

in the Lincoln valuation, made in the year 1291, it had been taxed at £146 13s. 4d. The Deanery, with its members, continued in the crown until the 16th year of James I., when by letters patent under the great seal he gave and granted to Sir James Ouchterlony and Richard Gurnard, or Green, citizen and clothier, of London, their heirs and assigns, the deanery, prebends, rectory, and vicarage of the collegiate church of Chester.

The wooden church, where the remains of St. Cuthbert had rested above a century, was taken down by Egelric, the fourth Bishop of Durham, who erected a more magnificent fabric of stone, in honour of the patron saint, which, as has just been seen, was afterwards made collegiate. In digging the foundation, Egelric found such a large sum of money, (buried, as is supposed, by the Romans) that he resigned the bishopric, and returned to the monastery of Peterborough, where he had presided as abbot, taking with him the *treasure-trove*,* which he considered as his own property.

The present church is a handsome stone edifice, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Cuthbert. It has a nave, side aisles, and a tower, terminated by an elegant stone spire, supposed to be the handsomest in the North of England. The interior of the church is neat, and contains a singular arrangement of monuments, with effigies of the deceased ancestry of the noble family of Lumley, beginning with Liulphus, the unhappy minister of Bishop Walsher, and ending in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.† In 1594, Bishop Matthew granted a license, authorising John, Baron of Lumley, to translate hither the remains of his ancestors, particularly of John and Ralph Lumley, from the yard of the cathedral church at Durham. The benefice being reduced to a curacy is not certified; it is in the patronage of Lady Byron, and in the incumbency of the Rev. Wm. Nesfield. The Rev. John Dodd is the officiating curate.

There were formerly two chantries in the church, but the names of the founders are not known; the one dedicated to St. Mary, was of the yearly value of £5 8s. 10d.; and the other, called St. George's, was worth £5 3s. 0d. per annum.

The Deanery-House, the seat of the ancient family of Hedworths, is in a pleasant situation, commanding a fine view of Lumley castle and the adjacent country, and is surrounded with excellent meadow grounds.

Besides the church, there are three other places of worship in the town, viz. a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, built in 1807; an Independent Chapel, erected in 1814; and a licensed room belonging to the Primitive Methodists. About 140 children attend the Sunday schools here; and 12 children receive gratuitous education at one of the day schools, from an endowment of £6 per annum, bequeathed by Mrs. Tewart. The Rev. Thomas Wood, D.D. gave by will the sum of £100 to the poor of this place.

* *Treasure-Trove*—One of the laws of Edward, made for the benefit of the church; or, as Sir H. Spelman says, "Provisions extracted from the laws of his predecessors." No. 13 is to this effect: "All *treasure-trove* belongs to the king, unless it is found in a church or church-yard; in that case the gold is all the king's; the silver is to be divided in moities, to the crown one, and to the church the other."

† For a particular description of these effigies, *vide* Hutchinson's Durham, Vol. II. p. 392.