance of a resident chaplain was only a temporary arrangement and ceased on the death of the present Mr Cholmeley's grandfather in 1854. Father Shann was appointed to Ormskirk in 1854. He was a member of the General Chapter of the English Benedictine Congregation and Cathedral Prior of Norwich. He died April 25th, 1860 at Little Crosby.

1. William Jerome Hampson was clothed at Ampleforth in 1818 and ordained priest in 1826. He was cellarer and temporary superior of St Laurence's on the resignation of Prior Burgess in 1830. According to Birt he was sent on the mission in the Northern Province to Brandsby in 1834-35, but his signature does not occur again. He retired to Ampleforth in 1867 and died there the same year.
2. Michael Placid Sinnot was a Downside monk who was lent to Ampleforth when a deacon at the Easter of 1831. He was ordained priest at Ushaw on 24th September of the same year, and was sent on the mission in the Southern Province at Little Malvern in 1835. He retired to Downside in 1890 and died there in 1896.
3. The M.A. stands for Missionary Apostolic (cf. Fr Thomas Rooker above). A number of the Benedictine Fathers who signed the Ampleforth Registers about this time put it after their names. James Hilary Dowding was clothed (for the second time) at Ampleforth in 1832, and ordained in 1834. He went on the mission at Little Crosby in 1838. He may have served Brandsby from 1835, but the only signature occurs in 1838, evidently shortly before he went on the mission. He died at Aigburth in 1864.
4. The year of this entry is uncertain. It is not put in the margin opposite as usual, and the entry runs: "Die 30 Decembris baptizatus est Thomas filius Johannis et Mariae Wheatly (olim Dobson) conjugum—natus est autem die 18 Dec 1839—James Sheridan." It would not have been very extraordinary that Thomas Wheatley should have been born on the 18th December, 1839 and baptized on the 30th December of the same year. But the way the entry is made seems to imply a notable period between birth and baptism, as though the baptism were on the 30th December, 1840, and this is borne out by the fact that James Sheridan, who was clothed at Ampleforth in 1831, was only ordained deacon on 31st December, 1839 and priest on January 1st, 1840. He went on the mission at Birtley in 1841, and died at St. Mary's, Liverpool in 1860.

1840	Thomas Jackson	1
1846	J. B. Thomas, M.A.	2
	Thomas Almond	3
1848	”	” (twice.)
1849	Patrick Dunne	4 (four times.)
1850	Patrick Dunne	

1. Thomas Bernard Jackson was clothed at Ampleforth in 1834 and ordained in 1839; he went on the mission at St Peter's, Liverpool in 1843. This is the last baptismal entry in the old book. As has been mentioned, there is the registration of one marriage which was performed by Thomas Margison in 1839. He was an Ampleforth monk who was clothed in 1831, ordained in 1837, and went to St Peter's, Liverpool in 1840. He was well remembered for his fidelity to Ampleforth during the Prior Park episode. He became a member of General Chapter and Cathedral Prior of Peterborough, and died in 1891.
2. Four baptisms at Brandsby in the years 1846 and 1848 are to be found by themselves near the end of the Ampleforth baptismal register 1802-56. The two entries for 1848 are repeated in the second Brandsby register. John Basil Thomas was clothed at Ampleforth in 1834 and ordained in 1838. He went on the mission the same year till 1846, when he came back to Ampleforth for four years.
3. Thomas Bede Almond was professed at Ampleforth in 1838 and ordained in 1845. According to Birt he went on the mission at St Mary's, Liverpool, in 1847 and was there till 1873, but as he signed the Brandsby register twice in 1848 it looks as though this were incorrect.
4. Patrick Alban Dunne was professed at Ampleforth in 1845 and ordained in 1848. In the appendix to Allanson's History quoted above there is the following entry: "Brandsby served from the convent at Ampleforth till 1849. 1849 Fr Alban Dunne who left in 18—. Fr Ambrose Gillet who was there in 1850." This looks as though Fr Dunne became resident there in 1849, and Birt says that he went on the mission in the Northern Province in 1849-50. In fact it seems certain that Frs Dunne, Gillet, Proctor, and Shann were resident at Brandsby between 1849 and 1854. (See notes on these Fathers.) Mr W. C. Fairfax Cholmeley writes: "At one time, I believe during my grandfather's time there was a resident priest at Brandsby. He lived in the cottage at the right hand side of the York road below Brandsby and below the white house now occupied by Mr Gibb. When we went to live at Brandsby as children the cottage was still called the 'Priest's House.'" In a memoir of Sister Mary of St Francis de Sales Radcliffe written by her cousin Mother Mary Ignatius Radcliffe and now in the possession of Mr W. Radcliffe of Bulmer, late of Stearsby, it is stated that—"the Rev. Ambrose Gillet, O.S.B., the resident priest at Brandsby Hall, was Anne's director, when in 1852 she decided to join our holy Order." Mr Cholmeley's grandfather died in 1854.

1850	George Gillett 1	(three times.)
1851	" "	(twice.)
1852	James Shepherd 2	
	J. C. Proctor 3	(twice.)
1853	J. C. Proctor	(four times.)
1854	C. Shann 4	
1855	T. A. Bury 5	(four times.)
	J. C. Proctor 6	
1856	T. A. Bury	(three times.)
1857	" "	(three times.)
1859	R. A. Cooper 7	

- George Ambrose Gillett was a monk of St Edmund's, clothed in 1839 and ordained in 1845. According to Birt he was sent on the mission to St Mary's, Liverpool 1849-52, was at Brandsby Hall 1852 and Lawkland 1852-56. The register does not bear this out.
- James Laurence Shepherd was clothed at Ampleforth in 1843. He made his studies with Brother Austin Bury at Parma and returned to Ampleforth and was ordained in 1849. He was Prefect and Novice Master at Ampleforth before he went on the mission in 1855. He was for many years chaplain at Stanbrook, and translated Dom Gueranger's *Liturgical Year*. As he signed the register on August 8th and Fr Proctor on August 9th and again later, it looks as though he were not the regular chaplain but only there for the occasion.
- John Cuthbert Proctor was clothed at Ampleforth in 1845 and ordained in 1851. According to Birt he went on the mission to Brandsby 1852-54.
- This is the same Christopher Shann who signed the first register in 1827, and is said by Birt to have served Brandsby from Ampleforth 1833-34. He went on the mission for the second time in 1835 according to Birt, and was at Brandsby in 1854.
- Thomas Austin Bury was clothed at Ampleforth in 1843. He studied at Parma under Abbot Bianchi from 1845 to 1848, and was ordained at Ampleforth in 1850. He had a considerable reputation as a Greek scholar and theologian and was much consulted on theological questions. He went on the mission at St Mary's, Liverpool, in 1860. He was Provincial of York from 1878 to 1883, Cathedral Prior of Canterbury 1883, and Abbot without title the same year. In 1888 he became Abbot of Evesham. He retired to Brownedge in 1894 and died there in 1904.
- According to Birt he had a lot of changes about this time. He was at Brandsby 1852-54, Whitehaven 1854, St Augustine's, Liverpool, 1854-55, Ampleforth 1855, Brownedge 1855. But he did not even remain there long. It seems this was an occasional visit from Ampleforth.
- Ralph Wilfrid Cooper was professed at Ampleforth in 1836 and ordained in 1844. He went on the mission in Liverpool the following year, but returned to Ampleforth as Prior from 1850 to 1863, during which time

1859	T. A. Bury	(four times.)
1860	„ „	(five times.)
1861	J. A. Hickey 1	(three times.)
1862	„ „	(three times.)
1863	„ „	(six times.)
1864	„ „	(five times.)
1865	„ „	
	W. R. Woods 2	
1866	„ „	
1867	„ „	(twice.)
	W. B. Prest 3	
1868	W. R. Woods	(four times.)
1869	„ „	
	T. S. Kearney 4	
1870	T. S. Kearney	(three times.)
1871	„ „	
	J. B. Talbot 5	

he built and opened the main college building. He was made Cathedral Prior of Worcester in 1870 and was Definitor of the Northern Province from 1870 to 1877. He died at Clayton Green in the latter year. This was evidently only an occasional visit to Brandsby.

1. James Aidan Hickey was clothed at Ampleforth in 1849 and ordained in 1856. In 1865 he went on the mission at Ormskirk. From 1883 to 1888 he was Provincial of York. He became Cathedral Prior of Canterbury and Abbot without title. He died in 1888.
2. William Romuald Woods was clothed at Ampleforth in 1851 and ordained in 1859. In 1869 he went to Belmont where he remained for the rest of his life. He was Canon Theologian of Newport and Menevia and Subprior of Belmont for about thirty years. He became Cathedral Prior of Bath in 1888, and of Rochester in 1901. He died in 1907.
3. William Bede Prest was clothed in 1849 and ordained in 1856. He was Procurator from 1851-66, Subprior 1860-66, and Prior 1866-74. He became Cathedral Prior of Coventry in 1874, of Winchester in 1883, and Titular Abbot of York in 1901. This was evidently an odd visit to Brandsby.
4. Thomas Stephen Kearney was clothed in 1861 and ordained in 1868. He went on the mission in Liverpool in 1871, and was Prior of Ampleforth from 1874 to 1880. He was the regular Brandsby chaplain from 1869-71. From this date the chaplains are within living memory, and I am indebted to Fr Hilary Willson for the early part of the list.
5. James Benedict Talbot was clothed at Belmont for St Laurence's in 1862, ordained in 1869 and went on the mission at Ormskirk in 1873. He succeeded Fr Kearney as Brandsby chaplain.

1872	—————	
1873	H. B. Hurworth	1
1874	J. C. Pippet	2 (three times.)
	W. L. Farrant	3
	F. W. Sumner	4
1875	J. M. Potter	5
1876	T. B. Feeny	6 (twice.)
1876	B. S. Wade	7
1877	„ „	(three times.)
1878	„ „	
1879	„ „	(five times.)8

1. Henry Basil Hurworth was clothed in 1856 and ordained in 1864. He was Prefect of Students at Ampleforth from 1866-72. In 1873 he went on the mission at Dowlais. He was Prior of Ampleforth from 1883-5, and later Canon of Newport and Menevia and Secretary to Bishop Hedley. He retired, first to Ampleforth, and then to Belmont, where he died in 1907. This was an occasional visit to Brandsby.
2. John Cuthbert Pippet was clothed 1863, ordained 1872, and went on the mission in 1880. In 1917 he was made Titular Cathedral Prior of Durham. He died in May, 1923. He succeeded Fr Talbot as the regular Brandsby chaplain.
3. William Laurence Farrant was clothed at Belmont for St Laurence's in 1863, ordained in 1871 and went on the mission in 1884. Neither Fr Farrant nor Fr Sumner were regular chaplains.
4. Francis Wilfrid Sumner was clothed at Belmont in 1862 ordained in 1869, and was Prefect, Junior-Master, and Subprior before going on the mission in 1880. He retired to Ampleforth 1901 and died there in 1909.
5. John Maurus Potter was clothed in 1868, ordained in 1874, and went on the mission the next year. After his ordination he succeeded Fr Pippet as chaplain.
6. Thomas Basil Feeny was clothed 1867 and ordained 1875. After his ordination he succeeded Fr Pippet as chaplain until he went on the mission in 1877. He was made Titular Cathedral Prior of Chester in 1917 and kept the Diamond Jubilee of his priesthood September 16th, 1935. He died October 24th, 1935.
7. Bernard Stephen Wade was clothed in 1866, ordained in 1874, and went on the mission in 1879. He became a canon of Newport and Menevia in 1892, and built the church and priory at Merthyr Tydvil. He succeeded Fr Feeny at Brandsby.
8. Fr Bernard Adrian Beauvoisin succeeded Fr Stephen Wade. He was clothed in 1871, and ordained in 1879. He went on the mission at St Mary's, War-rington, in 1882, and died at Brynmawr in 1906.

1879	J. P. McAuliffe 1 (four times.)
	F. W. Sumner
1880	J. P. McAuliffe
	Geo. Angus 2
1881	C. Harrington Moore 3
	G. Angus
	Thos. Craven 4
1882	” ” (twice.)
1883	William Eager 5 (twice.)
1884	J. O. Smith 6 (three times.)
1885	” ”
1886	M. E. Duggan 7 (four times.)
1887	” ”
1888	” ” (three times.)

1. John Placid McAuliffe was clothed in 1865 and ordained in 1874. He was Prefect at Ampleforth and died there in 1880. He was possibly chaplain at Brandsby for a few months.
2. A secular priest belonging to the Archdiocese of Westminster. He was a friend of Mr Thomas Cholmeley's and used to stay at Brandsby during the summer holidays.
3. A secular priest of the Westminster Archdiocese. He was at this time attached to the Pro-Cathedral, Our Lady of Victories, Kensington. He was also a friend of Mr Thomas Cholmeley and used to stay at Brandsby.
4. Thomas Craven was clothed in 1874 and ordained in 1881. He was chaplain at Brandsby before going on the mission at St Mary's, Warrington, in 1883.
5. William Alexius Eager was clothed in 1871 and ordained in 1879. He went to Fort Augustus as Prefect in the school from 1876-83. He was at Belmont, and Canon of Newport and Menevia from 1884-97. Later he was on the mission at Warrington, Liverpool, and Mayfield. He died in 1900 and is buried at Ampleforth. He was a regular chaplain at Brandsby.
6. Joseph Oswald Smith was professed in 1873 and ordained in 1880. In 1886 he went to Belmont as Professor of philosophy, and in 1888 was made a Canon of Newport and Menevia. He became Prior of Ampleforth in 1898, first Abbot of Ampleforth in 1900, and Abbot President of the English Congregation in 1921. He died November 4th, 1924. He succeeded Fr Eager as chaplain at Brandsby.
7. Michael Elphege Duggan was clothed in 1877 and ordained in 1885. He went on the mission in 1889. In 1914 he was made a Canon of Newport and Menevia, and in 1920 an Honorary Canon of Cardiff. He died on December 18th, 1921. He was regular chaplain after Abbot Smith.

1890	H. S. Kerr, S.J. ¹
1891	B. Gibbons ² (twice.)
1892	B. Polding ³ (ceremonies supplied later by Fr Gibbons.)
	B. Gibbons
1893	B. Gibbons (four times.)
	B. Polding
1894	B. Gibbons
1895	J. C. Almond ⁴
	Matthew Brierley ⁵
1896	" "
1897	J. A. Clarke ⁶ (twice.)
1898	T. A. Hind ⁷ (twice.)
1903	J. B. Turner ⁸

1. Fr Kerr was at this time stationed at Bournemouth. He was a friend of the Maxwell-Scotts to whom the Hall was let at this time.
2. Fr Bernard Gibbons was clothed in 1881 and ordained in 1889. He is now Rector of St Austin's, Grassendale. He succeeded Fr Polding as Brandsby chaplain.
3. Fr Bede Polding was clothed in 1878 and ordained in 1885. He succeeded Fr Duggan as chaplain at Brandsby.
4. John Cuthbert Almond was clothed in 1870, ordained in 1877, and went on the mission in the same year, but was back at Ampleforth 1894-1900. From 1909-14 he was religious superior of the Ampleforth Oxford House. He died at Ampleforth on February 25th, 1927. He was never the regular Brandsby chaplain.
5. Matthew Brierley was clothed in 1850 and ordained in 1857. He went on the mission in 1858, but was back at Ampleforth from 1894-96 before going out again. He died at Maryport in 1901. He was chaplain at Brandsby after Fr Gibbons.
6. Fr Aelred Clarke was clothed in 1886 and ordained in 1894. He is now Rector of St Alban's, Warrington, and was regular chaplain at Brandsby after Fr Brierley.
7. Thomas Austin Hind was clothed in 1888, ordained in 1896, and was Rector of the school from 1900 till he went on the mission at St Anne's, Liverpool, in 1903. He was a member of General Chapter, and became Cathedral Prior of Durham in 1933. He died April 20th, 1935. He succeeded Fr Clarke as chaplain.
8. Abbot Bede Turner was professed in 1889 and ordained in 1896. He was Procurator of Ampleforth from 1902 till 1934, and Prior from 1919 till 1935. He was made Cathedral Prior of Durham in 1923 and has been Titular Abbot of Westminster since 1933. He was chaplain at Brandsby after Fr Hind from 1903 till 1924.

1906	W. T. Rylance 1
	J. B. Turner
1908	” ”
1909	” ”
1910	” ” (twice.)
	J. A. Clarke
1911-1923	J. B. Turner

1. Fr Theodore Rylance was professed in 1895 and ordained in 1901. He is now parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard's, Lostock Hall, Preston.

In 1923 a special register ceased to be kept for Brandsby and the baptisms were entered in the Ampleforth register.

After his marriage in 1904 Mr H. Cholmeley lived in London and Brighton, and in 1906 he determined to terminate the chaplaincy at Brandsby. It was arranged, however, for a chapel to be built on to the Home Farm House where Mr Thomas Radcliffe lived. The Radcliffes were an old Catholic family who had been tenants of Stearsby farm, near Brandsby, for about three hundred years, and Mass was said at the Home Farm till the death of Miss Elizabeth Radcliffe in 1920. Just before the Great War, Mr W. Fairfax Cholmeley had left Italy and come to live at Barfield, Brandsby. In 1920 the chapel was removed from the Home Farm to Barfield and continued there till 1925, when Mr W. Cholmeley went to live in London. Mass was said for the last time in his house on October 11th. The chapel, however, was removed to Mr W. Radcliffe's house at Stearsby, a mile and a half away from Brandsby. Mass was said there for the first time on October 18th, 1925, and continued to be said there till 1934.

In September 1924 Abbot Turner gave up the Brandsby mission after serving it for twenty-one years. He was succeeded by Fr Joseph Smith who continued to serve it till September 1929. During this period he began to say Mass once a month at Hovingham in a room lent by The Worsley Arms. He was succeeded by Fr Christopher Williams who served the mission till September 1932, when his brother, Fr Raphael Williams,

took over from him and remained as long as the chapel was at Stearsby. During all this time Mass continued to be said once a month at Hovingham. In April, 1934 Mr W. Radcliffe left Stearsby, and Mass was said there for the last time on April 1st of that year. With that the history of what was still generally known as the Brandsby mission came to an end.

From May 1934 to April 1937 Mr Henry Scrope had a chapel at Stonegrave which was served every week by Fr Gerard Sitwell. This supplied the needs of the Hovingham Catholics, but since it has been closed Mass is again said at Hovingham once a month.

F.G.S.