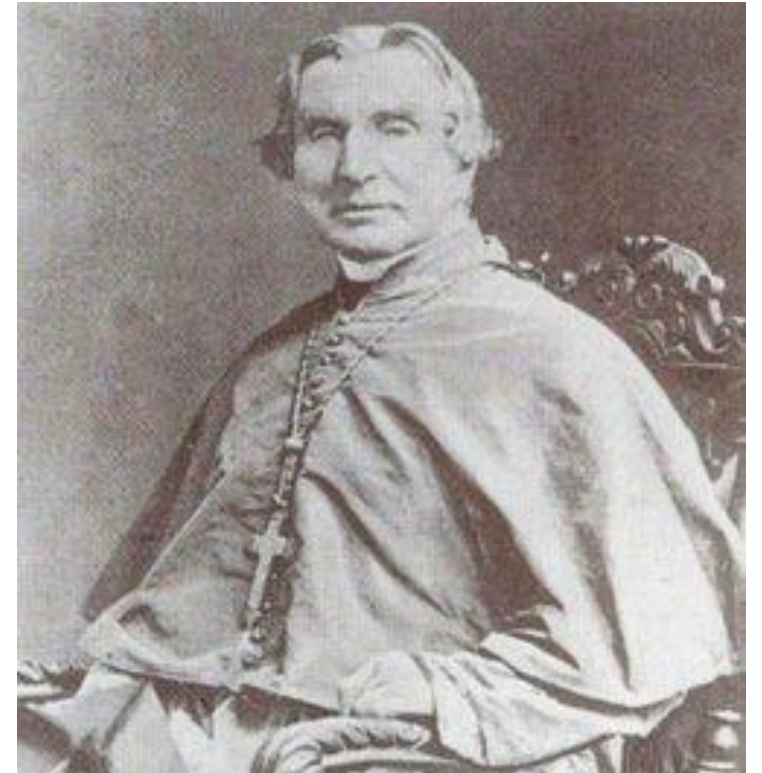


# Three Archbishops from Marske



Stephen Clark. Richmondshire Museum Talks. 13 May 2025.

[www.marskeswaledale.com](http://www.marskeswaledale.com)

# Three Archbishops of Marske

- 1529-1606. Matthew Hutton.
  - Archbishop of York.
  - Bought Marske.
- 1693-1758. Matthew Hutton.
  - Archbishop of York and Canterbury.
  - Born Marske.
- 1804-1886. George Errington.
  - Co-adjutor [Deputy] Archbishop of Westminster, and Archbishop of Trebizond.
  - Born Marske.

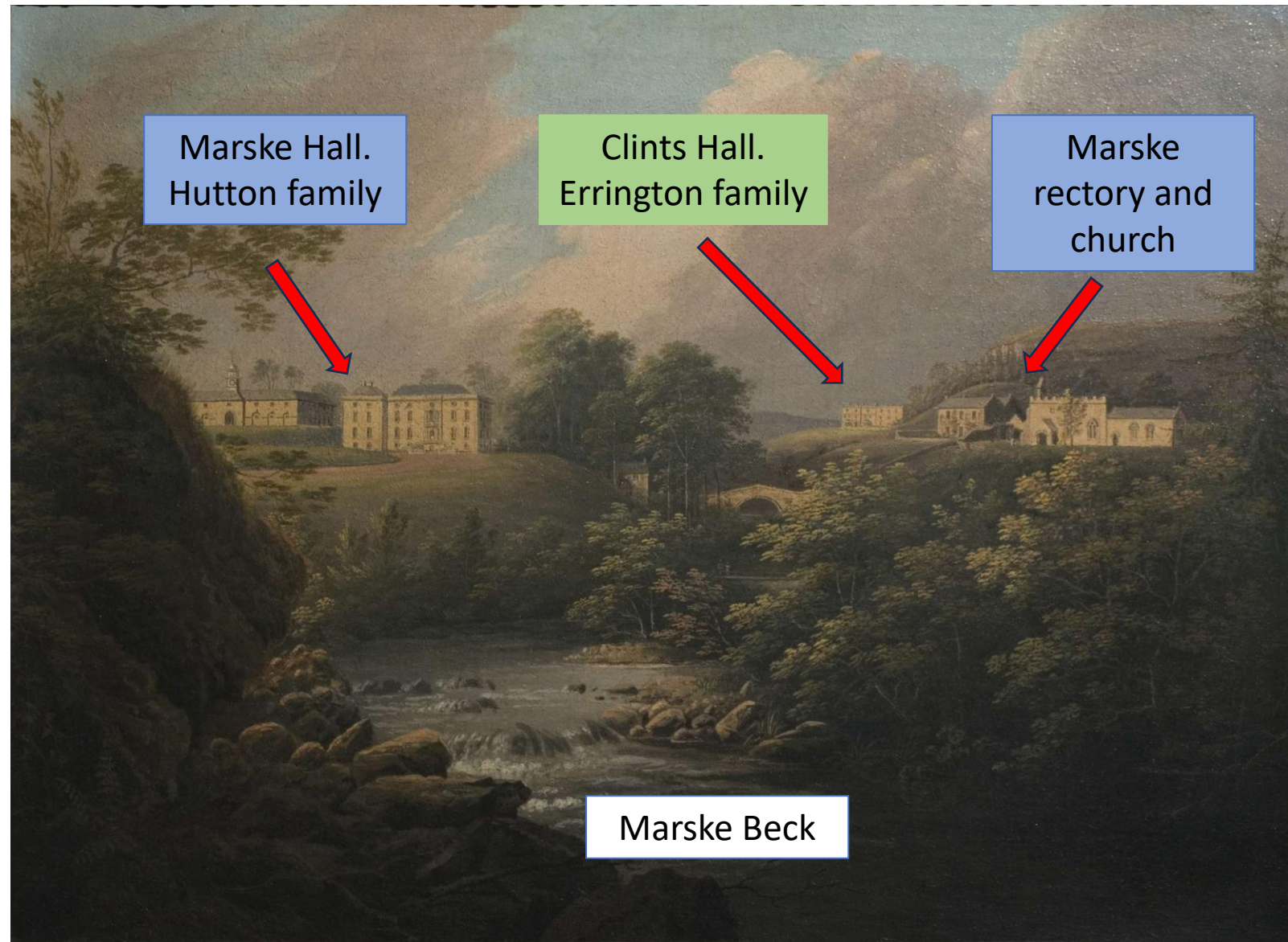
# Marske and Clints - early 1800s



View of Marske Hall, Marske Bridge, Clints Hall, Rectory and St Edmund's Church. Painting by George Cuit (1743-1818). (Image is copyright. Reproduced here with kind permission of UK Government Art Collection.)



# Marske and Clints - early 1800s



View of Marske Hall, Marske Bridge, Clints Hall, Rectory and St Edmund's Church. Painting by George Cuit (1743-1818). (Image is copyright. Reproduced here with kind permission of UK Government Art Collection.)

# The Reformation begins



Luther (1483-1546). At the Diet of Worms.

Rebellion against:  
papal authority  
non-scriptured teaching  
and indulgences



Calvin: Geneva. 1530s.

Eucharist was symbolic.  
Presbyterian – not a hierarchy of bishops  
“Puritan”

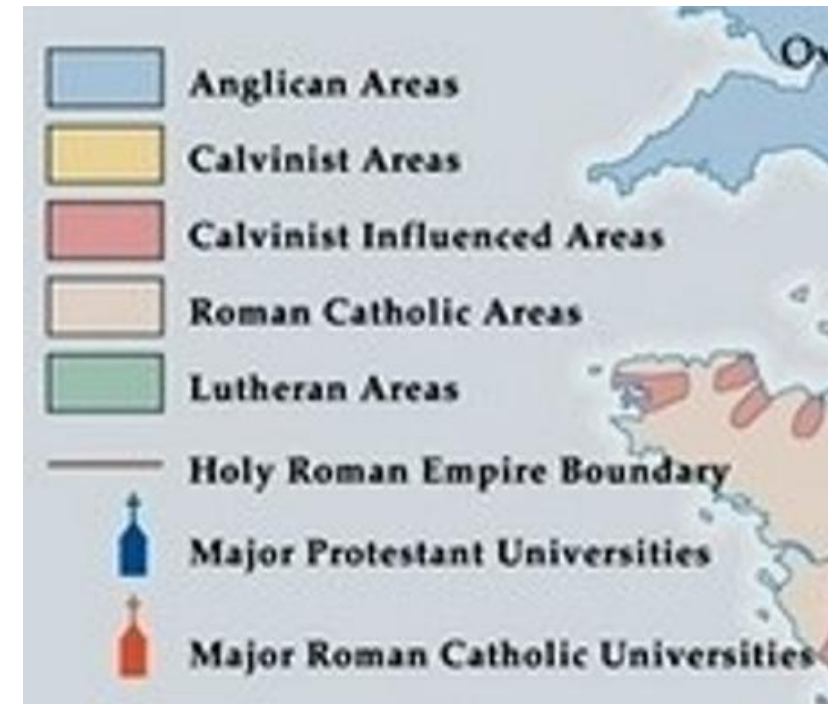
Public domain images. Anton von Werner (1843-1915)  
Flemish School (C16)

# England's reformation led to Anglicanism





	Catholicism	Anglicanism	Calvinism
Authority	Pope, Church Tradition, and Scripture	Scripture, Tradition, and Reason	Scripture alone ( <i>sola scriptura</i> )
Sacraments	Seven (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage, Holy Orders)	Two principal (Baptism, Eucharist), with five recognized as “rites”	Two (Baptism, Eucharist)
View of the Eucharist	Transubstantiation (bread and wine become body and blood of Christ)	Varies (Real Presence to symbolic remembrance)	Spiritual presence (symbolic remembrance)
Salvation	Faith and works, facilitated by grace and sacraments	Faith with good works as evidence of genuine faith	Predestination (God predestines the elect)
Original Sin	Humans inherit sin, removed through baptism	Humans inherit sin, washed away through baptism and faith	Humans totally depraved, in need of God's grace
Church Hierarchy	Pope, bishops, priests, deacons	Archbishop, bishops, priests, deacons	Elders and deacons
Liturgy	Formal, structured Mass with Eucharist at the centre	Book of Common Prayer; varies by congregation	Sermon-focused, minimal ritual



# The Reformation was very different in other countries



# Royalty and the Reformation

	<b>Henry VIII.</b> <b>1509-1547.</b>	<b>Roman Catholic -&gt; Catholic</b> Became Supreme Head of Church of England Abolished monasteries. Sold church lands on. (10-20% of England's land) Pilgrimage of Grace 1536. Led by Robert Aske. North of England in revolt.
	<b>Edward VI.</b> <b>1547-1553.</b>	Crowned at age 9. Regency council – led by Somerset. Privy council <b>dominantly Protestant</b> – prevented reversion of England to Rome Edward raised Protestant 1552 – Second Book of Common Prayer. Edited by Cranmer.
	<b>Mary I (Tudor)*</b> <b>1553-1558.</b>	<b>Catholic</b> Married Phillip II of Spain “Bloody Mary” Protestant dissenters burned at the stake included Richard Snell at Richmond in 1558.
	<b>Elizabeth I.</b> <b>1558-1603.</b>	<b>Anglican/Protestant.</b> Found a “Middle Way”. Rising of North 1569. Led by Westmorland and Northumberland. Led to Papal Bull. Post 1569 clamp-down on Catholics. John Acridge of Richmond imprisoned by Hutton in 1569 and died as a Catholic martyr. Armada 1588. Threats from Catholic Spain repulsed.

(\*) Lady Jane Grey, a committed Protestant, reigned for 9 days between Edward VI and Mary I.



# Matthew Hutton 1529-1606

**1529: Born Priest Hutton, near Lancaster.**

- He was the second son in the family

**1561: Professor of Divinity at Cambridge**

- Gained favour with Elizabeth I

**1563: First clergy role: Prebend at Ely**

**1567: Dean of York**

- Prosecuted John Acridge of Richmond, Catholic

**1589: Bishop of Durham**

**1594: Archbishop of York**

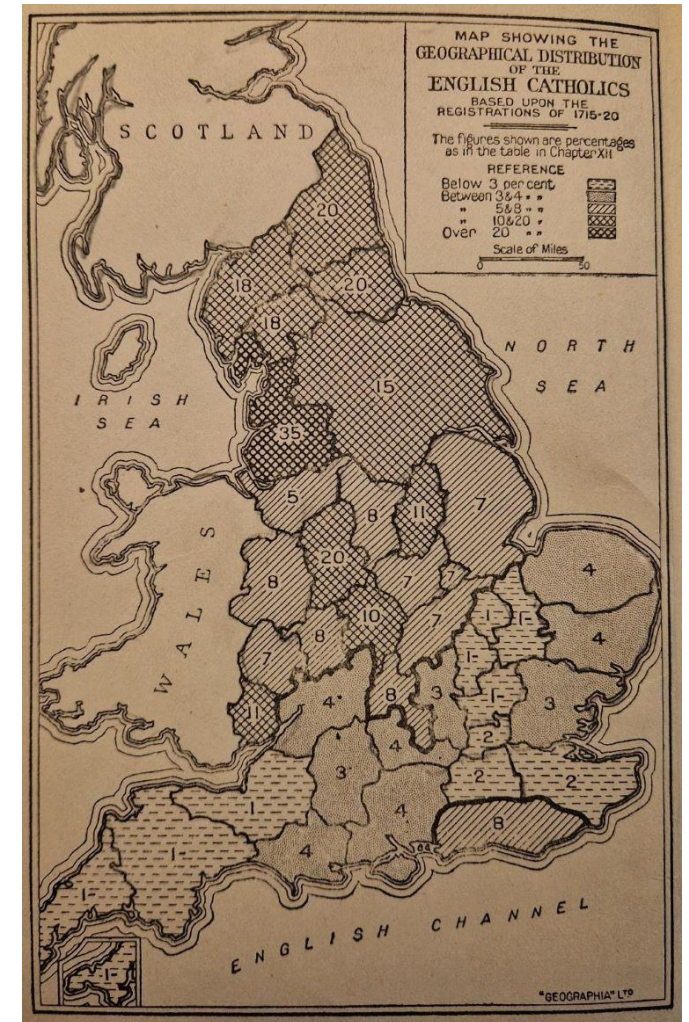
**1597: Bought Marske Estate**



Auckland Palace, Bishop Auckland.  
Courtesy of The Auckland Project and The Church Commissioners.

# Hutton helped Elizabeth establish herself in North

- North was more Catholic than South (albeit map is from 1715)
- Hutton became Dean of York two years before the Rising of the Northern Earls in 1569
  - Northumberland (Percy) and Westmorland (Neville) rebelled
- Bowes family of Barnard Castle formed local resistance to Rising
  - Hutton later married into the Bowes family, as did his son.
- Later in life Hutton was appointed Lord President of the Council of the North, whilst also Archbishop of York

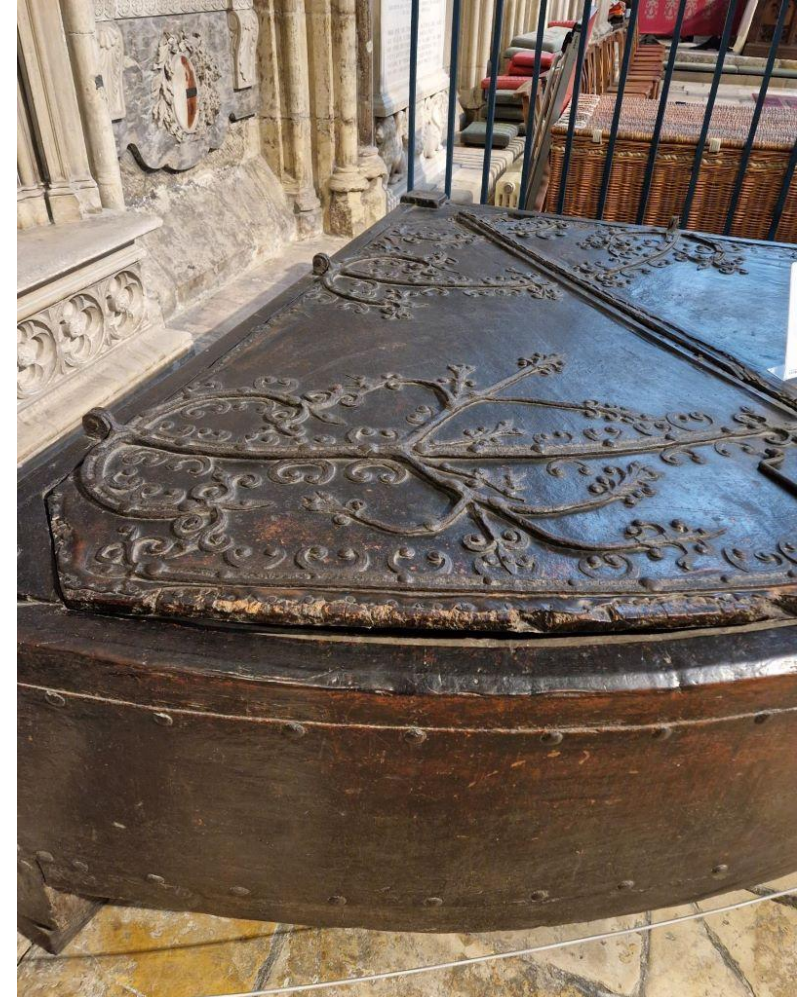


From "The English Recusants." Magee, B. 1938.



# Hutton supported an “Anglican” middle way

- On religion Hutton was often between a rock and a hard place.
- .. He often sided against Puritans:
  - He supported Elizabeth in 1563 in debates about “Vestments”
  - He opposed the arrival of a prominent French Huguenot (Protestant) in c1597 in Cambridge
- .. Yet in his last sermon in York he was assailed by Popish elements of congregation



The cupboard for keeping vestments in York Minster.

Author's photo.



# What was he like?

**In row with his boss in 1585 he was accused of:**

- Refusing to help Sandys manage the province
- Defending the ordination of Sandys' detractors
- Favouring recusants (Catholics not attending CofE services)
- Having larger “temporal” possessions than one would expect of a Christian pastor

## Hutton's language

- Hutton at times had an “ungovernable violence of temper”
- But he also wrote eloquent letters pleading for a kindly approach to Lady Margaret Neville, Popish daughter of the Earl of Westmorland.



Archbishop Sandys (York, 1576-88)  
faces off to Hutton.

# How did he end up buying Marske?

- **Why did he buy Marske in 1597?**
  - He kept up his connections with Priest Hutton area.
  - Did journeys take him through Marske and Swaledale?
  - Did connections with Bowes family create familiarity?
- **Where did he get his money from?**
  - Did he scrimp and save, reflecting humble beginnings?
  - Did being on good terms with the Queen help?
  - Did he make money from his many clerical roles?
  - Did his marriages bring him wealth.





# And where is he now?

- A very grand tomb in York Minster





# The Second Marske Archbishop

**Matthew Hutton (1693-1758)**

Great great *second* grandson of the first Archbishop

**Archbishop of York, and then Canterbury**



# Matthew Hutton: a deft networker?

- After Marske, he quickly became Chaplain to Chancellor at Cambridge, and then Chaplain to King George II
  - No evidence he looked back!
- Followed Thomas Herring as Bishop/Archbishop at Bangor, York and Canterbury (1757).
- He spent much of his life in London.
- Friend of Duke of Newcastle – Prime Minister and Statesman.
  - Trusted ally to bring home the “Spiritual Lords” in Parliament.
- Politically reliable: on Jacobites, Protestant Succession, support for King against Popish and barbarous French in America.
- Two biographers say he was “a good bloke” – but they were in his pay!

# Funding a Georgian Bishop's career

- As second son he did not inherit Marske Estate
- On arrival as Bishop of Bangor:
  - “the fruits, rewards and profits of the Bishoprick of Bangor are so small and mean .. that they are [not] sufficient to support .. Episcopal Dignity”.
- So he held onto (“in commendam”)
  - Prebend of Langtoft (at York Minster)
  - Rectory of Spofforth, Yorkshire
  - Rectory of Llanddyfnan (Anglesey) and Llandyrnog (Denbigh)
- Later in life he was often in Parliament till late evening – but never spoke in debates. Did he spend his time wheeling, dealing, eating and drinking?



# And where is he now?

**Probably in one of these coffins.**

- Found during work at St-Mary-at-Lambeth in 2017

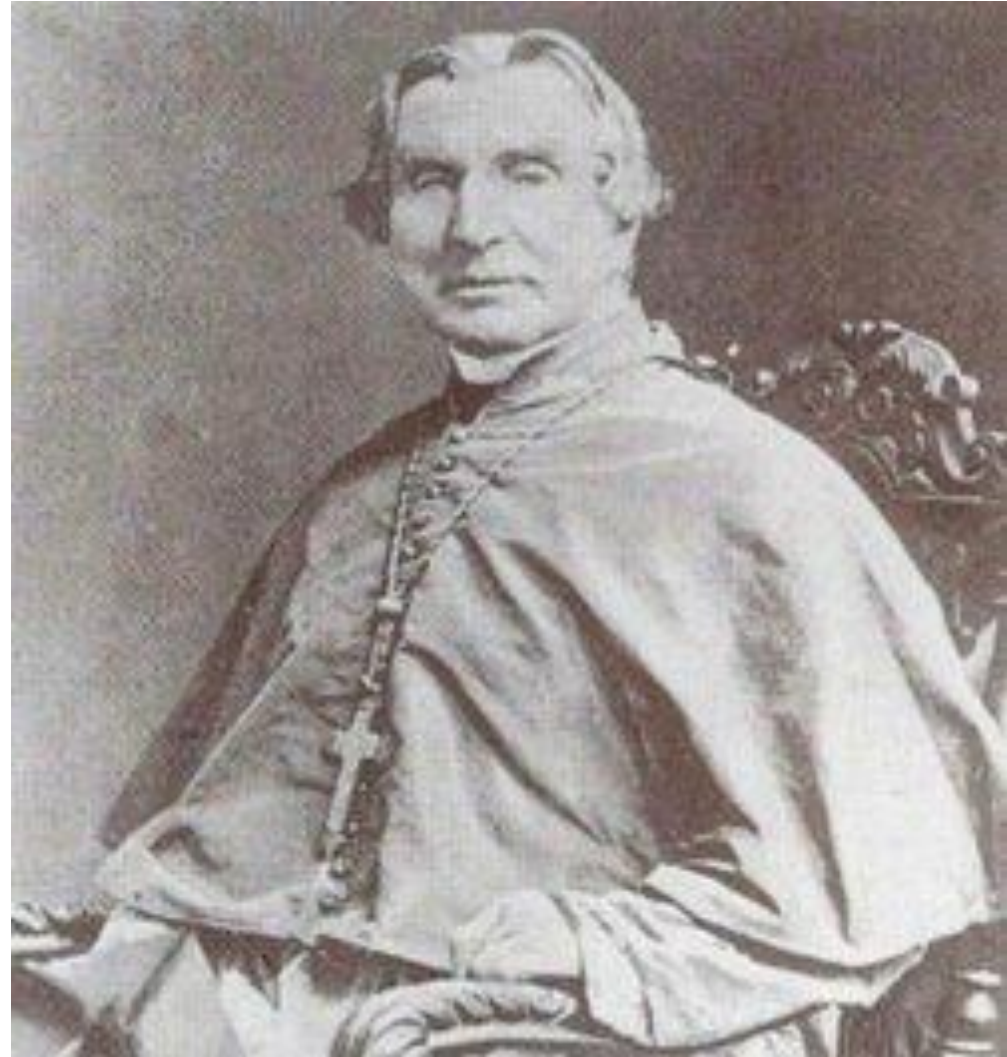


Archbishops lead coffins in St Mary-at-Lambeth.  
From private note by Julian W S Litten FSA, 2017.  
Permissions being sought.

# The Third Marske Archbishop

**George Errington (1804-1886)**

- **Co-adjutor Archbishop of Westminster**
- **Archbishop of Trebizond, Ottoman Empire**



George Errington, c 1860.

Image available on [www.findagrave.com/memorial/179168578/george-Errington](http://www.findagrave.com/memorial/179168578/george-Errington).

Permissions being sought.

# A few dates in English Catholic history

- 1534: Henry VIII ends communion with Rome
- 1569: Rising of the North leads to Queen Elizabeth's excommunication
- 1581-5: Laws making it high treason to be Catholic. Catholic martyrs
- 1673: Test Act for appointees to public office
- 1685: James II/James VIII takes throne – last Catholic monarch
- 1688: Glorious Revolution. William and Mary take throne from James II.
- 1701: Act of Settlement excludes Catholics from throne
- 1745-6: Final Jacobite rebellion (from <1715)
- 1778: First Catholic Relief Act – e.g. relaxing restrictions on property
- 1780: Gordon Riots (anti-Catholic)
- 1829: Roman Catholic Relief Act – repeals most anti-Catholic legislation
- 1840-50: Irish famines. Immigration to Britain
- 1850: Re-establishment of Catholic hierarchy (Archbishops, Bishops etc)







# Clints Hall and Estate

- Bought by the Erringtons in 1800
- George was born here

*Children of Thomas Errington of Clints  
& Catharine .. (late Dordall.)*

" <i>Michael</i>	<i>Errington</i>	<i>.. born at Clints .. 30 Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1801.</i>
" <i>George</i>		<i>.. 18 Sept<sup>r</sup>. 1804.</i>
" <i>Isabella</i>		<i>.. 7 Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1805.</i>
" <i>Thomas Walter</i>		<i>.. 19 Sept<sup>r</sup>. 1807.</i>
" <i>John</i>		<i>.. 4 Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1810.</i>

*The above registry of his children was delivered  
by Thomas Errington Esq<sup>r</sup>. of Clints being a Roman  
Catholic to me & by me faithfully copied in this  
page.*

*James Tate,  
Rector of Marske.*

- One of two estates at Marske – the other being the Hutton estate based on Marske Hall



Clints Hall around 1780-1800.



# George Errington: Early education 1814-21.

At Ushaw College, and the English College in Rome





# Re-establishment of Catholic Hierarchy from 1850

In 1851 Errington becomes the first Catholic Bishop of Plymouth



Image: Chris Downer / *Plymouth: Catholic cathedral church of St. Mary & St. Boniface* / [CC BY-SA 2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/)

Image: plymouthcathedral.co.uk. Permissions being sought.

# 1855: Westminster Cathedral

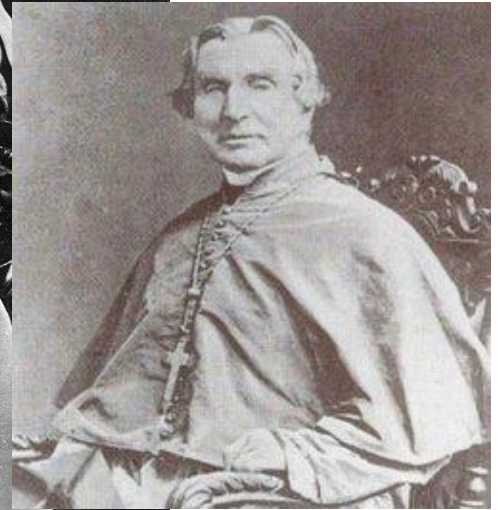
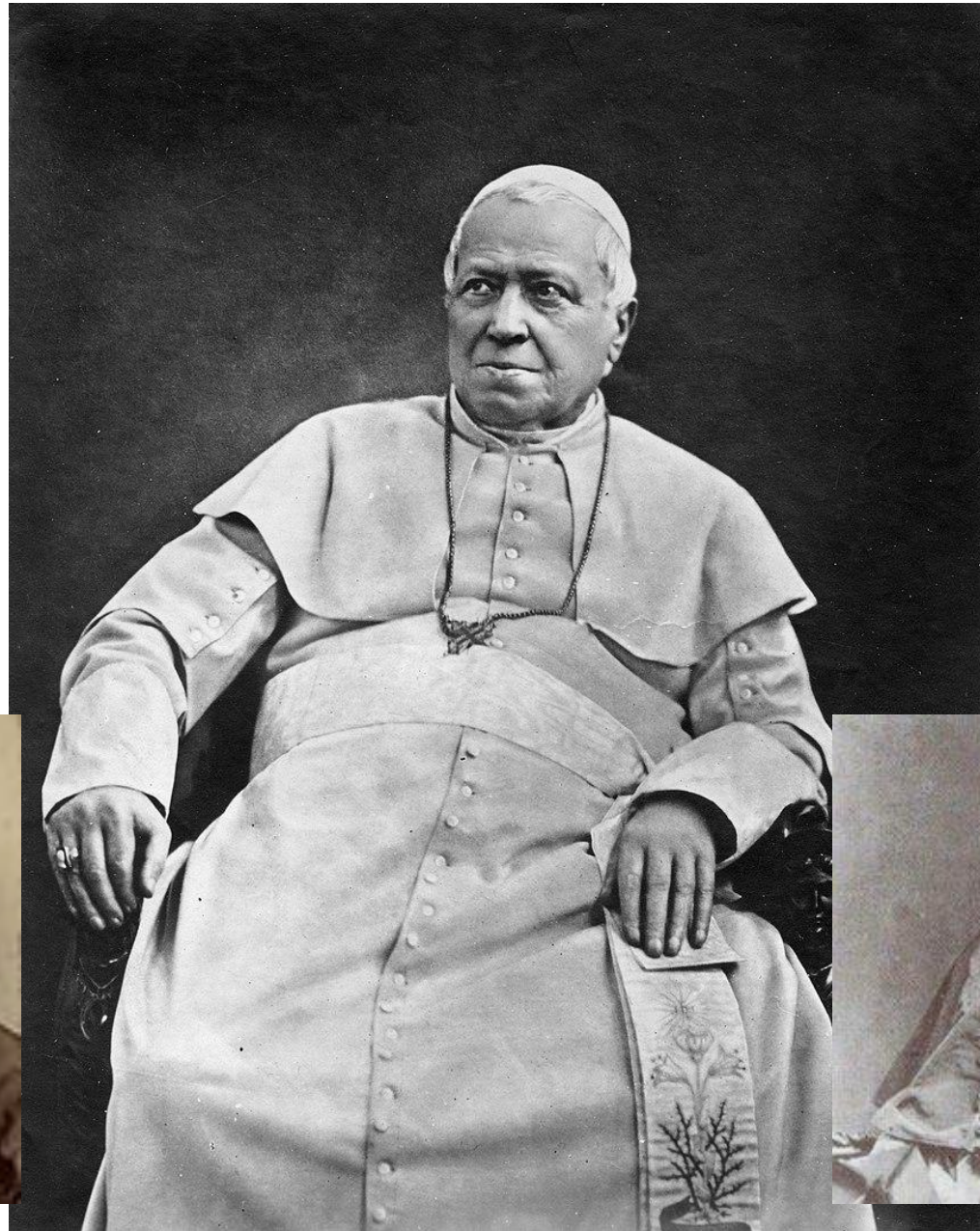
- Appointed Coadjutor Archbishop. Deputy to Nicholas Wiseman, the first Archbishop.
- Also made titular Archbishop of Trebizond.
- Known for fine legal mind and administrative zeal. Known as the Iron Archbishop.
- But Wiseman and Errington didn't get on well!



Westminster Cathedral: Image from flickr.com.  
Trebizond: Public domain image.



**1859-60: Pope Pius IX is called to adjudicate**





# Outcomes for Errington

## Moved from Westminster

- but remains an Archbishop

## 1859-60

- Trinidad or the Isle of Man

## 1865

- Wiseman dies.
- Manning vs Errington



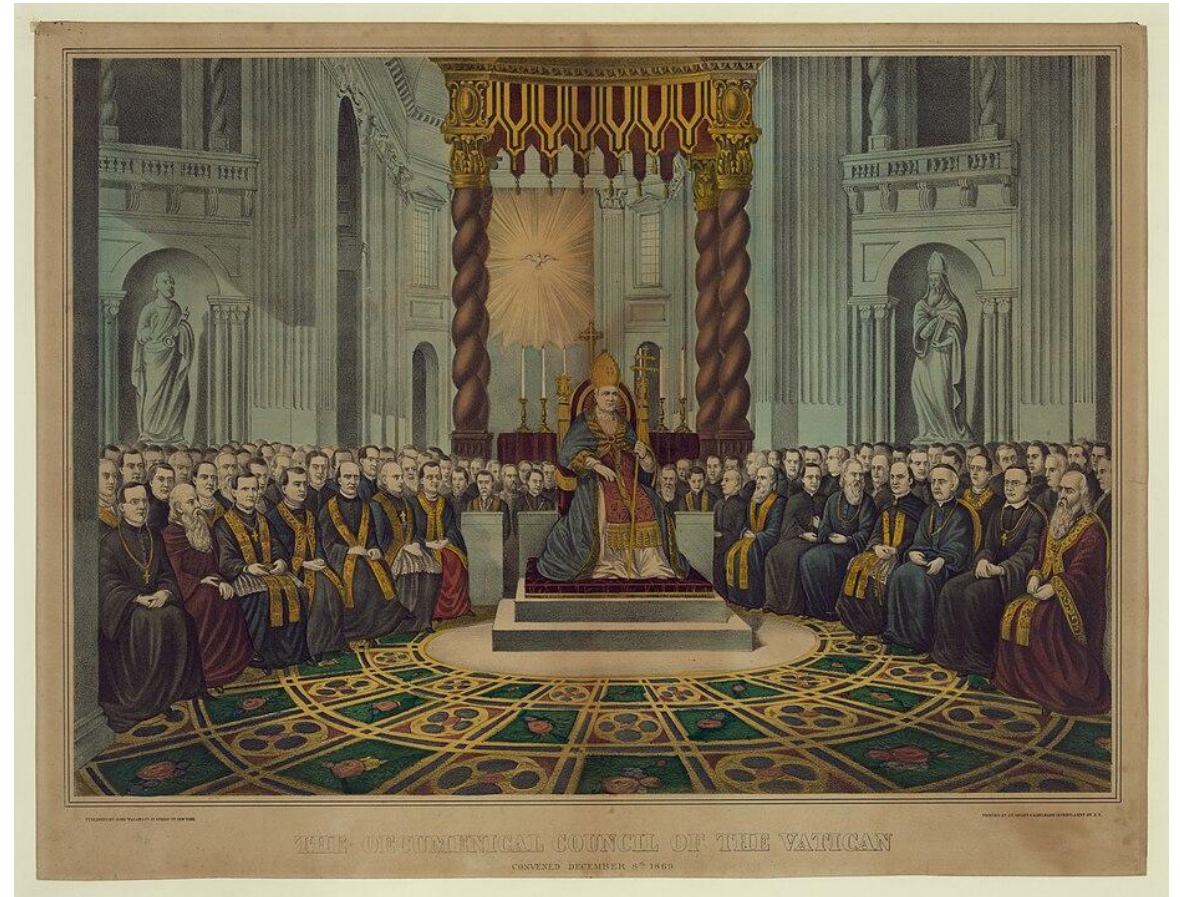
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Port of Spain



The Church of St Mary of the Isle, Douglas.

# 1869-70. Pope Pius IX calls the First Vatican Council

- Biggest Catholic gathering for three centuries
- Errington is a parish priest, and still an Archbishop! He gets an automatic invite.
- Papal infallibility ends up on the agenda.
- Errington doesn't support unqualified Papal Infallibility.
- The vote doesn't go that way ☹️.



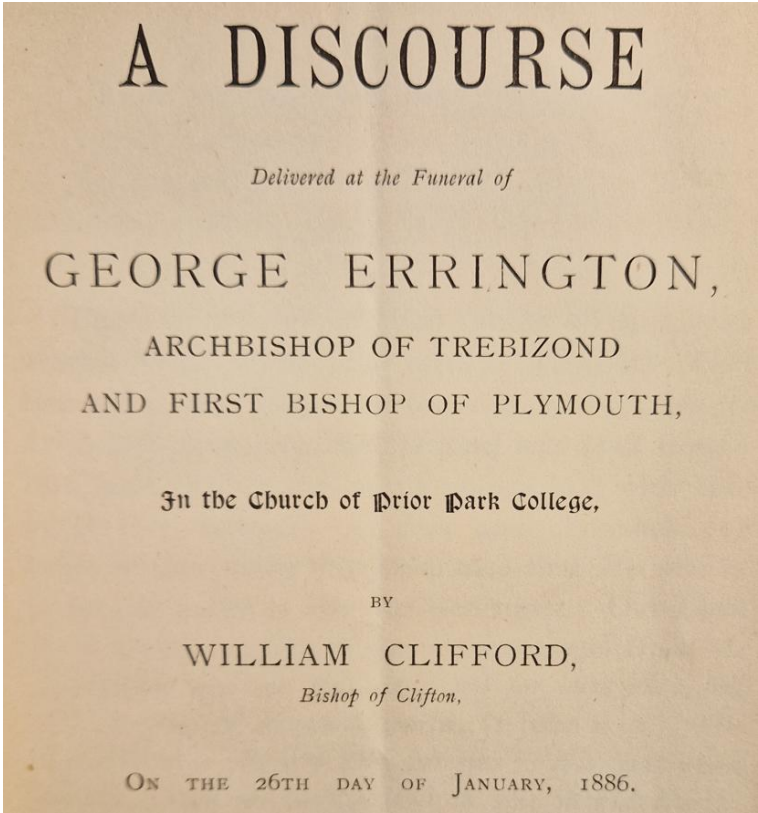


# And where is he now?

Last 16 years at Prior Park College, Bath, and is buried there



Funeral eulogy 1886



Prior Park College	3	Edward Williams	Head	40	Catholic Priest	President	Mary Ann Williams
		George Errington	Lodger	66	Archbishop		Mary Ann Williams
		Arthur Phillips	Master	25	Catholic Priest		Mary Ann Williams

1871 census return. George Errington, Lodger, aged 66. Occupation, Archbishop. Born, Yorkshire, Marske.



# Postscript: Did anything actually happen in Marske?

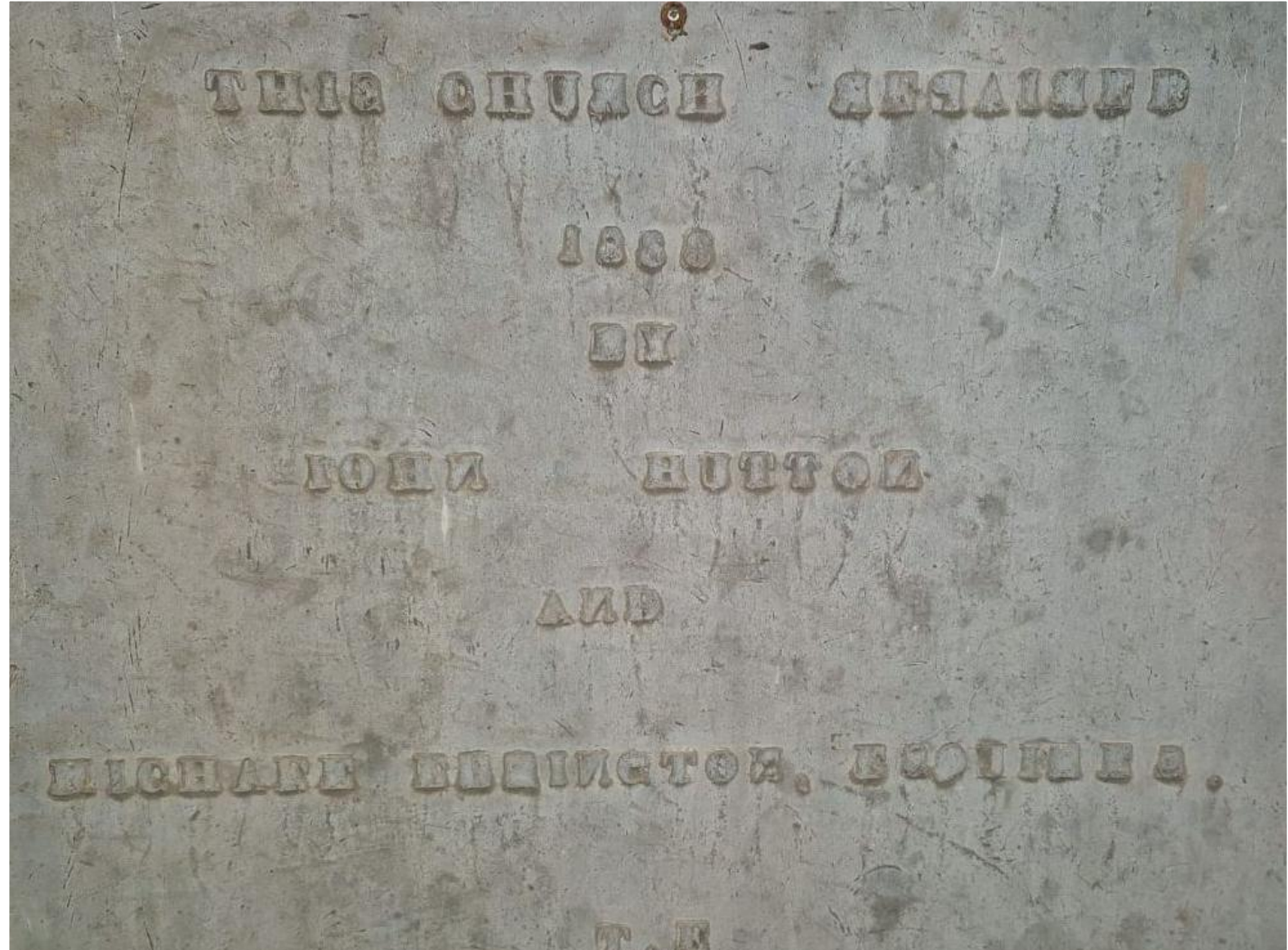
**Errington's Clints Estate was sold to the Huttons in 1841 and the Hall was promptly demolished.**

- Sale also included a family pew, and 9 others in Marske church

**A new roof for the church in 1888 included an embossed lead sheet.**

**Jointly sponsored by John Hutton and Michael Errington.**

- Was this a silent recognition of the Errington's catholic life?



# Thanks ..

A lot of material here has been gleaned from:

- **Jane Hatcher**'s books including "Timothy Hutton of Clifton Castle and Marske" (2020), and "Richmondians" (2021).
- **Serenhedd James**' book on "George Errington and Roman Catholic Identity in Nineteenth-Century England" (2016).

Thanks to both of them for their encouragement

This talk was first given to **Bellerby Study Group** in November 2024. Look out for their 16-lecture programme this autumn and winter!

For more on Marske see: [www.marskeswaledale.com](http://www.marskeswaledale.com)