



**Rev. William Stump, of Yatton Keynell from (at least) 1633 to 1657**

**Yatton Keynell.** Is a Parsonage worth Fowre score pounds per annum. And that Mr. William Stump is the present Incumbent and receiveth the proffitts both of the Gleabe worth thirty five pounds per annum and of the Tythes worth Forty five pounds per annum wee cannot free him from scandall.

**Source: The Wiltshire Archaeological & Natural History Magazine, June 1920, using Church Survey in Wilts, 1649 –1650**

John Aubrey tells the tale of how old manuscripts from the Abbey of Malmesbury were used by the Rev. William Stump:

Anno 1633, I entred into my grammar at the latin schoole at Yatton-Keynel, in the church, where the curate, Mr. Hart, taught the eldest boyes Virgil, Ovid, Cicero, &c. The fashion then was to save the binding of the bookes with a false cover of parchment, sc. old manuscript, which I [could not] was too young to understand ; but I was pleased with the elegancy of the writing and the coloured initiall letters. I remember the rector here, Mr. Wm. Stump, great gr.-son of the cloathier of Malmesbury, had severall manuscripts of the abbey. He was a proper man and a good fellow ; and, when he brewed a barrell of speciall ale, his use was to stop the bung- hole, under the clay, with a sheet of manuscript ; he sayd nothing did it so well : which me thought did grieve me then to see. ...

In my grandfather's dayes the manuscripts flew about like butterflies. All musick bookes, account bookes, copie bookes, etc, were covered in old manuscripts, as today we cover them in blew paper or marbled paper; and the glovers at Malmesbury made great havock of them; and gloves were wrapt up no doubt in many good pieces of antiquity. Before the late warres a world of rare manuscripts perished thereabout; for within half a dozen miles of this place were the abbey of Malmesbury, where it may be presumed the library was as well furnished with choice copies as most libraries of England. ....

Anno 1647, I went to Parson Stump out of curiosity, to see his manuscripts, whereof I had seen some in my childhood ; but by that time they were lost and disperst. His sons were gunners and souldiers, and scoured their gunnes with them ; but he shewed me severall old deedes granted by the Lords Abbotts, with their seales annexed, which I suppose his sonn Capt. Tho. Stump of Malmesbury hath still.

**From book The Natural History of Wiltshire, by John Aubrey, c. 1668.**

14 Sep 1657 Here occurs the burial of Rev. Wm. Stumpe, minister – **Parish Register Entry**