



William Aaron Woods, Vicar of Alvediston, News Items 1879-1897

The New Vicar

Diocese of Salisbury On the 25th ult. instituted the Rev. William Aaron Woods, Curate of Bishopstone, to the Vicarage of Alvediston, Wilts, void by the death of the Rev. P. S. Desprez, on the presentation of the Rev. C. G. Moore, Vicar of Broad Chalke, the Patron. **Western Gazette, Friday, 5 December 1879**

Finding Food

Hindon Petty Sessions William Aaron Woods, a clergyman, and William Roberts Woods, his son, of Alvediston, were summoned by the Excise for killing a hare without having a certificate, on the 7th September, on land belonging to Mr. Gray. After a long hearing, the Bench fined Mr. Woods £4 and costs and the son £1 and costs. PC. Langley gave evidence. **Western Gazette, Friday, 12 January 1883**

Bankruptcy Adjudications

William A. Woods, of Alvediston, Wilts, clerk in holy orders. **Western Gazette, Friday, 11 September 1885**

Meeting of the Creditors

On Saturday a meeting of creditors of the Rev. W. A. Woods, vicar of Alvediston, was held at the offices of the Official Receiver, Salisbury, and the statement of affairs showed liabilities to the extent of £466 8s. 7d.; whilst the assets were £200, leaving a deficiency of £266 8s. 7d. He attributed his present position to family affliction, and having a wife and seven children to maintain on £120 per annum. **Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette Thursday 3 September 1885**

A Wiltshire clergyman, the Rev. W. A. Woods, vicar of Alvediston, met his creditors at Salisbury on Saturday. His liabilities were put down at £466, he had no assets beyond what would be realised by the sale of his furniture and horse and trap. There was thus a deficiency of nearly £3000. The answers of the debtor revealed that his vicarage brought him in only £120 a year. He had received, however, in the last year £50 for special duty, and £30 from the bishop. This £50 however was wholly absorbed in keeping a horse and trap, which he required that he might perform the extra duty; and the £30 went for the education of his son. On the remainder he had to keep a very delicate wife and seven children; one of those children had a diseased knee and required London medical treatment. Another child was in a consumption, and required to be maintained at the seaside. The debtor added that with these responsibilities he had found himself unable to keep out of difficulty. He had since contracted debts

for the necessaries of life. Explaining the removal of certain furniture just before his bankruptcy, he said he had let that go that he might obtain food for his wife and children, having none in the house. He had no offer to make, and he feared his friends would do little for him. He had now to live in a house without any furniture, he had not even a bed. Several of the creditors asserted that the debtor had had expensive articles off them when he knew well he would not be able to pay for them. Only recently, one said, he had had a six guinea cloak for his wife, and some of the best Brussels carpet. The debtor said his wife's health required that she should have a cloak, and he had the carpet in the belief that a Major was coming to live at his house as lodger. The major, however, hearing that he had had county court summonses against him, refused to come. One of the creditors said that the vicarage was regularly barricaded a week before the bankruptcy, the debtor doing this to keep out creditors. The Official Receiver complained, too, that after the act of bankruptcy he was unable to get into the house without using force. - The meeting was adjourned. **Exeter Flying Post, Wednesday, 2 September 1885**

Paying the Dividends

Bankruptcy Act Notice of Dividends William Aaron Woods, of Alvediston, clerk in Holy Orders; second and final dividend is 1s 1/2d in the pound, payable July 15th. Official Receiver's Salisbury **Hampshire Advertiser, Saturday, 10 July 1886**

Things Back To Normal?

Advert Vicarage Girls (two strong) wanted (18). One as housemaid, and the other to work in the kitchen. Apply Alvediston Vicarage, Salisbury, Wilts. **Western Gazette Friday 14 October 1887**

Clergy List 1897

William Aron Woods. Deacon, 1875, (Bishop of Carlisle); Priest, 1877, (Bishop of Sarum); Curate of St. James, Barrow-in-Furness, 1875-1876; Curate of Bishopstone, Wilts., 1876-1879; Vicar of Alvediston, Wilts. 1879-1892.