

WORMINGHALL CHARITIES

Henry King, Bishop of Chichester, bequeathed "to the poore of Wornall, in Buckinghamshire, where myself and my father before me were borne, the somme of £100, wherewith my will is, that land be purchased, the yearly revenues whereof to be added to that which my father gave, to give bread every Sunday distributed to six poore people, also some money and large loaves every Good Friday, according as my executors shall find the rent to allow." Bishop Henry King's son, John King of Bycott, Kent, who married Ann Russell, of Strensham, Worcestershire, provides in his will that the rent of his lands in Kent should be left untouched for four years, that £1500 be applied to build an almshouse at Worminghall, to sustain six poor old man and four old women, with twenty shillings apiece once in two years, with his arms and quarters on their sleeve. The rent of the fourth year was to be laid out to supply a fund for repairs, etc.

The almshouse built at Worminghall in consequence of this charitable bequest has the arms of King Impaling those of Russell over the entrance, with the following inscription: "To God and the poore, John King, Esq., son of Henry King, Bishop of Chichester, and grandson of John King, Ld. Bishop of London, and Ann his wife, daughter of Sir William Russell of Strensham, Baronet, dedicates this foundation: for six poore single men and four women. Anno Domini, 1675."

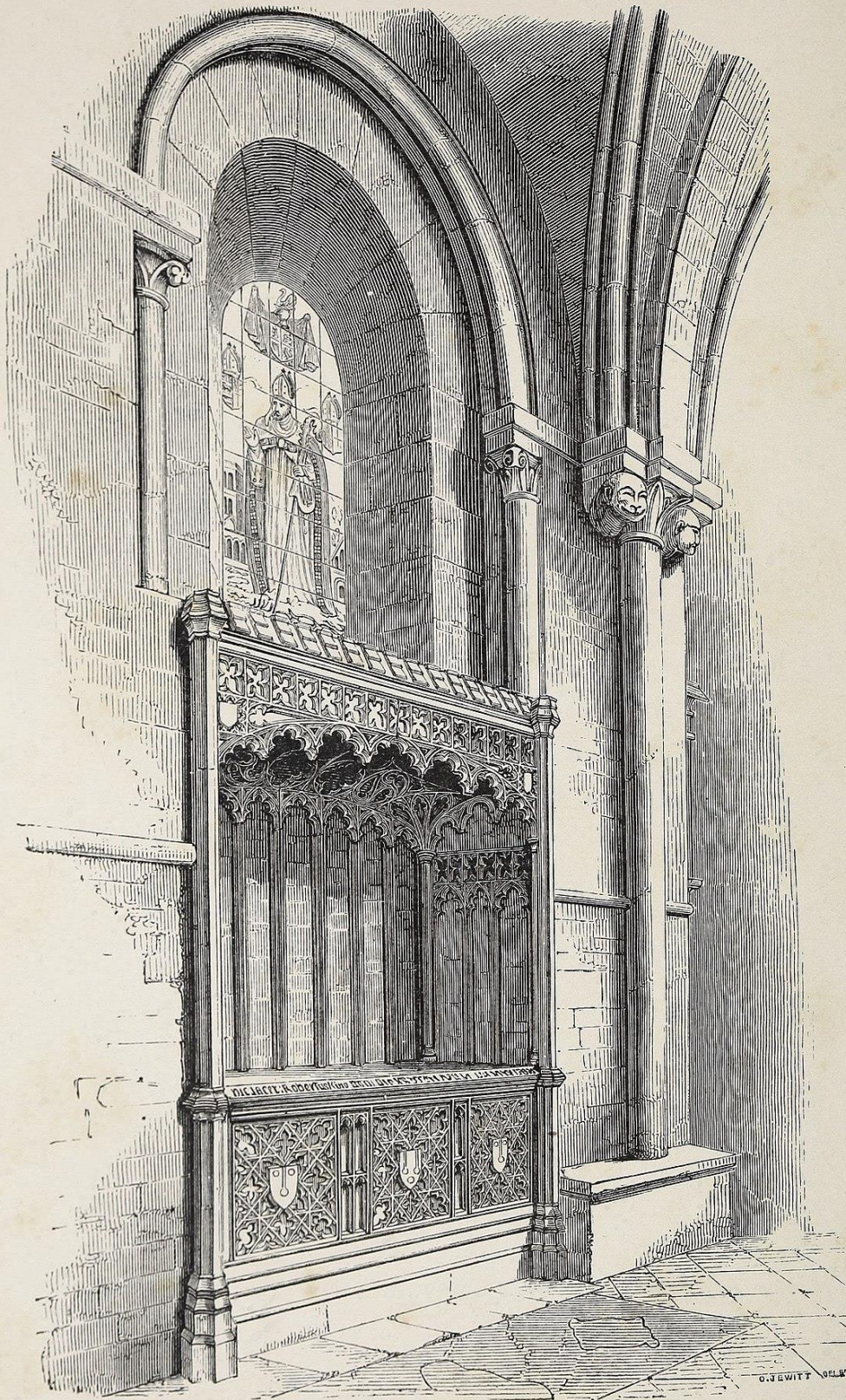
The Almshouses are built in the shape of the letter H in memory of Bishop Henry King, father of the pious founder.

The portraits of the benefactors of Worminghall may be seen in the hall of Christ Church, Oxford, as well as a stained window in the Cathedral, to the memory of Robert King, last Abbot of Oseney and first Bishop of Oxford.

The total quantity of land belonging to the charities is 99 acres, 3 roods, 18 poles, of which 78 acres, 3 roods, 34 poles belong to the almshouses and 20 acres, 3 roods, 24 poles to the Bread Charity.

The names of the various fields and their admeasurements are printed on two boards in the West end of the church, on the north and south walls.





MONUMENT OF BISHOP KING, IN ITS ORIGINAL PLACE.