

Kirk Michael Parish Church



Gt: 8,8,8,8,4,2 Sw: 8,8,4,2,8,-,- Ped: 16.

Built by Samuel Renn, this instrument was originally installed in Bishopscourt chapel in the 1850s, when it would have had 2 manuals (with the upper manual running from 'tenor C' (*i.e.* C13 of the modern compass) only, and a set of 12 pedal pipes (instead of the present 30).

Renn was a well-known builder in his day, and the bright, clear, quality of his pipework can be appreciated even at the time of writing (2008) when the instrument is in need of cleaning and overhauling. The same pipe-maker has made almost all of the metal and wooden pipes (including the reeds) and all the 'B' pipes are marked with the long outmoded use of the '#' sign. In 1878, the





Presumably it was then that the organ was 'modernised' by the addition of a 12-stop soundboard and 12 extra notes to extend and supply all of the swell stops with their missing bottom octaves. 18 more pipes were added to the pedals to make up the full compass of 30 notes. This work was skilfully carried out, successfully matching the original pipework.

The original Renn case was either replaced or extended.

The soundboards presently

show two missing stops on the Swell, and one on the Great, though there are no empty stop positions on the console.

The white painting of the casework is to be regretted!

Renn was given to Kirk Michael Parish Church, at a time when Bevingtons (a London firm) supplied Bishopscourt with a much smaller 1-manual instrument. (It is possible that the Renn was physically and tonally too big for Bishopscourt chapel).

