Notes from the Records of

By W. R. W.

"St Margaret's Westminster" Parish, Anne Arundel Co.

Act 1722. Ch. 3. "part of St Paul's Parish in Baltimore Co. was united to Westminster Parish in Anne Arundel Co."
Reply to the Church of England Planters First Letter respecting the Clergy. Annapolis 1770. page 20.

Act 1742 Ch. 15. "St Pauls Par. in Balt. Co. was divided, and part thereof, lying in Anne Arundel Co., was united to Westminster Parish", the partition being directed to take place after the death of the Rev Benedict Bourdillon." Reply &c. page 20.

The Parish has $10000 in Bank Stock viz. 200 shares in the Farmers Bank of Maryland; now (1850) producing 7 per cent int. amounting to $339, State tax off, semi-annually on 700 (less 22 dollars, State tax) per annum.

The Parish also owns a Parsonage, a two story frame house, now (1850) about ten years old, but badly built, and not in good repair; and a Glebe, of about 60 acres of land, poor, but improvable. On this a County tax of 39.36 is paid. — June 12, 1850, 1000 bushels Shell Lime, (cost $80) were put upon the land; the Vestry designing a course of improvement.

Cost (as appears from the books) about $1350; paid out of the proceeds of the Fund.

The Rector receives $500 per annum (paid semi-annually) out of the proceeds of the Fund. The rest is expended on incidental charges and improvements.

The Sexton of each church receives ~~pays~~ $10 per annum.

N.B. So far as I can ascertain from the Church books the parishioners contribute nothing!

The Communion Plate consists of one Paten about 6 inches in diameter, heavy chased rim, and foot about 2½ inches high; and two cups, (double handled, about 7 inches high, 2½ in diameter, &c.) of silver. The two cups were originally but one, which was broken up and re-fashioned into two, under the Rectory of the Rev Henry Aisquith.

It was given by John Brice, in 1713. The Paten bears the original inscription; viz "the gift of John Brice for the Use of the Communion Table, Westminster Parrish in Maryland 1713." — The cups bear each a copy of the same inscription, which was on the one original. Of the cups one is used in the Parish Church in Broad Neck, and one in the Chapel; the Paten being removed from one to the other as wanted. They are now in keeping of the Rector.

The Parish Books, brought me this day, at my request by John Ridout of H., Register of the Parish, consist of

1. A Register, of 100 leaves of parchment (a number having been cut out at the end) and 3 of paper at the beginning.
2. Record Book, of which the first entry on the first page is of the date March 15th 1787. It contains 109 leaves of paper (24 yet blank) several at the end having been cut out.
3. An Account Book, the first entry in which is June 3d 1805. containing all the accounts of the Parish from that date to the present day (Nov. 25. 1850). It is now kept by John Ridout of H. in his capacity of Treasurer, which office he fills together with the Registrarship.

On the first outer (parchment) cover of the Register is the title (contemporaneous with the book) "Registry of the Baptisms, Marriages and" (hardly legible, but believed to be) "Deaths" "in St Margaret's Westminster Parish. C.W." and below "C. R. Stewart, Regr St M.W.P. A.A. Co. 1823."

On the first paper leaf is entered (evidently contemporaneously with the book) "Philip Jones. Clk of Westminster Parish Was born one: 29th of Sept In ye year of our Lord 1673.
Philip Jones."

Below "John Merriken Junr Was Register of Westminster Parish June the Sixt in the yeare of our Lorde 1749."
still lower down
"John Cromwell Son of Joshua was qualified Register of St Margaret's Westminster Parish Sepr the first, in the year of our Lord 1767." — —
"Thos Mayo Was qualified Register of St Margarets Westminster Parish on Easter Monday the nineteenth day of April in the year of our Lord Seventeen Hundred and seventy two." — —
an erasure.
"Sam Jacob Son of Richard Jacob Was Qualified Register of St Margaret's Westminster Parish on Easter Monday the Twelfth day of April one Thousand seven hundred and seventy three Sam Jacob."
"Samuel Jacob Son of Richard Was Born the 11th Day of April In the year of our Lord 1734."
"Samuel Jacob Son of Richard was Quallified Regr for St Margaret's Westminster parish June 7 day 1779." —

On the second paper leaf are similar entries concerning

John Merriken, Jr.	qualified	November 15th	1783.
Benjamin Fish.	"	June 17	1786.
Ebenezer Thomas	"	East. Mon. April 23.	1810.
Horatio Ridout	"	May 6	1816.
Charles R. Stewart	"	April 8	1822
Benjamin Mulliken	appointed	March 27	1837.

On the first vellum leaf (left originally for a blank) is entered.
"Charles Waters Son of Jacob was Qualifyed Regr in the year of our Lord 1791."

On the second vellum leaf the Register opens, thus:
"Maryland
The Register of (erasure) Parish Westminster
containing an Acct of Christnings, Births, Weddings, and Burials."

The first entry is
"Isaac Hirst was Borne the 15th of September — 1687
Elizabeth Hirst was borne the 27th of february Anno Dom — 1680"
Nineteen other entries follow, of which
the fourth is "William Pennington son of Thomas Pennington Senior was borne the 20th of March — 1686"
and at the bottom of the page is written
"all the above births entred by me Will Penington Register."

On the verso page of the leaf there are 18 similar entries and then after a dash, occurs what appears to have been the first entry of a birth occurring after the commencement of the book viz. Nicholas Greenberry born Jan. 5th and baptised Feb. 18th 1701.

The Births fill forty leaves. Then, on the 42d vellum leaf begins
"The Register of Westminster Parish containing all the marriages within the sd Parish from the yeare of our Lord 1699."
This record fills eight leaves and a half: on the verso folio of the 9th Births begin again, the first date being Sept 14. 1793.
Three and a half leaves are so filled.
On the verso folio of the 4th Marriages begin again, the first being in 1823, by the Rev. George B. Schaeffer.

On the 4th leaf again "Baptisms" begin; first Feb. 22. 1846.
After nine blank leaves, on the second Recto folio
"Maryland. The Registry of St Margaret's Westminster Parish containing the Births from the year of our Lord One Thousand Seventeen Hundred and Ninety One"
There are only seven entries on the page
On the next (verso folio) are fourteen entries, at intervals.
The next two leaves contain Baptisms by the Rev. Henry