

His life has been written by the Rev. C. S. Collingwood, and a sketch of the same life by Lightfoot, Lord Bishop of Durham, in his work, "Leaders of the Northern Church."

Bernard Gilpin was at once time rector of Houghton-Le-Spring for twenty-five years, and even to this day there is a special service annually in commemoration of his labours among the "People of the North."

He was wont to say that whatever happened was "all for the best." Queen Mary sent for him to be tried for heresy. On his way his horse fell and broke his rider's leg. The guard asked if that accident were "all for the best," and received for answer, "I am sure that it is." He could not be moved for some time. Meanwhile Queen Mary died and thus the "Apostle of the North" was saved from the probable burning at the stake.

He was not married, and the descent is through his brother.

There have been several migrations of the family to America. The first was with William Penn to Pennsylvania in 1696 or 1698. Their descendants are now to be found in Ontario, Canada, and in Baltimore and in Philadelphia, U. S. A.

There was also a migration of some of the family at an early date to Jamaica, B. W. I., where their descendants are still to be found; also another migration to America during the 19th century. There was also a later migration to America of John Bernard Gilpin, who came to America in 1783. During the revolt he chose to remain a British subject and was appointed agent for prisoners. In 1803 he received the appointment of British Consul for Rhode Island and Connecticut. When the consular office was removed from Newport, R. I., he retired to Annapolis Royal, where he was resident in 1850 in the happy enjoyment of his health and faculties at 96 years of age.

Of his numerous family two sons passed through King's