



Malmesbury Abbey

Parish History

Hankerton

Paragraph from The History of Malmesbury

For the next 200 years there is nothing told us about Malmesbury Abbey, but a great deal at the end of those 200 years, in then reign of King Henry VIII, when it was dissolved. It was surrendered by Abbot Frampton, alias Selwyn, on the 15th December, 1539. The whole property was seized by the Crown and sold.

The Abbot and monks, about 20 in number, pensioned for life. The property included almost every parish round the town, Charlton, Hankerton, Brokenborough, Newton, Norton, Corston, Rodbourne, Cole-park, Brinkworth, Lee and Cleverton, Garsdon, and Whitchurch, besides a great deal beyond and elsewhere.

The value was returned at £803 a year in the money of those days. This would equal several thousands of our money, but the returns then of the value of Abbey lands was notoriously under the mark, being made by the stewards, who wished to be, and became, the principal purchasers .

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette Thursday 14 August 1862