

Control Page for the Works

The Chatterton Pages

127 pages in groups & Enhanced with Links

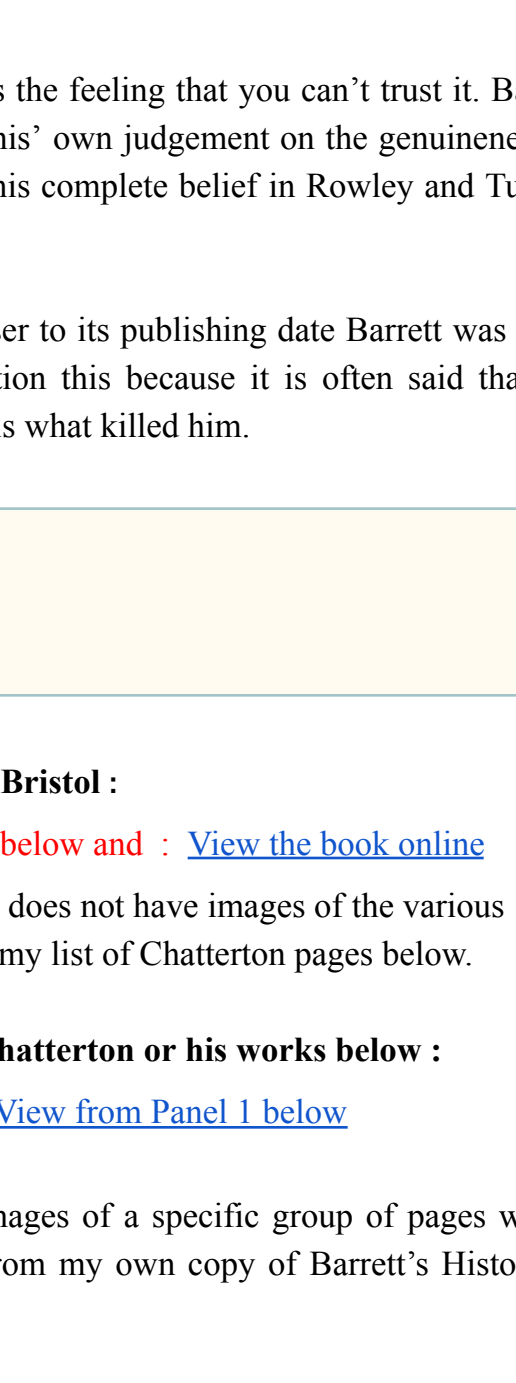
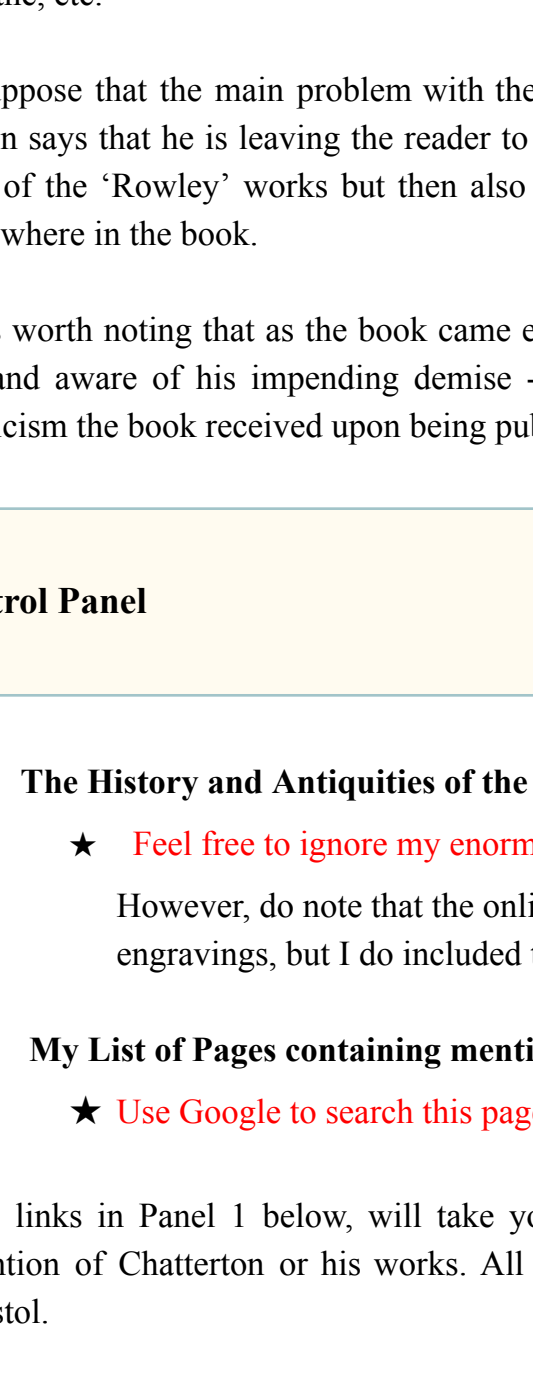
from

The History and Antiquities of the City of Bristol.

by William Barrett, published 1789

(Includes all relevant engravings from my own copy of the above)

[Back to William Barrett Main Page](#) [Chatterton Project website](#)



This is an important book in relation to Chatterton's Life & Works. The book contains 704 pages of which 127 mention Chatterton or his works.

I could say that the book is well worth the read, and it is, especially for a follower of Chatterton, but it does need skimming here and there - it's a tough read in places but well worth the effort - in fact I loved it!

However, do note that Barrett opts for different spellings from time to time; e.g. With for Wythe, etc.

I suppose that the main problem with the book is the feeling that you can't trust it. Barrett often says that he is leaving the reader to make 'his' own judgement on the genuineness or not of the 'Rowley' works but then also shows his complete belief in Rowley and Turgot elsewhere in the book.

It is worth noting that as the book came ever closer to its publishing date Barrett was quite ill and aware of his impending demise - I mention this because it is often said that the criticism the book received upon being published is what killed him.

Control Panel

- **The History and Antiquities of the City of Bristol :**
  - ★ **Feel free to ignore my enormous list below and :** [View the book online](#)
- **My List of Pages containing mention of Chatterton or his works below :**
  - ★ **Use Google to search this page or :** [View from Panel 1 below](#)

The links in Panel 1 below, will take you to images of a specific group of pages with a mention of Chatterton or his works. All taken from my own copy of Barrett's History of Bristol.

To help you find the location of an item on a specific page I have listed the first and last lines of the work. I have also added images that are not in Barrett as well as a direct link to the actual and specific pages online. There is also a link at the top and bottom of each page to bring you back to this menu. You also have the option at the foot of each section of pages to click the link and view the next section of pages in sequence without coming back to this menu - you wouldn't dare, would you, after all the work I've put in!

It is sometimes difficult to know who is saying what in the following breakdown of Barrett's book, so I use the these signatures to identify the speaker:

**Chatt** Me. **Chatt** Chatterton. **Barr** Barrett. **Tayl** Donald S. Taylor

Panel 1 : Direct Links to pages with mention of Chatterton and Chattertonian items

Preface VI, VII : [View Pages](#)

Preface vi; Barrett intends to leave deeds & copies to Bristol Library.  
Preface vii; Rowley - Barrett says 'let the reader judge.'

Page xvii : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : [View online](#)

Turgot; Canynges; Rowley; Cabot's Voyage.

Page xix : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : [View online](#)

Rowley; Simon de Burton; Parliament of Sprites; Canynges; Anent a Brooklet; Letters to Walpole; Chatterton's Death

Page 19n (notes) & 20n : [View pages](#)

Chatterton's father 'gave' several hundred Roman coins to Sir J. Smith.  
Sir John Hugh Smith (Smith and Smyth are interchangeable), was, according to Barrett 'a living witness of Chatterton the father's speaking about them [coins] and saying they were found at Ken-moor; a proof of his having some taste for antiquities.'

Pages 31 - 34 : [View Pages](#)

**Chatt** Barrett's starts at Sect. II of Turgoteus' 'A Discourse on Brystowe.' According to George Catcott, Barrett chose not to print Sect. I, because he had not seen the original (see Meyerstein p.483).  
(George Catcott includes the missing Sect. I of 'A Discourse on Brystowe' in his own copy-link - View)  
See Taylor, p.93, for the complete work, which is easy for me as I do have a copy of Taylor. It is available online if you have contacts via a University.

**Barr** A manuscript discourse on Bristol, which has the marks of great antiquity, said to be wrote by Turgot, a Saxon.....

**Chatt**  
Sect. II. of Turgoteus. -Strange as it maie seem that there were Walles to Tradtyfene,..... neie Efelwynnes Towre. I conceive not it couldbe be square, tho Rowley,.....so saith: the Inhabitors wythyn the Walle had ryghte of Tolle on the Ryvers Severne & part of Avon. Thus much of Radclefte Walles.

**Barr** On whych passage of Turgot, T. Rowlie subjoins the following Emendal...

**Chatt** Hence myghte be the reasonne whie the indabitors of Radclefte calld much of the River Avon, Severne; because formerlie reckoned in theyre Tollege with the Severne, as inhabitier of Radclefte have I used Severne for Abona or Avon, & accounted Severne to reeche over anent Radclefte Strete.

**Chatt** Starts page 32.

**Sect. III. of Turgotus.** - Nowe to speake of Bryghtstowe, yttes Walles & Castelle....Whither he went with 280 Brystowans.

**Barr** All the works of Turgott have never been published

**Chatt** Turgot of Durham Link to the Wiki view of the real Turgot...View

**Chatt** Me. **Chatt** Chatterton. **Barr** Barrett. **Tayl** Donald S. Taylor

p.40 [simple mention of the following] : [Dolven](#) : [View online](#)

p.41 [simple mention of the following] : [Rowley](#) : [View online](#)

p.42 [simple mention of the following] : [Rowley](#) : [View online](#)

pp. 37 - 46 : [View Pages](#)

**Tayl** Yellow Rolle. [see Taylor p.63 - sorry no link]

**Barr** [ p.37] Coins have been ever looked upon .....I shall confine myself to a faithful and exact copy from the original parchment manuscript as follows, in which the ink and letters by time were almost defaced, and leave the reader to judge of its authenticity.

**Chatt** [p.37] "Of the Auntiaunte Forme of Monies  
Carefullie Gotten for Mayster William Canyng  
by Mee Thomas Rowlie."

Greete was the wysdome of him who sayde the whole worlde....I dispense Goulde to get Heaven. [continues through pp.37, 38, 39]

**Barr** [p.39] This curious account is an exact transcript from the writing on vellum, which, having all the external marks of antiquity to give it the credit of an original...

**Chatt** The above continues with mention of Rowley on through to p.43.

**Barr** [p.43] As coins dug out of the ground have ever been regarded as proofs of the antiquity of a place....such can be produced with the name of Rowlie affixed to them, as copied from Turgot. Some are said

**Chatt** [p.43] " to be dolven in Brystowe....and Danish battle axes, but much worn out."

**Barr** [p.43 To this account of coins and coinage.....chiefly collected by Thomas Rowley, priest.....which he calls his **Yellow Roll**, and entitles it,

**Chatt** [p.44 - 45] "England's Glorye revvyed in Maystre Canyng, beyng some Accounte of hys Cabynet of Auntyaunte Monumntes"  
To praysythe Auntyaunte Reposytorie maie noe bee so fytyngne yn me....  
.....Thus muche for the Cabynette.

**Chatt** [p.46] Barrett mentions the Yellow and Purple Roll and Rowley.

p.51 : [View Page](#)

**Barr** A Plan and DESCRIPTION of BRISTOL in its Early and Middle State.

**Chatt** { Engraving 'The Old Plan of the City'

**Barr** Turgott's manuscript account, "the walls and gates suffered alteration"

**Chatt** John E.Pritchard discovered Barrett's personal copy of the 'proof' plates meant for his History of Bristol, which includes the "proof" engraving of "The Old Plan of the City," along with additional plates that did not make it into the final printing. This original plan has an annotation in Chatterton's hand, which seems to show that Chatterton added various features to it, including the four churches at the cross road. He claimed that one of the churches was named St Andrews, which is another of his fabrications - the clever little monkey! [View Pritchard's report in the Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucester Archaeological Society 1922](#)

**Chatt** Me. **Chatt** Chatterton. **Barr** Barrett. **Tayl** Donald S. Taylor

p.56 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : [Ellebrige in old writings from Elle](#) : [View online](#)

Lord of the Castle. Mentioned by Leland

p.57 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : [Map Bristol](#) : [View online](#)

pp.61 - 62 : [View Pages](#)

**Chatt** [Churches of Bristol - (see Taylor p.247-251)]

**Barr** The following I met with in an old manuscript *penes me* in Chatterton's handwriting from Chapleie.

- St. Baldwyns Chapelle in Baldwyns-street...
- St. Mary Magdelsns Chapelle: founded by Elle Ld. Warden of the Castle...
- St. Mathyas is Chapelle...
- Seyncte Austins Chappelle: Thys freedmed pyle ytte is uncouth to saie....
- Seyncte Baudwins Chappelle:...

**Chatt** See Barrett page 506-599 for more on 'Churches of Bristol.'

Note: *penes me*, is a latin term meaning 'in my hands.'

p.63 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : [Rowley](#) : [View online](#)

pp.79-80 : [View Pages](#)

**Chatt** Description and illustration of the Old Bristol Bridge.

Barrett writes little about Chatterton in this section, when you would have expected much more; it's just a little background information re the bridge.

**Barr** The ceremony and joy said to be displayed on this occasion, with songs to St Baldwin & St Warburgh, are described already and published [p.433 of Rowley's Poems \[1782\] by Dean Milles, to which I refer the reader. View](#)

**Chatt** For full details of 'Chatterton's 'The Mayor's First Passing Over the Old Bridge Taken from an Old Manuscript' by Dunhelmus Bristolensis: [View](#)

p.90 : [View Page](#)

**Barr** 'Rowley (in manuscript *penes me*) says, "Hardinge, Fadre of Fytz-Hardyngne..."

**Chatt** I have not been able to locate this Rowley item in Meyerstein or Taylor - yet! Although I believe it might be part of [Rowley's Heraldic Account of Bristol Artists and Writers].

This page includes references to the following: Porteburie; Port Ceastre; Henry 2nd; St Decumbes Day; Abbot of Seynt Austines yn Bristowe; Slyppe of Creecham; shyppes.

pp.171 - 172 : [View Pages](#)

**Barr** In the year 1497, 24th June on St. John's day, as it is in a manuscript in my possession, "was Newfoundland found by Bristol men in a ship called the Matthew."

**Chatt** Cabot's Discovery of America: The mysterious Fust manuscript & the naming of the ship 'Matthew' - a potential fabrication of Chatterton's?  
This one is great fun, especially as we can (thanks to our own version of time travel) relive the entire disagreement between George Weare (& others), on the one side, and the wonderfully named Henry Harris on the other; well he certainly 'harrassed' George Weare.

This is mystery upon mystery, and is mysterious too, to boot - don't you just love a good mystery? It is true that we have enough problems with obfuscation regarding Chatterton without adding to it with the infamous Fust manuscript - don't you think? Nope, I can't resist it, I have to diverge and investigate it all!  
So, the question is:- did Chatterton create or produce manuscripts that gave Barrett his information regarding Cabot's discovery of the American continent and, more importantly, it would seem, did he name the ship 'Matthew'.'  
[Click here to read more of the Fust Ms.](#)

p.177 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : Barrett says he has a manuscript re Mr Guy's 1609 plantation of Newfoundland : [View p.177 online](#)

Additional Link :  
John Guy's Wiki page : [View Wiki online](#)

p. 185 : [View Page](#)

**Chatt** Barrett's views on alcohol:

**Barr**.....nothing is so prejudicial to the health of man as drinking spirituous liquors in any form, so totally destructive of human generation and being, so subversive of our very existence, causing slow but sure death...whilst the great consumption of barley and wheat, whence they extract this baneful liquor, leaves us often to lament the scarcity of grain for our necessary uses, for our wholesome food and daily support...But all, all is consumed, to the shortning of the period of human life (alas! Too short!) and the absolute extinction of our very being, by drying up and hardning the fine vessels and nerves, rendering them impervious, producing paralytic strokes, hemiplegies, and apoplexies, never before so frequent as of late years, since the frequent and so general use of spirituous liquors, in punch, toddy or alone unmixed.'

**Chatt** I wonder where Chatterton got his views on alcohol?

**Chatt** A telling phrase from above: 'But all, all is consumed, to the shortning of the period of human life (alas! too short!).'

**Chatt** Barrett died shortly after publication of his History. He was fully aware of his impending death, and not killed by the reviews of his book.

[See his letter to George Catcott \(letter 3\)](#)

**Chatt** Me. **Chatt** Chatterton. **Barr** Barrett. **Tayl** Donald S. Taylor

p.186 : [View Page](#)

**Barr** The trade to Africa for slaves, (a trade now much complained of and about to be regulated by law) Ivory, gold dust, &c. has been cultivated here with great spirit and success now much complained of and about to be regulated by law.'

**Chatt** What were Barrett's views on slavery? How did it influence Chatterton? We really do need to get all of Barrett's papers online.

p.189 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : Slavery : [View online](#)

p.190 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : Graph of trade includes Afric : [View online](#)

p.191 : [View Page](#)

**Barr** '...if we give credit to Turgot's account, p. 32,

**Chatt** "in the year 915 Edward senr. havng made alterayton of the wallles of Bryghtstowe newly ybuiden the castle..."

pp.194 -200 : [View Pages](#)

BRISTOL CASTLE as in 1138

[Engravings and Description]

**Chatt** Barrett describes and enthuses about the design of Bristol castle, quoting 'Rowley' along the way.

**Barr** [p.194]...a velum manuscript of Rowley, *penes me*, tells whom they represent in these words: **Chatt** Aelward, a Saxon, was a skyllyd carverell in stone and woude. Eldred...Aelle...Canyng...keeopen from the unwever'

**Barr** [p.194].....which is called in Rowley's manuscripts, **Chatt** 'a coppie of peynctynges founde on caste walles stondeyng ynnne Godefraye's dayes enghoghten Saxonne'

**Chatt** [p.195] The outer walle of the castle (says Rowlie's manuscript) stooden ynnne the daies of Williamme Conqueroure.....Meetyngs at these [ ]

**Barr** [p.195] But as I have luckily the original explanation, that is the most authentic as well as only description now extant, I set it down in the very words of the manuscript:

**Chatt** [p.195-6] The castle foundatoyne as ytte stoden ynnne the daies of Rob. Conf. Gloucestre, wythe Geofrries logge as ytte then was: .....17. Mote next the city, where was a draw-bridge.

**Barr** [p.199] If the castle, so large and beautiful a building, as described in the manuscript, entitled, Rowlie: of such extent... It is left to the candid reader to compare...That, called Rowlie's, was either a drawing of it in his own time, or taken from one made long before, when in its perfect state: .....

**Chatt** Five Engravings : BRISTOL CASTLE as in 1138, facing page p.196 in Barrett; Castle and Fort facing p.200; Royal Fort; Bristol Castle; Millerd's Map from 1672,

pp.202 - 204 : [View Pages](#)

**Barr** About the year 920 Ella was lord of the castle, and gained many signal victories against the dapes with his Bristowans, particularly at Watchett; though our Saxon chronicles yet printed have taken little notice of this heroic champion against the Danes, nor indeed of the castle over which he presided.

**Barr** The following old poem was made to the memory of this chieftain about the year 1460, and transcribed from an old parchment in the hand-writing like that in use in Henry the 6th.'s time, and subscribed to T. Rowlie. '

**Chatt** [p.203] **SONGE toe ELLA.\***  
O thou or what remaynes of thee, Ella the Darlyng of futuritie

**Barr** Turgot observes that Ella dies of his wounds in Bristol Castle....'  
.....There are in manuscript the arms of Ella blazoned thus, in Saxon..'

p.206 : [View Page](#)

**Barr** This Bietric, son of Aylward Meaw, favoured much the city of Bristol, and Mr. Canyng preserved in his cabinet. **Chatt** a stonen bed belonging to Erle Bietric, formerly kept in tower Eryys

**Barr** He was descended from Bietric King of the West Saxons; and in Mr Canyng's collection of antiquities was **Chatt** an history of Brythricus King of West Saxonnas, and annales from hym to Brythrychus the Erle:

**Barr** but now irrevocably lost, and said to be wrote by Turgot a Saxon monk, and continued by Rowlie.

p.208 : [View Page](#)

**Barr** Duke Robert.....was conquered and taken prisoner, and sent into England; historians say, he was shut up in Cardiff castle where he remained in prison till his death; but a vellum manuscript roll (penes me) mentions **Chatt** his leaving his guantelette in Brigstowe castelle, **Barr** which was preserved [in]....Mr Canyng's...cabinet..... **Chatt**

**Chatt** Came of Roberte Courtheose myndeyn castelle chyche.

pp.220 - 221 : [View Pages](#)

The Execution of Sir Charles Bawdin - Bristowe Tragedy

**Barr** [p.220] In the 1st year of Edward 4th. 1461, Sir Baldwin Fulford after suffering imprisonment with his two accomplices...in Bristol castle, were executed here....'

Stowe relates it thus under that year: " Sir Baudewine Fulford undertook under pain of losing his head to destroy the Earl of Warwick, but when he had spent the King a thousand marks in money he returned again: " but an additional authentic evidence of this fact is in an old parchment roll, in which among other curiosities preserved in the cabinet of Mr Canyng, is mentioned

**Chatt** the real bond given to Henry 6th by Sir Charles Bawdin a Fulford (commonly cleped Baudin Fulford) to take the life of the Erl of Warwick or lose his head, which he did to Edward 4th."

**Chatt** See the above directly in Stowe, where it is printed in black-letter, which is sometimes difficult to read. To get to the correct section, scan the side notes to the right of the page in Stowe until you see 1460.

**Chatt** [p.220] Barrett states the following in 'confirmation' of the above:

**Barr** By an entry in the old church books of St Ewen.... " for washing and cleening the church when King Edward the 4th. came there in September 1461..." it confirms the account above given; King Edward having stood at the great window there when he passed to his fate.

**Barr** [p.221] This event has given occasion to a poem called the Bristol Tragedy, lately published among Rowley's poems, in which the name is called Sir Charles Bawdin Fulford. In the manuscript (Adams's penes me) he is called Sir John Bawdin Fulford. ' [See also (p.476):-] [View pp.220-221](#)

P.246 : [View Page](#)

**Tayl** On Fitz-Hardyngs

Part of 'Rowley's Heraldic Account of Bristol Artists and Writers

**Barr** This state of the city is well described in the following little poem, said by Chatterton to be translated by Rowley,

**Chatt** as nie as Englyshe wyll serve...buried in his albe in the mynster.  
**With daitive steppre Religyon dygte in gree,**  
**her face of doleful hue.....**  
**....And spend mie daies upon Fytz-Hardynges breste**

**Chatt** 'On Fitz Hardyng' see Taylor p.237.

p.294 : [View Page](#)



**Barr.**...The Bristol High Cross, which once graced the center of it [College-green], (as appears by the little print annexed,) was removed from High-street hither, for the sake of widening the street and rendering it more commodious for passengers ...Dean Barton ordered it to be given to Mr. Hoar at Stouton, to adorn his elegant gardens, (where the dean's brother was rector of the place.)...

**Bar.** Dean Barton features in Chatterton's works; [The Exhibition](#)  
[\[see also Barrett's History of Bristol pp.473 - 475\]](#)

p.415 : [View Page](#)

**Bar.** Barrett states that about the year 1782 John Purrier gave money and 100 new silver, and 100 brass badges to Chatterton's old school, Colston's, .  
See images of the badges [here](#)

p.428 - 431 : [View Pages](#)

**Bar.** The following account from a parchment writing under the name of T. Rowley calls it a priory - and it is so far confirmed in this by William of Worcester's manuscript, which was never seen by Chatterton.

**Chart.** **The Rolle of Seyncte Bartholomeweis Priorie**  
In the year of our Lorde Chyrste M,CCLV Syr Gawnye .....  
.....Thus dothe ende the rolle of Seyncte Bartholomewis priourie  
bie Thomas Rowley. **Bar.** See Taylor p.143

p.454 - 455 : [View Pages](#)

**Bar.** [p.454] The prior, ...shall take custody of a certain library newly erected...so that every festival day at two hours before nine, and for two hours after, free access...for all willing to enter for the sake of instruction...

**Bar.** [455]We may hence conclude...in the time of W. Canynge...a regular library was instituted in Bristol, and open to all so early as 1464...at the very time too in which Rowley is said to have lived and flourished, which those engaged in the controversy about him would do well to observe.

**Bar.** A library of scripture & indoctrination, I imagine.

**Bar.** p.455, see last paragraph: Barrett again declares his belief in Rowley:

p.458 : [View Page](#)

**Tayl.** [*The Chyrche Oratorie of the Calendaryes.* (see Taylor p.155)]

**Bar.** .....a drawing under the name of Rowleie, about the year 1467, which he calls

**Chart.** The chyrche oratorie of the Calendaries, whereof the western spyre beyng brent, the standeynge parte was pyghte downe...Eva Fytzhardyng and Lewis de Ghente inn 1092.

p.464 : [View Page](#)

**Bar.** Christ church is a rectory rated in the King's Books at 3l. 8s. Clear: its Yearly Tenth, now discharged, 1l. 2s. It is of very great antiquity, though the exact time when founded is a little uncertain. Rowley's manuscript says [as follows]

**Chart.** It was founded 920 by Ella, lord-warden of the castle, and that it was spired by Atrievs Sneaw in 1004,..."

p.474 -5 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : more on the High Cross : [View online](#).

p.476 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : where King Edward waited to watch Fullford pass by : [View online](#)

pp.488 - 489 : [View Pages](#)

**Bar.** The real Thomas Rowley is entombed in the church of St John, Bristol:

**Bar.** "...the effigies of a man and woman in brass let into the stone, with six sons and six daughters and the following inscription:- "Hic jacet Thomas Rowley..."

p.506 : [View Page](#)

**Tayl.** [**Churches of Bristol**] - (see Taylor p.249)

**Bar.** 'Sect II. - *Of the Church and Parish of St LEONARD.*'

'It is said in the manuscripts of Rowley,

**Chart.** "Itte was ybuiden bie Algar, a Saxon, in 1010. It has a chauntry to the honour of St. Baldwyne, whose shryne was therein keppen..."

**Bar.** See Barrett page 61-62 for more on Churches of Bristol

p.512 : [View Page](#)

**Bar.**

Rector St Stephen's Church, 1743-1749, Alexander Stopford Catcott'

**Bar.** There are three Catcotts' in the Chatterton story. This one is A.S.Catcott , he paraphrased psalm 104, which, his eldest son, also an Alexander, includes in the latter pages of his own book, *A Treatise on the Deluge*:

It has the line '[And here Haunt the Beasts and find a cool retreat.](#)'

[.Psalm 104, Paraphrased by Alexander Stopford Catcott: View online](#)

pp.524 - 525 : [View Pages](#)

**Tayl.** [**Churches of Bristol**]

SECT. II. - *Of the CHURCH of St MARY LE PORT.*

**Bar.** '...The following curious account of this church transcribed from an original old vellum transcribed by him from Rowley, which is submitted to the judgement of the reader:

**Chart.** 'Seyncte Maries Chyrche of the Porte'

'Thys chyrche was ybuidenne in M..XVI. by a Saxonne man cleped Eldred...'

'Thys Morneyng Starre of Radcleves rysyng raie,  
A true man, goode of minde, and Canynge hyghte  
Benethe thys stone lies moltryng ynto claie...'

pp.541 - 542 : [View Pages](#)

**Tayl.** [**Churches of Bristol**]

*Of the CHURCH and PARISH of TEMPLE, otherwise HOLY CROSS.* **Bar.** 'The following curious account of this church transcribed from an original old vellum manuscript, said to be written about the year 1460 by Rowlie, is the most ancient:

**Chart.** Tys uncouthe whanne thys chyrche was fyrst ybuiden..."

**Bar.** The tower of this remarkable church leans excessively. Barrett writes more on page 542 / 543, which he says that the tower was measured in 1772 and found to lean by 3 feet 9 inches from the perpendicular.

**Bar.** Alexander Catcott (son of Alexander Stopford Catcott) was vicar of Temple from 1767. [\(see Barrett page 546\)](#)

p.546 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : shows Alex Stopford Catcott as vicar 1767 - 1779 : [View online](#)

p.557 : [View Pages](#)

**Tayl.** [**Churches of Bristol**]

*Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St THOMAS.*

'In a manuscript (penes me) the church is said

"To have been very old, and being soullie rent and crased was rebuilden by Segawen or Segowen, a Lumbard goulter or souler;"

**Bar.** see Taylor p.248, which differs from Barrett -

pp.566 - 567 : [View Pages](#)

**Tayl.** [**Churches of Bristol**]

**Bar.** *Of the CHURCH and PARISH of St MARY-REDCLIFFE.*

**Chart.** "Ynne doolyngge wythynne the walle was founde in the howse of Johannes Coshe in Radcleve-street a parchmente in whych was wroten the account of Brythrycus palace called Rudhulle wyth the walles of Radcleve."

**Chart.** "the auntyaunte gate of Saynte Marye ybuiden by Kinge Bythrycus in the year dcxxxxxxxix; as itte stooden in daies of Edwarde Confessoure;"

**Tayl.** p.117, [Rowley's Collection for Canynge.] 'Thos. Rowleie Gotten for Maystre Wm. Canynge by mee'

**Bar.** (Barrett) states: there are also several original indulgences (penes me) granted by several bishops...These were all found in Canynge's chest over the north porch of the present church of Redcliff.

**Bar.** The description in Taylor p.247, of St Mary Redcliffe, is different to the account in Barrett?

p.568 : [View online](#). Symonne de Byrtonne by Rowley : (The 'Authenticity' of *The Tournament* mentioned in notes)

p.570 : [View Page](#)

**Bar.** **St Mary Redcliffe Church Spire thrown down by lightning**

**Bar.** "...at St. Paul's tide 1445-6 so much damage in a storm of thunder and lightning, that the lofty spire or steeple was thrown down, and falling upon the body of the church injured it so much, that it was almost ruinous.

**Bar.** Different dates for the storm, 1445; 1442

p.574 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : the fall of the steeple of St Mary Redcliffe mentioned again : [View online](#)

p.576 : [View Page](#)

**Bar.** **The Muniment Room, North Porch, St Mary Redcliffe Church**  
**Aka: The Treasury; Chatterton's Room**

**Bar.** Over the north porch is a large sexagon room, called formerly the Treasury-house, in which were kept all the archives belonging to the church,; the accent to which is by a stone stair-case; at half way therof is an apartment for a lodging-room. Having a fire-place therein...'.

**Bar.** [Footnote] † The trunks [coffers] are still remaining there, particularly one large one, called in a deed of Mr Canynge's, " Cysta ferrata cum sex clavibus vocata Cysta Willielmi Canynge in domo thesauraria ecclesiae beatae mariae de redcliffe." This chest furnished Mr. Morgan with many curious parchments relative to Mr Canynge's and the church of Redcliffe; and many very valuable there is reason to believe were taken away before, and since dispersed into private hands.- This is said by Chatterton to have been the repository of the manuscripts under the name of Rowley. [View p.576](#)

**Bar.** [possible translation of the Latin above] An iron chest with six keys called Chest of William Canynge in house treasury of the church of Blessed Mary from Redcliffe

pp.588-589 : [View Pages at archive.org](#)

**Bar.** List of Vicars of St Mary Redcliffe Church (Nothing Chatterton, but information about the church , the link takes you directly to archive.org).

pp.596 - 597 : [View Pages at archive.org](#)

**Bar.** **[St Sprites Chapel - Johannes Lamyngton]**  
(Nothing specifically Chatterton in these pages. It is simply an interesting story about the discovery of an ancient stone coffin with an intact body.  
The link takes you directly to online pages at archive.org.)

**Bar.** **Bar.** St Sprites Chapel, which was in the grounds of St Mary Redcliffe church, was torn down completely in 1766. They found a stone coffin with the name Johannes Lamyngton. On opening it the body 'was to be seen preserved in the natural position, but on being touched fell all into dust.'

p.599 : [View Page at archive.org](#)

**[Colston's Charity School - Pile Street.]**

**Bar.** On the north side of Pile-street in 1739 was founded a free-school for boys, by the joint contributions of many well-disposed inhabitants of this parish, which has received the following endowments...

1734, E. Colston £20 per annum; 1734, Matthew Worgan gave in money £21

1742, John Fisher, gave in money, in which was apprentice out a poor boy £100

1749, Giles Malpas built the school house £120; 1749, John Macie, gave £50

1749, Mrs Gratian Kington £50:

**Bar.** Nothing specifically Chatterton, apart from information about the school house, the link takes you directly to archive.org.

pp.600 - 609 : [View Pages](#)

**[The Parlyamente of Sprytes**  
Wroten bie T. Rowleie and J. Iscam]

**Bar.** The following Interlude is among the most early communications of Chatterton to Mr Barrett, and as it has an immediate relation to the church of Redcliff, is here printed verbatim et literatim from Chatterton's own writing, and submitted to the judgement of the reader:

**Chart.** An ENTYRLUDE, plaied bie the Carmelyte Freeres at Mastre Canynge's hys greete howse, before Mastre Canynge and Byshoppe Carpenterre, on dedicatyng the chyrche of Oure Ladie of Redclefte, hight

**THE PARLYAMENTE OF SPRYTES.**  
Wroten bie T. Rowleie and J. Iscam  
*Entroductyon bie Queen Mabbe--- (Bie Iscamme)*  
Whan from the erthe the sonnes hulstred,  
.....  
And syndes hee hee chose on erthe a lyfe the beste.

**Bar.** The above covers ten pages in Barrett's History of Bristol.

p.625 : [View Page online at archive.org](#)

**Bar.** John Stowe, "the Bristol Carmelite," was a poet of some reputation in Henry 6th's. time. He is mentioned by Rowley in his poem to John Lydgate on Ella, lord of Bristol castle, together with John Clarkyn, "one of mickle lore."

**Bar.** "Thomas Norton, born at Bristow, is celebrated among the men of note in Edward 4th's. time. As an alchemist, he wrote some books in that art, and in chemistry; also a poem, mentioned by Wharton, in which he celebrates Mr. Canning... and complaineth that a merchant's wife in Bristol stole from him the elixir of health, suspected to be the wife of William Cannings..."

Thomas Norton's Wiki page : [View online at wikipedia.org](#)

Thomas Norton in Theatrum chemicum, 1692 : [View online at archive.org](#)

p.627 : [View Page online at archive.org](#)

**Bar.** William Canynge's' mother, after the death of her husband (William's father), married Thomas Young; coincidentally Chatterton's mother's maiden name was 'Young.'

p.627 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : Barrett mentions Rowley at the foot of the page : [View online](#)

pp.629 - 631 : [View Pages](#)

**The WORLDE** (see Taylor p.233)

**Bar.** ...whether Robert [Canynge] be a misnomer, and not a family name, it seems clear there was one of such a genius in the family from the following little poem, called an Enterlude, which as it shews the disposition of an ancestor of this as well as many a family, and has not been published among the poems attributed to Rowley, I here insert:

**Chart.** **The WORLDE**  
*Fadre, Sonne, and Mynstrelles*  
*Fadre.*--To the world newe an ytts bestoykenyng wae.....

**Bar.** p.631 - 632 Barrett elaborates at the end of the above poem, where he mentions Rowley three times, once in the body of the text, twice in his footnotes. He refers the reader to the following:

**Bar.** Vid. poems of Rowley 4to. [[Jeremiah Milles 1782](#)] [P165](#), [170](#), [328](#), [430](#), [447](#)  
See Rowley's poems "[Anent a Brooklet](#) &c." where his life and taste for learning is particularly noted, also the poem called [Canynge's feast](#).

pp.632 - 636 : [View Pages](#)

**Bar.** The following letters from Canynge to his friend Rowley, as transcribed and communicated by Chatterton, will set this matter in a proper light, which are submitted to the judgement and candour of the reader.

**Chart.**

**Canynge to Rowley, Bristol.**  
I be fille sorrowefulle...come as soon as the tymes will spare you.  
Wm. CANYNGE

**Rowley to Canynge, Cirencester.**  
Mie Lorde of Warwyke waulkethe fast to the crowne...I can goe hence.  
T. ROWLEIE

**Canynge to Rowleie, Bristowe.**  
Ye would have me declare for Kyng Henrie...doe not thynke I ame Yorkeyst...  
WILLIAM CANYNGE

**William CANYNGE to the Earl of Warwyck,**  
Sendeth greestyng...Jesus attend you.  
WILLIAM CANYNGE

**Bar.** ...the facts in the above letters is left to the judgment and candour of the reader...brass fixed to the cover of a mass book here had this inscription, Rowley's manuscripts:  
Thys booken was yeven  
To synge sowles to heav'n  
.....  
Untyll the last daie.  
Joannes Carpenter  
[View pp.632-636](#)

**Bar.** On the treble bell, taken down to be recast...St. Peter and St. Paul. [?]

**Bar.** Of Mr. Canynge's becoming a priest at Westbury to avoid a marriage proposed by the King, the following letters said by Chatterton to be transcribed from the originals of Mr. Canynge to Rowleie will give a farther account:

**Chart.** **1466. To Rowleie**  
Lyfe ys a sheelde where ne tyncture of joie...for I wyll ne be wedded for anie Kyng.  
W.C.

**1467. To Rowleie**  
Now, broder. Yn the chyrche I amme safe...Alle ys wel;e; the Kyng ys gone, and I am haillie.  
W. CANYNGES.

**1468. To Rowleie**  
I bee now shutte uppe ynn mie college of Westburie...dysperple payne.  
W. CANYNGES

p.637 - 639 : [View Pages](#)

**Bar.** page 637: **Two Poems: 1: Selynesse. 2: Aynent a Brooklette**

**Bar.** The following little poem on seliness or happiness, said to be written by him, is quite consonant with this last letter.

**Chart.** Maie Selynesse on erthe's boundes bee hadde?  
.....  
Whoere hath the thee, hath gotten selynesse.

**Bar.** ...But Rowley's poem "Anent a Brooklet," published by Dean Milles, p.439, as it gives a curious account of Mr Canynge's life family &c. Deserves particular notice...communicated by Chatterton.. The curiosity of the public has lately been excited by printing of the poems of Rowley...the following is therefore submitted to the judgement of the candid reader.

**Chart.** **Anent a Brooklette as I laie reclyned,**  
.....  
Repayre to Radcleve and contented bee.

**Bar.** Three engravings, all facing page 637 in Barrett:  
**These engravings are missing from the online copy, but include via the above link from my own copy of Brrett's book.**

- Facsimile of Chatterton's manuscript (now in the British Library)
- Barrett's transcript and translation of the manuscript
- Barrett's notes detailing the words he had difficulties transcribing

pp.639 - 642 : [View Pages](#)

**Bar.** **Chatterton's First Letter to Horace Walpole**

**Bar.** But it appears from the little essays said to be collected and written by Rowley for Mayster Canynge, that their friendship was founded on their mutual love of learning and polite literature, and the cultivation of the useful arts. The following are printed from the very originals in Chatterton's hand-writing, sent in two letters to Horace Walpole Esq.

**Chart.**

Sir,  
Being versed a little in antiquities, I have met with several curious manuscripts...  
Your most humble servant,  
Thomas Chatterton.  
Bristol, March 25th, Corn-street.

**The Ryse of Peyncteynge, in Englande,**  
*wroten bie T. Rowleie, 1469, for Mastre Canynge.*  
Peyncteynge ynn Englande, haveth of ould tyme bin in ure...  
.....  
Peyncteynge improveth the mynde and smotheth the rough face of our spryghtes.

**Bar.** [The Correspondence between Chatterton & Walpole](#)

pp.642 - 646 : [View Pages](#)

**Bar.** **Chatterton's Second Letter to Horace Walpole**

**Chart.** [p.642]  
Sir,  
I offer you some further anecdotes and specimens of poetry and painters, and am  
Your very humble and obedient servant,  
THOMAS CHATTERTON  
March 30, 69, Corn-street, Bristol.

**Historie of Peyncters yn Englande. Bie T. Rowley.**  
Haveynge sayde yn oder places of peyncteynge and the ryse thereof....  
.....  
Ecca Byshoppe of Hereforde yn D.LVII. was a good poete, whom I thus Englyshe:  
Whan azure skie ys veylde yn robes of nyghte,  
.....

**Bar.** The above continues to p.644, when a poem The Warre is inserted: [View pp.642-646](#)

**Chart.** **The WARRE**  
Of warres glumm pleasaunce doe I chaunte mie laie,  
Trouthe tips the poynctelle wysdomme skemps the line,  
.....  
Unseiness attendethe hounoureweire;  
Quaffe your swote vernage and streeeted beere.

**Bar.** The following observations must occur to every reader of these letters to Mr. Walpole on the poetry and painting of antiquity.

1. Is not Chatterton's offering to produce the whole collection to him to be inserted in the next edition of the Anecdotes on Painting, a strong proof of himself supposing them originals or copied from such and authentic, or his own good sense would never have risked the discovery of their being otherwise to so able a judge in such things as Mr. Walpole, so conversant in these very subjects. However he might impose upon others, he never would have chosen such a one for the first trial of his imposition.

**Bar.** Barrett adds five more points and a further diatribe covering pages 645-6, in his attempt to prove that Rowley is genuine. He continues on p.646 with his views on Chatterton's death..

**Bar.** [p.646 near the top of the page] The Critics may contend about the originality.....led astray by the false glare of a strong imagination and flattering pride of superior understanding, reasoned himself out of all thoughts of a futurity, and forgetting he was a being accountable for his actions to his Maker and his Judge, put a period to his existence, and committing a murder upon himself rushed out of life into the presence of his Maker. Without a desire of atonement or forgiveness, without any belief or reliance on a Redeemer. In his last letter to a friend, dated August 12, 1770, he says..

**"Heaven send you the comforts of Christianity; I request them not, for I am no Christian."**

The following letter, printed from his own hand-writing, shews the prevailing temper of this unhappy youth. His master Mr. Lambert, the attorney, found a letter upon the writing desk of Chatterton, addressed to a worthy, generous man, Mr. Clayfield, stating "his distresses, and that on Mr. Clayfield's receiving that letter, he (Chatterton) should be no more." At this letter Mr. Lambert being alarmed sent it to Mr. Barrett, thinking he might dissuade him from this impious attempt on himself, who sending immediately for Chatterton questioned him closely upon the occasion in a tender and friendly manner, but forcibly urged to him the horrible crime of self-murder, however glossed over by our



present libertines, blaming the bad company and principles he had adopted; this betrayed him into some compunction, and by his tears he seemed to feel it - at the same time he acknowledged he wanted for nothing, and denied any distress upon that account.

**He next day sent the following letter:**

p.647 : [View Page](#)

**Chattertons letter to Barrett regarding Mr Clayfield.  
Barrett's description of Chatterton's death.**

**Chatt.** To Mr. BARRETT.

Sir,  
Upon recollection I don't know how Mr. Clayfield could come by his letter, as I intended to have given him a letter but did not.....

.....  
What it will cost me On the trial Heaven knows!  
I am,  
Your much obliged, unhappy, humble servant,  
Thursday evening. T.C.

**Barr.** Some few weeks after this he planned the scheme of going to London, and there writing for the booksellers, &c. Most of his friends and acquaintance contributed a guinea apiece towards his journey, and he there settled, but carried his libertine principles with him, coelum non animus mutans, till the same pride, the same principles impelled him to become his own executioner. He took a large dose of opium, some of which was picked out from between his teeth after death, and he was found the next morning a most horrid spectacle, with limbs and features distorted as after convulsions, a frightful and ghastly corpse. Such was the horrible catastrophe of T. Chatterton, the producer of Rowley and his poems to the world.

But to return from Rowley to his friend and patron Mr. Canynge. It is remarkable, nothing has been found after the latter's becoming Dean of Westbury relating to Rowley, nor is he mentioned in the will of Mr Canynge, in the prerogative office in a book called Wattic, p.125. dated 12 November, 1474, which has given occasion for many surmises; but might he not have died before that date, before his patron?

**It is now left to the judicious and candid reader to form his own opinion concerning Rowley and Chatterton,...**

**DEB.** Me. **Chatt.** Chatterton **Barr.** Barrett **Tay.**

p.654- 655 : [\[simple mention of the following\]](#) : Edward Colston : [View online](#)  
Colston's family never said how he managed to get rich so fast. It has been said he was concerned early in the trade to the East Indies.

pp. 661 - 662 : [View Pages](#)

**DEB.** **[Slave Trade in Bristol in the year 1090]**

**Barr.** [bottom of page: 1090] Bristol from its situation was early famous for voyages and trade to Ireland. But the following trade one should have scarce thought had so early an origin and place here, which shews the barbarism of those times recorded in the life of Wulfstan, [Bishop of Worcester] in [Anglia Sacra, 2, 258](#). **DEB.** [not sure if the link is good, as I have only my usurper's tongue (limited Latin). Here follows Barrett's translation]:

**Barr.** [p.662, top of the page] "There is a town called Brickstou opposite Ireland, and extremely convenient for trading with that country. Wulfstan induced them to drop a barbarous custom, which neither the love of God nor the king could prevail on them to lay aside. This was the mart for slaves collected from all parts of England, and particularly young women, whom they took care to provide with a pregnancy, in order to enhance their value. It was a most moving sight to see in the public markets rows of young people of both sexes tied together with ropes, of great beauty and in the flower of their youth, daily prostituted, daily sold. Execrable fact! Wretched disgrace! Men unmindful even of the affection of the brute creation! Delivering into slavery their relations, and even their selling their relations, and even their very offspring."

p.704 : [View Page](#)

**DEB.** This is the last page in the book.

**Barr.** The Library in King-street was enlarged with an additional wing built by the Library society. So that it now holds conveniently a very large collection of books ancient and modern, of the best editions, and in all sciences. The Rev. Mr. Alexander Catcott left by will a great many books to it, and a cabinet of very curious, valuable, and scarce fossils, shells, ores, &c. for the use of the public. See p.508

**DEB.** A snippet from p.508, regarding the King-Street library, Bristol. [View](#)

In the year 1615, the 20th March, Robert Redwood by will gave an house in King-street adjoining the town wall, there to be converted to a library for public use, and ordained that the vicar of St. Leonard's should be librarian, if a graduate in the University and his religion answerable thereto.....

**End :** [Back to Barrett Home Page TCMP](#)