



Death of Rev. Edward Rowden

Our obituary today records the death of, we believe, the oldest clergyman in this county - the Rev. Edward Rowden, who had held the vicarage of Highworth for the long period of 65 years, having been presented to it in 1804. He took his B.A. degree in 1802, the first year of which the Calendar says anything of honours. In that year there were only two who obtained distinction - John Hendy, of Oriel, and John Marriott, of Chris Church. (Mr. H. Phillpotts, who was one of the examiners on that occasion, is now Bishop of Exeter). In 1804 Mr. Rowden was presented by the Bishop of Gloucester (Dr. Huntingford, a name which has been associated for many generations past with New College) to the vicarage of Highworth, which now falls to the gift of Bishop Ellicott. Mr. Rowden, although 89 when he died, retained his faculties to the last. He was through life a staunch, "blue," and at the last election recorded his vote for the Conservative candidates for Cricklade, and gave a plumper for Sir George Jenkinson as member for the County.

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