

MARTHAM is a pleasant village, with several handsome houses surrounding a large green, seated on rising ground above the marshes,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles N.N.W. of Yarmouth. Its *parish* extends above a mile westward to the hamlet of *Cess*, on the river Thurne, and comprises 1092 inhabitants and 2281 acres of enclosed land, of which nearly half is copyhold and subject to arbitrary fines. Thomas Fraser Grove, Esq., is lord of the manor, for which he holds a court at Michaelmas; but *Moregrove and Knightsley* form a small manor, belonging to the Rev. George Pearse, M.A.; and Wm. Rising, Esq., owns the *Martham Hall* estate. The *Church* (St. Mary) is the largest and handsomest in the deanery of Flegg, and consists of nave with aisles, south porch with parvise, chancel, and square west tower with six bells. It is chiefly of the early perpendicular period, and was probably erected in the reign of Richard the Second, towards the latter end of the 14th century. The nave and aisles are separated by fine piers having laterally engaged shafts with caps, and the arcades are enriched with *boutel* mouldings. On each side are four fine windows, and in the clerestory five, with one of different pattern at the east end of each aisle. The south porch has a plain stone roof with moulded ribs, and the south door is a magnificent specimen of medieval carving, in two leaves panelled, with tracery heads of rich design, and surrounded with a graceful band of vine leaves and fruit. The north door has no porch. The nave and aisles are covered with elaborate oak roofs; that of the nave being of the hammer-beam kind, with carved angels, and open-work tracery in the spandrils. The tower arch is lofty, and contains a series of shields in the mouldings, each suspended on a quatrefoil. The west window is of three lights with embattled transom, and beneath it is a good doorway. The tower is of very fine proportions, with embattled parapet, good base mouldings, and stone panels filled in with squared flint. The font is octagonal, of perpendicular character, and sculptured with the seven Romish sacraments and the Last Judgment, in panels with crockets and finials and flowered spandrils. The stem bears similar panels, containing figures of saints much mutilated. The chancel is of the florid gothic style, and was rebuilt in 1855, when the entire building under-

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went a thorough restoration at a cost of £8000, given by Mrs. Catherine Alice Dawson, of Rollesby Hall, as a memorial of her late husband, the Rev. Jonathan Dawson, M.A., to whom there is a raised altar tomb. The east window is filled with beautiful stained glass, by Hardman, of Birmingham. The chancel arch is cusped and enriched with foliage, and rests upon massive corbels with carved angels bearing the sacramental emblems. The windows of the church appear to have been anciently filled with splendid stained glass, of which some fragments still remain; and one of them contains a beautiful full-length figure of St. Michael weighing the souls of men against demons. Here is also a tablet with a singular inscription to the memory of Christopher Burraway, who, being the fruit of an incestuous intercourse between a father and a daughter, was placed as an infant in the Foundling Hospital, but coming in after years to Martham, was unwittingly hired as farm steward by his own mother, who afterwards married him, and thus became successively mother, sister, mistress, and wife to this modern *Œdipus*. Discovering him to be her own son by a peculiar mark on his shoulder, she was so struck with horror that she soon died, and he survived her only a few months. The *discharged vicarage*, valued in the King's Books at £6. 13s. 4d., is in the incumbency of the Rev. George Pearse, M.A., who has a good residence, built in 1836. The Dean and Chapter of

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Norwich are patrons, and also appropriators of the rectory, now leased to Mrs. Ann Francis, and Wm. Rising, Esq. In 1160, *Roger Gunton* gave the church to the prior and convent of Norwich, "for the redemption of his soul." In 1843, the rectorial tithes were commuted for £628. 18s. 2d., and the vicarial for £363. 17s. 9d. The *Baptists* and the *Primitive Methodists* have each a chapel here. A *fair*, chiefly for pleasure, is held here on the last Tuesday and Wednesday in July. About 60 years ago, a man was *gibbeted* here for setting fire to part of the village. The FREE SCHOOL was founded pursuant to the will of *Christopher Amys*, who, in 1622, left £110 for that purpose. This legacy and several small donations were laid out in purchasing the school-house and 5A. 1R. of land. A new school-room was built in 1850 at a cost of £100; but the land was exchanged at the enclosure in 1812 for 8A. 1R. 29P., now let for £17. 16s. a year; and for this income, and the use of the house and garden, the master teaches about 20 poor children. In the garden is a *cork tree* more than 100 years old. In 1815, *Sarah Bowman* left £300 three per cent. consols, in trust to dispose of the yearly dividends as follows:—£2 to be divided among the poor on St. Thomas's day; and £7 to be laid out in the education of six poor children. In 1834, *Miss Diana Creasey* left the dividends of £400 of the same stock, to be applied in clothing and schooling six poor children. These two charities are applied in educating and clothing poor girls, and here is also a small *National School*. The *Poor's Allotments*, comprising 78A. 6P., were awarded in 1812. Upwards of 41A. form a pasture for the cows of the poor inhabitants, and the rest is let for about £50 a year, which, after paying the drainage rate, is distributed in coals among poor families. Of a yearly rent-charge of 13s. 4d., left by an unknown donor, only 3s. 4d. is now paid to the poor.

Post Office at Mr. John Lee Hunt's. Letters are despatched, *via* Yarmouth, at 5.30 p.m. This is also a *Money Order* Office and *Post Office Savings' Bank*.  
 Barber Mr George || Braddock Mr Wm. | Hunt John Lee, master *Free School*  
 Belson Robert, wherryowner, and corn, | Palmer Mrs Emily || Pitcher Rt. bailiff  
 seed, and coal merchant | Parker Wm. flour, malt, and seed dealer  
 Bushell Mr Thomas || Chapman Mrs | Pearse Rev. George, M.A., *Vicarage*  
 Cooper Charles, surgeon & registrar | Procter Thomas, parish clerk  
 Crisp Anthony, surgeon | Purdy Mr Chas. || Raven Jno. farm bailiff  
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 Ferrier Miss Ellen, boarding school | Rogers Richard, victualler, *King's Arms*,  
 Harmer James, wherry owner | Rounce Everitt, flour dlr [& bowling gn  
 Haywood Mr Wm. || Leach Mr Stephen | Rust Daniel, millwright and engineer

Varley Ann M. teacher, *National School*  
 Ware Joseph, corn miller  
 Woodhouse Robert, basket maker  
 Woods Nicholas, wheelwright

BEERHOUSES.  
 Dove Samuel  
 Hindry Martin  
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BLACKSMITHS.  
 Harmer William  
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 Braddock Daniel  
 Felmingham John  
 Piggin Thomas  
 Wright James, jun.

BUTCHERS.  
 George John  
 Jeary John, sen. & jun.

FARMERS.  
 (\* are Owners.)  
 \*Bane James  
 Braddock Daniel  
 Dyball Humphrey  
 England Henry  
 Faulke Js. (& miller)  
 Fuller John  
 Gaze William  
 Gibbs George  
 Gillett William  
 Green Robert  
 Grimble William  
 Grimson William  
 Grimson Wm. jun.  
 Haddon Horace  
 Harmer Hy. (& dlr.)  
 Jeary John, sen.

Johnson William  
 Knights Alfd. (& dlr)  
 Littleboy Robert  
 Long Robert  
 Payne William  
 \*Pollard John  
 Thompson Mary  
 Waite Jno. N., *Hall*

GROCERS.  
 (\* are Drapers also)  
 Grimble William  
 Hodds Benjamin  
 \*Lack William  
 \*Linford William  
 Lacey Susan  
 \*Moore Robert  
 Nichols Robert

PLUMBERS, &c.  
 Durrant Robert  
 Self George

SADDLERS.  
 Allcock John

Allpress James  
 SHOEMAKERS.  
 Brookes John  
 Greenacre Richard  
 Johnson James  
 Kerrison Mark  
 Nichols Robert  
 Smith Albert

TAILORS.  
 Edwards Alfred  
 Smith Thomas

THATCHERS.  
 Braddock James  
 Deary John

WATCHMAKERS.  
 Braddock George  
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CARRIERS.  
 Dove Samuel  
 Gedge John  
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