

**REMAINS, HISTORICAL AND LITERARY,  
CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE  
COUNTIES OF LANCASTER AND CHESTER.  
VOLUME 17.; THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH  
& MANOR OF WIGAN IN THE COUNTY OF  
LANCASTER. PART III. PP. 461-683**

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**GEORGE T. O. BRIDGEMAN**

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THE  
**History of the Church & Manor of Wigan**

IN THE  
COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

BY THE HONOURABLE AND REVEREND  
**GEORGE T. O. BRIDGEMAN,**

*Rector of Wigan, Honorary Canon of Liverpool, and  
Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen.*

(AUTHOR OF "A HISTORY OF THE PRINCES OF SOUTH WALES," ETC.)

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## History of the Church and Manor of Wigan.

### PART III.

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ON the deprivation of bishop Bridgeman a nonconformist minister was put into possession of the church and parsonage of Wigan.

JAMES BRADSHAW, the presbyterian rector who succeeded Bridgeman, entered upon the cure about 1643. He was the son of John Bradshaw, of Darcy Lever, near Bolton-le-Moors, a gentleman of good family, by Alice, daughter of Robert Lever, of Darcy Lever, his first wife.<sup>1</sup> Mr. John Bradshaw, the father, died in 1662,<sup>2</sup> and was succeeded at Darcy Lever Hall by his son James, the subject of this memoir.

James Bradshaw was born at Darcy Lever<sup>3</sup> about the year 1612.<sup>4</sup> Dr. Calamy informs us that his father sent his three sons to Oxford, where they were brought up to the three learned professions,—of law, divinity, and physic.<sup>5</sup>

The above-mentioned James Bradshaw was educated at Brazenose College, Oxford, and while rector of Wigan he lived at the

<sup>1</sup> Dugdale's *Visitation of Lancashire*, Chetham Soc., vol. lxxxiv. p. 51. Arms of Bradshaw of Darcy Lever, as entered in Dugdale's *Visitation* by Mr. James Bradshaw, 11th March, 1664: *Argent, between two bendlets, three escallops, sable.*

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Calamy's *Nonconformist's Memorial*, vol. i. p. 337. This James Bradshaw has often been confused with another James Bradshaw, who was born at Hacking, in the parish of Bolton, was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and afterwards became minister of Hindley, in the parish of Wigan, from which he was ejected after the Restoration (Calamy's *Nonconf. Mem.*, vol. ii. p. 364).

<sup>4</sup> Dugdale's *Vis.*

<sup>5</sup> Calamy's *Nonconf. Mem.*, vol. i. p. 337.