

JESUS COLLEGE OXFORD

JC:F8

WILLIAM DYKE (FELLOW 1835-62)

William Dyke, the second son of Thomas of Monmouth, matriculated from Exeter College on 27 January 1831 aged 17. He was elected a Fellow of Jesus, and shortly after election was awarded a Third in Literae Humaniores. Dykes was appointed to the College living of Bagendon in 1861, and resigned his Fellowship in the following year. He died at Bagendon in 1880.

The only document relating to Dyke in the archives is this manuscript. It was presumably presented to the College soon after its composition, and placed in the library, where it was catalogued as MS 375. It was transferred to the archives at some time before 2016.

Catalogued in February 2021.

JC:F8/MSI/1

1872

Manuscript titled "Oxford during The Parliamentary Visitation of 1647, being a NOTICE of the Life of Francis Mansell DD, Principal of Jesus College, By a former Fellow [i.e. William Dyke]. Oxford 1872".

The first page is an introduction by Dyke, in which he explains that this manuscript follows up on an edition by Edward Owen (Fellow 1849-63) of the life of Francis Mansell by Sir Leoline Jenkins, published in 1854, for which Dyke contributed many of the notes. When the book came out, Dyke made a few more notes on Jenkins's life, and laid them aside. He explained "they are now given to the light, because it is probable that the doings of a Commission issued by a triumphant Parliament and the tempers of the members of the University in the 17 century may afford an interesting comparison with those of the 19th, when a vindictive Minister uses the Royal Prerogative as an alternative of a threatened Parliamentary Commission".

The text proper of the manuscript is based around extensive quotations from Jenkins's life, especially relating to Mansell's vicissitudes in the 1640s and 1650s, with long commentaries by Dyke, which bring in material from the College's archives and some other authorities, such as Anthony Wood.

On fol. 7 Dykes discusses the rebuilding of the College by J. C. Buckler and the redecoration of the Chapel by G. E. Street. It is clear that he prefers the former.