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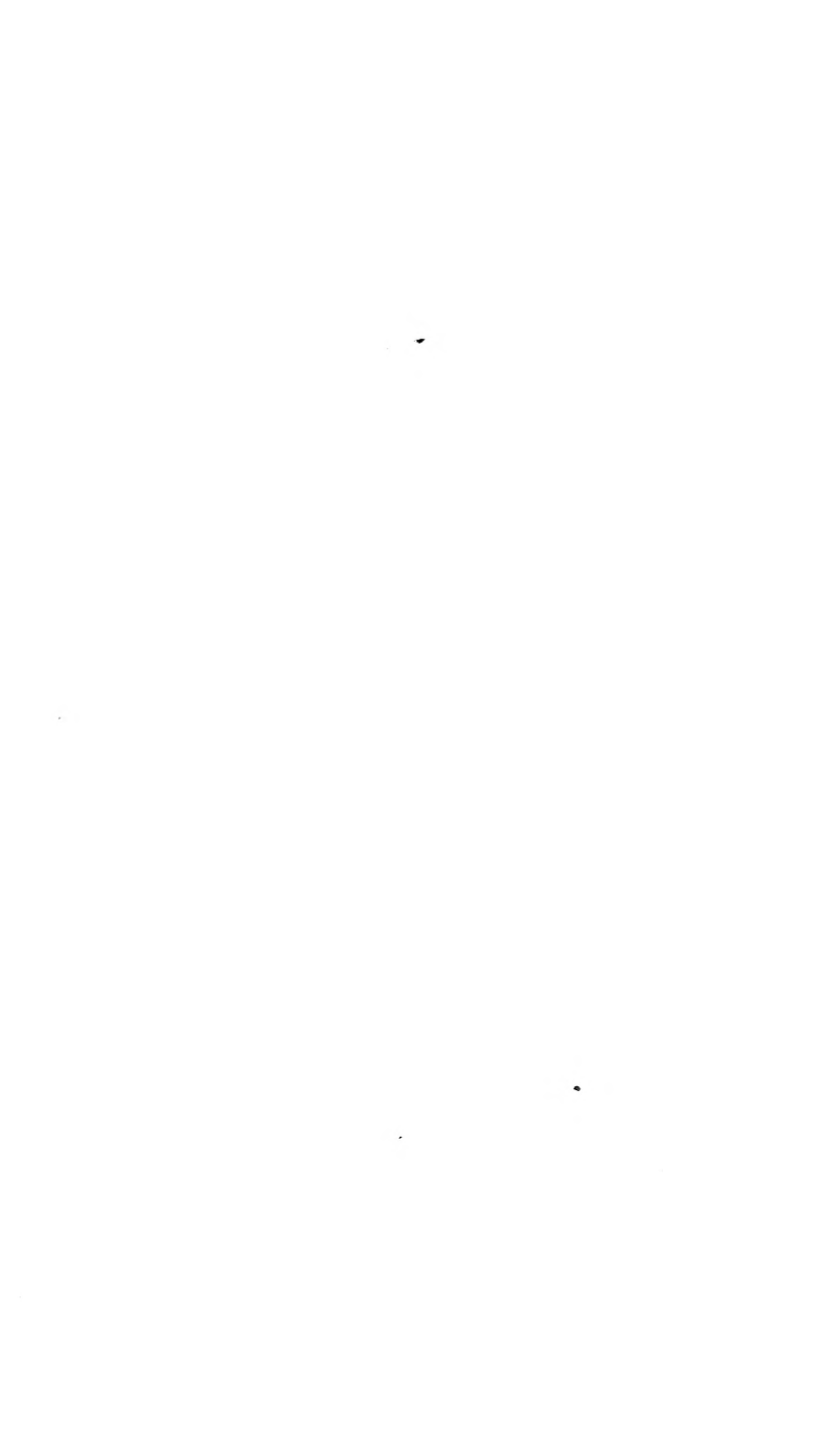








**Sussex Archaeological Society.**



# SUSSEX

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RELATING TO THE

HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF THE COUNTY.

PUBLISHED BY



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## REPORT.



It is now more than ten years since the Sussex Archæological Society was formed, and the Committee cannot but congratulate themselves in observing how greatly it has flourished, and how much the interest of the people of Sussex in the ancient remains and the history of the county has increased during that period. From small beginnings the Society now numbers almost seven hundred members, all apparently well disposed to aid in carrying out its numerous and diversified objects. Without entering into minute particulars, the Society may justly boast of the performance of what was at the outset merely anticipation and promise. Civil, ecclesiastical, and even national history has been promoted; ancient buildings and works of art have been carefully examined and described; the genealogy of many county families, which was heretofore obscure, has been elucidated; manners, customs, and personal biography, have been investigated and put upon record; documents once neglected have been brought forward, both from public and private sources; and, in short, there is scarcely any branch of historical and antiquarian research connected with the county, the knowledge of which has not been materially advanced by the labours of the various contributors to these Collections. Tangible proof of this remark is furnished by the nine volumes now before the public. The various papers of which these are composed have of course been produced by voluntary and unpaid authorship; and it is worthy of remark, that, with very few exceptions, the illustrations have been prepared from drawings gratuitously supplied by members and friends of the Society.

With such substantial evidence of progress and prosperity, the Committee cannot but review the first decade of the Society's existence with satisfaction and pleasure; but they would be guilty of a great omission if they failed now—during the temporary absence from office of their able Honorary Secretary, to record to what a very great extent the success of the Sussex Archæological Society has been achieved by his untiring zeal and varied

accomplishments. These qualities, combined with every social virtue, have endeared him to the inhabitants of Sussex, and, however reluctant to advert to such a subject, the Committee cannot forbear giving some expression to the heartfelt sympathy that has been so generally excited by the melancholy bereavement which he has recently sustained.

Although the Society's labours since the publication of the last volume have been chiefly historical, and illustrative of things previously known, yet several discoveries of an interesting character have marked the interval. Some very curious objects of the primæval period have been found in a barrow at Hove, near Brighton; among them an amber cup of particular rarity; an account of which by Mr. Barclay Phillips, appears in this volume. At Nuthurst, a brass of a former rector, Thomas Frenshe, A.D. 1486, has been brought to light. On the site of Dureford Abbey a great number of encaustic tiles have been found, and by the liberality of Mr. Legge, the proprietor, specimens of them have been added to the Society's Museum at Lewes Castle. Among minor discoveries, that of a hoard of bronze celts at Waldron, and a cemetery on the East Hill at Hastings, may be mentioned; while quite recently the remains of tile pavements and a hypocaust, indicative of the site of a Roman villa, found close to Danny Park, bid fair, on further investigation, to throw light upon the history of the Roman occupation of this part of Britain.

The venerable John Britton, whom we are proud to have numbered among our members, continued almost to the very close of his long and useful archaeological career to manifest an interest in our operations, as was evidenced by his forwarding, not long before his death, some drawings and prints for the Society's acceptance.

In conclusion, the Committee have to state the financial position of the Society.

#### ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1856.

1856. RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.
Balance, Jan. 1, 1856	.	17	5	6	G. P. Bacon	.	4	10	9
Dividends on Consols	.	3	19	8	Faussett Collection (Subscription)	2	2	0	
Books sold	.	9	14	6	Binding books	.	6	3	0
Annual Subscriptions	.	253	17	0	Bodiam Meeting	.	21	11	6
		<hr/>			Newhaven Meeting	.	1	2	6
		284	16	8	Engraving, &c.	.	44	12	0
					Parcels, postage-stamps, and sundries	.	9	16	1
					J. Russell Smith, printing and binding Vol. VIII.	.	142	8	0
					Brighton Gazette	.	1	2	6
Payments	.	233	8	4			<hr/>		
							£233	8	4
Balance in Treasurer's hands, Jan. 1, 1857	.	£51	8	4					

## LEWES CASTLE ACCOUNT.

1856.	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.
Balance, Jan. 1, 1856 . . .		24	13	0	Wages of Warder . . . . .	38	14	2
Received from Visitors . . .		75	13	9	H. A. Thompson . . . . .	7	3	5
		<hr/>			Messrs. Parsons . . . . .	5	9	10
		100	6	9	R. W. Lower . . . . .	0	9	3
					Messrs. Lambe . . . . .	2	1	3
					Taxes, coals, and sundries . . .	13	14	3
					Rent . . . . .	32	0	0
						<hr/>		
Paid . . . . .		99	12	2		£99	12	2
		<hr/>						
Balance, Jan. 1, 1857 . . .		£ 0	14	7				

LEWES, *June*, 1857.

#### NOTICES.

The reprint of Vol. I. at 10s., and Vols. IV., V., VI., VII., and VIII., at 7s. each, may be had, on application, by Members. Vols. II. and III. are out of print.

The General Annual Meeting for 1857, will be held on August 6th, at Bignor and Arundel.

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## Rules.

1. THAT the Society shall avoid all topics of religious or political controversy, and shall remain independent, though willing to co-operate with similar Societies by friendly communication.

2. THAT the Society shall consist of Members and Honorary Members.

3. THAT candidates for admission be proposed and seconded by two Members of the Society, and elected at any Meeting of the Committee, or at a General Meeting. One black ball in five to exclude.

4. THAT the Annual Subscription of Ten Shillings shall become due on the 1st day of January, or £5 be paid in lieu thereof, as a composition for life. Subscriptions to be paid at the Lewes Old Bank, or by Post-office order, to GEORGE MOLINEUX, Esq., Treasurer, Lewes Old Bank, or to any of the Local Secretaries.

5. THAT Members of either House of Parliament shall, on becoming Members of the Society, be placed on the list of Vice-Presidents, and also such other persons as the Society may determine.

6. THAT the affairs of the Society be conducted by a Committee of Management, to consist of the Patron, the President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary, Local Secretaries, a Treasurer, and not less than twelve other Members, who shall be chosen at the General Annual Meeting; three Members of such Committee to form a Quorum.

7. THAT at every Meeting of the Society, or of the Committee, the resolutions of the majority present shall be binding, though all persons entitled to vote be not present.

8. THAT a General Meeting of the Society be held annually, in July or August, as may be appointed by the Committee, at some place rendered interesting by its Antiquities or Historical Associations, in the Eastern and Western Divisions of the County alternately; such General Meeting to have power to make such alterations in the Rules as a majority may determine, on notice thereof being one month previously given to the Committee.

9. THAT a Special General Meeting may be summoned by the Secretary on the requisition in writing of five Members, and either the Patron, President, or two Vice-Presidents, specifying the subject to be brought forward for decision at such Meeting, and such subject only to be then considered.

10. THAT the Committee have power to admit without ballot, on the nomination of two Members, any Lady who may be desirous of becoming a Member of the Society.

11. THAT the Committee have power to appoint as Honorary Member any person, including foreigners, likely to promote the interests of the Society, such Honorary Member not to pay any Subscription, and not to have the right of voting in the affairs of the Society, and to be subject to re-election annually.

12. THAT the Committee be empowered to appoint any Member *Local Secretary* for the town or district where he may reside, in order to facilitate the collection of accurate information as to objects of local interest, and for the receipt of Subscriptions, and the distribution of Circulars and Books; and that such Local Secretaries be *ex-officio* Members of the Committee.

13. THAT Meetings for the purpose of reading papers, the exhibition of antiquities, or the discussion of subjects connected therewith, be held at such times and places as the Committee may determine.

14. THAT the Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Society, to be communicated to the General Meeting.

Persons desirous of becoming Members of the Society are requested to communicate with a Secretary.

# Sussex Archaeological Collections.

## EPISCOPAL VISITATIONS OF THE BENEDICTINE NUNNERY OF EASEBOURNE.

BY W. H. BLAAUW, Esq., M.A., F.S.A.

PARTLY READ AT HORSHAM, JULY 12, 1855.



East Front of Easeborne.<sup>1</sup>

AFTER the general suppression of monasteries in England, in the sixteenth century, it is remarkable how quickly and how effectually the accurate knowledge of, or interest in, these religious institutions passed away from public memory, and what vague ideas of their inmates remained. Though closely connected by so many historical and biographical ties to the progress of the kingdom, and to the importance of ancient families, all the documentary evidence relating to them was at once cast aside with neglect; and we principally owe it to

<sup>1</sup> The woodcut of the east front is from Add. MSS. 5675, f. 7, 11.  
a drawing by Grimm, in the Brit. Mus.

the self-supported zeal and care of a few learned men after those times that we can still, however imperfectly, trace the localities, possessions, or customs of these establishments, which for many centuries exercised so important an influence, whether for good or evil, on the feelings of the people. Few records of the intimate life of monks and nuns have come down to us, although we have occasionally the free-spoken revelations of a garrulous monk, like the Chronicle of Jocelin de Brakelond; but the notices of the interior arrangements of monasteries are rare and insufficient, though the names of their former occupiers are now often indistinctly used among us as by-words of reproach.

Some monastic orders, like those derived from Cluny and Premonstre, were exempted by Papal authority from the superintendence of the diocesan bishops, but others continued liable to episcopal visitation; and from the records of such periodical examinations we occasionally gain an insight into the domestic life of convents, which their very nature is framed habitually to deny. This source of information has been seldom applied to, and may not be very attractive, involved as the facts often are in the phraseology of legal forms; but, being genuine and contemporaneous, their evidence is worth preserving on matters so little known.

With respect to the small Priory of Benedictine Nuns at Easebourne, near Midhurst, there are extant a few such visitations<sup>2</sup> during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, which on this occasion may be referred to, as adding some details to its scanty history; and perhaps this convent exhibits to us, in its records of occasional misrule, nothing exceptional, or differing from what may have been passing in other similar communities. No fixed date can be named for the foundation of Easebourne Priory, though it happened about the middle of the thirteenth century, and was certainly due to the liberality of a neighbouring landholder, John de Bohun,<sup>3</sup> whose family so long held an important position at Midhurst, down to the time of Henry VII. Franco de Bohun held land there of the

<sup>2</sup> Dallaway, in his *History of the Rape of Chichester*, has given some incomplete extracts from these.

<sup>3</sup> "Johannes de Bohun clamat habere sine charta manerium suum de Esseborn

cum libera warrenna, &c., et quod ipse et antecessores sui, a tempore quo non extat memoria, plene usi sunt libertatibus predictis."—Dallaway, i. p. 237, from *MSS. Bodl. No. 138.*



honour of Arundel, in the time of Richard I. In the year 1439, the market tolls of Midhurst were commuted by John Bohun, Knight, Lord of Midhurst, on the burgesses agreeing to pay him £10 a year, and two law-days to be held every year in the name of Bohun, on the Thursday after Hokeday, and on the Thursday after Michaelmas (*MS. Deed*). According to an inquest after the death of "John de Bohun of Midhurst, chevaler," he appears to have died on the Tuesday before the Assumption, in 1481, and to have left a widow, Cecilia, and a son and heir, John de Bohun, above twenty-one years of age. Leland briefly describes Easebourne as "Prioratus monialium, Johannes de Bone, miles, fundator primus, modernus David Owen, miles."

We do not know with what revenues it was first endowed, nor indeed how soon they were increased by subsequent benefactors; but at the earliest date when we have an account of them, they appear to have been ample, and indeed out of proportion to the support of the five or six "poor nuns" settled there. Deriving an inference from some names which occur in the lists of the nuns, and from their bibles and books of prayer being in French, it is not improbable that the founder intended the nunnery as a refuge for noble or gentle poverty, and that its few inmates were well born, and selected from important families.

The first trace of any individual admitted is derived from a letter of Archbishop Peckham (1278-92), a Sussex man himself, requesting the Prioress and nuns of Easebourne to admit Lucy, daughter of the deceased knight, Sir William Basset, as a sister into their house.<sup>4</sup> About the same time, *Pope Nicholas' Taxation*, A.D. 1292 (pp. 134-139), estimates the Church of Easebourne, with its chapel, at £26.13s.4d. a year, and the temporalities of the Prioress at £41, besides rents valued at £2 in Broadwater and Worthing.

Half a century later, in 1342, when Henry Husee and the King's Commissioners<sup>5</sup> had to certify the value of property in the parish of "Esburne," the church was valued as before at 40 mares (£26.13s.4d.); and the jury, consisting of Nicholas atte Felde, Thomas le Fytteler, Richard Kaperon, and Roger

<sup>4</sup> Dugd. *Monast.* iv. 424, from Lambeth Register.

<sup>5</sup> *Nonarum Inquis.* f. 363.

le Kember, returned the lay property as small, "inasmuch as the Prioress of Esburne, who is rector there (*que est rector ibidem*), has a messuage, with curtilage and garden, worth 60*s.* a year. She has also a hundred and four score acres of arable land, worth £4. 10*s.*; also four acres of meadow, worth 12*s.*; from fixed rents, £4. 10*s.* 4*d.*; the tithes of mills, 6*s.* 8*d.*; of hay, 60*s.*; of cider (*cisere*), 100*s.*; of flax and hemp, 17*s.*; of milk and calves, 35*s.* 8*d.* She has also from mortuaries and oblations 107*s.*; and from tithes of pigs, geese, pigeons, and other small tithes, 5*s.*" These profits amount to £26. 3*s.* 8*d.* in the parish alone. In the Subsidy Roll of 1380, the temporalities of the Prioress from agricultural profits in Broadwater and Worthing were valued at 41*s.*, and "William de la Ruwe, Chaplain of Eseborne," paid his personal tax of 2*s.*<sup>6</sup>

It is not in our power to trace the early accumulation by the priory of this property, as shown in these valuations. The first documentary evidence consists of a deed of gift<sup>7</sup> of a messuage in the vill of Midhurst, from Sir John de Bohun to Thomas Snolk of Eseburne, dated 1 Edward III., 1327, to which the names of Hugh de Budyton, Symone de Stedeham, Henry de Batchin, Richard Joseph, William Snolk, Thomas Snolk, Roger atte Rude, William de Middleton, and others, are attached as witnesses. We then have a quit-claim of the same messuage from Thomas Snolk to "the Lady Beatrice, by the grace of God Prioress of Eseborne."

A few years later, in 1332, we have a record in the Patent Rolls (6 Edw. III., p. 1, m. 29), of a considerable gift made by Sir John de Bohun, of Midhurst. The King, when granting him license to endow the nunnery with "a messuage of 55 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, 2 acres of pasture, and 36*s.* of rent in Sturmynstre Mareschal (*co. Dorset*), and Thornekedepe, and a fourth part of the hundred of Busebergh," stated that he had ascertained, by the inquisition of William Trussel, his eschaetor on this side Trent, that he should lose thereby from some of these lands, held *in capite*, the service of one man twice a year, and from others the services of four men twice a year, valued truly at 64*s.* a year.

<sup>6</sup> *Sussex Arch. Coll.* V. pp. 236, 239.

<sup>7</sup> For copies of this and of the deed relating to the Prioress Margerita, as well as for that relating to the market tolls, I

am indebted to the kindness of Sir Sibbald Scott, Bart., from his own MS. collections.

Relaxing for the purpose the prohibition of the Mortmain Statute, the King received a fine of £20, on signing this grant with his private seal on January 28, 1333, at Westminster.

The names of Alicia and Maria occur soon after, as among the early prioresses of Easebourne. It appears by a Patent Roll of 1339, that a former Prioress Alicia and the convent had taken possession of a gift of 3 assarts and a meadow, containing 40 acres of land and 12*d.* of rent in Wolbedyng and la Niwode, held *in capite* of the King by Ralph de Wolbedyng, whereupon the King had seized them into his own hands, no previous license, as required by the Mortmain Statute, having been obtained. Maria, now prioress, by pleading that this transgression occurred before the publication of the statute, and by paying a fine of one marc, obtained the royal pardon, and the liberty of holding the said acquisition for ever, by a deed dated at Berkhamstede, January 15, 1339. (*Rot. Pat.* 12th Edw. III. p. iii. m. 2.)

Perhaps, by the influence of the same Ralph de Wolbedyng, an additional gift was added in 1354 "by Peter, the parson of the church of Wolbedyng, and Richard Wyatt, chaplain." This consisted of "18 acres of land with a meadow in Mynstedede in Stedeham," valued by the escheator at 18*d.* a year; and the King also permitted the same benefactors to give the nunnery a messuage of 19 acres of land and 1 acre of meadow in Lynch. The priory had already obtained the royal license to accept lands to the value of 10 marcs a year, *non obstante* the Mortmain Statute; and these fresh acquisitions to be reckoned in part satisfaction of such a sum. (*Rot. Pat.* 28th Edward III. p. 1, m. 9, dated Westminster, May 10.)

We learn the name of another prioress by a deed dated in 1362. In that year "Margerita Wyvile, Prioress of Eeseborne, and the nuns of the same place," granted the lease of a cottage, situated between that of Matilda Sawyer and the tenement of Christiana atte boûr, to Hugh Walsche, his wife Scelia, and Agnes, their daughter, for their lives, on the payment of 18*d.* a year, attendance on the Court of the Priory every three weeks, and a heriot on the death of the survivor. "One part of the Indenture, sealed with the Common Seal of the House

of Eseborne," to be retained by Hugh Walsche, the other part with his seal, to be retained by the Prioress. "Witnesses—John Elkam, William Scherston, Roger Manser, Thomas Tode-man, John Cholwyne, and others. Given at Eseborne on the Lord's Day, on the feast of St. Vincent the Martyr, in the 36th year of the reign of King Edward the Third from the conquest of England."—(June 9, 1362.)

Richard II., by his letters patent, dated Westminster, Oct. 17, 1386, renewed King Edward's license to the prioress and nuns, "for the honour of God and for the augmentation of divine worship, and in aid of the support of the priory," to accept more lands to the value of 10 mares, provided they were not held of him *in capite*. (10 Richard II. p. 1, m. 16.) Accordingly, in the following year, Walter Pforay, clerk, was allowed to give the priory "a messuage, 8 shops, 3 tofts, 4 *scanella*, 27 acres and 3 roods of land, and 1½ acre of meadow in Midhurst," and also the reversion of "a messuage, 5 acres of land, and 17s. 6d. rent in Midhurst," and also another "messuage, and 4s. 6d. rent in the same town," all proved by our escheator to be worth 60s. a year. (*Rot. Pat.* 11 Ric. II. p. 1, m. 3S, Westm., 24 June.)

After enumerating so many benefactions, which would seem ample for the support of a few nuns with decent economy, we cannot avoid wondering at the strong expressions used in the preamble of Henry IV.'s license, in 1409, to accept an advowson.

"Know that we, considering the immense burdens (*immensa onera*) which our beloved in Christ the prioress and convent of Esebourne, in the county of Sussex, who are now 10 nuns in number, support in these days, and especially as they are bound to find yearly two chaplains, although their possessions do not exceed £40 in value, as we are informed," &c.

Permission is then granted to the prior and convent of Lewes to give the advowsons of Compton and Up Merdone to the Priory of Eseborne, "provided always that the vicarages of the said churches should be sufficiently endowed, and that certain competent sums of money from their fruits and profits should be annually distributed among the poor parishioners by the prioress and convent of Eseborne, according to the direction of their ordinary, and to the form of the statute

therein made and provided." (*Rot. Pat.* 10 Henry IV. m. 5, Westm., August 14, 1409.)

In compensation for this grant, Eseborne Priory paid a fine of 40*s.* to the King, and agreed to pay a pension annually of 40*s.* to the prior and convent of Lewes, giving them the right of distraining upon any and all their possessions, in case of non-payment. (*Rot. Pat.* 12 Henry IV. m. 44, dated Westm., Oct. 20, 1410.)

The earliest reference to Eseborne in the Episcopal Registry (R. p. 39) makes mention of a visitation there on February 10, 1402, during the episcopacy of Bishop Reade; but no details are given, and we cannot tell whether any disorders in the discipline of the nunnery then called for interference. The usual course of proceeding was for the bishop, or some one deputed by him, at the time previously announced to the prioress, to take evidence on the spot as to the condition of the convent, and, after putting on record the result of such inquiry, to issue at once injunctions for the amendment of anything amiss. The first visitation from which we learn any details, is that of January 12, 1441,<sup>8</sup> ordered by Bishop Richard Praty, who was Chancellor of Oxford, and occupied the see of Chichester from 1438 till his death in 1445. The evidence taken on the occasion has not been found, but the reproof on the prioress is remarkable.

"Visitation of the Priory of Eseburne, held in the Chapter House there, on Friday, that is to say, the 12th day of January in the year above named, by Master Walter Eston, the Commissary of the Reverend Father in God and Lord, the Lord Richard, by the grace of God Bishop, specially appointed for this purpose.

"In the first place, it has been proved and discovered, in the said visitation before the said Commissary, that the house was in debt to the amount of £40, and this principally from the costly expenses of the prioress, because she frequently rides abroad, and pretends that she does so on the common business of the house, although it is not so, with a train of attendants much too large, and tarries long abroad,

<sup>8</sup> *Episcopal Reg. E.* p. 79. The original MSS. of this and the subsequent visitations are in Latin, often obscure and involved, for a transcript of which I am obliged to Mr. Seaman, of Chichester.

and she feasts sumptuously both when abroad and at home, and is very choice in her dress, so much so that the fur trimmings of her mantle are worth 100 shillings." (*"Sepius equitat ad extra et fingit quod in communibus negociis domus, licet non ita sit, cum familia excessiva multum et diu expectando ad extra, ac laute conviviatur tam extra quam infra, et est multum curiosa in vestitu adeoquod furrura mantelli sui valet cs."*)

"Also the prioress compels her sisters to work continually like hired workwomen (*ad modum mulierum conducticiarum*), and they receive nothing whatever for their own use from their work, but the prioress takes the whole profit (*totum percipit*)."

*"Injunctions given to the Prioress.*

"In the first place, the Lord suspends the prioress from all administration of the temporal goods of the said priory, both by his own ordinary authority and by the express consent of Robert Roos<sup>9</sup> (*Boon ?*), Knight, founder of the said house; he has committed the administration of the said goods to Master Thomas Boleyn and John Lylis, Esquire, until and so long as when the aforesaid house or priory shall be freed from debt. Also that the prioress shall by no means compel her sisters to continual work of their hands, and if they should wish of their own accord to work, they shall be free to do so, but yet so that they may reserve for themselves the half part of what they gain by their hands, the other part shall be converted to the advantage of the house and unburdening it from debts.

"Also that the prioress, with all possible speed, shall diminish her excessive household, and shall only retain, by the advice and with the assent of the said Masters John and Thomas, a household such as is merely necessary, and not more.

"Also, that the prioress shall not receive any guests at her table to sojourn there (*aliquos commensales ad sojournandum ibidem*), except with the assent of the said Thomas and John.

"Also, that the prioress shall convert the fur trimmings, superfluous to her condition and very costly, to the discharge of the debts of the house.

<sup>9</sup> *Sic MS.*, but there must be a mistake in the transcript of the name, as Bohun was undoubtedly the founder.

“Also, that if eventually it shall seem expedient to the said Masters Thomas and John at any time, that the prioress should ride in person for the common business of the house, on such occasions she shall not make a lengthened stay abroad, nor shall she in the interval incur expenses in any way costly beyond what is needful, and thus, when despatched to go abroad, she must and ought rightly to content herself with four horses only.

“We desire and command these matters to be inviolably observed by the prioress, in virtue of her sacred obedience, and under penalty of her deposition.”

The route<sup>10</sup> of Bishop Praty on this visitation explains to us the order in which he made his journey on horseback through his diocese. It was arranged to occupy four weeks, which, considering the winter season, implies much activity of movement, especially as he always halted on Sundays, passing them at Horsham, Winchelsea, Broadwater, and Boxgrave. As he advanced on his progress he despatched commissioners to visit as his deputies the Priors of Shulbred, Esebourne, Rusper, and Hastings, and the Hospital of St. Bartholomew at Rye. After devoting Monday, January 8, and the two next days, to visiting Chichester, he went on Thursday, January 11, to visit the clergy at “Boxgrave, in the Chapel of St. Faith adjoining the cloisters.”

“Friday, Jan. 12. He will visit in the church of Midhurst the clergy of the deanery of Midhurst, and the same day he will visit by his commissioners the Priors of Shulbrede and *Esseborne*, and will sleep at Midhurst.

“Saturday, Jan. 13. He will dine at Pulborough and sleep at Horsham.

“Sunday, Jan. 14. He will remain at Horsham.

“Monday, Jan. 15. He will visit early in the morning, in the church of Horsham, that part of the deanery of Storrington which is in *le Welde*, and will sleep at Crawle. The same day he will visit by his commissioner the Priory of Rouspar.”<sup>11</sup>

We do not know the name of the Lady Prioress at this

<sup>10</sup> Progressus Visitationis, from Regist. f. 79; Cartwright's *Rape of Bramber*,

time, on whom such strict orders were laid, and who was left stripped at once of her authority, her pleasant rides, the dainty feasts with her friends, and, "unkindest cut of all," her choice fur trimmings. What species of fur the lady wore is not said; but, considering the different value of 100*s.* at that time, the cost does seem excessive. In the household roll<sup>12</sup> of Richard de Swinfield, Bishop of Hereford, we find that, in 1289, he provided himself with a warm winter super-tunic of deerskin (*bissus*) for 39*s.*, and with three hoods of miniver (a costly fur) for 17*s.* We shall see that the state of the priory got worse, rather than better, subsequently. It need not surprise us that we find the nuns grudging their prioress the profits of their handiwork, when it appears by a later document, in 1521, that these diligent ladies had to provide their own clothing out of the allowance of a marc (13*s.* 4*d.*) a year each; and, moreover, that they were often defrauded even of this resource by the prioress.

The injunctions given in this visitation of 1441, and those in that of 1521, are confused together, and erroneously supposed to have been laid upon "Joan Sackfylde, prioress," in the *Monasticon*, iv. 423.

Among the muniments of Magdalen College, Oxford, relating to Seleborne Priory, an inventory, taken in 1450, of the goods and chattels of Esebourne Priory, has by some confusion of names been included, and a transcript of this has been kindly communicated by Sir Henry Ellis, K.H., of the British Museum.<sup>13</sup> It must have been ordered by the celebrated Bishop Reginald Peacock very soon after his translation from St. Asaph to Chichester, March 23, 1450.

"ESSEBURNE.—Survey (*visus*) of the Priory there, on the 27th day of the month of May, in the year of our Lord 1450, and in the 29th year of the reign of K. Henry VI. :—

"THE CHURCH.—Firstly, in the church, 1 small bell, 2 missals, 2 portiforia (*breviaries*), 4 antiphonies, 1 large Legenda, 8 psalters, 1 book of collects, 1 tropary (*a book containing tropos, chants sung before the introitus on feast days, consisting*

<sup>12</sup> Published by the Camden Society, p. 113.

<sup>13</sup> A copy of this inventory, sent to the Society of Antiquaries by the Rev. Dr.

Chandler, was read December 5, 1782, but not published. The Latin original is "No. 81, in the Seleburn box." It is alluded to also in Grose's *Antiquities*.



of *antiphone, canticle, and gloria*); 4 vestments, namely, a suit of red with deep cope, 3 golden vestments, 2 cups, 8 napkins, 1 silver cross, 2 candlesticks of brass, 1 thuribule (*incense-burner*), 2 silver cruets, 1 French Bible, 2 ordinalia in French, 1 book of the Gospel, 1 Martyrology.

“THE CHAMBER.—Also 2 hanging beds of red worsted,<sup>14</sup> 8 other beds, 8 mattresses, 12 pair of linen sheets, 8 pillows.

“THE HALL.—Also 2 tables, 2 desks, 2 pair of trussels.

“THE PANTRY.—Also 2 silver saltcellars; 3 silver cups, namely, 2 with covers, the third gilt and with cover; 3 basins, 4 washing basins, 20 candlesticks, 6 napkins, 6 sanapes (*savecloths*)<sup>15</sup> with 2 wash towels.

“THE KITCHEN.—Also 4 spits, 6 brass jars, 1 stone mortar, 1 brass mortar, 2 iron cleavers,<sup>16</sup> 4 dishes, 3 pots, 3 doseyn vessel garnessyd.<sup>17</sup>

“THE BAKEHOUSE.—Also 1 lead ‘furneys’ with a copper bottom, 2 ‘bolting wyches’<sup>18</sup> (*the linen or haircloth for sift-*

<sup>14</sup> *De rubro virgato*. There may be an error here in the transcript from the MS., but probably the word was meant to imply the woollen stuff then principally manufactured at Worsted, in Norfolk. In the Inventories of Church Goods in Shrewsbury, A.D. 1552-3, lately printed by Mr. Hunter in the *Archæol. Journal*, xlvii. p. 269, the word is variously spelt, “vesmentes of blake wosted,” “vestment of violett worstyd.” In the inventory quoted in the following note occur also, “1 lectum de rubro worstede—item 1 lectum de blod worstede.”—P. 317. Bequests of similar beds frequently occur in the wills of noble personages, proving that the “red worsted” by no means betokened the poverty of the nuns. The Countess of Northampton, in 1356, bequeathed to her daughter, married to Richard Earl of Arundel, “a bed of red worsted embroidered.” Lady Despenser, in 1409, gave her daughter Philippa “a bed of red worsted, with all the furniture appertaining thereto.” Lady Elizabeth Andrews, in 1474, gave to William Wyndesore “a red bed of worsted, with all the hangings.”—*Testamenta Vetusta*.

<sup>15</sup> *Sanapes* are savenaps, savecloths—long pieces of linen laid over the parts of the tablecloth most exposed to be soiled or injured. In the inventory of the goods of R. de Ravenser, Archdeacon of Lincoln,

A.D. 1386 (see Lincoln vol. of the Archæol. Institute, p. 321), are “also 111 sanapes, each containing 7½ yards, one of which is in bad condition (*debilis*), the best one of which is worth 8*d.*, the middle one 4*d.*, and the most worn 3*d.*—sum total 15*d.*; also 1 sanape containing 6½ yards, worth 8*d.*”

<sup>16</sup> *Cobertes*, a word Latinised from the French “couperet, a butcher’s knife, a cleaver.”—*Cotgrave’s Diet.* 1611. In the Richmond Wills of the Surtees Society occur, page 260, A.D. 1576, “11 pare of cooperattes. iis. vii*d.*”

<sup>17</sup> Three dozen pewter plates or dishes in sets. A garnish signified commonly the set or service of pewter. Harrison, writing in 1580, says, “such furniture of household of this metal, as we commonlie call by the name of vessel, is sold usuallie by the garnish, which dooth containe 12 platters, 12 dishes, 12 saucers.” *Prompt. Parvul.* page 187. Or “garnessyd” may perhaps here mean “polished.”

<sup>18</sup> *Bolting wyches*. In the Unton Inventories, edited by J. Gough Nichols, 1841, p. 2, is “A.D. 1596. In the Pasterie Howse, 1 olde whiteche—in the Bakehouse, one bowlting whitche.” In 1620, “in the Boultinge Howse, 11 boltinge wittehes.” *Bolte pooke*, *Prompt. Parvul.* from the German *beutel*, a sieve—*beutelere*, to sift; *boulanger*, Fr. The hopper was anciently

ing meal), 2 knedyng trowes, 2 meshfatts (*vats*) with 2 coverings."

("Ecclesia.—*In primis in ecclesia*, I *campana parva*, II *missalia*, II *portiforia*, IIII *antiphonaria*, I *legenda grossa*, VIII *psalteria*, I *collectane*: I *troparium*, IIII *vestimenta*, *videlicet*, I *secta de rubeo cum alta capa*, III *vestes auri*, II *calices*, VIII *mappæ*, I *cruæ argenti*, II *candelabra de latton*, I *terribulum*, II *cruettes argenti*, I *Biblia Gallicana*, II *ordinalia in Gall.*, I *librum Evangelii*, I *Martirologium*.

"Camera.—*Item*, II *lecti pendentes de rubro wircato*, VIII *alii lecti*, VIII *calcetri*, XII *parea linthiaminum*, VIII *pulvinariæ*.

"Aula.—*Item*, II *tabulæ*, II *descas*, II *parea trescellis*.

"Panctria.—*Item*, II *salaria argenti*, III *cratera argenti*, *videlicet*, II *cooperta*, *tertium deauratum et coopertum*, III *pelves*, IIII *lavacra*, XX *candelabra*, VI *mappæ*, VI *sanapes cum II tuellis lavatorum*.

"Coquina.—*Item*, IIII *broches*, VI *ollæ enea*, I *mortarium lapideum*, I *mortarium eneam*, II *cobertes ferri*, IIII *patellæ*, III *cacabi*, III *doseyn vessel garnessyd*.

"Pistrina.—*Item*, I *furneys plumbeus cujus fundus est cupreum*, II *bolting wyches*, II *knedyng trowes*, II *mesh fatts cum II coverings*).

"LIVE STOCK.—Also of live stock 1 horse, 10 oxen, 20 cows, 1 bull, 200 sheep, 40 swine, 2 boars, 4 sows, 20 pigs.

"DEAD STOCK.—Also 2 ploughs, 2 coulter, 2 ploughshares, 6 iron chains with other apparatus of wood, 2 two-wheel carts, 1 cart with appurtenances, 2 winnowing forks, 6 sacks, 1 bushel bound with iron.

"The Priory of Eseburne is valued, that is, on an average of years, as appears by the rental, £8.

"Land with pasture, by estimation worth, 40s.

"Chapel of Mydhurst, with repairs, 40s.

"Chapel of Loddsworth, 13s. 4d.

"Chapel of Farnherst, 60s.

"The church of Compton and Merdon, with repairs, is worth in annual value, beyond the pensions paid to the Prior of Lewys, 6 mares, to the Bishop twice 23s. 4d., to the Deau

called "Tarantula, ex sono quem facit et ejus percussione granum defluit inter dictum instrumentum quo farina colatur, molas molendini."—*Ducange*.

and Chapter twice 6s. 8d., to the Archdeacon twice 6s. 8d., and thus its value is v marcs (£3. 6s. 8d.) a year.

“The church of Eseburne is worth 10 marcs (£6. 13s. 4d.), from which church the vicar receives the same sum. The land of Newode is worth 40s. a year. Worthyng is worth 5 marcs a year. Sum total xxviii*l.* vis. viii*d.* (*sic MS.*)

“And in the discharge (*in liberatione vicarii*) of the vicar of Eseborne 10 marcs.

“And thus remains £22. 3s. for the repairs of the house, as well as for other expenses.

“The debts there for repairs and other necessary expenses this year, £66. 6s. 8d.”

It is clear that the debts of the Nunnery, so far from being reduced after the visitation of 1441, by the sale of the prioress' fur and the economy recommended, had from £40 increased now, in 1450, to £66. 6s. 8d. “Master Thomas Boleyn,” who was one of Bishop Praty's commissaries in 1442, and had in that capacity visited Rusper Nunnery with his colleague Master John Lylis, had not succeeded better than the well-dressed prioress in managing the finances of Eseburne.

We have only a slight notice of this nunnery and some other Sussex monasteries in 1456. According to a custom very prevalent among such establishments, a notice of the death of some prior or other friend was carried by travelling messengers from one religious house to another, in order to obtain the prayers of the community for the repose of the soul of the deceased. The Obituary Roll<sup>19</sup> of two priors of Durham, William Elchester and John Burnaby, was thus brought into Sussex in 1456, and the title of each religious house was written on it as it came round, in proof of its receipt, and as engaging its prayers of intercession. There was usually added, to mark the reciprocity of such good offices, “*vestris nostra damus, pro nostris vestra rogamus.*” On this occasion there was this entry on the roll, “*Titulus monialium Beatæ Mariæ de Eseburn, Ordinis St. Augustini, Cicestr. (Cisterc. in orig. MS.) diocesis.*”

The next account we have of the interior of the nunnery

<sup>19</sup> Published by the Surtees Society, 1856.

occurs, in 1478, from the Visitation of Bishop Edward Story, who, in less than four months after his translation from Carlisle to the see of Chichester, personally examined the state of things on the spot. Agnes Tauke, the prioress, was probably the same person who, thirty-six years earlier, in 1442, was in Rusper Nunnery, but who had not then taken the veil, "non professa."<sup>20</sup> She was therefore no longer young—a circumstance to be remembered, when we judge of the fairness of now renewing the principal charge against her on the vague hearsay evidence we shall presently meet with. Agnes Tauke was probably of good family, as among those whom the bishop consulted with on this occasion was "Thomas Tauke armiger";<sup>21</sup> and a family of that name was at this period settled at West Hampnett, near Chichester. Unfavourable reports of the condition of the priory under the government of this prioress must have quickly reached the ears of the new bishop; and in order that the correction of abuses might cause the least public scandal, and might least offend the feelings of her kinsmen, he held a meeting in his palace chapel preliminary to his formal visitation, when the following arrangement was drawn up providing for the resignation of her authority on his future demand:—

"Be it remembered, that the Lady Agnes Tawke, Prioress of Eseborne in the diocese of Chichester, on the 23rd day of the month of May, A.D. 1478, in the Chapel of the Palace of the Lord Edward, Bishop of Chichester, neither compelled by force, or induced by fraud, of her own accord, took her corporal oath, touching the holy Gospels, in presence of the aforesaid Lord Bishop, and me Hugh Gryndone, notary public, then and there present, as also of Masters John Cloos, Doctor of Laws, William Myll, Bachelor *in decretis*, Thomas Tawke, Esquire, and other trustworthy persons, that she would purely, spontaneously, simply, and absolutely, without any subsequent delay, resign her office of Prioress, whenever she should be so required by the same Lord Bishop, into his hands, or into those of any other person having his authority

<sup>20</sup> See the Visitation of Rusper in Mr. Way's paper, *Sussex Arch. Coll.* V. p. 255.

<sup>21</sup> Arms of Tawke—Argent, a T gules, in chief 3 chaplets vert. The name of

Robert Tauk of Hetfeldlond is found in the inquisition after the death of John de Bohun, chevalier of Midhurst, taken in A.D. 1383-4.

in this particular. Also the Lord on the same day then and there enjoined the said Prioress of Eseborne, and most strictly exacted from her these matters following, namely:—

“First, that as soon as possible after her arrival at the said Priory she would remove and separate the Sub-Prioress from her office of Sub-Priorate.

“Secondly, that every week she should besides hold and keep at least one chapter, and should impartially and wholly correct and punish the excesses of her nuns.

“Thirdly, that every week, beginning with the eldest, except the aforesaid Sub-Prioress, she should select for herself, in due course and in turns, one of her nuns as chaplainess for divine services, and to wait upon herself (*sibi assumeret in capellanissam pro divinis dicendis et ad sibi attendendam*).

“Fourthly, that neither the Prioress nor any nun should pass out beyond the enclosures of the priory, nor meet together for the purpose of drinking or practising any other improprieties. (*Quod scepta (sic) prioratus nec priorissa nec monialis aliqua ad bibendum seu insolencias aliquas exercendas non exhibit nec frequentabit.*)—Reg. D. f. 42.

After thus securing beforehand a great change in the priory, the bishop fixed his visitation to take place five weeks afterwards.

“Bishop Story, Reg. D. f. 23, A.D. 1478. Visitation of the Reverend Father in Christ and Lord, the Lord Edward, by divine permission Bishop of Chichester, performed by himself in person, in the Chapter House of the Prioress of Esborne, on the 4th day of July, in the year of our Lord as above, and he there passed the night (*pernoctavit*).

“To the Reverend Father in Christ and Lord, the Lord Edward, by divine permission Bishop of Chichester, your humble and devoutly obedient daughter the Lady Agnes Tauke, Prioress of Esborne in your diocese of Chichester, all manner of obedience and reverence due to such a Father with honor.

“I have received your revered command of the 26th day of May, A.D. 1478, in these words:—‘Edward, by divine permission, Bishop of Chichester, to our beloved in Christ the Prioress of the Priory of Eseborne, of our diocese, health, grace, and blessing,—Among the pastoral anxieties pressing upon our shoulders, we consider with perpetual care how we

may, by our ordinary visitation of those under us, correct the vices, and reform their defects by the helping grace of the Holy Spirit; wishing thus, therefore, to execute our pastoral duty, as we are bound to do, we intend, with the guidance of God, actually to visit, among other places of our diocese, you and your priory, both its head and its members (*tam in capite quam in membris*), after having thoroughly visited our cathedral church of Chichester, as the canonical ordinances exact and require,—Wherefore, by the tenor of these present, we peremptorily summon you, and through you we wish to be summoned all and singular the nuns of the aforesaid priory, and we command that you appear, and that each of them appear before us, or those commissioned by us in this particular, if anything, which God forbid, should happen to prevent us, in the Chapter House on the Saturday next after the next Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul (*June 29*), with adjournment (*continuacione*) and prorogation of the following days, if need be, in order duly to perform the business of the aforesaid visitation, you being prepared humbly to admit and canonically to submit to such our visitation, and to exhibit and shew the foundation and condition of your house, and the repairs of all and singular your churches united to you, and furthermore to do and receive what the business of the said visitation may exact and require. We, moreover, by the tenor of these presents, prohibit you, and we wish and command that through you, on our behalf, all and each of your nuns should be prohibited, and that, while our aforesaid visitation is impending, nothing be attempted, done, or caused to be in other way attempted to the prejudice of the same, knowing that if anything of this sort should be attempted against our prohibition in any manner, we decree it to be invalid and void. Concerning, moreover, the days of the receipt of the present command, and of the mode and form of its execution, as also what you shall cause to be done in the premises, you shall take care clearly to certify to us or our said commissaries, on the said day and place by your letters patent, a list containing in full the names and surnames of these your sisters, all and each, and the designation of their offices, attested by authentic seal. Given under our seal, in the house of our residence near London, on the 19th day of the

month of May, A.D. 1478, and in the first year of our translation.'

"By the authority therefore of which, your revered mandate, I have peremptorily summoned my fellow-nuns (*commoniales*) and sisters to appear before you on the day and place above specified in your mandate."

"The Lady Agnes Tauke, Prioress there, made obedience to the Lord, and being examined concerning the life and conversation of the nuns and co-sisters (*consororum*), all and each, of the said priory, says that Johanna Pottesmouth and Philippa King were not of good conversation or disposition, who had withdrawn from the said priory for their health without license (*ad salutem illicencie*), and so are abroad in apostasy at present, but in what place she knows not, as she says.

"The Lady Matildis Astom made obedience to the Lord, and being examined secretly and singly as to whether the divine services were said and sung (*psallebantur*) at the due and accustomed times equally by day and night, says, however, that the Bishop of Chichester immediately preceding<sup>22</sup> had dispensed with their being obliged to rise at four o'clock in the twilight, and that from that time forth to this they had so kept (*dispensavit cum eis quod surgere valerent hora quarta in auroris et sic citra servarent*). She also says that certain persons, named John Smyth, chaplain, and N. Style, bond-servant to the Lord Arundel (*conjugatus*<sup>23</sup> *serviens dominum Arundel*), had and were accustomed to have great familiarity within the said priory, as well as elsewhere, with the said Lady Johanna Portesmouth and Lady Philippa Kinge, nuns of the said priory, but whether the said Sir John Smyth and N. Style abducted (*abduxerant*), or caused to be abducted, the said Johanna Pottismouth and Philippa Kinge, she knows not, as she says. And, moreover, she says that certain William Gosden and John Capron of Esborn aforesaid, guarded and kept (*custodiebant et servabant*) in their own houses the said Johanna and Philippa for some time before their withdrawal (*recessum*) from the said priory, and took their departure

<sup>22</sup> This was John Arundel, Bishop of Chichester from March 1459 to 1478.

<sup>23</sup> "Conjuges in libris feudalibus dicuntur domini et vassali-consortes, dominus

et vassallus ejusdem militiæ socii."—*Ducange*. Some, however, consider "conjugatus" as meaning a married man.

(*devillabant*<sup>24</sup>) with them, and so were great encouragers to them in that particular. Also she says that the prioress is very negligent, as before stated, in the punishment of her delinquent sisters, who contravened the statutes and rules. Moreover, she says that they do not keep silence at the suitable times (*temporibus congruis*) as they ought.

“Lady Johanna Crackelynge made obedience to the Lord, and, being examined as above, says that the prioress was very negligent in the punishment of the Ladies Johanna Potismouth and Philippa Kinge, nuns and sisters of the said prioress, who, as before stated, withdrew from the said priory, and so remain abroad at present. Also, she says that certain Sir John Smyth and N. Style, a bond servant to the Lord Arundel, caused the said Johanna and Philippa to withdraw from the said priory and apostatise and cause them so to continue at present. Also, concerning the conversation and continence of the prioress, she says that she has heard say that many years ago she gave birth to one or two children (*audivit dici quod pluribus annis transactis enixa fuit unam prolem vel duas*).<sup>25</sup>

“Lady Johanna Stevyn made obedience, and, being examined as above, says that the withdrawal and ruin of the said Ladies Johanna and Philippa might be attributed to their having had, each of them, long before their withdrawal, children, or a child, and that *the prioress (not in MS.)* in various other modes governed them ill, inasmuch as she neglected to correct them by regular discipline.

“Lady Margaret Lightnore (*Lewknore?*) made obedience to the Lord, and, being examined, says that a certain Sir John Senok<sup>26</sup> much frequented the priory or house, so that during some weeks he passed the night, and lay within the priory or monastery every night, and was the cause, as she believes, of the ruin of the said Sir John Smyth (*sic MS.*). Also, she says the said Sir John Smyth gave many gifts to Philippa Kinge. Moreover, she says that the kinsmen of the said prioress very often, and by weeks at a time (*multociet et*

<sup>24</sup> *Devillare, discedere de villa*—to leave a place.

<sup>25</sup> As six-and-thirty years had elapsed since she was preparing to take the veil at Rusper, Agnes Tawke must have been

at least fifty years old at the time of this vague accusation being renewed.

<sup>26</sup> Probably the same family as William and Thomas Snolk, previously referred to in reference to a deed of A.D. 1327.



*septimanatim*), frequent the priory, and have many banquets of the best food, while the sisters have them of the worst, to the great prejudice and discomfort (*discommodum*) of the nuns of the priory. She says also that the said prioress laid out xv<sup>li</sup> for a certain Bull of Capacity<sup>27</sup> for William Cotnall, for which the jewels of the house remain pledged for this xv<sup>li</sup>.

“The Lady Fredeswyda Conand made obedience to the Lord; she is not professed.”

“*Injunctions.*”

“The Inventory of all the goods of the said Priory exhibited by the Prioress remains filed in the Register.

“Be it remembered that at the same day and place Brother William Cotnall confessed publicly to the Lord that he had sealed and caused to be sealed, by the common seal, against the will of the prioress, a quittance for Sir John Smyth, concerning all and every sort of actions and suits, &c., which the said prioress and convent have, or might have, against the same Sir John Smyth, and especially concerning the jewels of the house, reaching to the value of xv<sup>li</sup>. Also he confesses that he has sealed, or caused to be sealed, a license to Lady Johanna Potesmouth to go out of the priory. Also the brother confessed *carnaliter cognovisse* the nun Philippa Kinge before her withdrawal from the said priory. Also he says that the prioress delivered to Sir John Smyth divers jewels belonging to the house to the value of x<sup>li</sup> (*sic MS.*), to pledge them for money to procure a Capacity for this deponent, which jewels are all and each utterly lost.”

The misrule of the priory seems thus to have gone on increasing, as first testified by the poverty arising from extravagance and luxurious dress, by the exhibition of unequal treatment of its inmates, and the consequent heart-burnings within the fair bosoms of the nuns, and latterly by the imputations of immorality elicited by the reciprocal reproaches of prioress and nuns. What a striking and painful scene is represented to us by this last visitation of 1478! The quiet Chapter House of this female community occupied by the bishop and his officers sitting in judgment, and the frightened inmates of the nunnery admitted secretly one by one into their presence,

<sup>27</sup> A Bull enabling the holder to obtain certain privileges or exemptions.

making their lowly courtesies, and not backward in bearing witness to the faults of their sisters, or retailing the scandalous stories of years long past.

There seems to have been more reality in these Episcopal Visitations than was attributed to those of an Abbot by Walter Mapes, in the thirteenth century. If the Abbot was well fed and lodged, all was reported to be well, and no question asked as to discipline or morals, so that such certificate might fairly be said by the satirist as "not worth two garlicks."

"Tota de temporalibus	est patris inquisitio,
Quasi nulla de moribus	habetur ibi questio.
*       *       *	*       *       *
Tandem carta componitur	ut rite fiant omnia
Quod magnum est omittitur	Sola scribuntur levia.
Ibi bene perpenditur	visitantis incuria
Nam quicquid illic scribitur	duo non valent allia."

WALTER MAPES' *Poems*, p. 185.

From the Episcopal Registers we learn that the priory was so poor about this period, that it was exempted, in 1485 and 1489, from payment of the subsidies then raised by the clergy.<sup>28</sup>

It appears, indeed, by an enrolment in the King's Remembrancer's Rolls, that King Henry V., by letters patent of Oct. 20, 1414, expressly exonerated the prioress and convent of Easbourne from all tenths, fifteenths, and other tallages for twenty years, when such tenths were granted to the amount of 104*s.* 1*d.*, and such fifteenths to the amount of 9*s.*; and that Henry VI., on January 26, 1437, extended the term of this exemption for three years more; and finally, on December 18, 1439, on the surrender of the former letters patent, the King made this privilege perpetual, and, on account of their poverty, exonerated the prioress and convent for ever from all tenths, fifteenths, aids, contributions, subsidies, taxes, and tallages of every kind. (*MS. Mich. Term, 21 Hen. VI. Rot. 3.*)

More than forty years elapsed before the next visitation of which we have any notice, and this was held by the authority of Bishop Robert Sherburn, on August 5, 1521. He was

<sup>28</sup> Dallaway's *Sussex*, i. 237.

then upwards of eighty years of age ; and it is not to be wondered at that he deputed a commissary, Master John Worthiall, to act for him.

“ Robert Sherburn, A.D. 1521. Reg. C. f. ciii. Mandate to the Prioress of Eseborne for Visitation.

“ Robert, by divine permission, Bishop of Chichester, to our beloved in Christ the Prioress of the House or Priory of Nuns of Eseborne, in our diocese, health, grace, and blessing.

“ All things being at the disposal of God, we intend, by the help of God, actually to visit, both as to the head and its members, you and your aforesaid priory, from certain reasons moving us [to the<sup>29</sup>] reformation of some defects therein. By the tenor, therefore, of this present, we peremptorily summon you, and through you we wish and command all and each of the nuns of the aforesaid priory, and your co-sisters, that you should appear, and that each of them should appear before us, or our commissary or commissaries in that particular, in the Chapter House of your aforesaid priory, on the fifth day of the month of August next coming, at the ninth hour before noon of the same day, with adjournment and prorogation of the days next following, if need be, in order to undergo such our visitation, and to exhibit and show to us, or our said commissary or commissaries, the foundation and condition of your house, and an inventory of all and singular the goods of the said house, both in spiritualities and temporalities, and a faithful and complete account of every year of your administration from the time of your first undertaking the government of the said house down to the feast of St. Michael the Archangel last past, and to render a true copy of all things then to be exhibited before us, or our registrar to be despatched there ; and moreover, to do and provide what the business of our said visitation exacts and requires. We moreover prohibit you, by the tenor of this present, and through you we wish and command all and each of your nuns and co-sisters not to attempt, or do, or cause to be in any way attempted, anything beforehand to the prejudice of our said visitation ; and that you make, and on the said day and hour

<sup>29</sup> *Ad not in MS.*

and place duly certify, by your letters patent, to us or such our commissary or commissaries, a list of these nuns (*harum*), containing in full the names and surnames of your nuns and co-sisters, sealed with the authentic seal.—Given under our seal, at our dwelling-house of Cathorne, the 13th day of the month of July, A.D. 1521, and the 14th year of our translation.”

“Visitation of the aforesaid Reverend Father in the Chapter House of the Priory of Esborne, by the said Master John Worthiall, in the stead and authority of the said Reverend Father, by virtue of the said Commission, on the 5th day of August, at the ninth hour before noon, in the aforesaid year of our Lord.

“At which day, hour, and place, the commission of the said Reverend Father as above being read, and the burden (*onere*) of the said commission having been undertaken, the Lady Margaret Sackville, prioress of the said house, then and there present, certified to the said venerable man, Master John Worthiall, the commissary then and there sitting as the court (*pro tribunali sedenti*), that she had executed the above-written mandate of the said Reverend Father according to its tenor, of which she gave assurance (*unde fecit fidem*), and then, after notice being proclaimed (*preconisatione facta*), all and each of the nuns whose names follow appeared in person :—

Lady Margaret Sackfilde, Prioress.

Lady Alicia Hill, Sacristan there.

Lady Agnes Howse ( <i>Hoese, Hussey?</i> ),	} Nuns professed.
Lady Johanna Farnfolde,	
Lady Cecilia Cradocke,	
Johanna Sackfilde, Novice.	

“On such appearance of whom, the said Lord Commissary charged on their oath (*jurejurando oneravit*) the prioress and aforesaid nuns faithfully to depose and reveal those matters which ought to be reformed, concerning the said house and its condition, when they should be examined. Afterwards the said Lord Commissary adjourned the aforesaid visitation to the first hour after noon.

“At the coming of which hour, in the said Chapter House,

the said Lord Commissary examined concerning the premises the aforesaid prioress and nuns singly and in private (*singulatim et secreta*), who deposed as follows :—

“ Lady Margaret Sackfild, Prioress, being examined, says that, as to the sisters and nuns of the said priory, they lived honestly and religiously according to the rule of Saint Augustine, and that they are sufficiently obedient to her (*ei satis obediētes*).

“ Lady Alicia Hill, being examined, says that the cloisters (*claustrum*) are in need of repairs on the south and west sides in the roofing ; but she says the prioress buys all necessaries to repair such defects of the house. Furthermore, she says that the Lady Prioress, according to the foundation of the aforesaid house, should furnish them, every year, to each of them *xiiis. iiiid.* in money to buy and provide all garments necessary for them, which she neither does nor otherwise provides for them in necessary garments, as is fitting for them to have, as she says. Moreover, she says that the Lady Prioress does not make up any account annually, as she ought, in presence of the sisters of the said house, concerning her administration of the goods of the said priory. In other respects it is well (*cetera bene*), as she says.

“ The Lady Agnes Hosy, being examined, says that she has not the necessary garments, nor any stipend from the Lady Prioress to buy the same, according to the foundation of the house. In other respects it is well, as she says.

“ The Lady Johanna Farnfolde, being examined, says that the cloisters of the said priory in some parts want repairs in the roofing, and in like manner other places elsewhere of the same priory ; yet she says that the Lady Prioress has all things necessary concerning them ready for their repair.

“ The Lady Cecilia Cradocke, being examined, says that, according to the foundation of the house, the Lady Prioress should give to each sister of the same house annually *xiiis. iiiid.* for providing all the necessary clothes for them, which is now withheld from them by the said prioress, nor have they from her the necessary garments when they want them. Furthermore, she says that the said house needs repairs in various parts of it ; but she says that the Lady Prioress is sufficiently provided with all necessaries to perform such repairs.

“Johanna Sackfilde, being examined, says (*sic*).”

“Injunctions given to the Lady Prioress. Also, the examination being over, the said Lord Commissary enjoined the Lady Prioress to exhibit all things specified in the writ above written, which she had not yet exhibited, and to render an account as is commanded in the same above, before him, in the Chapter House aforesaid, on the 17th day of the month of October next. Furthermore, he enjoined her to repair satisfactorily the defects of the house or priory aforesaid before the first day of the month of May next coming; and it was also enjoined her that she should sufficiently provide for her sisters the ornaments (*ornamenta*) necessary for them, and that she should make window shutters (*fenestras clausuras*) for the chapel, on the east side between the chapel and church.

“After this the said Lord Commissary adjourned the visitation of the said Lord Father to the 17th day of the month of October next, and gave notice (*monuit*) to the said Lady Prioress and the said nuns to be then present in the Chapter House as above.”

Nearly all the same parties appeared again, under the authority of the same Bishop Sherburn, three years later, in 1524; and this was the last visitation of which we have any account. Indeed, the suppression was near at hand to put an end to all the good and evil of the small community. No more repairs, no more injunctions, were then needed.

“Bishop Sherburn, A.D. 1524. Reg. A. f. 95.

“Visitation of the said Reverend Father in the Chapter House of the Priory of Eseborne by the aforesaid Master John Worthiall, by the authority of the aforesaid Commission, exercised on the 26th day of the month of July, in the year of the Lord, at the ninth hour before noon.

“At which day and place, before the said Lord Commissary, after the charge of the said commission had been accepted, there appeared Lady Elizabeth (*sic MS. in error for Margaret*) Sackfelde, Prioress there, and certified that she had executed the mandate of the Reverend Father according to its tenor, of

which she made assurance ; and then, after proclamation, there appeared as follow :—

The Lady Margaret Sackfelde, Prioress.  
 The Lady Alicia Hill, Sub-Prioress.  
 The Lady Agnes Hosey, } Nuns professed.  
 The Lady Cecilia Cradocke, }  
 The Lady Johanna Sackfelde.  
 The Lady Margaret Pratt.  
 The Lady Elena Hill.  
 The Lady Alicia Parker.

“ On whose appearing, the said commissary charged the said prioress and all her aforesaid sisters, on the strength of their consciences, faithfully to reveal and present those matters which needed reformation in and about the said house. Then the said commissary examined them and each of them as follows, secretly and singly.

“ The Lady Margaret Sackfelde, Prioress, being examined, says that all things were well as to the state of religion and the house. Being questioned furthermore, what grants (*concessionnes*) they had made under their common seal, she says they had made four, namely, one to William Salter, of Compton, to farm the rectory there; another, of the proceeds of the chapel of Farnherst; another, of the proceeds of the chapel of Mydherst; and another to William Toty, for his corrody.

“ The Lady Alicia Hill, Sub-Prioress, being questioned, says that all is well as to the condition of the house and of religion, with this exception, that the Lady Johanna Sackfelde, Lady Margaret Pratt, and Alicia Parcar, nuns not professed, are disobedient to her in the absence of the prioress; and she says that the Lady Prioress does not render any account concerning the condition of the house annually in the presence of her sisters. Furthermore, being questioned how many grants they had made under their common seal, she says they had made five, namely, one, of the proceeds of the church of Eseborne to Ralph Pratt; another, of the proceeds of the church of Compton; another, of the proceeds of the chapel of Mydherst; another, of the proceeds of the chapel of Farnherst; and another to William Toty, for his corrody. Furthermore, she says that about twelve

years ago the said Ralph Pratt,<sup>30</sup> *ad tunc persona suspecta impregnavit quandam dominam Johannam Covert sororem dicte domus*, which Ralph Pratt down to the present day has much access to the said priory.

“Agnes Hosey, an unlearned (*ideota*<sup>31</sup>) sister of the said house, says all is well.

“Cecilia Cradock, sister of the same house, being examined, says that Lady Alicia Hills is too haughty and rigorous, and cannot bear patiently with her sisters. Furthermore, being examined, she says that she has not sufficient apparel (*nimis superba et rigorosa, nec potest sufferre sorores suas. Ulterius examinata dicit quod non habet sufficientem apparatus.*) She says besides, that the prioress does not render an annual account of the said house in presence of the sisters. The rest is well.

“Johanna Sackfelde, a nun not professed, being examined, says that matins are not said at the fitting hours, that is, sometimes at eight o'clock, and other times at seven o'clock. Furthermore, she says that the sub-prioress is haughty towards her sister (*sic*<sup>32</sup>); and she says furthermore, that the Lady Prioress does not render an account annually before the convent. The rest well.

“Margaret Pratt, nun not professed, being examined, says that Lady Alicia is too proud and severe against the sisters; and she says furthermore, that the prioress is not in the habit of rendering her accounts (*computare*) before the convent. The rest well.

“Elinora Hill, twelve years of age, not professed, says ‘all is well.’

“Alicia Parker, nun not professed, says all is well, except that the Lady Prioress is too strict (*rigorosa*).

“After finishing which examination, the said commissary

<sup>30</sup> It will be observed that the Sub-Prioress Alicia Hill, when complaining of the insubordination of the other novices, carefully omits one who was probably of her own family, Elena Hill; and here brings forward a grant to Ralph Pratt, omitted by the prioress—a suspicious circumstance, when connected with what is afterwards said of the said Ralph, who appears to have been the receiver and

bailiff of the priory. The sub-prioress, however, gets all the blame in the result.

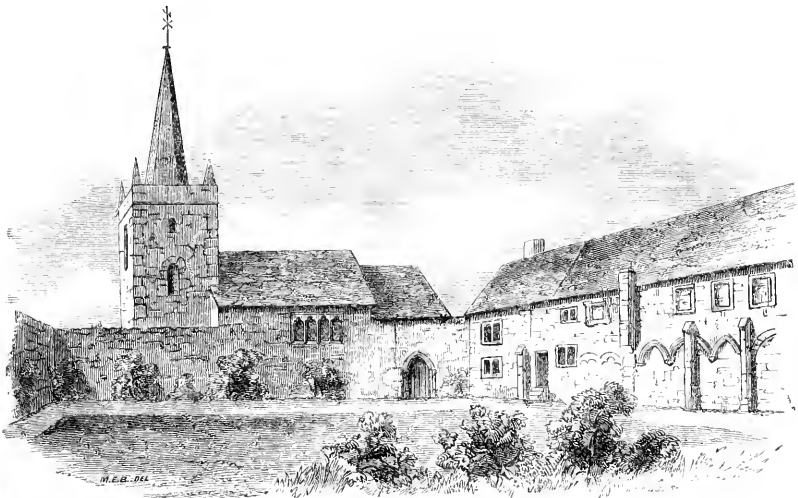
<sup>31</sup> *Ideota* may perhaps here imply some infirmity of mind, which made it inexpedient to examine Agnes Hosey more than thus briefly.

<sup>32</sup> This use of the singular number seems to imply that the Prioress Margaret was Johanna's sister.



enjoined the Lady Prioress, that matins should in future be said at the sixth hour, but in winter at the seventh hour; and that she should close, or cause to be closed, the door in the cloister leading to the parish church, continually locked (*continue ceratum*), and shall not permit any one to enter there, except those licensed; and he also enjoined her to render her account annually before the convent, under pain of deprivation.

“Afterwards Lady Alicia Hill, Sub-Prioress, appeared, and humbly submitted herself to correction, in presence of the said Prioress and her co-sisters, upon what has been discovered against her in the said visitation. Afterwards the Lord enjoined her that from henceforth she should conduct herself well and religiously in all things towards the said prioress and the nuns; and as to the other portion of her penitence, he adjourned it for a time. After doing which, the said commissary enjoined all to be obedient to the Lady Prioress, and in her absence to the sub-prioress.”



Church and Cloisters.<sup>33</sup>

The south wall of the parish church of Easebourne formed one side of the cloisters of the nunnery, and the door referred to

<sup>33</sup> Woodcut from drawing of S. H. Grimm in Add. MSS. 5675, f. 7, No. 12.

above, led from them into that portion of the church appropriated exclusively to the nuns. The too ready access to the convent by this means led to the orders given for keeping the door locked, and for putting up shutters inside, more effectually to divide the nuns, when they attended the church service, from the outer world assembled in the body of the church. In the will of Sir David Owen, in 1529,<sup>34</sup> who had then become the patron of the Easeborne Nunnery by his marriage with the heiress of the Bohuns, provision is made for the same seclusion, and a new gallery in the choir ordered to be built for the nuns. "I wille that myn executours make a new stage quere at the saied church of Esseborne over tholde quere, under such forme as the nonnes there may comme fro their dorter in the great chamber, and from thens in to the quere, and nobody to see them; the saied quere to be made of tymber after the facyon of the quere of the Priory of Wintonye, in the countie of Hamshire, and tholde quere to be taken away and belfraye, and it is to be used as parcell of the churche, with a particon to be made, so that non may comme out of the churche to the highe Aulter in the Chauncelle of the saied Priory." By means of Sir David's new gallery, the nuns could frequent their chancel by walking from their dormitory on the same floor without passing through the cloisters, some remains of which may still be traced by the forms of their arches along the east wall of the enclosure.

Little time was allowed for the effect of the remedies against abuse provided by the final visitation of 1524, or by the care of Sir David Owen in 1529, before all the doors were unlocked, and all the "particons" thrown down for ever. In the act of Parliament, 1536 (27 Hen. VIII. c. 28), authorising the suppression of all the small monasteries which had less than twelve persons, and less than £200 rental, these are thus described in the preamble:—

"Forasmuch as manifest synne, vicious, carnal, and abominable living, is dayly used and committed commonly in such little and small abbeys, priories, and other religious houses of monks, canons, and nuns, where the congregation of such religious persons is under the number of twelve persons, whereby the governors of such religious houses and

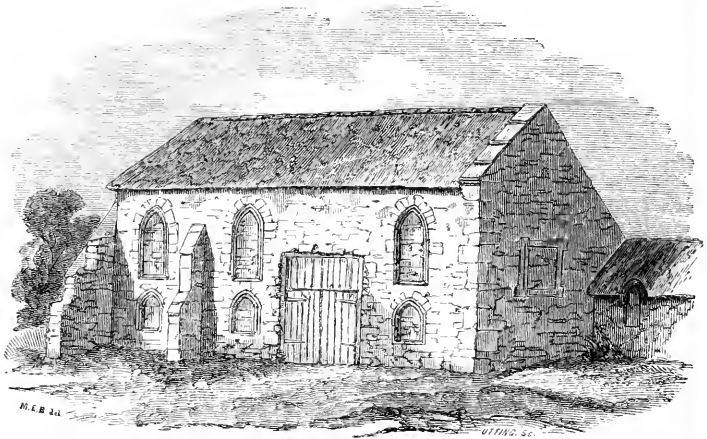
<sup>34</sup> *Sussex Arch. Coll.* VII. 33.

their convent, spoyle, destroye, consume, and utterly waste, as well their churches, monasteries, priories, principal houses, farms, granges, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, as the ornaments of their churches and their goods and chattels, to the high displeasure of Almighty God, slander of good religion, and to the great infamy of the King's Highness and the realm, if redress should not be had thereof; And albeit that many continual visitations hath been heretofore had by the space of two hundred years and more for an honest and charitable reformation of such unthrifty, carnal, and abominable living, yet nevertheless little or none amendment is hitherto had, but their vicious living shamelessly increaseth and augmenteth, and by a cursed custom so rooted and infected, that a great multitude of the religious persons in such small houses do rather choose to rove abroad in apostasy than to conform themselves to the observation of good religion; so that without such small houses be utterly suppressed, and the religious persons therein committed to great and honourable monasteries of religion in this realm, where they may be compelled to live religiously for reformation of their lives, the same else be no redress nor reformation in that behalf."

Though covetousness may have prompted the description, yet the facts here adduced may justify us in hoping that the larger ones were better and more "honourable." When the same prioress, Margaret Sackfield, in 1535, surrendered her dignity and all the property of the convent into the King's hands, the few ladies of her small community rejoined the world, to spread there at their pleasure the mutual recriminations in which we have seen them indulging at the visitations, and the buildings were soon converted into an ordinary dwelling-house. Sir William Fitzwilliam, to whom the grant of the site was made, and to whom, as lord of the manor of Cowdrey, only 1 lb. of cumin, worth 3*d.*, had hitherto been paid by the priory, probably used the "dorter" of the nuns for his own sleeping chamber, and walked to his prayers from thence into their new gallery in the chancel, much to his own convenience.

The outer walls of the refectory, situated beyond the south side of the cloisters, still retain some Pointed windows in the upper story, though blocked up; and its interior, now used as

a barn and granary, shows its ample dimensions, far beyond the need of the few inmates, except on the grand but unwelcome occasions of the bishop's visitations, or when the prioress



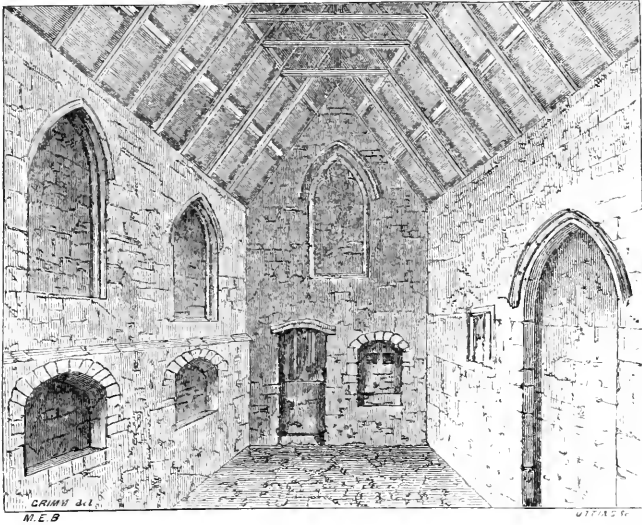
Exterior of Building.<sup>35</sup>

filled the empty seats at her feasts with some of her own private friends. It was perhaps reserved for Queen Elizabeth to be the first to preside here at a princely banquet, and to fill the refectory with her goodly company. The gross income of the nunnery at the suppression was £47. 3s., according to Speed; and the net revenues are stated in King Henry VIII.'s valuation, taken in 1534-5, at £29. 16s. 7d. To the vicar of Easebourne an annual payment of £6. 13s. 4d. was due from the priory. Among the officers at that period was "the Seneschal of the Court of the Prioress, Thomas Grose," who was paid a mark annually, and "Ralph Pratt, Receiver and Bailiff of the Monastery," whose fee was £2 a year. A pension of 100s. was granted to "Baldwin Hammet, late incumbent of the community (*incumbens fraternitatis*) of Estborne," and this he continued to enjoy down to Queen Mary's times,<sup>36</sup> in 1555-6.

One memorable day only occurred in the annals of Easebourne after the priory had passed into lay hands. On

<sup>35</sup> South side of Refectory—Grimm delin. <sup>36</sup> 2 and 3 Phil. and Mar.—Add. MSS. 1780. Add. MSS. 5675, f. 8, No. 14. 8102. Willis's *Mitred Abbies*, ii. 239.

Tuesday, Aug. 18, 1591, its noble and loyal proprietor, Lord Montague, though still attached to the same ancient forms of



Interior of Building.<sup>37</sup>

faith as the nuns, received Queen Elizabeth as his guest in their former refectory, during her visit to Cowdray.

“On Tewsdlay her Majestie went to dinner at the priory, where my lorde himselfe kept house, and there was she and her lordes most bountifully feasted.”<sup>38</sup>

Among the original relics of the nunnery may be noticed two bells still in the belfry of Easebourne. On one is inscribed *Sanc . ta . An . na . ora . pro . nob . is .* This bell measures 3 ft. 4 in. in diameter at the lip, and 3 ft. 4 in. in height. It is not improbable that it belonged to Midhurst Chapel, on St. Ann’s Hill. Its tone is B flat. The other bell measures 2 ft. 7½ in. diameter at the lip, and is 2 ft. 6 in. high. It has the simple motto, *te . drum . laudamus,*



<sup>36</sup> Grimm delin. 1780. Add. MSS. 5675, f. 8, No. 13.

<sup>38</sup> See Nichols’s, *Progresses*, iii. 90. *Sussex Archaeol. Coll.* V. 186.

followed by two lions' heads, and a cross inscribed within a circle.

Among the Burrell MSS. is a drawing of the oval seal of the priory; but no reference is there made to the original from which it was taken. This has been professedly copied by Dallaway (i. p. 237), and also in the new edition of the *Monasticon* (iv. pl. xxiv.), but with variations. In the upper part it represents the crowned Virgin and Child, seated under a Gothic arch upon a long flat altar, which has a series of arches in front, and bears a tall candlestick on each side the Virgin. Beneath is a seated figure, who may be St. Benedict, or the founder, John de Bohun, delivering a book to a prioress standing. The inscription is variously given as *Sigillum . Doms s . . . e de Essborna*, or, as drawn by Howlett, 1825, *SIGILL : COMUNE : SANCTE : MARIE : DE : ESEBORNA*. The authority for the drawing of this seal was probably its impression attached to the final surrender; but it has been separated, and may perhaps be among the large collection of unarranged detached seals now in the Carlton Ride Record Office.

**PRIORESSES.**—The names with an asterisk are not in Dugdale or Dallaway.

\*Alicia, before 1279.

\*Beatrice, 1327.

Maria, 1339.

\*Margerita Wyvile, 1362.

Agnes Tawke, 1478.

Margaret Sackfild, 1521—1524.

# NOTICES OF THE FAMILY OF MILLER, OF BURGHILL AND WINKINGHURST.

BY MARK ANTONY LOWER, M.A., F.S.A.

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READ AT THE WORTHING MEETING, 1855.

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By favour of our member, Robert Mercer, Esq., of Sedlescomb, I have before me a manuscript purporting to be:—  
“The pious and affectionate Father’s Advice to his Children; being the dying counsel of the late Mr. HENRY MILLER, of Winkinghurst, in Hellingly,<sup>1</sup> Sussex, to his surviving Family, in a letter addressed to his son, &c. Found among his papers after his death. ‘By it, he being dead yet speaketh.’ Heb. xi. 4.” The original document was dated July y<sup>e</sup>. 22<sup>d</sup>. 1723; the transcript was made in 1748, “by Thomas Mercer, grandson of the said Henry Miller.” Mr. Mercer was a respectable medical practitioner at Lewes, and was patronized by the celebrated Duke of Newcastle, then of Halland. Opposite the title-page, by way of frontispiece, is the book-plate of the writer, “Henry Miller, Gent. of Winkinghurst”: ARMS; *Ermine a fesse Gules between three wolves’ heads erased Azure; Crest; a wolf’s head erased Azure, collared Ermine.* These arms are identical with those of Nicholas Miller, of Wrotham, sheriff of Kent, 8 Charles I., and show Mr. Miller to have descended from an ancestor of that gentleman. The Millers of Oxenheath in the parish of West Peckham, in the same county, also bore these arms, and were unquestionably collateral relations of Mr. Miller’s family. Nicholas Miller, Esq., was a great acquirer of lands in the reign of James I., purchasing largely of the Chowne, Culpeper, and other families. His nephew Sir Nicholas Miller enlarged the mansion of Oxenheath “with all the circumstances both of art and magnificence.”—Philipott’s *Villare Cantianum*, p. 269.

<sup>1</sup> Subsequently the seat of the Mason family—now of Mrs. Woodward.

In addition to what Mr. Miller tells us about himself, we learn, from a note affixed by the transcriber of the MS., that "he was educated in the principles of the Church of England by his parents, who were sober members of that community, though he afterwards saw reason to alter his judgment; the occasion of which Mr. Crosby, with great truth, gives an account of, with some brief account of his character, &c. Speaking of a public disputation in the parish church of Waldron, in Sussex, between one Matt<sup>w</sup>. Caffin and the minister of the said parish, on the point of infant baptism, he says:—'It issued in the conviction of M<sup>rs</sup>. Fuller and one M<sup>r</sup>. Henry Miller, a gentleman who was an able practitioner in the law. Soon after they were both baptized on the profession of their faith. M<sup>r</sup>. Miller quitted his employment, adhered to the study of divinity, became an eminent preacher, and at length was ordained pastor to a Baptist congregation at Warbleton, in Sussex.' (*History of the Baptists*, vol. iv. pp. 330, 331.)" Mr. Mercer adds, that "Mrs. Fuller was mother of John Fuller, Esquire, afterwards representative of the county of Sussex in Parliament."

The time when the polemical discussion above referred to took place, is not mentioned, but it must have occurred during the period of the Commonwealth; and the Waldron minister was probably an Independent intruder. I do not call to mind any other instance of a Baptist having challenged the officiating clergyman to a discussion of creeds, but the "Friends" were great disturbers of the peace in "steeple-houses." A curious anecdote of an occurrence of this kind in the neighbouring church of Burwash, is related in Palmer's *Nonconformists' Memorial*, vol. ii. 459. Mr. Thos. Goldham, (the vicar) "was once disturbed by a Quaker, who entering his church, and walking towards the pulpit like a ghost, said to him, 'I am sent with a message from God to thee.' Mr. Goldham, who was a quick and ready man, said, 'What! to me?' 'Yea,' said the Quaker, 'to thee.' Mr. Goldham then asked him, 'Dost thou know my name?' 'Nay,' said the Quaker, 'I know it not.' Mr. Goldham replied, 'If God sent thee to me, he could surely have told thee my name!' and endeavoured to convince him that he might be mistaken in the person he was sent to. At this the man was con-



founded, and the people were satisfied without any dispute.”

The MS., which occupies 71 closely written octavo pages, is divided into three parts:—

“ 1. Respecting our Family, that you [his two children addressed] may know something more relating to them.

“ 2. Respecting Religion, and the true worship of God, &c.

“ 3. Respecting a prudent management of worldly affairs.”

The first of these portions, which is by far the shortest of the three, is the only one, which—as a trustworthy genealogy of an old and respectable Sussex family—is here first printed. The other divisions show that the writer was a man of genuine piety, a cool, dispassionate, and candid reasoner, an able theologian, and a wise and prudent man of business. Whatever view may be taken of his peculiar sentiments on some points of religious doctrine, most readers would cordially assign him a place among the Christian country gentlemen of a period rather notorious for its characteristics of laxity, ignorance, and the grossness of public morals. He died January 15th, 1728-9, aged 63, and on the 20th of the same month (after a funeral sermon, “preach’d to a numerous and crowded auditory of his sorrowful relations, friends, &c., by Mr. Richard Drinkwater”), was buried in Hellingly churchyard, near the remains of his wife and some of his descendants. His monument still exists at Hellingly, in good preservation, and contains a poetical epitaph of his own composition, but no great merit, and subscribed—“*Sic cecinit ipse Henricus.*”

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“ SECT. I.

“ *Respecting our Family.*

“ OUR ancestors came from a place called Seal, in Kent (as I have been inform’d), where they had a large estate; a moiety of a large farm, w<sup>th</sup>. an ancient seat of the family on it, descended down to my own father, who sold it many years before I was born, for £1600, or thereabouts. And also, as I have been inform’d, there now is a commission of Master of the Ordnance, or something of that nature, amongst the ancient writings of the family, in custody of my cous<sup>n</sup>. Henry Miller,

of Burghill in Chiddingly,<sup>2</sup> w<sup>ch</sup>. has been the seat of the family from it's coming out of Kent. The manner whereof is as follows:—

“John Miller, my great-grandfather, had an uncle by the mother's side, whose name was Porter<sup>3</sup> (he was an ancient batchelor, and a fishmonger in London), who, having laid a mortgage on Burghill aforesaid, of so much money as the estate was worth, was forced to enter on it and take possession; but he being at so great a distance was not able to keep the possession of it, w<sup>ch</sup>. in those days also was too troublesome and dangerous for a person of his years, wherefore he prevail'd w<sup>th</sup>. his nephew, my said great-grandfather, to take that part on him; who managed it so well that his said uncle gave him the estate. Who my said great-grandfather married, and what children he had beside my grandfather, I cannot positively say, tho' I have formerly been told much about it by my eldest sister, but she being dead I can't further inform myself of that.

“John Miller, son of the above-mentioned John Miller, was my grandfather.”

[His will was dated 25th November, 1622, and proved at Lewes, 3rd May, 1624. The substance of this document is as follows:—“I, John Miller, of Chittingly, in the county of Sussex, &c. I give unto the poore of the parishe of Chittingly the some of twenty shillings. Unto Richard, my sonne, and his heires the moiety or half-part of my messuage or tenement called Millwayes, &c. &c. &c. at Kemsing (Seal, mentioned before, is a curacy or chapelry to the parish of Kemsing), which was granted by deed from Richard Miller, my father, to me and my heirs, after the decease of the longest liver of R. M., my father, and Joane, my mother, upon condition that my said son Richard pay to my daughter, Anne Miller, £100 on her attaining the age of 21, such sum to be paid *at or in the south church-porch of Chittingly*. Mary, my wife, to be executrix, and my brothers-in-

<sup>2</sup> Now the property of Jno. Day, Esq. The old mansion of the Millers was pulled down about thirty years since. On the south side of the chancel of Chiddingly Church there are several altar tombs to the memory of the Miller family.

<sup>3</sup> Probably of the ancient family of Porter, from Nottinghamshire, who settled in Sussex, *temp.* Henry VI. Their principal residences were at Cuckfield, Lamberhurst, and Wadhurst.

law, Nicholas Acton, and Richard Button, to be overseers of this my will."

I may remark, that before and at the date of these transactions, the church-porch was frequently employed, in many parts of England, as the place for the payment of money, under the provisions of a will, and other matters of business; a practice which reminds us of the similar employment of the porticos of temples in classical times.]

"Who he married I have no certain account, but I think he left three children, my father and two daughters, w<sup>ch</sup>. daughters both married, one to one Bathee, afterwards to one Purlen, and the other to one Acton; but I think all their children are dead long ago, unless John Bathee of Gardiner-street, be of their issue. My said grandfather died a young man, not near 30 years of age, and left his children to be brought up by his father, who died also while my father was but young.

"Richard Miller, my father, was bred to the practice of an attorney, but did not serve out his time. He was a person of a very good understanding and management in business, and always had a great name and esteem for it. And about the age of 17 years he married a wife about 16, viz:—

"Elizabeth Mancer,<sup>4</sup> youngest daughter of one Mr. Mancer, of Wadhurst, in Sussex, a very prudent and virtuous woman, and of exemplary piety. The eldest of her sisters married one Mr. Cruttal, of Wadhurst, who had a good estate, but spent it chiefly by keeping hounds."

[Mr. Miller was no friend to this species of field-sports. Under the head of "Prudent Management," he says: "Another means of pleasure is hounds, the keeping whereof is very chargeable, and the use pernicious. If they are kept at home, the charge of corn, &c., to feed them, is considerable, and the mischief they do, both within doors and without, is unsufferable by wise and considerate persons. And if they are kept abroad, every day creates a debt, or lays the owner under such obligations to the party who keeps them as can hardly be satisfied. . . . In the use of them they are pernicious; thereby many poor men are drawn away from their

<sup>4</sup> The family of Mancer, or Maunser, were of some antiquity and consideration, and were seated at Hightown in Wadhurst, from the time of Sir Robert Maun-

ser, 1 Richard III., 1483. See *Visitation of Sussex*, 1634; and *Berry's Sussex Genealogies*, p. 309.

business, while their poor families want bread; neighbours' hedges are broken, their corn and grass trodden down, their stock frightened, so that many times they cast their young, and the party who keeps the dogs is generally so bewitch'd with the brutish sport, as that thereby his mind is wholly removed from all other things that are good and recommendable." "Spannels and guns," and greyhounds, he treats with more leniency, still he adds, as to these recreations, "not at all is best."

It may be added as somewhat singular, that a descendant of Mr. Miller, paying little attention to his advice, actually lost the bulk of his patrimonial estate at Winkinghurst and elsewhere, in consequence of expenses incurred by an undue attachment to field-sports.]

"Some of the family are still living about Wadhurst. The second married one Mr. Causten of Oxted, in Surry, and left about twelve children, w<sup>ch</sup>. died mostly without issue. Thomas, the eldest, has left two sons, attorneys in London; a daughter, I think, who married one Jewell, has left children, but I never knew them. Another daughter married one Bennet, and left two sons; and Abraham, the youngest, is yet living, and a batchelor.

"My said father and mother had twelve children:—

- "1. Elizabeth, the eldest, who died young.
- "2. Mary, who died an ancient maid of 70.
- "3. John, who married when pretty ancient, but, having no children, left the estate to Henry, son of his brother Richard.
- "4. Elizabeth, married to Jeremiah Ford, of Horsemonceux, in Sussex, and left children, viz., Hannah, Jeremiah, Frances, Nicholas, Edward, and Richard.
- "5. Richard, who married Eliz<sup>th</sup>. Dod. He was a shopkeeper at Hailsham, in Sussex, and left children, viz., Richard, who died single, Elizabeth, married to Nath. Hall, Henry, who married Martha Stone, and heir to Burg-hill aforesaid, and Mary, who married John Friend.<sup>5</sup>
- "6. Ann, who died an ancient maid of 58.

<sup>5</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup>. Hall was ancestor of the Halls of Portslade and Brighton. Martha Stone was a member of the family of Stone of Stonebridge; and John Friend, belonged

to an ancient Brighton family, whose valuable estate descended, through an heiress, to the family of the late Thos. Read Kemp, Esq., the founder of Kemp Town.

- “ 7. Edward, who died a batchelor, aged 49. He was a salesman of cattle in London, and died there, leaving betwixt £3000 and £4000 (almost all of his own getting) among his relations.
- “ 8. Elenor, who married Tho<sup>s</sup>. Lucas, of Burghill aforesaid, and left only two sons, Thomas and Robert.
- “ 9. Martha (the only one besides myself now living) married John Elliott, a tanner, now of Sedlescomb, in the said county of Sussex. Her children were Mary, John, Elizabeth, Richard, and William.
- “ 10. James, a malster in Lewes, who married one Mrs. Barbarah Palmer. He left three children, viz., Elizabeth (now a maid), Barbarah (married to one Peckham, a carpenter at Ringmire, Sussex), and Richard, now a batchelor.
- “ 11. Sarah, who died a maid of about 30.
- “ 12. Henry (myself), bred an attorney in London, and afterwards with Mr. Raines, of Coneyburroughs in Barcomb, Sussex, a great conveyancer and court-keeper; but, not liking the practice of the common law, I only practised conveyancing.
- “ I married Mary, widow of Tho<sup>s</sup>. Dean, a shopkeeper in Chiddingly, and eldest daughter of Rob<sup>t</sup>. Tapsfield, of Framfield, in Sussex. She was a religious, virtuous, and prudent woman, whose price was far above rubies; a kind, faithful, and diligent wife; a good and tender mother; a kind mistress; an useful and helpful neighbour. I had two children by her, viz. :—
- “ Mary, who married Robert Mercer, now of Isfield, in Sussex, who has four children now living, viz., Joseph, Thomas, Mary, and Susanna; and two w<sup>ch</sup>. are dead, viz., Robert and Henry.
- “ Henry, who married Elizabeth Mills, daughter of Mr. Samuel Mills, late of Boreham, in Sussex,<sup>6</sup> shopkeeper, whose children now living are four, Elizabeth, Mary, John,<sup>7</sup> and Samuel; but one, viz., Henry, is dead.

<sup>6</sup> This lady died in 1737, aged 44. Her husband (who survived till 1750) subsequently married Charity ———, who outlived him, and re-married Daw Buss, of Cranbrook, surgeon. She died in 1799, at

the advanced age of 90.—*Mon. Inscr. Hellingly.*

<sup>7</sup> John M. died 1797, aged 76; Jane, his wife, 1808, aged 79.—*M. I. Hellingly.*

“So that of my father’s twelve children, five of us were never married, and the seven that did marry were married but once apiece.

“The advice I would give you, my dear children, on this occasion is, never to disown, slight, or overlook any relation by reason of poverty, or any misfortune in the world, or anything that is not sinful; but to endeavour to keep and increase y<sup>e</sup> reputation of the family by a prudent and religious management.”

[The Samuel Miller above mentioned, the grandson of the writer, settled at Rye, where he died about the year 1790, at the age of 82. He had several children, who all died young, except William, who died at Rye in 1837, aged 72. He left issue three sons, Henry, George, and Alfred; and five daughters. Henry Miller, an officer of the Revenue service, settled at Penzance, co. Cornwall, and had a son who practised there as a surgeon. Some of the other branches emigrated to America. Several fine old books, a portion of the library of *our* Mr. Henry Miller, were sold at Rye, at the sale of Mr. William Miller’s effects.<sup>8</sup>]

<sup>8</sup> Information of Charles Hicks, Esq.

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# THE FREE CHAPELS OF MARESFIELD AND DUDENEY.

BY THE REV. EDWARD TURNER.

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## MARESFIELD CHAPEL.

THIS Chapel, which is mentioned in some of the earlier deeds relating to the castle and lordship of Pevensey, was situated about half a mile to the westward of the village of Nutley, on an eminence, now part of a wood still called "the Chapel Wood." At what time, and by whom it was founded, I have been unable to discover, but imagine it to have been built by Richer de Aquila (who died A.D. 1176), grandson of Richer of the same honour, a benefactor to the priories of Wilmington and Michelham. (See *Sussex Arch. Collections*, vols. iv. p. 43, and vi. p. 130.) He also built the original church of Maresfield, portions of which may still be traced in the north and south walls of the chancel of the present church. During the reigns of Edward I. and II., and until 1372, the honour of Pevensey was held by the crown; but in that year Edward III. gave it to his third son, John à Gaunt, upon his becoming King of Castile and Leon, as a consideration for the earldom of Richmond. It is in the deed recording this gift that we have the first documentary notice of this chapel. The grant in Rymer's *Fœdera*, p. 499, mentions "the advowsons of the churches of Maresfield and of the free chapel there, of the free chapel within the castle of Pevenese, of the priory of Wylmyngdon, and of the priory of Whithiham—the castle and leucate of Pevenese, and the manors of Wylyndon and Marsfeld, and the bailiwick of Endelenewyk—and the free chace of Ashedon, with the rights and liberties belonging to free chaces.—Westm. June 25, 1372." Nicholas de Lovayne, constable of the castle of Pevensey, and Roger Dalyngrigg, the sheriff, were authorised to give seizin.

The records of the Duchy of Lancaster throw some light on

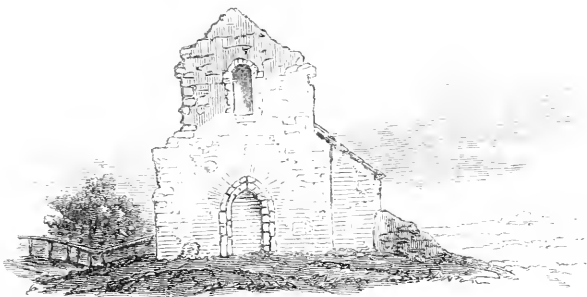
the endowment of this chapel. They state that Richer de Aquila, its probable founder, gave to it sixty acres of land on the forest of Ashdown, which land seems to be indicated by the name of Prest or Priest Ridge, by which a tract of forest land near Wychcross is still called. He also endowed it with other rights and privileges in the same forest, enumerated in an extent of the forest made in 1576, in which the separate rights of the parson and chaplain of Maresfield, as they were granted and confirmed by Edward III., are distinctly set forth. A copy of this, signed by many of the landowners of the district, is entered on a blank leaf of one of the older register books of the parish, and which is given in the Extracts from Parish Registers at Vol. IV. p. 247, *Arch. Collections*. This extent states, that the rights of the parson of Maresfield were to be exercised "where the prior of Michelham hath his kyne;" which plainly shows that this priory possessed property in Maresfield,—a fact which Mr. Cooper, in his history of it, was led to doubt, from his finding no mention of such property in his researches among its records. (See *Arch. Collections*, Vol. VI. p. 163. I have already stated, at p. 32 of volume viii., the probability that this chapel was appendant to the royal hunting-seat there alluded to. In it Wicliffe, the reformer, is said to have officiated during the time he was compelled to seek retirement and the protection of his patron, John à Gaunt, to escape popular indignation; which probably gave rise to the tradition, that he was once the incumbent of Mayfield, and which supposition led to a correspondence on the subject some years ago in the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

When it was discontinued as a chapel, and suffered to go to decay, is involved in as much uncertainty as the date of its first foundation. But that it was no longer used for divine service in the year 1541, is shown by the churchwardens' accounts of that year, which are entered on a blank leaf of the same register-book, and which mention the transfer of the sacramental cup and vestments of this chapel to the church of Maresfield. The memorandum is as follows:—"And they (*guardiani ecclesie*) dyd fforther accompt for iij*s.* iiij*d.*—a legacye gyven to the churche by Roger Athermal; and alsoe for a chalyce sometyme belonging to the chappelle of Notlye; the which sayd legacye and chalyce they haue receyved to the



use of the church of John Pettytt th' elder of Notlye ; alsoe a new albe with an amyasse ; and soe therebye discharged the sayde John Pettytt from anye ffurther payment of the sayde legacye and chalyce." This chalyce the church no longer possesses, it having been superseded probably by the present sacramental cup, the date of which, 1635, is marked upon it. The ancient font of the free chapel was found among its ruins, upwards of half a century ago, about two feet below the surface of the soil, and, having been again lost, was accidentally discovered by myself in a cowyard, where it had been used for some years as a drinking place for cattle, and is now in my possession. It is of the better kind of sandstone of the neighbourhood, circular in shape, and of rude construction. The under part of it shows that, when in use, it was supported by six pillars surrounding, and forming a part of, a central shaft, through which the drain-pipe passed. Although towards the close of the last century the walls of this chapel were standing more than six feet above the ground, but little trace of them now remains. They have shared the fate of many other interesting antiquarian relics in this county, having been despoiled by the neighbouring inhabitants, who, not having before their eyes the fear of the Manx curse, "May a stone of the church be found in the corner of your house," had recourse to these too ready materials for building and other purposes, until the whole was removed.

### DUDENEY CHAPEL.



Hogg, in his *Picturesque Views of the Antiquities of England and Wales*, published in 1786, gives an ill-executed engraving of a chapel of this name, which, he says, was situated on the

forest of Ashdown; but of the precise locality of which the Rev. A. Hussey, when speaking of it, expresses his inability to obtain any information at the time he was preparing his work (*Notes on the Churches of Sussex*, p. 311) for publication. That such a chapel ever stood upon this forest at all is, I think, very questionable; for, besides other evidences of its not doing so, which the print itself affords, Hogg places in its background a castle, which no view taken on this forest would justify. Even assuming Hogg to be correct in his locality, it is very remarkable that such a building (or rather the ruins of such a building, for he represents it as in ruins), which, as he tells us, "had neither door nor window perfect, had an aisle on the south side, and was supported internally by massy pillars," should have stood on Ashdown Forest so lately as he describes it to have done, and that all remembrance of it should have entirely passed away. Possessing a somewhat long acquaintance with this forest myself, I have no recollection of such a ruin; nor had my inquiries among others whose knowledge of this forest extends much farther back than mine, been attended with any success. I was therefore disposed to consider Hogg as wrong in assigning this chapel to Ashdown Forest, or else that he had confounded his Dudeney chapel with the free chapel of Maresfield, of which an account is given in the preceding pages, and which stood upon ground once a part of this forest, though not so lately as 1786. In 1855, however, I was informed that the tenant of a small farm at Duddleswell, abutting on the forest, in grubbing up a shaw at the corner of one of his fields, had discovered, about sixteen inches below the surface, extensive remains of a very substantial building. From his account of it—for I did not see it myself, he having removed a considerable quantity of the materials, and the ground having been closed over the remainder, before I heard of the discovery—and from the character of one or two pieces of carved stone which were preserved, I am now led to consider these foundations as belonging to an ecclesiastical building. May they not, then, be the relics, and may not this be the site, of Hogg's Dudeney Chapel? And may not Duddleswell have taken its name from this chapel, and be a corruption of Dudeneyswell? Many coins have been found in the adjoining field, all of them of the reign of Elizabeth.

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# EXTRACTS FROM THE MSS. OF SAMUEL JEAKE.

COMMUNICATED BY T. W. W. SMART, ESQ., M.D.

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THE MSS. which belonged to the family of Samuel Jeake, of Rye, are now in the possession of his descendant, Morton Frewen, Esq. They relate to many matters of general and also of local interest; and Dr. Smart has transcribed for our Society the following papers, which show—1st, the course which the gentlemen and yeomen of the county took, on the accession of James I., to procure an uniformity of religion, the address of the gentry being signed by members of most of the chief families in the eastern portion of the county;—2nd, some additional particulars of the civil war in our county, including a graphic account of the capture of Arundel Castle in 1644, and the representation of the Independents to Fairfax, the successful Lord General;—and 3rd, the system of electioneering pursued in the ancient town of Rye at an earlier date than in any contest hitherto recorded.<sup>1</sup> I have added such observations and notes as appeared to be desirable.

WM. DURRANT COOPER.

81, GUILFORD STREET,  
15th Jan. 1857.

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## *State of Religion in Sussex.*

The gentlemen and commonalty of Sussex represent to King James the want of learned ministers, and pray for uniformity of religion before the King's proclamation for conformity, dated on 5th March, 1603-4, and issued after the Hampton Court conferences:—

“To y<sup>e</sup> Kinges most excellent Mat<sup>tye</sup>.

“Most mightye Prince, y<sup>e</sup> multiplicitye and indiscretion of

<sup>1</sup> The ineffectual efforts of the town of Rye, in 1683 and 1685, to escape from the power then claimed by the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports to nominate

petitioners unto your Matye, made us at y<sup>e</sup> first fearefull to bee of that number, because some of them carye there iust reprof; but haveinge objected what wee could agaynst o<sup>r</sup> owne purpose, and findeinge ourselues herein voyde of malice toward any, ambition, or indeavouringe o<sup>r</sup> owne good in a worldly regard (the common motives of most sutors), but stirred upp with a desire to God's glorye, the publishinge of his Gospell, a conscyonable loue in your subiects towards your Matye, the salvation of y<sup>e</sup> ignorant and wicked, and y<sup>e</sup> further comfort of y<sup>e</sup> Godly disposed, wee haue receiued strength and boldness to come before yo<sup>r</sup> Matyes presence as y<sup>e</sup> woman of Samaria did in a great famine (2 Kings vi. 26), before y<sup>e</sup> Kinge and crye 'Helpe, my Lorde, O Kinge,' that every parishe or congregation maye haue a godly and learned pastor to instruct the people, prouided with sufficient mayntenance; and that pluralities, non-residence, unpreachinge, ignorant, and ungodly ministers bee remoued; as y<sup>e</sup> mayne cause that the most perfecte of your Matye's subiects within this realme are ignorant of y<sup>e</sup> truth of God's word, of y<sup>e</sup> dutyes towards God and man, and consequently cannot, for conscyence sake, bee faythfull and obedyent subiects towards yo<sup>r</sup> Matye.

“That y<sup>e</sup> preacheinge of subscription, otherwise than to your Matye's supremace, and those articles which concerne y<sup>e</sup> true fayth, doctrine, and sacraments, commanded in y<sup>e</sup> xiiiith yeare of her late Matye's raygne, and y<sup>e</sup> hott urgeinge of ceremonyes, not approued of in y<sup>e</sup> iudgem<sup>t</sup> (as wee are persuaded) of many godly and learned ministers within this yo<sup>r</sup> realme, which each greatly hindered the growth of true religion and pietye (whilst many learned and zealous preachers have been deprived, silenced, and secluded from there flocks, and many learned and well qualified men, discouraged from entringe into y<sup>e</sup> ministry, whereby Athisme, Popery, and Ignorance have taken roote and spread themselves ou<sup>r</sup> the lande) maye nowe quite cease, or bee accomted indifferent, for y<sup>e</sup> ministers to retayne or omitt, without trouble or beinge reputed obstinat for not submittinge themselves unto them.

one member, are given in the *Law Magazine* for August, 1852, No. 96, p. 57. At the election of 1685, James II. was himself Lord Warden, and the nomination of

one member for each of the ports, dated 13th March, is under the King's sign manual, countersigned by Secretary Sunderland.

“Lastly : that an uniforme government of y<sup>e</sup> church in all poynts, accordinge to y<sup>e</sup> prescript of God’s word, maye bee established. When wee consider howe these thinges should bee reformed we stopp o<sup>r</sup> mouthes with an holy silence, and instantly call to minde howe your Matye hathe beegune to reforme both Church and Commonwealth alreadye, so that it is with us as it was with the children of Israel (after Kinge Solomon had giuen sentence upon the pleadinge of y<sup>e</sup> two harlots—1 Kings iii. 28). ‘And all Israel heard of y<sup>e</sup> iudgement which y<sup>e</sup> Kinge had iudged ; and they feared the Kinge ; for they sawe that y<sup>e</sup> wisdome of God was in him to doe’ iustice.

“Notwithstandinge, yf in yo<sup>r</sup> princely moderation it shall bee pleaseinge unto yo<sup>r</sup> Matye to consult with God’s messengers, the teachers of his word, and to appoynt a conference, or disputation, y<sup>t</sup> thereby the will of God maye bee the better knowne in these o<sup>r</sup> desires, Wee humbly craue of yo<sup>r</sup> Matye y<sup>t</sup> you would bee further pleased therein alone to pronounce the determinat sentence accordinge to the wisdome of God in yo<sup>r</sup> owne soule, that this petition of yo<sup>r</sup> most duetyfull subiects may stand or fall by that mygty Arme.

“Thomas La Warre.	George Hussey.	Edward Burton.
Walter Court.	Thomas Sellwine.	Harbert Pellham.
Nicolas Parker.	Thomas Shurley.	Henery Shelley.
Henery Goreinge.	Ffrancis Jeffrey.	William Newton.
Thomas Palmer.	Bartholomew Whetstone.	John Sackevile.
John Ashburnham.	John Shurley.	Thomas Englefeld.
Edward Goreinge.	Henery Bowyer.	George Porter.
Herbert Morley.	Edward Cullpeper.	Henery Apsley.
Antony Sherley.	Thomas Pellham.	William Jeffrey.”

These names I found written in another paper, which agreed with this copy above written.—*Note by S. Jeake.*

The petition from the commonalty runs thus :—

“To y<sup>e</sup> Kinge’s most excellent Matye.

“Dread Souvraygne : amongst y<sup>e</sup> manifolde suites, which yo<sup>r</sup> Matye hath scene and received, We, yo<sup>r</sup> Matye’s humble subiects of the Cominalty of Sussex, encouraged by the examples of many, but much more by your gracious favour,

are bould to offer these our humble petitions unto yo<sup>r</sup> Matye, wherein wee nether sue for worldly honors nor profits (wherein yet many have obtayned gracious heareinge and departed much contented), but for releife in those thinges whereof yf wee fayle of helpe, many of us are like to perishe for ever.<sup>2</sup>

“The ignorance y<sup>t</sup> hath covered us seemeth palpable, and y<sup>e</sup> grevaunces, which wee and oure paynefull pastors have borne, innumerable; the one occasioned by insufficient ministers, the other by the Ecclesiasticall Courtes; these are two evils, which contynually haunte us, from y<sup>e</sup> which wee in all duetyfull submission entreat your Matye, in a holy wisdom nowe at y<sup>e</sup> last to free us, without yo<sup>r</sup> Matye wee can see y<sup>e</sup> fault, but not helpe ourselves. Therefore (Gracious Souraygne) lett our soules bee pretious in your eyes, and y<sup>e</sup> gulphe, which was wont to swallowe up synne and defyle y<sup>e</sup> lande with loathsome smoake thereof, bee shut upp. Wee knowe yo<sup>r</sup> love is readye, and yo<sup>r</sup> power able to doe it. Lett nether of these bee wantinge, wee in all humble obedyence craue at yo<sup>r</sup> Matye’s hands. And for o<sup>r</sup> partes wee vowe in y<sup>e</sup> presence of the great God of heaven, y<sup>t</sup> nether our lyveinges nor lives shall bee deere unto us in regard of o<sup>r</sup> duetyfull service at your

<sup>2</sup> Two petitions to the like effect, one from Northamptonshire, are in the State Paper Office. Full copies of the Sussex petitions of February, 1642, to both houses of parliament, for reformation of abuses in the church, are to be found in the King’s Pamphlets, British Museum, E. 134, 4to, No. 35. The petitions are from the high sheriff, knights, ministers, &c.; and, after thanking the Lords for passing the bill for taking away the bishops’ votes in parliament, and the Commons for what had been done in that house, the petitioners thus proceed in the Commons’ petition: —“Our humble desires are that the laws of God be truly maintayned, government and discipline so settled that wee may conforme therein to the perfect rule of God’s word, able, learned, and painfull ministers may be encouraged, scandalous speedily displaced, pluralities and unwarranted orders and dignities of the clergy taken away, that the probats of wils may be referred to the cognizance of temporall courts, that places of concernment in the

kingdome may be in the hands of persons of ability, integrity, and good conversation: Papists may be totally disarmed, their persons confined, their subtile conveyances of their estates discovered and prevented; secret evil counsels and counsellors taken away from his Majesty, and delinquents punished, sale of honour and offices restrained; that our county more than seventy miles naked to the sea may speedily be put into a posture of warlike defence by sea and land, seamen encouraged, fishing mayntained; Ireland further relieved; the clergy and others disobeying your late orders in our cathedrall and other churches questioned. The universities throughly purged, the masse utterly abolished. For the perfecting of all, with all your honorable endeavours. That the glory of God may be by your zealous and loyal intentions propagated, the honour and safety of his Majesty and his kingdomes advanced, the privileges of parliament and every member thereof mayntained.”

Matye's commande. And as a witsesse hereof, wee subscribe these with the names of

“Yo<sup>r</sup> Matye's humble, loyall, and obeydent subiects.”

*Proceedings during the Civil War.*

THE REV. JOHN COULTON, Chaplain in the Parliamentary Army to Samuel Jeake.

“My deare harts Samuuell Jeake, widow Shoosmith, and Richard Ffrench and Martha. Your letter I have received, it being your last fiarewell, and soe indeed it is; this day our Capt. being on London, and quartermaster Grenfeild and seriant Greenfeild, he hath sent one man to bring us nuse from him, we being at Arundell; his nuse is this, we are desired by the Parlm<sup>t</sup> to march to my lord generall, our colonell hath laid downe his armes resolveing neuer to beare armes more in this cause, soe are left as sheep without a shepheard, onely the Lord is our shepheard; we want nothing; our colonell marched into the feild and was quartered in out quarters soe far of us, his excelency said planely he could not relieve him. Prince Rupard (*sic*) that damnable wretch, marched out with 1200 horse, passed two quarters, asked for Morley's quarters, and fell on them; took 45 horse, 12 men prisoners. Joseph Palmer is slaine, for whome we all Dragoncs mourned with ribbons over our shouldiers. Capt. Gratocke had 3 encounters with Prince Rupert,<sup>3</sup> dismounted him, and xcept if he be nott a devell, he wounded him; he made 4 despered thrests at his body, and with one threst dismounted him; the same soldiers seing that mett his horse without a rider, said the Prince was lost, and soe they fled; Capt. Gratocke posted to his excelency for helpe to redeeme his 12 men, butt was denyed, which made the Colonell lay downe his armes; quartermaster Yonge behaved himself valiantly: Coronett Burton did the like, brought his colours out of the feild; and now we shall advance, how soone we know nott. Tomorrow we looke for our Capt. at Arundell, then shall wee know more sure; we are nott armed. Your expressions of love in your

<sup>3</sup> The chaplain was probably in error as to Prince Rupert being present with the troops at this engagement. Roger Grattwick was third son of Sir W. Gratt-

wick of Tortington, and in 1653 was a commissioner under the act for relief of poor prisoners.

letter, my deare hart, Samuell Jeake, I hartily thanke you for, and shall, if I fall, leave them as plunder for our enemy; I will not leave it by noe meanes; lett me haue more from you; oh, how our souldiers desire to see it. Samuell, can thy soule invent encouragements for me in this cause? If it cost thee two dayes time, lett me have it; such is my corage that if my hart deceiue me nott I will either se King Charles at his parlm<sup>t</sup> or myselfe in heaven; what haue I fought for this 32 yeares but assurance. I blesse God I haue it more then ever I had. Duty compeles me to discover my soule unto you whoe are soe deare unto me; take notice of it; and I charge you before God the Judge of all the world, that if you heare of my fall, never shed one teare for me, rather joy the Lord hath freed me from this body of sine, and answer my enemies in my name; thus reioyce nott against me, oh! myemie, though I fall yett shall I rise unto judgement to stand before God with boldness," &c. &c.

The remainder of this letter, which was evidently written in haste and contains many errors, extends over another page, and consists chiefly of religious advice and grateful expressions of good wishes to several of his friends at Rye. Alluding to his own religious advantages he writes: "The last fast we kept in our chamber, my mr. praied 2 houres, Joseph Rolfe one, Thomas Carew and myselfe five houres."

"Soe prayeth your despised freind by wicked men, butt by you beloved brother in the faith,

"JOHN COULTON.

"Arundel, June 29th, 1643.

"Joseph Rolfe, Tho. Carew remember their love to you all.

"To my vercy loveing freind, Samuel Jeakes, at his house in Rye, in Sussex, these, &c. &c. &c."

In another letter to S. Jeake the following passage occurs:

"Some difference is betweene our Colonell and Lewes Comittee, they will give us noe pay if we stay not in the county. Sir William Waller desires us with him. W<sup>t</sup> will be done the Lord knowes. Fford lyes at Winchester with 3 regiments intended for Sussex. I believe we shall step betweene them and home; our God direct us; all our desires



are to goe to Reding if it might be; a company of Raged Rogues are there; your honest exhortations to practise is my desire . . . . My Drum beats up; the Trumpet sounds; my lord Generall this night comes to Winsor, and I must goe to the guard to officiate, as I am comanded when his excellency comes . . . .

“Your truly loveing freind and brother till death,

“JOHN COULTON, cler. under Capt. Cockram.<sup>4</sup>

“ffrom my quarters at Colebrook, Octob. 22nd, 1643.

“To his very loveing freind Samuell Jeakes at his fiather’s house in Rie, present these with trust I pray.”

TAKING OF ARUNDELL CASTLE. COULTON TO JEAKE.

“Most deare, loveing, and kind freind and brother in Jesus Christ; my most dutyfull love unto you all in generall, and unto yourselfe in perticular salutation. In this time of my retyrement I hold it my duty to give you an acompt of our proceedings since I last saw you. That Saturday I came from Rie, I marched to Robert Rolfe’s house at Mayfeild, wheare I quartered all night; the next day we marched to Poartslaid and there quartered. On Christmas day we came to Shoareham, and about eleaven a clocke seriant Rolfe shott off a carabine and withal his thumbe. I stayed with him all Tuesday and saw him in some goad posture, and soe I went to my colours; and after some time spent in seekeing them, I found them at Arundell, with all our Regiment upon the guard, it being our turne to be the out guard on the Comon, soe we remained on Berey hill all that night, and the next day about 6 a clocke we sent out a party of horse, myselfe being one, and Tho. Carew another, to discover Hopton, wheare we found him at Petersfeild, seven miles beiond Medhurst, we facing his scouts; and soe safely returned (close by there quarters all alonge), all of us verely safe, our God be praised; we gave inteligence to our Generall: myselfe lead on the party; the returne of us was the next day about 10 a clocke; ourselves and horse had noe meat but a peece of bread and cheese, and our horses, while we eate it, had hay nott halfe an houres time; prise your fireside comforts,

<sup>4</sup> For the proceedings of Capt. Cockram and his Rye troop, see *Sussex Arch. Col-lections*, Vol. V. pp. 51-99.

you know nott the hardships of warr ; nay, though it be in a flowing County as is Sussex. These things being thus, true nuse came that in Hampshire Coll. Newton had taken 800 prisoners, 140 horse, and kild 100 of Hopton's men ; good nuse and true nuse. A little before Sir William took 845, kiled 120, 300 horse, and brought them into Ffarnham Castle from Olton, all these of Hopton's 4000 men, as is said he had noe more. The enemy atempted Bramber bridge, but our brave Carleton and Evernden with his Dragoones, and our Coll. horse welcomed them with drakes and musketts, sending some 8 or 9 men to hell (I feare), and one trooper to Arundell Castle prisoner, and one of Capt. Evernden's Dragoones to heaven ; all this while the enemy held the castle, and a party seised Wiston house, within a mile of Bramber bridge ; butt att last Sir William comeing and tooke Arundell Towne with 140 prisoners to boote, wheareof 60 beare Armes for the Parliament, the rest are sent to London ; our Wiston Cavaileirs left the house and fled for their lives, and in their march at Ffindon left 3 carts loaden with plunder, the which we with a party of 12 horse, we fetched home, and refreshed our weary souldiers ; these things being by the Lord's hand done, my Coll. advanced to Arundell, leaveing at Shoareham Capt. Temple, at Bramber Capt. Ffuller and Capt. Evernden ; and after we weare sent to our quarters onely one regiment of horse a night guardeth the army ; trained bands came in Hampshire, sent in souldiers, and brave Capt. Dyke with his men and 700 dragoones, and 4 troopes of horse, all out of Kent ; Coll. Beare came with 12 troops from his excelency ; all which remained with us ; 2 regiments are on march from London, towards us of the trained bands, and 2 regiments of auxelaries ; soe that God will deliver us by strength ; we have strength enough. Tell widow Dod I eat and drink with both her brother William and John, they are very well ; onely my unkle Pye wants his feather bed to sleep on. Our men plyed them still in the Castle with alarmes, soe that they had noe sleep all the while they held the Castle ; soe often atempted it to feare them, butt noe good it did them butt hardened them ; the souldiers moved to yeild us the Castle, but was denyed ; Fford putt it one day to a voat whether his souldiers would yeild or noe, they answered noe, onely 6 ; they threw them over the walls,

and they came to us, whoe we used curteously, and now they beare armes, and by them we know their strength. They had noe bread, only each souldier had 2 sponefulls of soden wheat a day, beef they had enough; att last Sir William fired some granadoes which feared them much and brought them to a parley last Ffryday, Jan. 5, and on Saturday they yeilded themselves and Castle to Sir William's mercy; there was prisoners in the Castle sick and well, 1400 men, 6 chiefe Commanders, Coll. Fford, Sir Edw. Bishop, with their starved ladies, Coll. Bramston and 4 Coll. more whose names I know nott, and Sir William Goareing, all which are in prisons according to their ranks; we are provideing to cary them to London; I hope the Parliament will provide gallows for Fford and Bishop. What will become of us I know nott. We have fortified Arundell as strong as ever you saw a thing. It is worth notcing to see how our Easterne Gentry come to Comfort our power Collonell, and to shew their thankfulnes to our noble Waller. I shall write their number in figures, nott thousands, except three  $\overline{000}$  ciphers will doe it. Thus Christian brethren, you se Jacob's God never said to you, Seeke ye me in vaine, you se answered praier comes home crowding; unto you praying soules heaven begins to be gracious; the lord awakes as a man from his wine; soe now look for deliverance and hope our God hath now begun deliverance, and feare it will be done before we be fitt for deliverance; bleeding harts cheare up, your God will work for you, and fight both for you and us; soe do begin to advertise you that the Lord hath never lett our enemies prosper since the Cesa-tion in Ireland, neither can they except word faill and promises faill, butt they cannott, our God hath said it; stay your faith and I pray you remember him in your praier whoe hath vowed himselfe an orator for you, I cannott omitt one thing; imediately after the yeilding of the Castle, 3 holonders rune aground, a Dunkirk man of war richly laden with Hollands and lockrams,<sup>5</sup> and threed Plush, with 24 piece of ordnance; the holonder perceiving us neare (it was 3 miles from Shoareham) they onely desired the ship, and gave Sir William Waller the prize, the which they have, and now carts are carying it to Arundell;

<sup>5</sup> Lockrams, a kind of coarse linen, traded in them.—(MS. accounts.)  
from Morlaix, in France. S. Jeake, Jun.,

its hoped the Generall will furnish Arundell Castle with Gunns, butt this mercy made our men break sabath, and soe instead of thankfulnes for the Castle it proved a snaire unto us to cause us to prophane the sabath. Thus I have given you an acompt of what I promised you ; my paper bids me break of ; comend me to all my deare freinds, and I shall for ever rest your brother in Christ,

“JOHN COULTON, Cler. under Captaine William Morley.  
 “Ffrom my quarters at South lanceing, January 8th, 164 $\frac{3}{4}$ .  
 “To his verey loveing freind, Mr. Samuel Jaques, at his house in Rie, Sussex, presente these.”

In addition to the particulars of Waller's attack upon Arundel Castle, printed in the *Sussex Arch. Collections*, Vol. V. p. 61, we find in the *Kingdoms Weekly Post*, No. 2, under date of 1st January, 1643-4, the following account:—“We do not yet hear that Arundel Castle is delivered up to Sir William Waller, but Sir William hath made another onset upon it, in which fight Col. Ramsey is slain, whose death is much lamented, but it is believed they cannot hold out long. A letter from Sir William Waller to the Parliament doth certify that he had a very considerable army, and did no way stand in need of more forces, for he had sufficient already, but rather a supply of monies, and that he had intercepted a messenger which was sent from the Castle to the Lord Hopton, that, except relief came within five days, they must be forced to deliver up the Castle, which may very well be believed, because they want bread already, the pipes are out, which straightens their water, and they want hay for their cattle, and to kill them would help them little, because they have not salt, and they are almost 1000 persons, so that in few days more will appear.”

#### ADDRESS TO FAIRFAX, THE LORD GENERAL.

In a letter sent by SAMUEL JEAKE, and some others to the Lord General Fairfax, the following requests were made:—

“We earnestly crave that amongst y<sup>e</sup> midst and multiplicity of your weighty agitations, these our few petitionary proposalls may have admission into your serious thoughts,

which out of our faithfull affection to your honour and tender care of y<sup>e</sup> weale of y<sup>e</sup> Republique we as humbly as earnestly remonstrating both declare and desire,

“first, that as we do fully adhere to y<sup>e</sup> late Remonstrance and are resolved to venture lives and fortunes in defence of y<sup>e</sup> Army in y<sup>e</sup> just prosecution of it; so doe we desire that no delays (as conceiving them altogether unsafe) may be admitted therein.

“2ly. Considering that want of care and vigilaney (as well as fidelity) in Committees and others be-trusted with publique affaires hath beene y<sup>e</sup> seminary of many evils to this kingdome, we intreat that care may be taken to refine them, and that such as shall in any waies be obstructers of justice either by opposing it, or not improving their intrusted power to that purpose may be excluded, and also that y<sup>e</sup> like sedulity may be used in removing y<sup>e</sup> Committee of Accompts and appointing others in their places they being such whose endeavours are more to ensnare then to advance the publique good.

“3ly. The Kingdomes groaning under y<sup>e</sup> burden of free-quarter and (yet) unreasonable taxes, occasioned by y<sup>e</sup> unfaithfull dealing of those entrusted with y<sup>e</sup> publique treasure, requires (as we humbly conceive) some exquisite search, and those being found that have anyway abused y<sup>e</sup> state by such fraudulent practises, as to designe y<sup>e</sup> publique treasure to their private advantage deserve to be severly dealt withall.

“4ly. Minding the nakedness of these marine parts and the great dangers we lie exposed to, if any new commotions (which God forbid) should breake forth, we earnestly sue that some carefull provision may be made for y<sup>e</sup> seacoast, and especially neare this place y<sup>e</sup> better to strengthen y<sup>e</sup> hands of y<sup>e</sup> kingdomes friends and to prevent (at present) unthought of mischiefs.

“5ly. Being grieved to heare y<sup>e</sup> slanderous aspersions y<sup>e</sup> Army is and hath beene loaded with, notwithstanding its desert to y<sup>e</sup> contrary; we heartily desire that all such as shall be knowne to asperse them or to act or speake against their proceedings in reference to y<sup>e</sup> execution of justice and righteousness may be brought to condigne punishment.

“6ly. The principall Actors in and Abettors of our miserable differences by reason of connivance in some, alliance in others,

with other such wiseblinding bribes, have regained strength to rally againe and againe, when we had well hoped they were irrecoverable: wherefore we humbly intreat your Honour that some Commissioners may be appointed to find out y<sup>e</sup> Actors and fomentors of y<sup>e</sup> late warre and bringing in of y<sup>e</sup> Scots and being found to secure them or otherwise, without superficiall dealing in matters of this concernment, yet a speciall care to be had of the non-oppressing their families.

“ 7ly. Because of the distance of this and many other Garrisons from y<sup>e</sup> Head quarters, and y<sup>e</sup> necessity of intelligence from thence to animate y<sup>e</sup> Souldiery and well affected residing therein, to joyne with and in defence of y<sup>e</sup> just proceedings of y<sup>e</sup> Army; we therefore humbly beseech, that there may be an impartiall communication of y<sup>e</sup> actions of y<sup>e</sup> Army to y<sup>e</sup> respective Garrisons y<sup>t</sup> shall remonstrate with them by such actors as each Garrison shall to that purpose appoint, and y<sup>t</sup> all such of y<sup>e</sup> countrey as either have or shall shew themselves worthy to be confided in may be put into a posture of defence.”

Without date or signature, but probably written in June, 1647, when petitions from Essex, Bucks, Herts, Norfolk, and Suffolk, and Rutland (copies of which are to be found in the King's Pamphlets) were presented to the Lord General at St. Alban's. Another portion of the Sussex men differed from Jeake, and, on 9th June, 1647, presented by Sir Wm. Culpeper to the House of Commons, a petition praying for a safe treaty with the King, and the payment and disbanding of the army under Fairfax. Surrey and Kent took the same course, and open disturbances took place in the latter county.<sup>6</sup>

*Election for Rye Town in 1661.*

SAMUEL GOTT,<sup>7</sup> ESQ., OF BATTLE, TO SAMUEL JEAKE.

“ Sir,—I am credibly informed that Mr. Spencer is lately dead, and that suddenly a writt will come down to your town

<sup>6</sup> On 16th June, about 500 men rose in the King's cause at Horsham, seized arms, and put themselves in training. A copy of the petition is in the King's Pamphlets.

<sup>7</sup> Mr. Gott had represented Winchelsea at the close of the Long Parliament; Sussex in 1656; and Hastings in 1658. He was a commissioner for ejecting scandalous and insufficient ministers, 1654, and for the

with another letter for a new election of some person chosen for you, though I suppose such an election ought to be first by the understanding and knowledge and then by will and consent, and that they who chose they know not whom, doe they know not what, I can offer nothing in myselfe which may countervaile the tentation, unless others find that in themselves which may prevail against it. I know very well to whom I write, and you know me and the towne. I wholly depend upon your advice whither it be fitt for me to appear in it and promise you to act accordingly one way or other with an equal satisfaction. If you approve of it I shall only give this advice, to ingage as many as you may which will be a fair answer to others who come after. As for the Maior, I hope I may spare his vote, though he be my assured friend. I pray represent so much of this letter as you think fitt to my good friends Mr. Bennett, Mr. Miller, Mr. Key, and to Mr. Allen [the then vicar].<sup>8</sup> I hope among you you will give me the best advice you can; and if you satisfy your own consciences I have satisfied mine. I desire to hear from you, and am,

“Your affectionate friend,

“SAMUEL GOTT.

“London, Oct. 8, 1661.

“I desire your town would only remember the memorable examples of the 3 last Maoris of Winchelsea.

“For my worthy friend Mr. Samuel Jeake at Rye.”

SAMUEL GOTT TO S. JEAKE.

“Sir,—I have received yours by the bearer heerof, and though I did not intend to have been present at the election, yet upon this summons would have appeared if Providence had not hindred me by a casual blow on my knee with a stone which happened this morning as I was walking in the street going to take water, by a waterman throwing it at another. I thank God I am not very ill, but fear least riding and the

Sussex assessment of 1656, and was buried at Battle, 18th Dec. 1671. There is no entry in the Journals of the writ on Col. Spencer's death. See also *Sussex Arch. Collections*, Vol. V. p. 96. In 1667, the

other member, Mr. Herbert Morley, died, and a new writ was ordered, 10th Oct.

<sup>8</sup> See *Arch.* vol. xxxvii. p. 1, for an account of John Allen, and some interesting letters on the last plague in London.

cold may produce some inconvenience to me. Sir John Robinson<sup>9</sup> is my friend whom I should not have opposed if he had either told me of it before or wrote to me since; but understanding how farr I have ingaged my friends, and they me, I can neither with honor nor honesty desert them, and shall ever prefer the good affections of your Towne before any particular friend whatsoever, yea before any considerations of myselfe, which I shall sufficiently demonstrate by insisting or desisting as you and the rest of my good freinds shall think fitt, referring myself wholly to your directions herein, and to this purpose I have heer inclosed sent a Letter to Maior, Jurates, and Comminalty, which I desire you to peruse, and if occasion require to send it by John Hedger to the Maior, being sealed, the same day on which the election shall be, which I doubt, if the writt be not delivered, will not be very sudden; and if I were at Rye I doe verily beleeve it would not be delivered while I should be present or had promised to desist. I hartily thank all my good freinds, well knowing what tentations they may have to the contrary, and which I much doubt whither others would resist, which doth highly ingage me to adhere to them, and assure them that I am,

“Your and their true freind and servant,

“SAMUEL GOTT.

“For my worthy friend Mr. Samuel Jeake, at Rye.”

No date, but amongst the series of letters of 1661.

S. JEAKE TO S. GOTT, ESQ.

“Sir,—Though I doubt not but by an abler pen you have beene ere this informed of your unhappy misse of the elecon here, yet I thought it not only my duty, but out of that respect I beare to you also, to give you a line or two touching y<sup>e</sup> same. Y<sup>e</sup> messenger sent hence to you on Thursday returned not with your letters till Monday night following, by reason of which delay Sir John’s party had too confidently possest some weake sighted freemen that you had desisted, and on y<sup>e</sup> Lord’s day prevailed with one to desert your interest, and on y<sup>e</sup> Monday discouraged another. And a great blocke

<sup>9</sup> Lieutenant of the Tower of London.



in y<sup>e</sup> way was this; before anything was knowne of Col. Spencer's death, our corporacion growing thinne, 8 new freemen were voted in, in case they would pay such sumes of money as was imposed on them; now when Sir John's party saw they could feast away nor discourage no more of your party, nor by threats to some, or flatterys to others winne any assurance of their votes who had not declared for either side, they posssest Sir John that Mr. Maior might call an Assembly and make not only those new ffreemen aforesaid but also others for whom Sir John privately would as was intimated have paid their fines for them, and although no such practise was ever done here in our remembrance upon an eleccion, yet so strongly had they informed Sir John thereof that in case it were not done, or that you had the eleccion y<sup>e</sup> whole cause would have beene attributed to Mr. Maior, who thereby was in a very great straight to put either on irregularities or hazard of Sir John's perpetuall displeasure, which, though possibly might not have effected much, yet to a timorous spirit might be much dreaded. This project did much trouble some of your friends here, knowing y<sup>e</sup> evill consequence of filling y<sup>e</sup> corporacion with such ffreemen which now is scarce equally balanced; yet the former discouragements prevailing by the tarrying of the messenger, this project came to nothing on Monday at y<sup>e</sup> Assembly, though warned for y<sup>e</sup> purpose; but a reserve was had (as I found out) that if your party that they had prevailed on to be absent should come to y<sup>e</sup> Hall at y<sup>e</sup> eleccion then y<sup>e</sup> ffreemen should be made, and some of them were attending there for that purpose when y<sup>e</sup> eleccion was, of which there was at last no need; for 2 of your party proving neutrall, we knew y<sup>e</sup> voices would be even and even, and then Mr. Maior who in such cases useth to have a casting voice would have concluded y<sup>e</sup> eleccion against you; this being knowne kept 2 more of your party from y<sup>e</sup> Hall; so as at y<sup>e</sup> eleccion their was 9 for you to 12 with Mr. Maior against you. I believe had you beene here or sent sooner y<sup>e</sup> case had beene otherwise, especially if you had written effectually to Mr. Maior, I also believe Sir John found such a tuggge now he will never attempt y<sup>e</sup> like here for y<sup>e</sup> future; besides his expenses of well nigh £100, he did greatly hazard it, and if he had feasted much longer would have done on

more than he did.<sup>10</sup> I am heartily sorry your expenses were fruitlesse, and yet hope you will entertaine wonted affections for your friends; had I oppertunity to see you, I could particularize more but am unwilling to trouble you with my scribbling, which though truly related yet I desire you as concerning me to be private and hope you will suspend jealousies of your particular friends till you more fully understand y<sup>e</sup> premises, which I write y<sup>e</sup> rather because I heard as if some misinformacon had beene given you of my brother Key<sup>11</sup> and others.

“Wishing you health and happines I remaine

“Yo<sup>r</sup> very humble servant,

“S. JEAKE.

“Rye, Nov. 20th, 1661.”

<sup>10</sup> Treating was the common practice at this time. Mr. Robert Wharton, writing to Sir Gilbert Ireland about the Liverpool vacaney, on 12th Nov. 1670, says, “If you please to treat the towne, or any other way that may advance my election, shall very thankfully repay you.”—*Lan-*

*cashire and Cheshire Historical Society*, Sess. VI.

<sup>11</sup> Samuel Jeake's eldest sister Anne married for her second husband William Key, of Rye, and died 21st Sept. 1665. For a memoir of Samuel Jeake, see Hollo way's *History of Rye*, p. 550.

# INJUNCTIONS GIVEN TO THE PRIOR AND CONVENT OF BOXGRAVE, A.D. 1518.

COMMUNICATED

(FROM THE EXTRACTS MADE BY THE LATE J. B. FREELAND, Esq.,  
FROM THE EPISCOPAL REGISTER, SHERBURNE, 159)

BY THE REV. WILLIAM TURNER.

(TRANSLATED BY W. H. B.)

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“ROBERT, by Divine permission, Bishop of Chichester, to our beloved in Christ, the Prior of the Priory of Boxgrave, and to the Convent of the said place, health, grace, and blessing. Inasmuch as in our ordinary Visitation, held on the 7th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1518, we have learned, partly from the evidence of the fact, partly from the admission of the parties, partly by testimony, that there are some matters to be reformed there to the glory of God, and the increase (*augmentum*) of religion, We, setting God before the eyes of our mind, enjoin you, my Lord Prior, diligently to watch over the care committed to you, especially in spiritual matters, and that this injunction should not appear obscure to you, we have thought it right to specify it in particular articles as follows:—

“In the first place, we enjoin you on the bond (*vinculo*) of your obedience that the number of your brother monks be filled up, as soon as you are able, according to your foundations and the faculties of the priory.

“Also, in the second place, that tolling the bell for Primes (*pulsacio ad primam*) should take place at the due hour, and that the elders as well as the younger, no lawful impediment interfering, should walk to this service by two and two, both in going and returning, and thus henceforth that the whole day should be spent to the praise, glory, and honor of God Almighty, according to the rules and constitutions of your holy predecessors.

Thirdly, That the said honor of God may be observed more inviolably, we enjoin you to appoint from your fellow-monks the one most ripe and most perfect, who may assiduously

instruct the novices and others who are ignorant of the rules, constitutions, and ceremonies of religion in those things which belong to divine services, that they may know by heart the Psalter of David, and other things which belong to the canonical hours. Let him, moreover, instruct them always to attend to the observance and ceremonies of religion, and that they should have their countenances, as they walk, cast down to the earth, or reverently raised to a crucifix; that they should also all sing at the same time lowly, devoutly, and methodically, blessing God with one voice.

“Fourthly, That your fraternity should provide that the novices should have outward and inward garments according to the propriety and decency of their order, and should take care not only that these should be had, but should teach that when torn, broken, or defaced with stains, they should be kept clean, and that they should learn, even by punishment if needful, that their own things should be preserved.

“Fifthly, That all wearing the monastic dress should eat at the same time, should listen to the sacred lessons, should sleep at the same time, and rise at the same time, should keep silence in places of silence, should with their own hands clean out and keep cleaned their own cells and places of silence, unless, perchance, it can be provided by some convert who might unburden them from these and other works, and that they should sit in the same cells according to the regulations of their order.

“Sixthly, That they should never be unemployed (*vacui*), lest the devil should find them idle, and that they should have gardens in which to labor with bodily exercise, and to refresh themselves, provided always that the gardens planted with trees should be made pure from briars, nettles, clods, mounds, and other uncleanness, the refuse of the place, and should be brought into order and an agreeable pleasantness of recreation, and when so brought should always be kept in order by the cloistered brethren themselves (*per ipsos claustrales*).

“Seventhly, We enjoin you, my Lord Prior, on the bond of your obedience, that your brethren, after the receipt of this present, should not wander outside the enclosure of the priory, without your license or that of your sub-prior, and that they should not have such license without just and reasonable

cause, and that every one should then have with him one of his fellow-monks, or, if that cannot conveniently be, some one serious man who may act as a witness of his conversation.

“ Eighthly, That they should rest contented with their diet, and that they should wholly abstain from drinkings or feasting together or other gluttonies, and from vain talkings together ; namely, breakfasting (*dejujunando*) at the ninth hour, dining at the eleventh hour, supping at the fifth hour, and making a collacion according to the requirement of their order, afterwards that they should wholly withdraw themselves either to sleep, contemplation, or study.

“ Ninthly, We desire you, on the penalty above named, to cause your said fellow-brethren to be provided at the fitting hours by certain officers with bread, drink, and competent and wholesome diet, so that there should be altogether no right of complaint given them, provided always that they never eat nor drink outside the refectory or the place of mercy (*extra locum misericordie*), except for some honest and lawful cause to be approved by you or your sub-prior.

“ Tenthly, That kinsmen of the monks, or strangers arriving, should be received honourably by consent of the prior, according to the faculties of the priory, and the condition of those thus coming in.

“ Eleventhly, That they should regard the refectory according to the rules of Saint Benedict, in eating, reading, keeping silence, and other ceremonies of the order.

“ Twelfthly, That the dormitory should be cleansed from the ordure of the place, should be lighted up, and should be brought to evenness (*ad equalitatem reducatur*), and should be made orderly in its pavements or boards, and that each one of your fellow-brethren should have in his own cell a small window (*fenestrellam*) agreeably to the custom of the order, through which it may be perceived whether he lives in obedience to the rules, and keeps it clean and decent.

Thirteenth, We will and also ordain that your common seal moreover should be kept under three keys at the least, one of which we have determined should remain with the prior, a second with the sub-prior, and a third with the eldest of your fellow-monks, to be kept faithfully by them ; prohibiting moreover, on pain of greater excommunication, any-

thing in any manner to be sealed with the said common seal, unless the letter thus to be sealed shall have been previously read, inspected, and also maturely understood by the greater and older part of the whole convent, and that the consent of the greater part should be given for such sealing, since from such a method many expenses may probably arise; remarking that, since we are such neighbours to you, you can consult with us in any difficult matters to be sealed by you, for the welfare and strengthening of the said priory, which, from the information of many persons, we understand to have suffered great loss and diminished rents from want of such a provision.

Also, you, my Lord Prior, should not maintain useless servants, but only those who are necessary in the offices, or cultivating the fields.

“Also, that once in the year there should be made an account of all the receipts and expenses of the household of the said priory, and it should be entered in a parchment book for the memory of future persons, and in the said book should be inserted all repairs, and should be brought to a sum total.

“Also, that an inventory should be made both of moveables and immoveables belonging to the said priory, and that the condition of the place should be laid open every year, both before us and before your fellow-brethren, within eight days after the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and that you, my Lord Prior, to clear your responsibility in that particular, should signify in what things and how much the priory has increased under your administration, and that book should be replaced in some safe place fitted for the purpose, for the memory of yourself and others in future times.

“Also, as it is written, ‘it is not good to take the bread of our children and give it to dogs to eat,’ therefore we order that you should nourish no dogs, birds, or hawks, but that if any fragments should remain, they should be given to the poor.

“Also, inasmuch as public report has much noised it (*percrebuit*) that some of the monks, contrary to the holy and accustomed rule of their order, wear their hose lined (*caligis* *diploidibus*) and tied with many laces (which, however, we

have rather heard than believe), nevertheless, lest so detestable a custom should become established (which God forbid) we order and distinctly enjoin you, my Lord Prior, entirely and continually to abolish all things endeavoured contrary to the rules of the order in the aforesaid matters, and henceforth not to permit them in any manner to be done.

“Also, inasmuch as we have seen, by ocular proof (*oculata fide*) that you, my Lord Prior, have admitted into your order certain persons, whose fitness had not been examined by you, nor their worth or knowledge tested, whom also, after their assuming the dress of your order, you in no way at all instructed, or took care to have instructed, We, on that account, order you not to presume in any way to admit others without our knowledge, under penalty of the broadest (*latis-sime*) excommunication.

“Also, because you, my Lord Prior, are noted for an archer (*pro sagittario*) even outside the priory with laymen, and because you wear out the time, which ought to be your leisure for contemplation and wholesome reading, in vain forbidden sports and in unlawful matches (*illicitis contractibus*), we enjoin you, under penalty, that neither you nor your fellow-brethren contend in arrow-shootings in any way beyond the boundaries of the priory, so that, if for the sake of recreation that sport please you, it may be carried on secretly within the enclosure of the priory.

“Also, whereas there are certain offices which are usually done more by women than by men, such as, to wash linen suitably, to milk cows, to churn butter, and to make cheeses, we strictly order you, my Lord Prior, to provide for these and other works of this nature such persons, as from whom no suspicion could with probability arise, and that they should come to these duties appointed them at fitting hours, provided always that all the linen and other things necessary for them shall be carried to them by a man free from suspicion, and that all things got ready for the use of the priory in the said duties shall be brought in by the same man, so that they should have no opportunity of entering into the kitchen, hall, pantry, or other interior places of the said priory, in order to remove any sinister opinion which may by such occasions occur in such matters.

“Also, that your fellow-brethren shall not use games of dice or cards, or huntings, which are prohibited even to secular clerks by the holy canons.

“Also, that no drinkings or gossipings (*confabulationes*) or games take place in the church or cemetery, but when burials take place, if this is done within the church, the grave shall be immediately covered over with the former paving, until a proper covering-stone to be had can be provided.

“Also, because we incessantly suffer in these days, on account, as it is believed, of our sins, pestilences, together with other known and unusual affections of the air and the symptoms of diseases, We ordain and in ordaining determine that you, my Lord Prior, should excite your brethren to processions according to the necessity of the time, without waiting for the command of the ordinary.

“Also, because it is ascertained that the honor of the order, its rules, constitutions, ceremonies, and other observances, have long passed away into disuse among you, not without your great peril, my Lord Prior, We enjoin you, by the bond of obedience, diligently and effectually to watch, in the premises, and perhaps in other matters tending to the glory of your order omitted by us, and before the feast of the Nativity of our Lord to execute them with effect, so that in reward for your burdens you may be esteemed as a good shepherd in the sharp and terrible day of judgement.

“Also, We ordain that these injunctions shall be written in some large book to remain in the Chapter House, and that they be read once a month in chapter, also in the vulgar tongue, if needful, and that diligent enquiry be made as to keeping the matters before mentioned, so that a reform should be made in things not observed, lest the memory of them perish with their sound.

“Lastly, we protest in these writings, that if any injunction of ours above made should be opposed to the sacred canons, or the rules of Saint Benedict, we revoke it by the tenor of these presents, and wish it to be considered as not having been enjoined.”

Similar injunctions were given to the prior and convent of Tortington, of Hardham, of Shulbrede, of Michelham, of Hastyns.

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## ROTTINGDEAN CHURCH IN 1855.

BY THE REV. ARTHUR HUSSEY.

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IN July, 1855, was commenced the enlargement of this church by rebuilding the south aisle, destroyed at some unknown period centuries ago. The following observations were made during the progress of the works.

It was found that many interments had taken place within the area of the old aisle, one directly through the remains of the eastern wall, as well as of the altar, though, the width of the new aisle not equalling that of the old one, the precise extent of the latter was not ascertained, but, if former marks in the turf may be relied upon, it is supposed to have been about 25 feet. Of the churchyard south of the southern wall of the church a breadth of 15 feet was excavated for the new erection to the level of the interior of the church, this being below that of the original aisle, as proved by the existing remains, viz., the lower portion, of the ancient stone altar, the base of which was undermined. This altar was constructed merely of rough flints, and appeared never to have been even cased with ashlar. It was about 4 feet 8 inches wide, and the position was rather peculiar, never having been central, but standing 2 feet 8 inches from the exterior line of the nave wall, and 3 feet from a fragment of wall to the south. This fragment, after running a short distance (not measured) from east to west, turned at a right angle southward, but could not be traced in that direction farther than 3 feet, the limit of the excavation. On the removal of this wall, at the angle, near the foundation, a number of human bones were discovered, not lying in any order, but in utter confusion, proving that they must have been *re-interred* in this spot. From the fact of foundations extending westward from the above-mentioned angle, and from similar traces of a wall returning toward the

nave of the church, much short of what evidently was once the length of the old aisle, combined with the position of the altar, already alluded to, it seems a safe inference that the *original* adjunct to the church, whether it should be termed aisle or private chapel, was very small, and that it was enlarged during the Decorated period (the few remaining mouldings being in that style), when perhaps the relics of some person of consequence, possibly a founder or benefactor, were built into the wall in the manner just described. The fragment of wall near the altar is not unlikely to have formed part of a tomb, which, of course, would not have escaped when the aisle itself was destroyed. Though the excavation, as above noted, was carried below the ancient floor, it is rather remarkable that not a vestige of any pavement, not even a fragment of a paving tile, was observed.

When the arches blocked up in the south wall of the church (see *Notes on the Churches of Kent, Sussex, and Surrey*, p. 277) were reopened, it was found that the stone work was too seriously damaged to be trustworthy again, or to admit of reparation, wherefore, as the roof too required to be renewed, the whole was taken down and rebuilt. In breaking down this wall, the later portion *within* the arches proved to be much firmer and more difficult to separate than the older portion *above* them. Among the materials of this wall were a few fragments from some former construction, but nothing of any importance, nor of which the prior use was recognisable. One very small piece of stone had some *colour* upon it, and



Carved Bracket.



Lower Side of Bracket.

the shape suggested that it might have belonged to the ornamental part of, perhaps, a tomb. From the north-west angle of the church was extracted an elaborately decorated stone, which, manifestly, had originally been a bracket, the projecting part by which it had been originally fixed in the wall having been roughly squared off. The four sides, which would have been exposed to view, are covered with carving in one of the innumerable Norman patterns, but of which style no specimen is visible in the existing building, neither are these mouldings usual, if to be found, in England.

Very many stones of the old piers and arches had acquired such a red tinge to some depth from the surface (which also had been observed previously, and is still perceptible, in the arches and windows of the tower), and the defective stones split in such a peculiar manner (the cracks not appearing till the stones were removed from their position), as necessarily to suggest some operating cause beyond the ordinary effects of time; the foreman consequently submitted to the action of fire a piece of unstained Caen stone, the result of the experiment being that a precisely similar tint was produced to that so extensively prevailing in the church. This fact strongly confirms my impression, already pronounced (at *supra* 277, and, under Rye, 377), that the former aisle was *burned* down.

The original floor of this church was upon an inclined plane. The recent alterations allowed some opinion to be formed as to the amount of this inclination, and it was calculated that the east end of the nave was about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet higher than the sill of the western entrance; consequently, the total length of the nave being about 68 feet, the rise was 3-7ths of an inch in a foot, or about 1 in 28. The old piers between the nave and aisle were placed upon varying levels, the difference between the bases being 6 inches, descending westwards, another instance of which has been recorded in the account of Fletching Church (iv. 241).<sup>1</sup> The roof, likewise, was framed with an inclination from east to west, though this could be easily, and was, overlooked when viewed from beneath. It was, however, sufficiently evident from a little distance, more

<sup>1</sup> Of Portslade Church also the floor has a slight inclination westwards. (*Notes on Churches, &c.*, 269.)

particularly when the new work was advanced far enough for its own horizontal line to be contrasted with the sloping one of the old building.

One grand defect of our early ecclesiastical architecture was the slight care very frequently bestowed upon securing a good foundation, instances having occurred where it could be ascertained that the walls had even been erected immediately upon the natural turf. Appearances indicate that this may have been the case at Worth Church, the walls commencing, as may be seen on the north side, with a course of boulder-stones, such as might, probably, be collected in the neighbouring forest. Though somewhat more skill had been exerted at Rottingdean, the original foundations are so shallow that, in levelling the floor of the nave, the earth had been removed lower than the base of the tower, wherefore, had the soil been any other than solid chalk or rock, it is by no means unlikely that the improvers of 1818 might have occasioned the fall of the tower upon the body of the church.

It may be added, that the cheerful co-operation of the inhabitants of the village and their friends permitted advantage to be taken of the opportunity for effecting the very great improvement of replacing all the remaining sash windows by others in accordance with the character of the building; though it is to be regretted, that the correction of former anomalies was not completely carried out.

SUBSIDY ROLL, COLLECTED WITHIN THE RAPE  
OF LEWES, 19 JAMES I., A.D. 1621.

COMMUNICATED BY W. S. ELLIS, Esq.<sup>1</sup>

\* \* \* \* \* Certificate indented made the xxth daye of September, in the nyneteenth yeer of the rayne of the moste gracious Souvraigne Lord Jeames, by the grace of God of Englande, Ffrance, and Scotlande Kyнге, Defender of the Faith, &c., and of Scotlande the five and fiftieth, witnesseth that wee, Sir Walter Covert, Sir Edward Culpeper, knightes, and Richard Amherst, Esquire, Commissioners amongst others assigned by our Souvraigne Lord the Kinge, in the said Countye of Sussex, for the assessinge, taxing, and levienge of the first paiem<sup>t</sup> of the seconde subsedye granted to our said Souvraigne Lord Kinge Jeames, of the layetie, by Acte of Parliamente, in the eighteenth yeere of his Ma<sup>ties</sup> raigne, have executed that service within the said Rape of Lewes, in the said Countye of Sussex, w<sup>ch</sup> said Rape wee have assigned and nominated John Stapley, of Twyneham, gent., high collector for the wholle taxacon of the said Rape, and have taken his obligation for answeringe the money apointed to his collection to the use of our said Souvraigne Lorde the Kinge, accordinge to the forme of the saide Acte.

LEWES BURROWE.

Mr. Richard Amherst, esquire, in landes . . . . .	xviii. xlijs. viij <i>d</i> .
Mr. Edward Amherst, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d</i> .
Richard Glover, in landes . . . . .	xls. vs. iiij <i>d</i> .
Mrs. Elizabeth Cheynie, widow, in landes . . . . .	vli. xiijs. iiij <i>d</i> .

<sup>1</sup> From the original MS. roll in his possession.

Walter Dollegge, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Mr. Henry Peeke, in landes . . . . .	xls. vs. viij <i>d.</i>
John Rowe, gent., in landes . . . . .	xls. vs. viij <i>d.</i>
Richard Crane, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Robert Gaymer, gent., in goodes . . . . .	ii <i>l.</i> vs.
Mrs. Margaret Morley, widow, in landes . . . . .	xls. vs. iiij <i>d.</i>
Joane Ffaukner, widow, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Mr. George Bindles, in goodes . . . . .	ii <i>l.</i> vs.
Mr. Roberte Bindles, in landes . . . . .	xls. vs. viij <i>d.</i>
Richard Knighte, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
John Streater, in landes . . . . .	ii <i>l.</i> vs.
John Mathewe, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
William Browne, in landes . . . . .	ii <i>l.</i> viijs.
Henry Rose, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Thomas Snatt, <sup>1</sup> in landes . . . . .	xxxxs. iiij <i>d.</i>
Raphe Bristoe, gent., in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
John Holter, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Richard Martin, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Mr. William Heathe, in landes . . . . .	iiij <i>l.</i> xs. viij <i>d.</i>
Richard Nuton, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
John Dufell, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Peter Raie, alien p. polle . . . . .	iiij <i>d.</i>
George Seager, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
William Dodson, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Roberte Otringham, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
John Perce, in landes . . . . .	xxxxs. iiijs.
Samuell Midmore, in landes . . . . .	xxs. ijs. viij <i>d.</i>
Thomzin Dawson, widowe, in lands . . . . .	xxxxs. iiijs.
Mr. Jeames Warnet, in landes . . . . .	xxxxs. iiijs.
William Ffoster, in lands . . . . .	xls. vs. viij <i>d.</i>
John Bayley, in lands . . . . .	xxs. iis. viii <i>d.</i>
George Mathewe, in landes . . . . .	xxs. iis. viii <i>d.</i>
Roberte Sparkes, in landes . . . . .	xxs. iis. viii <i>d.</i>
Christopher Warren, in landes . . . . .	xxs. iis. viii <i>d.</i>
Mrs. Anne Goringe, widowe, in landes . . . . .	iv <i>l.</i> xs. viii <i>d.</i>
John Margerom, in goodes . . . . .	iii <i>l.</i> vs.

<sup>1</sup> A family of this name lived at Hutton, co. Kent, in the seventeenth century (*vide* Thorp's *Registrum Roffense*, p. 872), who, with those of Sussex, were probably descended from William de Snaith, Chau-

cellor of the Exchequer to Edward III., whose descendant William Snaith was sheriff of Kent 9 Henry IV. (*vide* Hasted's *Kent*, 2vo edit. iii. 537).

	s.	s.	d.
John Hentye, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Pernell, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Cowlestocke, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
John Booker, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Edward Turle, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Bloomer, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Hollingdale, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Gersham Bailey, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Mr. Edward Henshawe, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
William Read, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Bexhill, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Mr. Clement Athurst, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Mrs. Hocherk, widowe, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Mr. Walter Dubbell, <sup>2</sup> in lands . . . . .	£5	13	4
Mr. John Aylum, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Richard Kidder, in goods . . . . .	£3	5	0
John Shurley, esq., in landes . . . . .	£4	10	8
Mrs. Frances Shurley, widow, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Mrs. Catheryne Wood, widowe, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Edward Fitharber, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Henry Godman, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Olyver, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
<i>Sessors.</i> Richard Shelley, gent., in goodes . . . . .	£4	6	8
„ William Thomas, gent., in landes . . . . .	£4	10	8
„ Thomas Trayton, gent., in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ William Clagget, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
„ Henry Stonestreat, <sup>3</sup> in goods . . . . .	£3	5	0
Som'	£46	19	8

## SOUTHOVER BURROWE.

Henry Shelley, esqr., in goodes . . . . .	£4	6	8
William Nuton, esqr., in landes . . . . .	40	5	8

<sup>2</sup> Adam de Dubel occurs in the Subsidy Roll for the Rape of Lewes, A.D. 1297, published in Vol. II. of *Sussex Arch. Coll.*, and Henry Dubyll in the *List of Gentry of Kent*, A.D. 1433.

<sup>3</sup> This family derived its name from Stanestreet, a hamlet in Charing, co.

Kent, where was a Roman way. Robert Stanstreet of Ivychurch, and Laurence Stanstreet of Maidstone, occur in the *List of Gentry of Kent*, 1433; and Richard de Stanestreet was M.P. for Horsham, A.D. 1313.

	s.	s.	d.
John Michell, <sup>4</sup> gent., in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Jeames Plomer, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
Thomas Russell, <sup>5</sup> in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Mrs. Elphicke, widowe, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Lane, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Roger Cobie, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Adams, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Mathewe Parker, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Henry Sparkes, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Kidder, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Alcock, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Earle, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Thomas Heneage, gent., in goods . . . . .	£3	5	0
„ Samuell Towers, gent., in lands . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ John Knowles, gent., in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Petrie Collector,</i> Nicholas Russell, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' £3. 15s. 8d.			

## BARKHAM AND HAMSEY HUNDRED.

## BARKHAM.

Edward Brooke, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Widowe Burtinshall, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Edward Skynner, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
William Rootes, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Wickerson, <sup>6</sup> in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Heseman, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas West, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Bodle, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Thomas Michelborne, gent., in lands . . . . .	40	5	4
„ Henrye Hesman, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
„ William Atree, in lands . . . . .	40	5	4
„ John Earle, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Som' 48s.			

<sup>4</sup> There are several pedigrees of families of this name in Berry's *Sussex Genealogies*, all apparently of one stock, and bearing the same arms, viz., a chevron between 3 escallops; but the original coat of this wide-spread indigenous Sussex family was probably a chevron between 3 eagles, which were borne by the Michells

of Cornwall, as the eagle was the bearing of their progenitor Gilbert de Acquila. (*Vide Sussex Arch. Coll.* VI. 88.)

<sup>5</sup> Hugh Russell occurs in the *Nonarum Inquisitiones* for BRIGHTHELMSTONE.

<sup>6</sup> This is probably the same as "Wickersham," the name of a Sussex family.



## NEWICK.

	s.	s.	d.
Mr. John Michelbourne, in landes	20	2	8
William Carpenter, in landes	30	4	0
Thomas Nuncham, in lands	20	2	8
Richard Berrie, in landes	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> John Kyllinor, in lands	£3	8	0
„ William Delve, in landes	30	4	0
„ Robert Chatfield, in landes	40	5	8
„ Thomas Dapp, in landes	20	2	8
„ John Nuncham, in landes	20	2	8

Som' 34s. 8d.

## HAMSEY.

Sir Thomas Hendle, knighte, in landes	£12	32	0
Fromabove Hendle, gent., in lands	30	4	0
John More, in landes	20	2	8
Thomas Hawkins, in landes	20	2	8
John Cowlestocke, in lands	20	2	8
John Constable, in landes	30	4	0
Robert Plomer, in landes	20	2	8
<i>Sessors, Petie Collectors.</i> John Comber, in landes	40	5	4
„ Wm. Marquicke, in landes	30	4	0
„ John Draper, in lands	30	4	0
„ John Alcock, in lands	20	2	8

Som' £3. 6s. 8d.

Som' of this whole hund' is £7. 9s. 4d.

## SWANBARROWE HUNDRED.

## KINGSTON.

<i>Sessors.</i> Mr. Edmund Booker, in landes	40	5	8
„ John Vynoll, <sup>7</sup> in goodes	£6	10	0

<sup>7</sup> The following notice of this family occurs in Harl. MSS. 1144 (Brit. Mus.) amongst the Grants of Arms, A.D. 1657:—"John Vinall, of Kingston, gent., is of good birth and anciently descended, which was the son of John, which was the son of William, which was the son of William of the same place and county, who was anciently descended from Vynehall in the said county." Their arms were *party per fesse or & sable, in chief 3 lions rampant sable, armed & langued*

*gules; their crest, a Demi-lion rampant erased sable; holding in its mouth a bezant.* There is a pedigree of the family in the Visitation for 1662. William Vinall of Kingston, gent., then living, married Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Dobell, of Street, Esq.; and, secondly, Mabella Davis, by whom he had William Vinall, who, by Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Gunn, Esq., had a son William, who was buried at Iford, 1773. The name was spelt originally Vynagh; and

	<i>s.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<i>Sessors.</i> William Ade, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
„ Thomas Barrenden, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Mr. Thomas Michell, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
John Towner, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Howell, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Ade, in lands . . . . .	30	4	0
John Pickham, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' 40 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>			

## IFORDE.

<i>Sessors.</i> Stephen Aridge, in goodes . . . . .	£4	6	8
„ Richard Aridge, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
„ Nicholas Parkhurst, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
John Frende, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Frances Maynarde, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' 19 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>			

Som' of this hundred is £3.

## HOLMSTROWE HUNDRED.

## RODMELL.

Richard Stonehouse, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Yeomans, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
John White, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Alchorne, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Mr. Laurence De la Chamber, in landes	£4	10	8
„ Frances ———, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
„ Thomas Marshall, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
„ Richard Ade, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' 34 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>			

## SOUTHEESE.

John Tester, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Dumbrell, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8

## TELSCOMBE.

<i>Sessors.</i> George Ockenden, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
„ Roberte Ade, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' xiv <i>s.</i> iiij <i>d.</i>			

in the Burrell MSS. there are copies of many of their deeds, the originals of which are in the British Museum. Vinc-

hall, as it is now spelt, whence they took their name, is in the parish of Sedlescombe.

## MEECHINGE.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Edward Tomsett, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Tuppen, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Widowe Allen, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Allen, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Allen, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Easton, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
John Easton, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Edwarde Russell, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Stephen Symms, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Hodson, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Peter Ga————— . . . . .	0		iiij <i>d.</i>
Som' 27 <i>s.</i>			

## PEDINGHOOE.

William Benett, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Robert Styles, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Jeames Yokehurst, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Henrye Lucas, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Tomsett, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Crane, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Acton, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' 18 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>			
Som' of this hundred, £4. 13 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>			

## YEONSMERE HUNDRED.

## FFALMERE.

Mr. Walter Dubble, in landes . . . . .	£4	10	8
Nicholas Yonge, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
William Boone, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Robert Howell, in goodes . . . . .	£4	6	8
Thomas Bearde, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Bearde, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Thomas Savidge, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
John Baldie, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Riche, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' xls.			

## O Vingden.

Thomas Geere, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Widowe Avourde, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8

	<i>s.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
<i>Petrie Collector</i> , Richard Dumbrell, in goodes	£3	5	0
Som' 10 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>			
Som' of this hundred is 50 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>			

## WHALESBONE HUNDRED.

## BRIGHTHELMSTON.

Peter Booker, in goodes	£3	5	0
Mr. Richard Scrase, in goodes	£5	8	4
Edward Myhill, senr., in goodes	£3	5	0
William Guilham, senr., in landes	30	4	0
Thomas Humfrey, in goodes	£3	5	0
Thomas Gunn, in goodes	£3	5	0
John Gunter, in goodes	£3	5	0
Thomas Kitchener, in landes	20	2	8
John Humfrey, in landes	20	2	8
Henry Howell, senr., in landes	20	2	8
Mr. Mathew Bishe, in landes	20	2	8
Thomas Worger, jun., in landes	20	2	8
Edwarde Harpur, in landes	20	2	8
William Gun, in landes	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Richard Mockford, in landes	20	2	8
„ Henry Killick, in lands	20	2	8
„ Henrye Soane, in lands	30	4	0
„ John Frende, sen., in lands	20	2	8
„ Thomas Jefferye, in landes	20	2	8
Som' £3. 10 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>			

## PATCHAM.

Anthony Stapley, esq., in landes	£8	21	4
John Gower, in landes	20	2	8
John Gorringe, in landes	20	2	8
Thomas Rawkins, senr., in landes	20	2	8
Richard Geeringe, in landes	20	2	8
Robert Hardman, in landes	20	2	8
Mr. Richard Scrase, in goodes	£5	8	4
Thomas Winchester, in landes	40	5	8
Richard Hardman, in landes	30	4	0
Thomas Rawkins, junr., in landes	20	2	8
Som' 45 <i>s.</i>			
Som' of this hundred is £6. 5 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>			

## PRESTON AND HOVE HUNDRED.

PRESTON.	s.	s.	d.
Thomas Shirley, esq., in landes . . . .	£6	16	0
Mr. Henry Shirley, esquire, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
HOOVE.			
Mrs. Scrase, widow, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Edward Ffowle, in landes . . . .	40	5	8
„ Robert Androse, in goodes . . . .	£3	5	0
„ Jeames Buckholl, in goodes . . . .	£3	5	0
Som' 36s. 8d.			

## FFISHERSGATE HALF HUNDRED.

HANGLETON.	£	s.	d.
Mr. John Puckle, in goodes . . . .	£6	10	0
John Edwardes, in landes . . . .	£3	8	0
Henry Owden, in landes . . . .	30	4	0
Thomas Ockenden, in landes . . . .	30	4	0
John Ampleford, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
Nicholas Hunter, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Barrowe, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
John Pollarde, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Abraham Edwards, gent., in landes . . . .	£4	10	8
„ Edward Blaker, in landes . . . .	£4	10	8
„ Henrye Savidge, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
„ John Collyer, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
Som' of this halfe hundred, £3. 3s. 4d.			

## POONINGES HUNDRED.

NEWTIMBER.	£	s.	d.
Sir Edward Bellingham, knighte, in landes . . . .	£20	53	4
Thomas Woodcock, gent., in landes . . . .	40	5	8

PIECOMBE.	£	s.	d.
Thomas Cowlestoeke, in landes . . . .	20	2	8
John Bellingham, gent., in goodes . . . .	£3	5	0
Edward Pelham, gent., in landes . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Toope, gent., in landes . . . .	30	4	0

PERCHING.	s.	s.	d.
William Marchante, <sup>8</sup> in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Nicholas Ffaukener, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Wakefield, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Scrase, in landes . . . . .	20	2	0
William Sappes, gent., in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	8
Phillip More, gent., in lands . . . . .	40	5	4
John Cheale, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0

Some of this hund', £5. 2s.

#### BUTTINGHILL, NORTH PARTE.

##### SLANGHAM.

Sir Walter Coverte, knighte, in landes	£50	£6	10	8
William Gatfer, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
John Bartley, in landes . . . . .		40	6	8
John Standen, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
John Steele, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
John Gatfer, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
Henry Yonge, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Jerrarde Wheeler, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
„ Edward Guilham, in landes . . . . .		30	4	0
„ Richard Hall, in landes . . . . .		30	4	0

Som' £8. 2s. 8d.

##### CUCKFIELD.

Mrs. Mary Hussey, widowe, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
Nathaniel Hussey, gent., in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Henry Alberrie, gent., in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
Roger Butler, gent., in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
John Bluet, gent., in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Hovenden, gent., in goodes . . . . .	£5	8	4
Nicholas Burte of Brantridge in lands . . . . .	£3	8	0
Richard Wickham, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
Henry Michell, <sup>9</sup> in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0

<sup>8</sup> Branches of this family lived at Albourne, Edburton, and Street. Thomas Marchant of Albourne, *temp.* Charles II., purchased the estate of Little Park, in Hurstpierpoint, which continued in that family till recently, when it was purchased by Mr. Hannington.

<sup>9</sup> Richard Mychell, by his charter dated

7 Edward I., granted to the prior and monks of St. Pancras, Lewes, lands in Cuckfield, called De la Monhell. A pedigree of Michell, of Cuckfield, was entered at the Visitation in 1634, and is printed in Berry's *Sussex Genealogies*, p. 346. There is also another of three descents in the Visitation of 1662.

	s.	s.	d.
Widowe Pickham, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Richard Parkes, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
Thomas Abott, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Tomsett, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Drew Cheale, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Hirste, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Robert Weekes, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Walter Holcombe, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Ffrances Scrase, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Walter Burte, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Ffaukener, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
John Robertes, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Edmunde Stanford, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
John Weller, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Jenner, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Anthony Atree, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Stephen Jupp, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Affield, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Spurlinge, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Garston, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Ashfould, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Blaker, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Robert Thorneden, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Martin, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Geere, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Patchinge, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Roberte Abott, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Lashemore, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Robert Stanbrige, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
John Burtenshall, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Bartley, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
George Jenken, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Ellis Jenner, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
„ William Woolridge, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
„ John Warden, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
„ Henry Gatlande, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8

Som' £8. 15s. 8d.

## WORTH.

Sir Jno. Smith, knight, in landes . . . . . £10 26 8

	s.	s.	d.
John Whitfield, esquire, in landes . . . . .	£8	21	4
Ambrose Wickham, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Balcombe, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
Nicholas Brooker, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Gardyner, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
George Goldsmith, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
Thomas Wood, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Tidham, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Peake, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Scessors.</i> Abraham Edwardes, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
„ Thomas Weeker, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
„ William Ownstead, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
„ John Elfick, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Som' £4. 10s. 8d.			

## CRAWLEY.

William Dodd, gent., in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
John Martin, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Giles Cuddington, <sup>10</sup> in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Jeale, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Jorden, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Thomas Nicholas, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Edwarde Sarredge, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' 25s. 4d.			

## BALCOMBE.

John Ffaukener, sen., in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
John Ffaukener, jun., in landes . . . . .	£4	10	8
William Illman, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Petie Collector, Scessors.</i> John Nuneham, in landes	30	4	0
„ Thomas Vynoll, in landes	20	2	8
Som' 25s. 4d.			

Some of this halfe hundred, £23. 19s. 8d.

## BUTTINGHILL, SOUTH PARTE.

## HURSTPERPOINTE.

Mr. John Thorpe, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
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<sup>10</sup> A family of this name, derived from Cuddington, in Surrey, flourished at an early period in that county; but in the reign of Henry VIII. the chief line re-

moved into another part of England. At the beginning of the present century there were persons of this name living at Charlwood, in Surrey.



	s.	s.	d.
Mr. Richard Challenor, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
John Dumbrell, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Thomas Luxford, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Jeames Mathewe, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Joane Bruer, widowe, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Marye Luxford, widowe, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Luxford, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Robert Whitepaine, junr., in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Lashmere, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Allen Savidge, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
John Butcher, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Smithe, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Edward Goffe, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Burte, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Edward Brooker, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Wickham, senr., in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Burtinshall, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Chatfield, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Cowlestocke, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Herriott, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Richard Gander, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Thomas Aveye, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
„ Robert Whitepaine, senr., in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
„ William Jorden, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
„ John Norton, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Som' £4. 10s. 8d.			

## KEEMER.

Frances Luxford, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
Richard Alcocke, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Holcombe, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Renfield, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> George Overye, in lands . . . . .	£4	10	8
„ George Luxford, gent., in landes . . . . .	£6	16	0
„ Thomas Turner, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Som' 46s. 8d.			

## CLAYTON.

Edwarde Michelbourne, esq., in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Edwarde Smith, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Frances Alexander, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8

	s.	s.	d.
Thomas Brasier, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Richard Beache, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
„ John Atrec, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
„ John Warde, in lands . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' xxjs. iiij <i>d.</i>			
Som' of this halfe hundred, vij <i>li.</i> viijs. viij <i>d.</i>			

## WYNDHAM, HALF HUNDRED.

## BOLNEY.

Sir Benjamyn Pellate, knighte, in landes . . . . .	£20	53	4
<i>Petrie Collector.</i> Richard Costedle, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
Barnard Burtenshall, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Jeames Wickham, in goodes . . . . .	£iiij	5	0
Thomas Faukener, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Henry Carpenter, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Humphrey Wales, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Lintott, junr., in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Alice Beard, widow, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Mr. Henrye Warde, in landes . . . . .	£4	10	8
„ Nicholas West, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
„ John Vincente, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
„ John Lintott, senr., in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' v <i>li.</i> ijs. iiij <i>d.</i>			

## TWYNEHAM.

Frances Killingbeck, clerke, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Walter Challenor, gent., in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Thomas Agate, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Frances Langford, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
William Holmer, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Butcher, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Josephe Langford, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Chatfield, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Frances Woolger, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>High Collector.</i> Mr. John Stapley, in landes . . . . .	£5	13	4
<i>Sessors.</i> Richard Butcher, senr., in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ Richard Butcher, junr., in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ Richard Parson, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8

Som' £3.

Som' of this half hundred, £8. 2*s.* 4*d.*

## STREATE, SOUTH PARTE.

## WEEVILSFIELD.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Thomas Elliott, esq., in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
Richard Dumbrell, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Hurste, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Atree, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Philip Jenner, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Thomas More, gent., in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ Thomas Godman, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ Walter Lucas, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
„ Edmunde Atree, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
„ Roberte Warren, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
Som'	52 <i>s.</i>		

## WESTMISTON.

Diones Pankhurste, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
<i>Petrie Collector, Sessors.</i> Nicholas Challenor, in goodes	£8	13	4
„ Frances Challenor, in landes	£4	10	8
„ William Michelborne, in landes	£4	10	8
„ Thomas Alcocke, in goodes	£4	6	8
Som'	49 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>		

## PLOMPTON.

John Holmewood, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Broomefield, <sup>11</sup> in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> John Maskeall, gent., in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
„ John Thetcher, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ John Pilven, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som'	21 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>		

## STREATE.

William Alee, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
John Martin, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Gregorye Pardone, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
„ Henry Crawley, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Edwarde Warcott, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Sisson, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som'	24 <i>s.</i>		

<sup>11</sup> A family of this name lived at Ewhurst and Udimore, one of whom married the heiress of French, of Chiddingly.

LOVELL. <sup>12</sup>	s.	s.	d.
Stephen Martin, in goodes . . . . .	£3	5	0
Thomas Pelling, <sup>13</sup> senr., in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
Thomas Pelling, junr., in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Walter Martin, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Henrye Pankhurst, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Killingbecke, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Leonard Savidge, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> John Chatfield, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
„ John Godlye, of Breanes, in landes . . . . .	40	5	8
„ Thomas Button, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
„ John Godlye, of Byneham, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
Som' 42s. 4d.			

DITCHENINGE.	s.	s.	d.
Stephen Pollington, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Henry Hider, <sup>14</sup> gent., in goodes . . . . .	£6	5	0
<i>Sessors.</i> Sackville Porter, gent., in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ William Gunn, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Som' 23s. 4d.			

CHAILYE.	s.	s.	d.
John Gatton, gent., in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Frances Paine, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Chatfelde, of the Greene, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Vynall, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Roberte Martin, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Stephen Frier, gent., in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
„ Richard Coleman, in landes . . . . .	£3	8	0
„ Nicholas Earle, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Som' 32s.			

Some of this halfe hundred, £12. 5s. 8d.

<sup>12</sup> This is probably a misnomer for the extinct parish of Loxfield, merged, it is supposed, in that of Westmeston.

<sup>13</sup> By an undated charter in the Register of Lewes Priory, Gilbert de Aele [Ockley, in Keymer], son of John de Aele, grants to *Reginald de Pelling* all his land called Hocland, in Lindfield. Witnessed by Richard de Petraponte, Ralph his brother, Warin de Kingston, William atte Bore, Philip de Aele, &c.

<sup>14</sup> The following claim to bear coat-

armour of this individual appears in the *Visitation of Sussex*, A.D. 1634:—"I, Henry Hider, of Ditchling, gent., do hereby promise at or before the last day of April to make proof of the arms that belong unto me at the Office of Arms in London. In witness whereof I here set my hand the 29th March, 1634. Signed 'Henry Hider.' The said Henry Hider doth openly disclaim any right to arms, descending to him from his ancestors or otherwise."

## STREATE, NORTHE PARTE.

## ARDINGLEY.

		<i>s.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Sir Edward Culpeper, knighte, in landes	£25	£3	6	8
Thomas Pilven, in landes . . . . .		40	5	4
Thomas Bridges, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
Nynion Jenkin, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
William Nicholas, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Abraham Nicholas, in landes . . . . .		30	4	0
„ John Ashfould, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
„ Thomas Tullie, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
	Som' £4. 9s. 4d.			

## LINDFIELD BARDOLPHE.

Thomas Challenor, gent., in landes . . . . .		40	5	4
Richard Fairehall, in landes . . . . .		40	5	4
John Fairehall, of Buxshells, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
<i>Sessors.</i> Thomas Nuneham, in landes . . . . .		40	5	4
„ Richard Barham, in landes . . . . .		20	2	8
	Som' 21s. 4d.			

## BALCOMB BURROW.

Sir Stephen Borde, knighte, in landes . . . . .	£20	53	4
John Brett, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Robert Spence, gent., in landes . . . . .	£4	10	8
John Longley, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Ponder, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John King, of Tilehowse, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Nynian Brockett, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Brett, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Page, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Nicholas Weller, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Henry Braie, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
John Garston, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Edward Balcombe, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Thomas Holver, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
George Holver, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
	Som' £5. 13s. 4d.		

## WEST HODELY.

Katherine Engfield, widowe, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4
Margaret Nuneham, widowe, in landes . . . . .	40	5	4

	s.	s.	d.
Richard Engfield, <sup>15</sup> gent., in landes . . . . .	£6	16	0
Thomas Wood, gent., in landes . . . . .	£6	16	0
Abell Browne, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Richard Brian, in landes . . . . .	30	4	0
Philip Comber, in goodes . . . . .	£4	6	8
Jeames Stonner, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
John Browne, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Henry Gibb, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Frances Hamlen, in landes . . . . .	30	3	4
George Wheeler, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
Thomas Browne, in landes . . . . .	30	3	4
Richard Cripps, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
William Feldwyke, in landes . . . . .	£6	8	0
<i>Petie Collector, Sessors.</i> Jasper Wheeler, in landes	20	2	8
” Thomas Jeninge, in landes	20	2	8
” John Gibb, in landes . . . . .	20	2	8
” Thomas Cripps, in landes	20	2	8
Som' £4. 17s. 4d.			
Some of this halfe hundred, £16. 1s. 4d.			
Som' totius Rape, £123. 3s. 4d.			

<sup>15</sup> This family, whose name was also spelt Infield, owned the manor of Grave-tye, in the parish of West Hoathly. They were descended from the Innyngfields of Surrey, who were a branch of the Ha-

ningfields of Haningfield, in Essex, one of whom, Sir William de Hanyngfield, was at the battle of Boroughbridge, *temp.* Edward II., and bore for his arms, *or a chevron sable.*

# NOTES ON THE CHURCHES OF NEWHAVEN AND DENTON.

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PARTLY READ AT THE NEWHAVEN MEETING, 25TH SEPT. 1856.

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BY MARK ANTONY LOWER, M.A., F.S.A.

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AT a period when a feeling in favour of church-restoration is widely prevalent, it is most desirable to collect memoranda concerning our old churches, previously to their undergoing that process. Posterity may wish to know what any parish church was like antecedently to the great changes in form, arrangement, and decoration, which are now going forward; but, without some records of this kind, it will in many cases be hard to judge what portions of the edifices have been removed, altered, or retouched. Far be it from me to condemn the prevailing desire to enlarge and adorn these temples of the Most High, or even, upon sufficient authority, to restore them to their ancient architectural condition. But it is the duty of every true antiquary to protest against much of what is *called* restoration, and which is too often rather a destructive than a conservative process. I am sorry to say that instances are not rare, even in archæological Sussex, in which ancient features have been so tampered with, that it will henceforth be difficult to decide what is original and what is merely imitated; and, without exemplifying my remark, I will simply observe, that more injury has been done to Sussex churches, within the last fifteen years, by the application of zeal without knowledge, than has accrued from the neglect of centuries, or the white-washings and other "beautifications" of a thousand church-wardens of the old school. If I might be permitted to make a practical suggestion on this subject, I would say to the gentlemen officially concerned with parish churches everywhere:

If you are not conversant with medieval architecture, be careful before you remove a single stone, or even before you call in the aid of your architect, to consult some experienced antiquary who knows your church and has studied its minutest features. Such a person will generally have a keener perception of what ought to be retained, than the professional church-builder, who is not unfrequently biassed by his own views of the beautiful and of the structurally convenient, to say nothing of the flights of fancy and the violent anachronisms, in which *some* of that fraternity occasionally indulge.

These remarks have not been called forth by any proceedings connected with this locality. Of the two churches brought under our notice to-day, one stands much in need of restoration; the other has been partially rebuilt without the injury of a single ancient feature.

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Of the *history* of Newhaven church little is known. Newhaven is a comparatively modern name, having originated within the last three centuries, and since the river Ouse has been made to debouche here, instead of, as formerly, at Seaford. The ancient name of the parish, and manor, Meeching, though clearly of Saxon origin, is not mentioned in Domesday Book. The place must however have been of some little importance in Norman times, since the church clearly belongs to that period. The first mention of the church I have met with, is in the *Taxatio Ecclesiastica* of Pope Nicholas, 1291, in which its annual revenues are rated at £5. 6s. 8d. Fifty years later, namely in 1341, we find the following notice of it in the *Nonæ* return:—

“This indenture testifieth, that an inquisition was taken before Hen. Husè and his fellow collectors, venditors, and assessors of the ninths of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs, and the fifteenths assigned to our lord the King in the county of Sussex, at Lewes, on the sabbath day next after midlent Sunday, in the fifteenth year of King Edward, the Third of that name after the Conquest of England, and the second of his reign over France, upon the true value of the ninths of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs, according to the tenor of the commission of our lord the King to the said Henry and his fellows directed,



by the oath of Andrew le Frye, John ate Nelne, Ralph Russell, and Walter Nynman, parishioners of the church of *Mechyng*, who say upon their oath, that the ninth of sheaves this year is worth four marks, three shillings, and fourpence; the ninth of fleeces six shillings; and the ninth of lambs four shillings. Item, they say that the Prior of Lewes receives for tithes of sheaves in this parish ten shillings—of fleeces two shillings—and of lambs sixteen pence. The sum of the said ninths with the portion of the Prior is six marks. And they say that the ninths aforesaid could not answer nor reach to the taxation of the church aforesaid, which is rated at eight marks [the £5. 6s. 8d. of Pope Nicholas]. And that the rector of the said church hath one messuage with nine acres of land and pasturage worth 13s. 4d. Item, he hath oblations worth 10s. per annum. Item, the tithe of hay is 4s.; the tithe of mills, 3s. 4d.; the tithe of cows, calves, and *dayrie*, 2s. 6d.; the tithes of honey, pigs, geese, and eggs, 2s.; the tithe of hemp, 12d. The tithe of pasture is worth per annum 3s. 4d. And thus the sum excepted is 40s. 6d. And they say that there are not in the said parish any chattels beyond the value of 10s. except of those who live by their lands and tenements. In witness whereof the said jurors have to this indenture affixed their seals.”

In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII., the value of the rectory of Mechyng, then held by Richard Glover, was £13. 3s. 3½d., besides, 16s. 8d. payable to the Prior of Lewes, 6s. 8d. to the archdeacon, 18d. for synodals, and 10½d. for procuration.

In Bishop Bower's visitation, 1724, the following account is given of “Meeching alias Newhaven Rectory:” Patron: the King. Rector, Ezekiel Bristed, A.M., of Aberdeen in Scotland; instituted 1694. Church and chancel in good repair without, but the walls, floor, and some seats of both very nasty and indecent within; the communion table indifferent, but the cloth bad; a small silver chalice and cover, and pewter plate pretty good; the pulpit and desk very dark; the pulpit cloth and cushion *scandalous!* No carpet for the communion table; the surplice, bible and common-prayer books in good order; the steeple and one bell the same; two other bells lost many years ago; no chest nor poor box. The chancel repaired

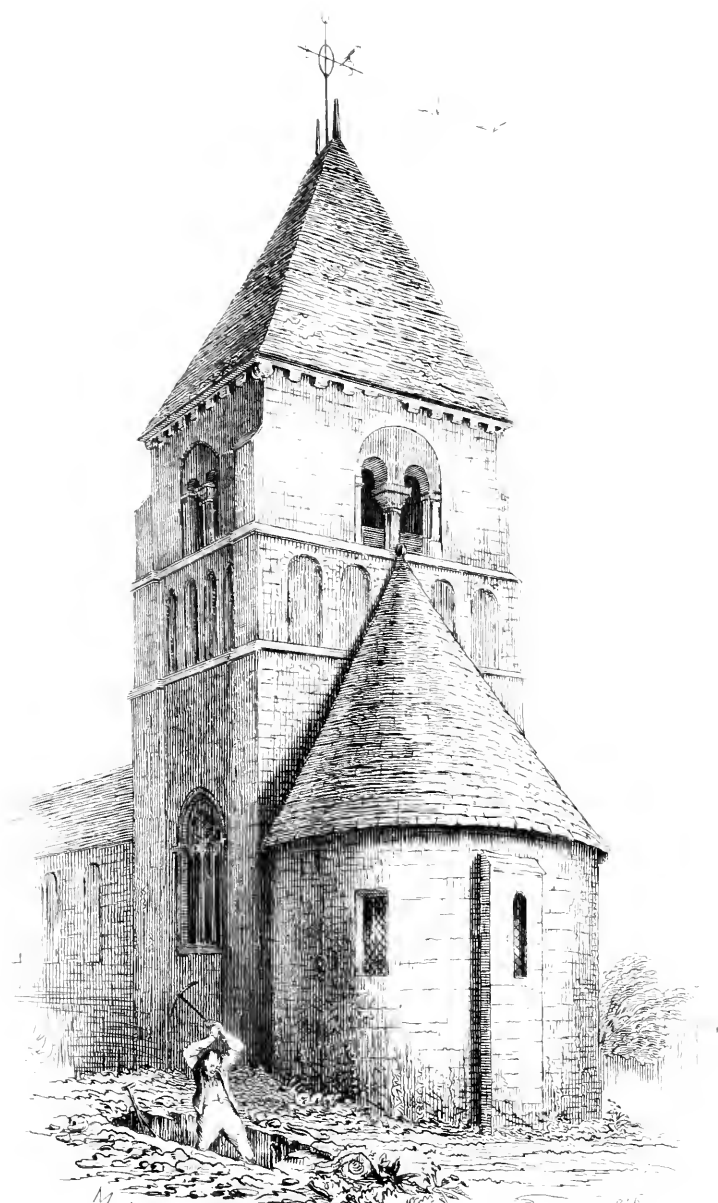
by the rector. Parsonage house &c. in good order. Families 49—no dissenters—no papists. Value in the king's books £8. 8s. 4d., discharged from first-fruits. Divine service and sermon by the rector; the holy sacrament administered at the three solemn sacraments and at Michaelmas. Communicants about 15. Nine acres of glebe.

The church at that period was extremely small, consisting, besides the tower and apse, of a nave only. Subsequently the latter was considerably enlarged in the worst possible taste. Quite recently, it has undergone a thorough renovation.

The only ancient portions of the building are the tower and the very small semicircular apse attached to its eastern side. The Rev. J. L. Petit, in his account of this church, in the *Archæological Journal* (vol. vi. p. 138), observes, that it is "almost, if not quite, unique, as an English specimen of a tower with an eastern apse immediately annexed to it without the intervention of any other chancel." He adds, "The arrangement is common enough on the Continent." Though I have a great *penchant* for continental churches, I cannot boast of a large acquaintance with them, and the only one I have seen, in this respect like Newhaven, is at Yainville in Normandy, on the right bank of the Seine, between Duclair and Jumièges. This I encountered, quite unexpectedly, in a summer excursion during the present year. When, at a sudden turn in the road, it burst at once upon my view, I involuntarily exclaimed, "Why, here's Newhaven church!" As a matter of course I sketched it; and having subsequently taken a sketch of Newhaven from the same point of view, one may on inspection easily note the extraordinary points of resemblance—the same corbelled band beneath the eaves; the same double belfry-window in each face of the tower; and the same flat-buttressed, semicircular apse, with the same diminutive eastern window. There are however some points in which the Norman and the Sussex churches disagree; yet so strong is the general likeness of these sister edifices, that there is no great stretch of probability in assigning them both to precisely the same epoch, if not actually to the same architect, in the twelfth century.

I may observe here, that both Mr. Hussey,<sup>1</sup> in his account

<sup>1</sup> *Notes on Churches*, p. 258.



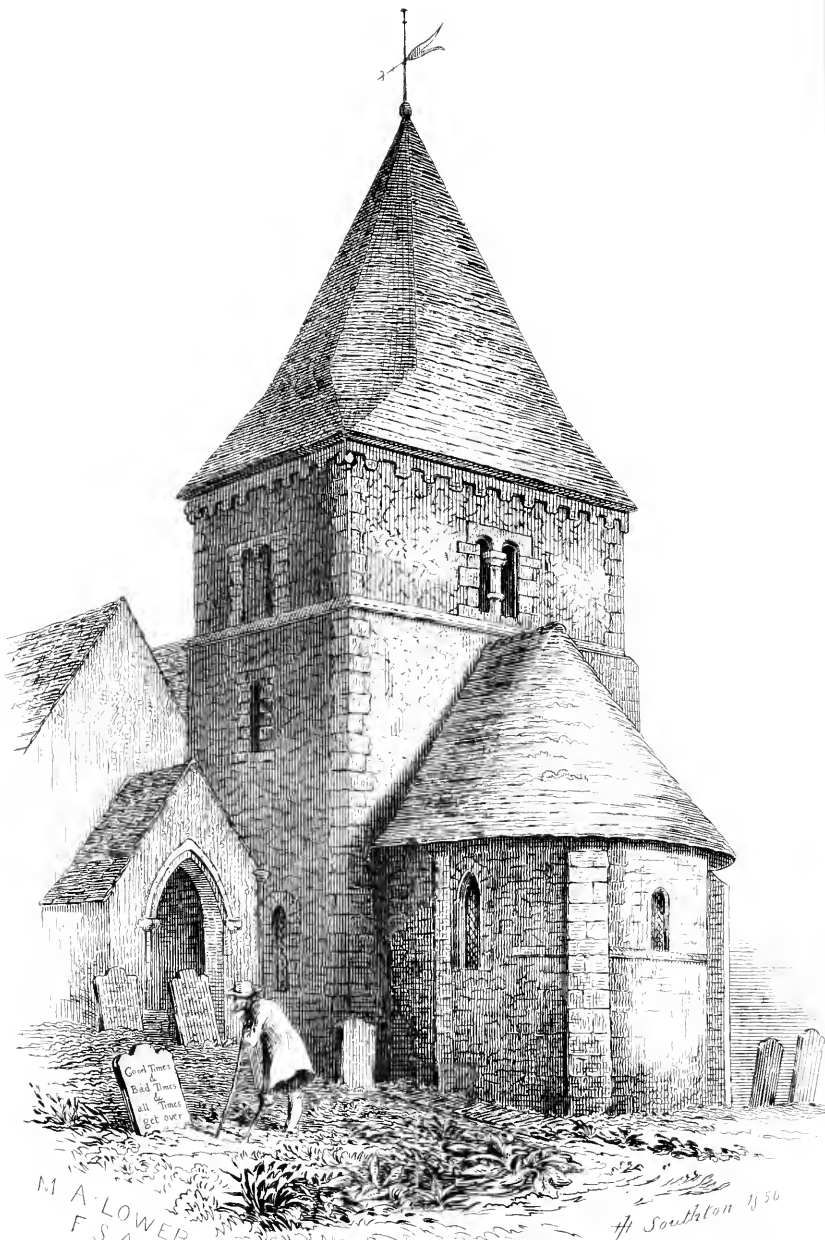
M. A. LOWER,  
F. S. A.

YAINVILLE

J. Southton 1836  
MORTALITY







M. A. LOWER  
F.S.A.

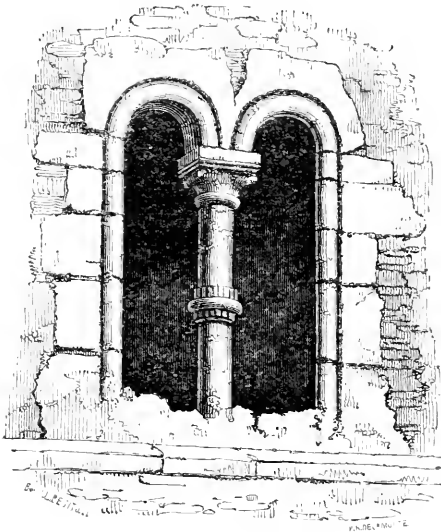
NEWHAVEN, SUSSEX.

H. Southton 1856

of this church, and Mr. Dawson Turner<sup>2</sup> in his notice of Yainville, describe the towers as “central,” which appears to me to be an incorrect use of terms. In general effect the towers of both churches stand, not in the centre, but at the east end of the buildings; and I need not inform the people of Newhaven of the Irish sailor’s joke, that their church sails “stern foremost.” Since I have mentioned Yainville church, it may be interesting to remark, that the apsis of that building, with its peculiarly high-pitched roof, so strongly resembles the upper portion of the much-debated Round Towers of Ireland, that Mr. Turner concludes that the latter were “undoubtedly of Norman origin.”

The following is Mr. Petit’s architectural account of Newhaven church, illustrated (by the liberality of the Committee of the Archæological Institute) with the original woodcuts, as they appear in vol. vi. p. 138, &c. of the *Archæological Journal*:—

“The tower is extremely massive in two stages, of which

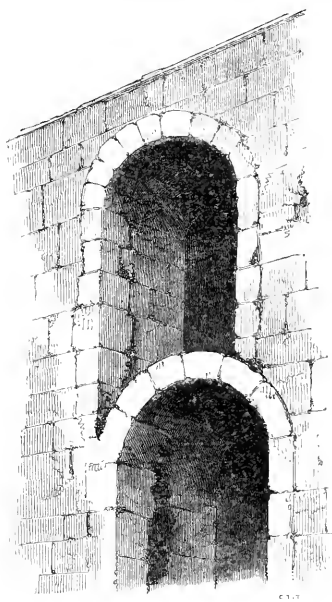


East Window of Tower.

the upper appears to be an addition, though both are Norman.

<sup>2</sup> *Tour in Normandy*, i. p. 134.

The upper stage has a double belfry window in each face, with a banded shaft; the capital seems to have been enriched with foliage, and has a square abacus; the arches have a torus forming a continuous impost where they are not stopped by the capital of the dividing shaft, there being no corresponding shafts on the jambs. The angles of this stage, and the upper half of the stage beneath it, have a torus. The tower is finished with a course of Norman corbels or brackets, and is roofed with a low, shingled, broach spire. The interior of the tower, above the arches which support it, is quite plain, and appears never to have been open as a lantern. The arch of the belfry window internally does not correspond with that of



Inside of Belfry.

the window in the lower stage, from which it seems reasonable to suspect that they are of different dates. The western arch of the tower is of one order, square, but having a torus on its western edge, which is also carried down, though not in quite a direct line, below the abacus of the impost. The eastern face of the same arch has a label and two plain orders without the torus, the impost having Norman shafts at the edges. The western face of the chancel arch is similar to this, with the addition of a torus on the outer edge of each order. The eastern face of the chancel arch has only one order, square and plain, and without a label, but the impost has a torus on the edge. It is evident there have never been transepts, but north and south windows with large splays. The apse is nearly semicircular. It had originally three small Norman windows, which are now stopped up; two Pointed side windows are now inserted in different positions from the old ones, and breaking through the



old string-course; at present there is no east window open. [Subsequently, however, the small east window was reopened and filled with painted glass by the Rev. C. Williams, the late rector.] This apse, and the lower part of the tower with its arches, may, I should think, be assigned to an *early* Norman period. The nave is modern, though a part of its south wall, retaining no architectural features, may be original." This description was printed in 1849; since which year the portions of the church westward of the tower have been enlarged and rebuilt, without, as before intimated, the destruction of anything that was worthy of preservation.

The dedication of this church to St. Michael was evidently suggested by its lofty position. The elevated rank of the archangel in the celestial hierarchy was pointed to in the choice of such spots as St. Michael's Mount in Cornwall, and the still more celebrated Mont St. Michel in Normandy.

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## DENTON CHURCH.

No mention of Denton, at least under that name, occurs in Domesday Book, nor is there any evidence of a church there in Norman times, unless indeed the very curious font may be referred to that era. In Pope Nicholas's Taxation, 1291, the rectory of Denton is estimated at £6. 13s. 4d. The Nonæ return of 1351 is to the following effect:—

“This indenture testifieth that an inquisition was taken before Henry Husee, &c. of the ninths of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs, and of the fifteenths, &c. at Lewes, on Monday next after the feast of St. Gregory the Pope, 15th Edw. III. &c. upon the true value of the ninths of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs . . . upon the oaths of John ate See, Henry Dourhute, John Ambrays, and William Hamond, parishioners of the church of Denton, who say upon their oaths that the ninth part of the sheaves there is worth this year fifty-six shillings; the ninth part of fleeces 6s. 8d.; and the ninth part of lambs four shillings. And thus the sum of the whole ninths of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs is £3. 6s. 8d. And the church aforesaid is taxed at £6. 13s. 4d. [Pope Nicholas.] And they say that the foresaid ninths can not answer or reach to that taxation, because the rector hath a messuage newly endowed with a curtilage and garden worth per annum 10s. Also he hath five acres of land, arable and pasture, worth 23s. The tithe of apples is worth 3s.; and that of pigeons, pigs, geese, and eggs, 7s. Tithes of hay, 5s. Also he hath tithes of cows, calves, and *dayerie*, 4s. 4d. per annum; tithe of mills, 18d.; that of linen flax, 12d. The oblations are worth 12s. And they say that there are none resident there who live otherwise than by the land only. In witness whereof, &c.

In the ecclesiastical valuation of *temp.* Henry VIII. we find Denton fixed at £14. 19s. 8½d., besides 6s. 8d. payable to the prebend of Bishopston, synodals 18d. and procuration 13d.

The following returns relative to the church and parish of Denton are preserved in the Registrar's office at Lewes.

“1603. *Denton*. John Hoehakis, B.D. rector. Number of communicants about 29.—The parish of South Heigh-ton whereof I am parson hath about 36. No recusant in either parish. The patronage of the rectory is between Sir Thos. Floyd and one Mrs. Shelley, and depends upon a suite in law.

“1686. *Denton*. The steeple and the roof adjoining a little out of repair, and the windows in a similar condition. The pavement wants repairing.—The porch in danger of falling down if not timely repaired.—Several articles enjoined by the canons are said to be wanting.

“1724. *Bishop Bower's Visitation*.

“*Denton*, a rectory, of which Robert Mitchell, Esq. is patron. The present incumbent, Wm. Edwards, A.B. of St. John's Coll. Cambridge, instituted 1687. The church in good repair—the bible wants binding—the common prayer-book good—one pewter flaggon—one silver cup and cover—one linen cloth for the communion table—a good cloth and cushion for the pulpit—no poor-box nor chest—two bells. The chancel in good repair. A small matter wanting to the mansion house &c.—Nine families—no papists nor dissenters.—Value in the king's books £4. 19s. 9d. Discharged.—Divine service and sermon every fortnight. The living supplied by a curate, Mr. Alex. Patison. Sacrament administered three times in the year. No. of communicants about 9.—Six acres of glebe, all arable.”

The church, which is dedicated to St. Leonard, consists of a single pace or nave, with no interior distinction of chancel. The west end is surmounted by a small bell-turret of wood and tile. A ceiling hides from view a very good timber roof much resembling that of Godshill, in the Isle of Wight.<sup>3</sup> From the occurrence of two Early English windows in the nave, Mr. Hussey thinks the building may have been originally of that period; but the church underwent considerable improvement

<sup>3</sup> Hussey's *Churches*, p. 221.

in the Decorated period, as is evident from the fine tracery of the east window, now unfortunately stopped up. In the south wall, near the east end, are a broad sedile, under an ogee arch, and a canopied piscina, of excellent work and in good preservation. The Font, which strongly resembles that at St. Anne's, Lewes, in its basket-like form and ornamentation, is well known to ecclesiologists, and is engraved in Horsfield,<sup>4</sup> and elsewhere.

Of early monuments Denton possesses but one. It is a slab incised with an inscription round the verge in Lombardic characters, some of which only are legible, namely, the words

HIC JACET WILLELMUS DE \* IRBY \* \* . . . . MILLIO CCCLXVIII.

To this relic of ancient times the words of the poet are strictly applicable—

“And monuments themselves memorials need”—

a thing much to be regretted in this instance, because there is no doubt from the situation of the slab, close to the north wall, in the eastern part of the building, that the person commemorated was a benefactor or re-founder of the church. The date of his death, 1368, agrees sufficiently with that of the introduction of the great east window, which I have little hesitation in assigning to him.

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In connection with Newhaven and Denton, to both of which parishes the river Ouse forms a boundary, it may not be amiss to add a few words relative to the early history of the port of Newhaven.

Down to the reign of Henry VIII. the Ouse, after passing southward from Lewes to a point near the village of Meeching, took a sudden and almost rectangular turn to the south-eastward, nearly in the direction of what is now called the Tidemill Creek, and so forward in a line almost parallel with the seashore, and only divided from it by a strip of shingle, to the town of Seaford, where it found its outfall to the English Channel, at a point just westward of the cliff. A slight glance at a map, however, will show that the true and natural de-

<sup>4</sup> *History of Lewes*, ii. 268.

bouchure of the river was at a point southward of Meeching—in fact at the very point where Newhaven harbour at this moment exists. And that the outlet was there in Roman times seems pretty evident from the great earthworks of that era overhanging the western side of the port, and called “Castle Hill.” The prevalence of south-west winds, however, is well known to have, on this coast, the effect of causing a great accumulation of shingle, and of driving river currents to seek a more easterly outlet, as exemplified in the Adur, the Cuckmere, and other Sussex rivers. At what precise epoch the ancient mouth of the Ouse became choked up it is impossible to conjecture, though it is evident from the legend of St. Lewinna, detailed in *Sussex Arch. Coll.* Vol. I. p. 46, *et seq.* that the port of the Ouse was at Seaford in the middle of the eleventh century; and it was in consequence of this position that Seaford at no great interval of time became one of the Cinque-Ports. In the time of Queen Elizabeth the port of Seaford fell in its turn to decay, and the outfall being retransferred to Meeching, that place gradually lost its ancient designation in that of Newhaven. In a survey of the Sussex coast made in May 1587, in anticipation of the Spanish Invasion, by Sir Thos. Palmer and Walter Covert, Esq., the village is called *Michin*, and the port Newhaven. The latter had been defended with ordnance, which is described as “vnmounted and of littell worthe.” It is recommended by the surveyors to construct a “Bullwarke of earth . . . for the plantinge of one dimy culveringe and two sacres.” Throughout the seventeenth century the harbour seems to have been greatly neglected, and it was not until the beginning of the eighteenth that it began to receive any considerable share of attention.

The above remarks are merely prefatory to a very curious notice of the port of Newhaven and its capabilities, published in 1677 by a projector of many ingenious schemes, Andrew Yarranton, Gent., in a work entitled, “*England's Improvement by Sea and Land.*” As the work is very scarce, and the matter consequently new to most readers, I make no apology for quoting the passage *in extenso*, and adding a *facsimile* of the rude map which accompanies it.

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· But I find it is not my own single opinion, that safe and

convenient Harbours, are things to be prized, but I find also that some Persons of Honour, and great parts, have been aiming at the same thing, and within some late years have fixed upon a place in Sussex, to make a safe Harbour for Shipping, which I may without arrogancy say, that no one place in this Island doth or can exceed it for the great relief of all Vessels and Ships sailing through the narrow Seas, as also for the benefit and relief of our Men of War, in the times both of War and Peace; this place is *New-Haven*, in *Sussex*, where some progress hath been made towards the advancing so generous and Noble a design, wherein I presume Four or Five Thousand pound hath been expended, and the work in some measure advanced, but in this, as in most other publick things, I suppose there was not that helping hand given to it by the publick as it merited; nor I fear countenanced as it deserved by the Gentlemen of the Countrey; but why such a place so fitted and adapted for such good uses, should lie unfinished, and not encouraged by the Publick, I know not; I having at the desire of a Person of Quality, and the Inhabitants of *East-Greensted*, in *Sussex*, surveyed that place; I here give you my observations thereof.

“ First, Of its usefulness, if once perfected.

“ Secondly, Of the reasons of its being at present choaked up. And

“ Thirdly, The means to be used for perfecting the same, with the Charge it will cost.

“ First, *New-Haven* lyeth over against the Naval of *France*, and there is no safe or convenient Harbour to secure Shipping all along that Coast, for at least Sixty Miles; and what strange Rekes and Damage are our Merchants and Strangers put unto continually upon that Coast; and if some of our greatest Merchants are not mistaken, that Harbour, if well opened and secured, would be to them and their Trade very advantageous, and in the time of War, the King's Ships which draw not above Twenty Foot Water, may there lie well secured, and upon all occasions be quick out at Sea, and there small Ships of War may be built and repaired; many Shipwracks prevented, and certainly it will invite all persons sailing that way to set a great value upon that Harbour, as now they do on *Plymouth* and *Falmouth*.

“Secondly, I conceive one great reason, why this so beneficial a work was not perfected, was the want of an Act of Parliament to support the doing thereof, as also it is possible the Engineer first employed, was not so knowing as was requisite in so great an undertaking, for as the thing now stands, there was one Peer made, which is on the North, but had the Western Peer been first Finished, then the quantities of Sands now lodged in the mouth of the Harbour, had been carried away to Sea, and the freshes of water descending out of the River, would have kept open the mouth of the Harbour.

“Thirdly, This Noble work may be brought to perfection, by making of a Western Peer, as in the Map is described; and thereby all the Sands and Earth which falls from the sides of the Hills and Clifts will be carried to Sea; as also two Turnpikes to be made in the River, to let down flashes of water upon all necessary occasions, to drive and keep out those Sands already lodged in the mouth of the Harbour, or that may hereafter chance to be brought in; and I suppose all the work may be completed for about Six Thousand Pounds. The Map of the place, and how the work may be Accomplished, is hereunto affixed.”—Pp. 97-99.

Could the good Mr. Yarranton revisit Newhaven at the present day, he would behold, in the substantial “western pier” and other improvements connected with the harbour, a partial carrying out of his views. Still, very much remains to be done for the full developement of the natural capabilities of a port which is destined to occupy a high rank among the harbours of England. Fortunately the supineness of the country gentlemen of the seventeenth century upon this subject is not manifested by their descendants of the nineteenth, and as these latter possess influence in a quarter more remote than East Grinstead (and due north from that good old town), Mr. Yarranton’s brightest visions must ere long become *un fait accompli!* These anticipations, however, belong not to Archaeology.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> I am indebted to R. W. Blencowe, Esq., for calling attention to Yarranton’s wish; and to J. H. Hurdis, Esq., for

etching in his own excellent manner, Newhaven and Yainville churches.

## COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COLLECTION OF SUBSIDIES IN SUSSEX.

COMMUNICATED BY T. HERBERT NOYES, ESQ., JUN.

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IT is of course unnecessary to remind Sussex archæologists that the art of taxation, as practised by modern Chancellors of the Exchequer, is of comparatively modern origin. In ancient times the revenues of the extensive crown lands, and the produce of the various escheats, fines, and payments incidental to the old feudal tenures, sufficed for the ordinary expenditure of the crown. On extraordinary occasions recourse was had to aids and subsidies, which were levied on a principle so nearly akin to the income and property tax, that it would seem that any modern claim to the honour of having originated that impost, may be fairly questioned. There is, however, this distinction, that no income, however small, escaped the collector of the subsidy. The wages even of the labourer were taxed; and as the name and residence of every contributor, the valuation of his income, whether in land, goods, or wages, and the amount of his contribution, were entered in the Subsidy Roll, there are perhaps few documents more valuable to the Genealogist, than these records, from the reign of Henry VIII. to that of Charles I. So early as the reigns of Edward I. and Edward II. they contain the names and payments of contributors—and some copious extracts from them have appeared in former volumes of this Society—but, for the period intervening between Edward III. and Henry VIII., they unfortunately do not supply the same details, but record only the sum-totals contributed in each collector's district. It was only in 1497 that it became the practice to annex to the acts of Parliament lists of "Commissioners for the Collection of the Subsidy;" but as these lists comprise most of the principal gentry of the county, and therefore afford valuable genealogical evidence, which in the ponderous tomes of the Record Commissioners, from which these lists are transcribed, is not very accessible to the generality of readers, it appeared worth while to give them a place among these *Collections*. The MS. Rolls of the Subsidies to which they refer, will probably be rendered equally accessible before long, in the new Record Office.



## COMMISSIONERS FOR SUSSEX.

4TH HENRY VIII. C. 19.

*Subsidy.*

A.D. 1512.

Thomas Comes Arundell  
 Robertus Cicestren, Epus  
 Thomas West Mil, Dns laWarr  
 Thomas Fenys, Mil. Dns Daere  
 Thomas, Prior de, Lewes  
 David Owen, Mil.  
 Thomas West, Mil.  
 Thomas Fenys, Mil.  
 Rogerus Lewkenore, Mil.  
 Edwardus Oxenbrigge, Mil.  
 Johannes Donysshe, Mil.  
 Johannes Scotte, Mil.  
 Johes Warill serviens ad legem  
 Johannes Ernley, Attorn Regis  
 Henricus Owen, Armiger  
 Ricardus Sakewild, Armiger  
 Ricardus Covert  
 Johannes Shelly  
 Edwardus Lewkonore  
 Johannes Dawtry  
 Ricardus Shurley  
 Rogerus Copeley  
 Edwardus Elryngton  
 Wilhelmus Assheburnham  
 Johannes Goryng  
 Averedus Berewyk  
 Johannes Assshby  
 Henricus Husee  
 Robertus Moreley  
 Johannes Thenher  
 Thomas Thenher  
 Edwardus Palmer  
 Johannes Stanney  
 Wilhelmus Stardevile  
 Johannes Roote

6TH HENRY VIII. C. 26.

*Subsidy.*

A.D. 1514-15.

Dns Arundell  
 Dns Matarvers  
 Thomas West Miles  
 Johannes Yerneley  
 Rogerus Cople  
 Johannes Stanney  
 Wilhelmus Skerdevyale  
 Humfridus Sydney  
 Ricardus Covert  
 Ricardus Evererd  
 Ricardus Belyngham  
 Nich<sup>us</sup> Gaynesford  
 Henricus Coke  
 Thomas Lewkenour  
 Johannes Chalner de Lynfelde  
 Johannes Goryng  
 Edwardus Palmer  
 Johannes Shelley  
 Thomas Coke  
 Johannes Dauntrey  
 Radulphus Belyngam  
 Elys Prestall  
 Godard Oxenbrige, Miles.  
 Johannes Skett, Miles  
 Nich<sup>us</sup> Tustone  
 Robertus Halle  
 Wilhelmus Assheburnham  
 Wilhelmus Fynche  
 Dns Delawer  
 Migister Karell  
 Edwardus Lewkenour  
 Alveredus Barwyk  
 Ricardus Sherlly  
 Johannes Michell  
 Henricus Hussey

Thomas Roote  
 Ricardus Bevyngham  
 Nicholaus Gaynesford  
 Willhelmus Everard  
 Nicholaus Tuston  
 Willhelmus Stapelly  
 Robertus Burton  
 Edwardus Belyngham  
 Ricardus Exton de Schyccester  
 Johannes Yong  
 Thomas Welgrowe  
 Ricardus Ruston  
 Johannes Brasweller

Dns Daere  
 Thomas Fenys, Mil.  
 Ricardus Sakevyll  
 Willhelmus Assheburnham  
 Johannes Gage  
 Johannes Roote  
 Robertus Burtunc

## CIVITAS CICESTR.

Ricardus Ruston  
 Thomas Welgare  
 Johannes Roys  
 Ricardus Eytun

## COMMISSIONERS FOR SUSSEX.

12 HENRY VII. c. 13.

*Subsidy.*

A.D. 1496-97.

Johannes Palmer  
 Willhelmus Bower  
 Thomas Wellys  
 Johannes Jeffrey

19TH HENRY VII. c. 32.

*Subsidy.*

A.D. 1503-04.

David Owen, Knyght  
 John Devenysshe, Knyght  
 Thomas Fynes, Knyght  
 Edmond Dudley, Esquyer  
 Richard Sakfeld, Esquyer  
 John Coke, Esquyer  
 John Goryng, Esquyer  
 John Ernley, Gentelman  
 Henricus Roos, Knyght  
 Roger. Leykenor, of Tangmer

## COMMISSIONERS FOR SUSSEX.

16 CHARLES I. c. 2.

*Subsidy.*

A.D. 1640.

Sir Thomas Pelham, Bt.  
 Sir Thomas Bowyer, Bt.  
 Sir John Chapman, Kt.  
 Sir William Morley, Kt.  
 Sir Henry Dawtry, Kt.  
 Sir Thomas Parker, Kt.

16 CHARLES I. c. 32.

*a 2nd Subsidy.*

Contains the following Names, *in addition*  
 to those on the opposite column.

A.D. 1640.

Sir George Courtopp  
 Sir Thomas Eversfield, of Denn  
 Sir Thomas Eversfield, junr.  
 Sir Thomas Henley *Kghts.*  
 Philip Jarmin, Serj<sup>t</sup> at Law

Anthony Stapeley.	
Edward Ford	
Thomas Grey	
John Alford	
Thomas Milles	(Thomas Mylles)*
Nicholas Wolfe	
Ralph Cooper	
Henry Goring	
Edward Goring	
Thomas Maye	
Thomas Middleton	(T. Middleton)*
Hall Ravenscroft	
William Marlott	(W. Marlot)*
Edward Apsley	
William Michelborne	(W. Michillbourne)*
James Rivers	
Harbert Morley	
Anthony Fowle	
Henry Shelley	
John Ashburnham	(J. Ashbournham)*
William White	
Harbert Hay	
John Baker	
Laurence Ashburnham	(L. Ashbourneham)*
Harbert Bourd	
John Busbridge	William Cawley
Peter Farneden	Thomas Whitfield
Thomas Eversfield <i>Esquires.</i>	William Thomas
FOR CHICHESTER.	
George Green, gent.	John Downes
William Margerom, Merch <sup>t</sup>	Henry Peck
——— Henshaw	Francis Selwyn
Stephen Humphreys, g <sup>t</sup> .	John Apsley Esq <sup>res</sup> .
	Henry Bridgen
	George Sampson
	W. Bachelour, of Winchelsea,
	gent.

\* Same persons as those in next column, with a variation of the spelling.

A.D. 1660.—12 CAR. II. c. 9.

Sir John Pelham  
 Sir Henry Goreing  
 Sir Charles Shelley, Bts.  
 Sir Thos. Dyke  
 Sir Edward Ford, Kts.  
 Henry Goreing  
 John Stapeley  
 Herbert Springet  
 Herbert Morley  
 Will<sup>m</sup>. Morley  
 Denny Ashburnham  
 George Courtop  
 John Lewknor  
 George Parker  
 Thomas Middleton  
 John Byne  
 Hall Ravenscroft  
 John Fagg  
 Henry Pecham  
 George Stewart  
 Ed<sup>d</sup>. Eversfield  
 Ed. Blaker  
 John Forrington  
 Nisil Rivers W<sup>m</sup>. Garaway  
 Thomas Bettesworth  
 Peter Bettesworth, of Fitzales  
 W<sup>m</sup>. Baldwin, gent.  
 Walter Henley  
 Anthony Shurley, Esq<sup>res</sup>.  
 Richard Bridger  
 Ambrose Trayton  
 Walter Burrell  
 John Oliver  
 Anthony Stapeley, Esq<sup>re</sup>.  
 Auth<sup>v</sup>. Spriget, Esq.  
 Thomas Beard  
 Roger Showeswell, Esq<sup>re</sup>  
 Ed. English Robert Fowler

Thos. Grey  
 W<sup>m</sup>. Gratweck  
 Thos. Palmer  
 Hugh Petter  
 Allen Carr  
 Jno. Paine Esq<sup>res</sup>.  
 Thos. Peckham  
 Walter Pauley  
 Thos. Bernard, gent.  
 Christopher Coles  
 Geo. Edmond  
 Rich<sup>d</sup>. Mill Ed. Cooke  
 Hy. Onslow  
 Ed. Mitchell, Esq<sup>res</sup>.  
 Henry Chowne Bre Chowne  
 John Bakshall  
 W. Strace  
 John Gratweck, of Eatons  
 Ed. Paine  
 W<sup>m</sup>. Dyke, Esq.  
 Francis Selwin  
 Thomas Foster, Esq<sup>res</sup>.  
 John Fuller, of Walden  
 Sackvile Groves  
 Geo. Nevil, Esq.  
 Edward May, Esq.  
 Edward Petthill v Polhill  
 John Dunk  
 Thomas Sackvil  
 John Dync  
 Walter Everinden  
 Richard Shepherd  
 Thom<sup>s</sup> Gratwicke, of Morleys  
 Thomas Bromfield y<sup>e</sup> elder  
 W<sup>m</sup>. Gratwecke, of Jervis  
 Sam<sup>l</sup>. Gott, Esq<sup>re</sup>  
 The Mayor of Chichester for  
 the time being.

# FEES OF OFFICERS OF THE CROWN IN SUSSEX, TEMP. ELIZ.

FROM A MS. IN THE LIBRARY OF THE TAYLOR INSTITUTION.

COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. DR. WELLESLEY,

PRINCIPAL OF NEW INN HALL, OXFORD.

THE Manuscript consists of thirty-two quarto leaves, and has the autograph of a former possessor, Thos. Martin (of Palgrave, the celebrated Suffolk antiquary), inside the cover. The first leaf is thus inscribed :

The Account of Offices belonging to the Court, &c. temp. Eliz. Reginae.

Omnia cum retines manibus (mirabile) si non  
Officia obtineas, multis è millibus, unum.

When in your handes you hould these offices all alone  
"Twere marvell yf yo<sup>u</sup> should not get 'mongst many thousands one.

Liber Petri Le Neve a<sup>l</sup>s  
Norroy Regis Armor.  
A.D.ii. 1704.

After a list, at page 7, of "Customers and other officers about the Custome house w<sup>th</sup> their ffees, &c. London," there follows that of "Customers in other Portes, &c.," among which, at page 9, is "Chichester in com<sup>o</sup> Sussex,"

		£	s.	d.	
Customer	{	ffee . . . . .	6	13	4
	{	Reward . . . . .	21	0	0
Comptroller	{	ffee . . . . .	3	0	10
	{	Rewarde . . . . .	40	0	0

At page 11. "Receau<sup>rs</sup> of the Revenues of y<sup>e</sup> Crowne, w<sup>th</sup> the<sup>r</sup> ffees & Allowances," and among them :

		£
Kent	} . . . . .	ffee . . . . . 100
Surrey		portage . . . . . ut antea
Sussex		allowance . . . . . 60

[The portage had been previously set down at 20 shillings of every 100 pounds delivered to the Queen's Cofferers, or otherwise paid by her Majesty's Warrant.]

At page 13. "Surueio<sup>rs</sup> of the Queenes Landes, with the fees & Allowances, &c.," and among them :

	£	s.	d.
Sussex . . . . . ffee . . . . .	13	6	8

At page 34. "Townes of Warre, Castles, Bulwarks, & for-  
tresses, with the fees and allowances to the Captaines, officers,  
and Souldiers having charge of them," among which :

Sussex.

Camber cañt nere Rie.

	per diem
Capten of y <sup>e</sup> Castle . . . . . ffee . . . . .	2s.
porter . . . . . ffee . . . . .	6d.
Souldiers 9 } . . . . . ffee apeece . . . . .	6d.
gonners 17 }	

At page 40. "Castles, houses, Parkes, forrests, & Chaces :  
with the fees and allowances to the officers and keepers of  
euery of them," among which :

Sussex.

Petwourth.

	£	s.	d.
Consta: of y <sup>e</sup> Castle . . . . . ffee . . . . .	22	16	6
Kep. of y <sup>e</sup> { house . . . . . ffee . . . . .	2	0	0
	{ great parke . . . . . ffee . . . . .	3	0
Mr of the game there . . . . . ffee . . . . .	18	2	6

Walberton & haulf naked.

Keaper	{	manor of haulf na- ked and good woodd }	ffee . . . . .	20	0	0
of the	{	{ woodd and chace of walberton . . . . . }	ffee . . . . .	3	0	10

At page 52, in "The Valuacõn of the seuerall Liuinges of all  
the Archbusshops and Busshoppes of England, with the Tenths  
that euery of them paieth her Maiestie yearely."

	£	s.	d.
Chichestreñ Ep. val. . . . .	420	1	8
Decimæ inde . . . . .	40	0	2

At page 54, in "The Valuacõn of all y<sup>e</sup> Deaneries, &c."

	£	s.	d.
Decañ Chichest <sup>rs</sup> val. . . . .	58	9	4
Decimæ inde . . . . .	5	16	11

## NOTICE OF A BRITISH SETTLEMENT AND WALLED TUMULUS, NEAR PULBOROUGH.

BY P. J. MARTIN, ESQ.

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THE following remarks on some Ancient British remains in the neighbourhood of Pulborough, were read to the Philosophical and Literary Society of Chichester, in the year 1834, and, at their request, left in the hands of its officers.

Not long after, the manuscript got into the possession of the editor of a periodical called *The Garland*, then being published at Chichester, and was printed (p. 46), without the writer's concurrence, and without the accompanying illustrations, which were required for a better realisation of the subject in the mind of the reader, than could be effected by mere verbal description. It having been lately suggested that its appearance, in companionship with matters of a kindred nature, would be desirable, it is here republished.

The writer does this the more willingly, because Nutbourne Common, the site of these interesting remains, has been lately enclosed. One mound has been levelled in the process of smoothing the cricket-ground, and the other is suffering under the classical and significant symbol of obliteration, "the plough is passing over it," and it is sinking into the level of the adjoining plain.

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"The rare occurrence of Celtic or Ancient British remains in this county, out of the range of the chalk downs, will probably give this short notice more importance than, from its slight and imperfect nature, it could otherwise claim. To those who are conversant with the South Downs, the traces still visible of the habitations, works of convenience and defence, places of sepulture, and more rarely, perhaps, of religious

observances, of the Ancient Britons, are perfectly familiar; made so by the frequent contributions of various antiquaries and topographers, from the times of Stukeley and Gale, and perfected by the researches and discoveries, in the kindred districts of Wiltshire, of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, under whose guidance we may now traverse our downs and waste lands with an interest before almost unknown, and in direct communion, as it were, with the character and domestic habits of their primitive inhabitants.

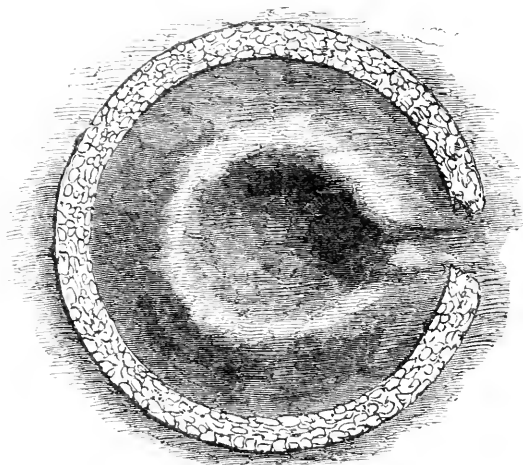
“Although, for obvious reasons, the most numerous traces of a nomadic and pastoral people would be found upon the open districts and superior pasture lands of the chalk downs, there is no reason for supposing, with Sir R. Hoare, that they had not made advances into what are now the more cultivated parts of the country, before the arts of Rome had taught the rude barbarians to extend their operations farther inland. Unreclaimed forest, doubtless, then occupied the greater part of our interior, but there is still sufficient evidence remaining of the preoccupation of our sandy lands and river borders. The stone and copper axes which I deposited, some time since, in the Chichester Museum, were found by the gravel-diggers upon our commons; sepulchral barrows are not rare; and I have now to notice another curious specimen of Celtic economy from the same locality.

“In the summer of 1818 or 1819, I pointed out to my then neighbour and friend, the Rev. Edmund Cartwright, the continuator of Dallaway’s *History of Sussex*, two remarkable mounds upon an elevated part of Nutbourne Common, in the parish of Pulborough, with the remark that they were broader and lower than the usual run of sepulchral barrows. They lay within twenty paces of each other; the southernmost measuring 90, and the northern 80 feet diameter, and were perfectly circular.

“Mr. Cartwright conjectured they were sepulchral; and, under his directions, cross sections were made in the larger one; but it appeared to be composed entirely of sand, and there were no signs of sepulture; the search, therefore, was abandoned, and no further attempt made to investigate their nature. A labourer, who remembered the circumstance, came to me two or three months ago, and told me he had accidentally dis-



covered, when searching for stone, that the northern tumulus was partially surrounded with stones set endways in the turf, above which they here and there protruded. Finding this to be the case, I directed him to clear away the earth, and endeavour to complete the exposure. In doing this, we not only



Barrow and Foundation of Wall.

found that the circle was complete, but that it was also the outer line of the foundation of a wall four feet in thickness, the remainder being packed in without<sup>1</sup> cement; with a doorway to the east four feet in width, the stones there being wanting.

“ Within this circle of stones the mound rises to about three feet perpendicular in height, into a platform, with a depression in the centre, like the pond-barrows of the South Downs.

“ Upon the supposition that a smaller concentric circle

<sup>1</sup> This important word was misprinted “with” in the *Garland*.

might have existed upon the crown of the mound, the search was continued in that direction; but a few stones only were found, packed in upon that part of it, facing the doorway in the wall.

“Cross-sections were then made to the bottom, and into the undisturbed sand-rock, but nothing more was discovered, save a few fragments of pottery, like coarse Roman ware, and a fragment of a quern or millstone; both near the surface, and near the centre of the mound.

“It was thus satisfactorily proved that neither of these tumuli was sepulchral. What, then, was their purpose; and what was the use of the wall, or the circular layer of stones?

“Before I attempt to give an answer to this question, I will proceed shortly to describe the situation of what I believe to be a British settlement, about a quarter of a mile south of these mounds. It is a triangular headland of sandy soil, partly waste and partly arable, now called Winterfield, enclosed on two sides by streams which flow through low meadows, in earlier times unquestionably woody marshes, like the neighbouring unreclaimed peat bogs. On the third it is defended by a broad ditch and vallum, having the perfect character of the Celtic encampment, not improved, as many of them were, by subsequent Roman works. The area of the peninsula thus enclosed may be about six or eight acres. I do not know that any relics of the Celtic or Roman character have been ploughed up in the cultivated part of it, but on the adjoining lands of Hurston and Wiggonholt, Roman coins, pottery, and other marks of the habitation of Romanised Britons, have been discovered.

“This encampment of Winterfield exactly corresponds in character and situation with the more important one of Burpham, near Arundel, which is in like manner defended by a morass on one side, the river Arun on the other, and at the base of the triangle by a ditch and wall twice the size of the work in question. Arundel itself, the *ad Decimum Lapidem* of the Romans, was originally a British town of the same character, with the river on one side, a marshy and woody ravine on the other, and a fosse and vallum traversing the neck of land between the two, still to be seen, intersected by the London road, just without St. Mary's Gate.

“To return to our British fastness of Winterfield. It is, as I before observed, about a quarter of a mile south of the walled tumulus, and will serve to connect it and its companion with Ancient British associations.

“My first thought was, that they might be religious circles, and that the place of the large stones, generally used in the construction of Druidic temples, was here supplied by the wall of small stones, afforded by the surrounding wastes, at a time when all these wastes were mostly open glades, and would probably afford a plentiful supply of the angular boulder-stones, still to be found under the turf.

“In support of this proposition, I may appeal to the authority of the enthusiastic but credulous Stukeley, who has left descriptions of religious works of various kinds. In that part of the *Itinerarium Curiosum* which was published after his death, I find figures of walled circles in Ireland and Anglesey, as they existed in his time.

“There can be no question that the construction of the religious circle varied with the circumstances of the country in which it was situate. The mud-wall temple at Barrow, in Lincolnshire, is an important instance; Stonehenge, with its gigantic imposts, is an advance toward the walled building, from the single-stone erections of Abury, Stanton Drew, Rowitch, &c. And it cannot be supposed that any populous district would be without its religious edifice, more or less important, according to the means of its inhabitants.

“Having these thoughts of our monument, and supposing that the singularity of a walled tumulus would not be uninteresting to the venerable historian of Wiltshire, I addressed a description of it to Sir R. Hoare, whose observations in reply are these:—

““I have seen several earthen circles in Wilts and Somersetshire with a single entrance to them, but no one with a wall. Circles of stone enclosures are also frequent on Dartmoor, and I think they may be deemed *religious*, and were surrounded by a slight vallum of earth, where stone could not be procured, as on our downs.

““The difference between religious earth-works and those for defence consists in the former having the *fosse* *withinside* instead of outside.

“ I find also that sepulchral barrows were sometimes surrounded by a circle of single stones ; and, as they could not have answered the purpose of a fence, no other motive but their implied sanctity can be assigned for their erection.’

“ More, perhaps, might be said in favour of the religious nature of these mounds, still, it must be confessed that the case is very doubtful. The larger of them has no stone-work ; they are not exactly alike, like the twin circles of Abury ; and they are not enclosed in a common vallum, as they probably would have been if they had constituted one temple.

“ Let us, then, consider what other uses they may have served, and how these appearances may be reconciled with the known habits and conditions of a rude and primitive people.

“ Amongst the earth-works often seen upon our downs, and so minutely described by Sir R. Hoare, is what he has called the ‘ pond barrow.’ It does not differ materially from our walled mound, except that it is not quite so elevated. It is thus spoken of by the above-mentioned author (I quote from his *Ancient Wiltshire*):—

“ ‘ VI. THE POND BARROW.—I can form no conjecture about these tumuli that carries with it the least plausibility ; they differ totally from all the others, and resemble an excavation made for a pond ; they are circular, and formed with the greatest exactness, having no protuberance within the area, which is perfectly level. We have dug into several, but have never discovered any sepulchral remains. We generally find one or more of these barrows in the detached groups, and on Lake Downs there is a group of four or five of them altogether. I once thought that the Britons might have adopted this method of preparing their barrows for interment, by thus marking out the circle, and throwing out the earth on the sides ; but the very great regularity of the vallum militates against this idea.’

“ Elsewhere he supposes they were appropriated to the females in some way, having often found trinkets and articles of domestic use in them.

“ In looking at these constructions, I have always been inclined to think that they were the sites of British habitations, perhaps of the superior order.

“ I suppose the shallow excavation to be the area of the

hut, and the low circular vallum the basis upon which the superstructure rested, consisting of long rafters meeting at top over the centre of the area, like a pile of hop-poles; and these being strengthened, and closed in with boughs and thatch, formed the habitation—than which, we may suppose the noblest Briton, with his flint or copper spear-head, his pottery of unbaked earth, and other rude appliances, ‘could boast no better home.’ The circular embankment on which the rafters rested would serve to carry off the water as it trickled down the roof, and keep the interior dry and comfortable.

“To this rude cottage was added, in our present instance, a stone wall at the foot of the mound, to defend it from the intrusion of cattle or other injurious animals.

“The supposition of its being the site of a human habitation is strengthened by the discovery of the stones in that part of the crown of the circle which corresponds with the doorway in the wall, and were placed in the entrance of the hut, perhaps, to make the pathway firm; and also by the discovery of the broken millstone and pottery under the floor of the area.

“To this use I am inclined to assign all the pond barrows, and that is the reason Sir R. Hoare so frequently found trinkets and articles of domestic use in them.”

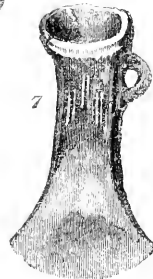
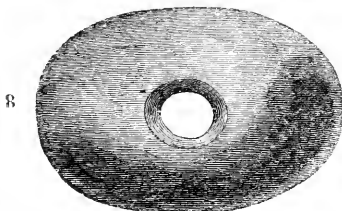
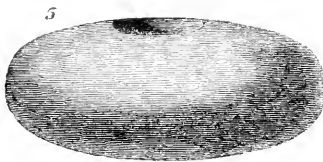
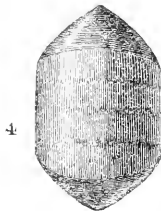
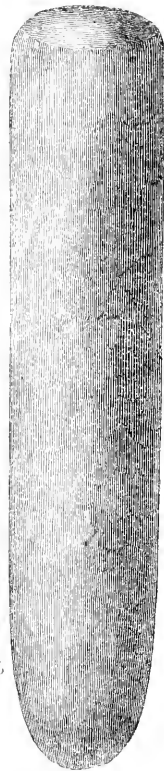
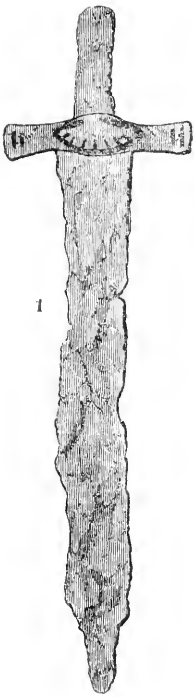
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In a letter afterwards addressed to the editor of the *Garland*, dated 16th Nov., 1836, the writer made the following additional observations (p. 426):—

“The revision contemplated on the publication of my paper comprehended the addition of such explanations and illustrations as were given at the reading verbally, or by the exhibition of diagrams; with such supplementary matter as might be obtained in corroboration of the opinion of the real use of the pond barrow, and of such mounds as did not appear to be sepulchral, and yet were found associated with them; and, also, of the reasonable supposition that the huts of the higher orders of the semi-barbarous inhabitants of Ancient Britain were erected on these eminences; and that, in this instance (and perhaps in many more, where the stones have been removed), a fence wall served to give security and importance

to the edifice. It is not my intention to follow out the disquisition here; and there is not much room, in the same locality, for making new discoveries in the habits and practices of the Ancient Britons. But, since my paper was read, a curious stone mull, or pestle (*see fig. 3*), was found near the same spot (deposited by Dr. Forbes, at my request, in the Chichester Museum); and I have been able to trace a circular vallation, of five or six acres area, upon the open waste, on Hurston Warren, hard by the 'fastness' of 'Winterfield.' This ditch and vallum crowns an eminence rising over the spot on which there was lately made a remarkable 'find' of Roman coins, at Redford, in Storrington parish. The form of the encampment is circular; and, though the bank is not high, being crowned with palisades, it would closely resemble the 'pah' of New Zealand, and other strongholds of the South Sea Islanders. Two sepulchral barrows (one bearing the marks of having been rifled) are to be found on West Chilmington Common, adjoining to Nutbourne; and similar ones occur here and there in the line of sand-hills ranging from Washington, by Coldwaltham, to Lavington and the country south of Midhurst. But the writer has not been able to detect many specimens of the mounds like those here described as 'pond barrows.' There was one (levelled a few years ago) on what appeared to be, and still is, an unbroken piece of grass, in the priory grounds at Hardham, within a few hundred yards of the Roman camp there. There are also two or three mounds in Parham Park, west of the house, which are probably pond barrows, but they do not appear ever to have been examined."

Finally, this part of Sussex has afforded to the writer many indications of human occupancy in all historic times, attested by weapons and other memorials of "the stone," "the copper," and the "iron" ages. But it is only lately by the discovery of the celts near Billingshurst, and a celt or hammer of iron sandstone, now in the possession of Mrs. Weekes, and a flint spear-head at Brinsbury, that we have got assurance that the country, which must then have been an interminable forest of oak timber, gave shelter to, and was the hunting-ground of, the British savage.



Scale bar: 1 1/2 inches

## DESCRIPTION OF PLATE.

- Fig. 1.—Sword, with iron blade and hilt of brass, from Nutbourne Common, Pulborough.
- Fig. 2.—Celt of flint; one of four found in making a new ditch in 1852, near Billingshurst.
- Fig. 3.—Mall or pestle, made of a gray quartzose granite,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and 2 inches diameter. Found in digging ground near the walled tumulus. It was perhaps used with a mortarium, as referred to in Vol. VIII. of *Sussex Arch. Collections*, p. 287, and may probably be Roman, not Celtic.
- Figs. 4, 5.—Fig. 5 is a water-worn boulder of silicious stone, in which a hole has been bored to the depth of half an inch by the friction of fig. 4, which is another pebble of similar stone, highly polished. They were both found some yards apart in the ruins of St. Botolph's Priory, Pembrokeshire—illustrating the process of piercing fig. 8. In the possession of H. Latham, Esq.
- Fig. 6.—Pierced bead of unbaked earth  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch diameter, from Nutbourne Common, Pulborough.
- Fig. 7.—Copper celt, found by a ditcher at Pulborough.
- Fig. 8.—Stone hammer head, or weapon, of silicious hornstone, possibly from the gravel-pits in the vicinity. Found August, 1856, in grubbing an ash-tree root near Pallingham Quay. A similar stone, apparently prepared for boring, has been found at Pulborough, and is in the possession of Henry Latham, Esq., as are also 4 and 5. It measures 3 inches by  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch thick. It is not quite circular, tapering a little to one side, with a sharp edge all round.



DISCOVERY OF A TUMULUS AT HOVE, NEAR  
BRIGHTON,

CONTAINING AN AMBER CUP, &c.

BY BARCLAY PHILLIPS, ESQ.

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WESTWARD of Brighton, and extending from the sea-beach to the Downs, is a plain many miles in length, rising with a very gradual slope to the hill tops, and varying in width from one to three miles. It may be said to commence about the centre of Brighton, between which town and the village of Hove have existed till within the last few years, some remarkably level fields devoted to pasturage and the cultivation of grass for hay. Nearly in the centre of one of these fields, that which was the second out of Brighton parish, once stood a small hillock, about fifteen or twenty feet high, on the north of the pathway leading from Brighton to Hove Church, and situated about 100 yards N.N.E. of the new church of St. John the Baptist; and, till very lately, famous every Good Friday as the resort of hundreds of young persons of both sexes to join in the rustic game of "kiss in the ring."

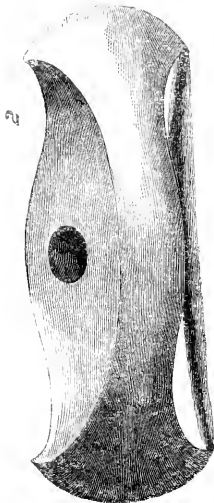
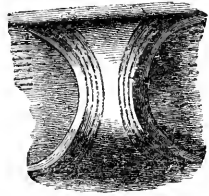
Rising from a dead flat, and being unconnected with any other hills, this hillock always presented the appearance of an artificial mound, and therefore, when, some years ago, a road was cut through it to the Hove station of the Brighton and Portsmouth Railway, I was anxious to learn whether any antiquities had been met with; but not any were then found. Now, however, all doubt on the subject has been set at rest, and the hillock proved to be a barrow or monumental mound erected over the remains probably of an Ancient British chieftain.

In consequence of extensive building operations now going forward in the lower part of the field, labourers have recently



6 DE PARIS DE.

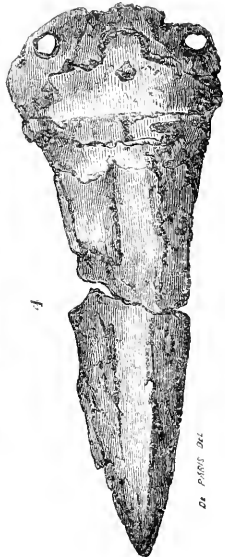
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2



3



4

24 PARIS DE.

67710 36

been employed removing the earth of this hill for the formation of an ornamental garden in Palmeira Square; and in January last, on reaching the centre of the mound, about two yards east of the road leading to Hove station, and about nine feet below the surface, they struck upon a rude coffin, between six and seven feet long. It was lying nearly east and west, and the boards had the appearance of having been fashioned with a hatchet, as was shown by their impression upon the surrounding clay; for, on exposure to the atmosphere, they immediately crumbled away, though one of the knots has been fortunately preserved. It proves to be of oak, though one of the labourers, in describing the coffin to me, as we stood on the spot, said it was of elm.

In the earth with which the coffin was filled were numerous small fragments of carious bone, apparently charred, some of which were picked out; and about the centre, as if said one of the men, they had rested on the breast of the body interred, were found the following curious relics:—

1. An Amber Cup, hemispherical in shape, rather deep in proportion to its width, with a “lip” or “nick,” and ornamented merely with a band of fine lines running round the outside, about half an inch from the top. There is one handle, large enough for the insertion of a finger, ornamented with a fillet on each side of the surface, which is flat, similar to that on the cup itself. From the fact of the rim not being perfectly round, and the band before mentioned not passing over the space within the handle, and its being marked off with a line at each end, seemingly cut across, we may conjecture it to have been made and carved by hand. There are two small chips in the rim. That on the left of the handle is fresh, and was caused by the man who found the cup accidentally striking it, as he told me, with his spade, when he first came upon it; that on the right is not so large, but is ancient, as is shown by its appearance. The cup is perfectly smooth inside and out, excepting where the earth in which it was buried still adheres to the surface; but since its exhumation the amber has cracked slightly in every part. On the cup being lifted by the handle, this broke into two pieces, having received a blow from the workman’s spade, but for-

tunately the fragments fit very exactly, and I have therefore easily repaired it.

The following are the dimensions of the cup, which I have carefully measured, expressed in inches and decimal parts:—

External diameter, 3·5 inches ; internal, 3·35.

Height, 2·5 ; depth, 2·4.

Internal diameter at and below band, 3 ; width of lip, ·125.

Distance of band from upper rim of lip, ·5 ; width of band of six fillets, ·3.

Width of handle at upper and lower end, 1·5 ; in centre, ·6.

Thickness of handle, ·2 ; depth of handle from upper surface of insertion between lip and fillet to surface below, 1·4.

Projection of handle from surface of cup to outer surface of handle, ·85 ; average thickness of cup, ·2.

According to these measurements I find, by calculation, that the capacity of the cup is a little more than half a pint.

	Inches.
Real cubic contents . . . . .	19·5914
Half pint . . . . .	17·3295
	<hr/>
Excess . . . . .	2·2619

2. A "Celt," or head of a battle-axe, made of some sort of ironstone. It is 5 inches long, 1·9 wide in the broadest part, and ·8 of inch thick. It is in perfect preservation, with a hole neatly drilled through the centre ; half an inch wide in its narrowest part, but ·8 inch wide on one side, evidently in order that the handle might be securely fastened in by a wedge at the upper end. The extremity of the axe is semi-circular, sharp (though slightly chipped), and 1·9 inch wide ; the other extremity is not quite so wide, 1·8 inch, and flat in the centre, apparently serving as a hammer.

3. What I have called a small whetstone, 2·7 inches long ; ·6 inch wide in the centre, and ·35 inch thick at the centre, tapering off slightly at each extremity. There is a small hole neatly drilled through one end, and the surface appears partially encrusted with some oxide or paint of a red colour.

4. A bronze dagger, very much oxidised, and so brittle that it broke into halves as it was being taken out of the ground. Two of the rivets, and fragments or traces of the bone handle, still remain attached to the lower end of the blade. Dimensions : length, 5·5 inches ; width at lower end, 2·4 inches ; thickness at ditto, ·3 inch.

The workmen described the coffin as resting on the natural soil, which is stiff yellow clay, while the mound itself bears every appearance of having been formed of surface earth and rubbish thrown up together. I minutely examined the remaining sections of the hill, and myself picked out several specimens of charred wood, and was informed that such fragments were very abundant.

The manner of sepulture, and all the relics, excepting the dagger, show this mound to have been the burial-place of a British chieftain before the time of the Roman invasion. The mound, which was close behind my house, and which I have known from childhood, was nearly circular, perhaps slightly elongated; and therefore, from its being of the simplest and most ancient form, I am inclined to think we may reckon it to have been at least 2000 years old, perhaps more! It has now disappeared! The last clod of that earth which so long covered the bones of a British chieftain has been carted away; and coffin, bones, and earth, have been thrown pellmell to form the mould of the rosary of Palmeira Square.

I was not present when the discovery was made, but heard of it next day, and immediately commenced inquiries on the spot among the men still working there. From their own mouths, and from Mr. Lainson, clerk of the works to Baron Goldsmid, on whose estate the tumulus stood, I received the information now published. Mr. Lainson states that he was within fifty yards of the place at the time of the "find"; that the men immediately sent for him, and that not ten minutes had elapsed from the coffin being disclosed before he was on the spot. The relics had just been taken out of the earth as he came up, and he insisted upon their being given up to him as the property of the Baron. The articles all remained under Mr. Lainson's care for a few days, when he delivered them up to me, by whom they have been deposited in the Museum of the Royal Brighton Literary and Scientific Institution, where they may now be seen.

At my suggestion, application was made to Baron Goldsmid, by the Committee of the Literary and Scientific Institution, to present them to the Town Museum, which he very handsomely did, merely stipulating that these antiquities should, until the formation of the Town Museum, be placed

in the Society's reading-room, with particulars when and where they were found, and by whom presented. This has been done, and the committee, in accordance with the Baron's wish, named three persons as trustees to have charge of them—Mr. J. Cordy Burrows, Mr. J. Andrews, and myself.

Several small fragments of the broken handle have been submitted by me, in conjunction with Mr. Richard Noakes, of Brighton, to chemical test, and, according to these, proved to be amber. Similar experiments were made by us on other pieces of amber, with the like results. We also boiled some pieces of amber in spirits of turpentine, and found the process rendered them quite plastic while warm, so that the amber could be moulded with the fingers. This may assist our conjectures, how the cup was worked and made, and I am not aware that the experiment of boiling amber has ever been tried before. Perhaps the ancient Scandinavians had some secret by which they could soften it, by holding it over a fire of green pinewood.

The drawings of the various articles described were made by Mr. George De Paris, under my direction.

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P.S.—*January, 1857.*—On the open down forming the sheep-walk and north part of the farm occupied by Mr. Hardwick, at Hangleton, to the north-west of Brighton, was a little mound, and by its side a slight hollow or depression of the surface. Here Mr. Hardwick recently set some men to work to dig a pond, when they had occasion to remove the mound already mentioned, and in doing so dug out seven human skeletons, all of full size, placed in no particular order. They were about two feet below the turf, having apparently been placed on the ground and covered with the surface-mould and upper chalk taken out of the hollow. Nothing whatever was found with the bones; but several yards away from them was picked up a small Roman coin of brass, misshapen and very much corroded. On the obverse is what seems a head wearing the *corona radiata*; on the reverse is a *tropæum*, with a helmet and military standards. The only letters I can distinguish are V.M., being the concluding part of the inscription. A similar coin had been picked up several weeks previously, near Hangleton Church, thicker than the other, but also much oxidized. On one side is an imperial profile; on the other, a robed female stretching her right hand over a small altar, and holding something in the left. The only letters I can make out are AVG. However, I have been led to believe that the first is of the time of Germanicus, the second of Valerianus, who reigned from 253 to 260 A.D. The weight of the first is 40½ grains; of the second, only 31 grains. The small mound was not a camp, but resembled another about half a mile distant.

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RICHARD KIDDER, BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS,  
AND THE KIDDERS OF MARESFIELD.

BY THE REV. EDWARD TURNER.

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AMONG the Sussex families whose descent may be traced from an early period to the present time, and who have risen from circumstances comparatively humble to positions of considerable eminence and importance, is that of the Kidders of Maresfield, in the Register Books of which parish the name frequently occurs. These registers commence with the year 1538, and the earliest events recorded in them are connected with this family. That the Kidders were of respectable standing as yeomen in the parish, may be inferred from the circumstance that they held from time to time some of the principal parochial offices, such as guardians of the poor, churchwardens, &c.; and where the names of sponsors are entered in the same register books, which is the case from 1571 to 1585, they are associated in this capacity with some of the leading gentry of the neighbourhood in the record of baptisms of the children of such parents as ranked above the common class. One of the family is also sometimes designated "the bayliffe," at other times, *vulgo*, "the bayly," by which I understand the holder of a crown office connected with the extensive forest of Ashdown, or perhaps with that part of it only which was enclosed by John à Gaunt as a royal park, and which was called on that account "Lancaster Great Park," much of which was in Maresfield. Of this office the heads of the Kidder family were perhaps the hereditary possessors. Even so late as the time of Charles I. large herds of deer were kept up in the different enclosures, into which, for the accommodation of the different ages and sexes, this park was divided, as is still indicated by the names Hartfield

and Hartwell, Buckhurst, Buckstead and Buckstye, Hindover and Hindleap, Kidbrook, &c., which are all of them places in the immediate vicinity of what now remains of this once extensive forest tract. As "the bayliffe" was, according to Manwood,<sup>1</sup> the principal superintendent of the forest and its subordinate officers under the verderer, the name Kidder may possibly have been originally derived from the nature of the duties imposed upon him as the holder of this office. Mr. F. Kidder, of Boston, U.S., one of this family, informs me that there is a coat of arms, "which," to use his own words, "I trace in our family for over a hundred years, but do not find it in any book on heraldry. It is cut in stone. The principal figures are three kids or deer. There is no crest or motto." This seems to bear out my conjecture. Another suggestion which has been advanced is this: the name has been variously spelt at different times. In some documents of an early date it is written Kyddwr; and this has led to the supposition that the family were of very early Welsh extraction, and that the name is compounded of two Celtic words, *Kyd*, a town situated on a hill, and *dwr*, a stream of water. Kidder is the Saxon for a dealer in corn.

But whatever might have been the derivation of the name, that the office itself in the forest was an honourable as well as a profitable one, may be inferred from its having been held at an early period by persons of rank and distinction, unconnected apparently with the county. In Wright's *History of Rutlandshire*, published in the year 1660, Sir William Durant, Knt., is called "the bayliffe of Archedown Forest, in the county of Sussex." At what date he held this office this quaint old historian does not mention; but, as Sir William lived in the reign of Edward II., he probably received the appointment from him, and might have been the first "bayliffe" after the formation of Lancaster Great Park. The family of Durant held large possessions in the county of Rutland.

The residence of the Kidder family is sometimes called in old writings "the Hole," at other times "the Hole House," and "the Pool," and when Latinized, "de la Stagno," which are all names very descriptive of its situation in a deep forest

<sup>1</sup> Manwood's *Treatise of the Laws of the Forest*, &c.



dell, a considerable portion of which was evidently once occupied by water. Of this pool a part still remains, called "the Lake"; and the adjoining property, which, if it was not the entire, was, no doubt, parcel of the Kidder patrimonial estate, is now called "Lampool." The house, which was of a moderate size, and possessed no claim to architectural notice, has been taken down some years. In an old manorial book belonging to Viscount Gage, lord of the manor of Maresfield, in which the property is situated, it is described as "the Hole House, and certain lands called Arthurs or Athurs, consisting of 35 acres of land, lying between Horney Common and Lampool Green, late Newnham's, before Hoath's, and formerly Kidder's."

In the annexed genealogical table, the first of the family mentioned in the Maresfield Register is Richard Kidder of the Hole, who was buried in 1549; but his father, we learn from other sources, was resident in the parish in 1492. The family indeed may be traced back as landowners in Maresfield to the time of Edward II. On the Subsidy Roll for Sussex, 6 Edward III., 1332, the name appears as follows: "Simon at Hole js.  $j\frac{1}{2}d.$ " And again, 13 Eliz. (1570-1), "John Kydder, lands xxs." "John Kydder, J<sup>r</sup>., lands xxs." In the Muster Roll, *temp.* Henry VIII., the name frequently occurs, but is usually written Kether, which arose probably from the name being entered as it was usually pronounced.

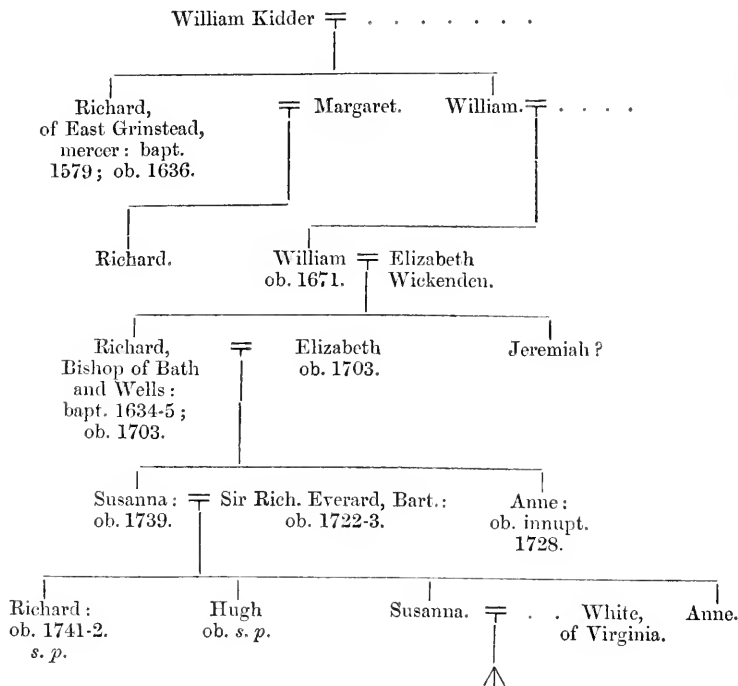
From the Manorial Books we learn also that other members of the Kidder family were copyholders in Maresfield. At a court held September 12th, 1599, William Kidder of Maresfield, was presented as dying seized of two parcels of land called the Scope and the Steake. In 1606, William Kidder of London is mentioned as a tenant owing suit and service; and Richard Kidder surrendered a copyhold called Adderal's Fields, containing 12 acres. At a court held the next year, Richard Kidder of the Hole was one of the homage, and Richard Kidder was presented as dying seized of a cottage and half an acre of land called the Slype. In 1608, Philip Kidder surrendered a messuage, barn, and garden, called Moyses, and 40 acres of assart land and other lands in Maresfield, to Barnabas Hodgson, a large ironfounder. There are entries in the same records of the deaths, surrenders, and

admissions of many other Kidders as tenants of the same manor previous to the year 1722. In that year John Kidder surrendered lands held by him to Andrew Gatland, and he appears to have been the last copyholder in it; and it is probable that he was the last of the family connected with the parish, for from that time to this the name of Kidder has ceased to exist in Maresfield. Among the MSS. *Inquisitiones post Mortem* (i. 95, Sussex, 42 Eliz.) is the record of an Inquisition taken at East Grinstead, January 2, 1600, before sundry jurors, who say, that John Kidder died June 21st, in the year preceding, and that at the time of his death he was seized of a demesne, as of fee, of and in a messuage, barn, stable, garden, orchard, and 80 acres of land with the appurtenances, in Marysfield, called Rolfe Colvyells, formerly Frytters; and that the said messuage and premises were held of our said Lady the Queen "ut de honore suo de Aquila per servitium militare, sed per quantam partem feodi militis juratores predicti ignorant; et valent per annum, ultra reprisalia, 20s." A farm adjoining the Pool, or Lampool Farm, is still called the Frytter Bank, and is probably the land here alluded to. By his will dated 1650, and proved in 1651, Drew Kidder of Maresfield, yeoman, devises his estate, called Kenates, to his son John; and other lands, together with a house in Maresfield Street, to his younger son Drew.

Richard Kidder, who died in 1549, had three sons. Richard, the eldest of these, had a large family, the five first-born of which were sons; and the descendants of the three eldest of these attained in different ways to considerable eminence. The elder branch continued to reside at Maresfield until the commencement of the eighteenth century, but Richard, the eldest son of Thomas the second son, removed to Lewes about the year 1590, where his family continued to reside for upwards of a century, and became opulent merchants. They are mentioned in the Town Records eight times as constables of the borough, the first appointment being in 1586, and the last in 1657. In Rowe's MS. of the customs of different manors in Sussex, they are represented as living in All Saints parish. "Lewes Burgus, Parochia omnium sanctorum, pars borealis, Thomas Kydder, pro tenemento, &c. Pars Australis, Richardus Kydder, pro tenemento, &c." Again, at

pages 73, 74, of the present volume, Richard Kidder is stated, in 1621, to have held goods valued £3. 5*s.* in Lewes Burrowe, and lands valued at £20. 2*s.* 8*d.* in Southover Burrowe. The Thomas Kydder here alluded to was probably the father of Anne Kydder, who married George Howard of Bookham, Surrey, son of Sir Charles Howard, Knt., and brother of Francis, fifth Lord Howard of Effingham, from which marriage the present Earl of Effingham is descended.

Another member of this family removed from Maresfield to East Grinstead at a somewhat earlier period, where he settled as a tradesman. In the Subsidy Roll of the 13th of Eliz. (1570-1), under the head "Borough of East Grinstead," occurs "Thomas Kidder, lands *xxs.*;" and again, in 22 James I. (1624-5), "Hundred of East Grinstead, Richard Kidder, lands *xxs.*" In the East Grinstead register books the name first appears in 1571, about seven years after they commence. Among the wills to be found in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury is that of Richard Kidder of East Grinstead, mereer, who was baptised there in 1579. He is called the son of William Kidder, and died in 1636. His will was proved May 30th of the same year, by Margaret, his widow, in which he mentions an estate which descended to him as the heir of Elizabeth, the daughter of Jeremiah Kidder. In 1671 the will of William Kidder of East Grinstead, dated 1669, was proved at Exeter House, in the Strand, before Sir Leoline Jenkyns. He is probably son of the person mentioned in Richard Kidder's will as "my brother William." In the entry of his burial he is described as of Sackville College, so that he must have lived to become a decayed tradesman. By his wife, whose name before marriage was Elizabeth Wichenden, he had a numerous family, for whom, as they grew up, he was able to do but little, his kind and generous disposition, which led him to become surety for others, having brought him into so great straits and difficulties, that he was compelled to sell the small estate he had, on which account, probably, we find him an inmate of the college. But, notwithstanding the difficulties with which he had to contend, their son Richard became a distinguished member of the Established Church, and eventually Bishop of Bath and Wells.



It is somewhat remarkable, and to be attributed perhaps to his being the son of very humble parents, that the birthplace of so eminent a divine should have been for many years involved in obscurity and doubt: some asserting that he was born at Lewes; Willis, and others, at Brighthelmstone. Even the county of which he was a native was by no means a certainty, the author of the Supplement to Collier's *Dictionary* asserting that he was born in Suffolk; while Chalmers, in his *Biographical Dictionary*, calls him "a very learned English bishop, born, as Wood says, in Sussex, but, as others say, in Suffolk." That he was a native of Sussex the inscription on his tomb in Wells Cathedral expressly states—

"Cui dedit  
Incunabula Sussexiensis ager."

And that he was born at East Grinstead in the year 1633-4, he himself tells us in an autobiographical memoir which he left of himself, and which was in the hands of the Rev. J. H.

Casson, when he published, in 1829, his *Lives of the Bishops of Bath and Wells*; since which time the MS. has not been heard of. Mr. Casson's widow, who appears to have assisted her husband as an amanuensis in the compilation of his book, states, in reply to a letter addressed to her on the subject, that she has a perfect recollection of making extracts from it at the time he was engaged in preparing his work for publication, but that she has now no knowledge of what became of it afterwards. Its loss is much to be deplored, for, in the extracts published, it is quite evident that he availed himself only of such parts of the MS. as had reference to the bishop's public life, though it could not fail to contain much interesting matter connected with his private history. A search among Mr. Casson's books and papers, now in charge of his widow at Bruton, may, at some future day, bring the lost MS. to light, or reveal to us what is become of it. That it was in Bishop Law's library at Wells, in the year 1830, we learn from Mr. Bowles's Introduction to his *Life of Bishop Ken*, published in that year, in which he expresses his thanks to that prelate for the information he was permitted to obtain from it, and adds, "This work, never printed, is a very curious and valuable document preserved in the Episcopal Library at Wells." In this autobiographical memoir the bishop says, "I was born at East Grinstead in 1633, and baptised there in February. I think the register hath it on the 8th." Here the bishop's statement is not quite correct, the entry in the East Grinstead register being as follows: "1633, February 9th, Richard, son of William and Elizabeth Kidder." "I was," the bishop continues, "the 8th child of my parents, who had 9 children, eight whereof lived to the age of men and women, and the greater part of them to more than 60. My father was a man of great diligence and industry, and made a shift, with a little estate of his own and some land that he hired, to give his children a decent education." In the will of William, the father, he is stated to have been a saddler. His mother, he says, was "a woman of great piety and sanctity, of much wisdom and diligence." Having been educated by a Mr. Reyner Harman, a German by birth, and a man of very superior classical attainments, whom he describes as a Sussex incumbent, he was first placed with an apothecary at Seven-

oaks, in Kent, but afterwards sent at the expense of private persons, who discerned in him abilities of a superior order, to Emanuel College, Cambridge. He was admitted a sizar of the college in 1649, was made A.B. in 1652, A.M. and Fellow in 1656, and thus fully realized the expectations that were formed of him, and D.D. in 1689. His first preferment was the college living of Stanground, in Huntingdonshire, from which he was ejected for nonconformity in 1662, having held the living ten years; but, on his conforming shortly after, the Earl of Essex gave him the living of Rayne, in Essex, which he vacated two years after, having been elected by the Merchant Tailors' Company to the rectory of St. Mary Outwich, London, in their patronage. In 1681 he was made a prebendary of Norwich Cathedral; in 1689, he was appointed to the deanery of Peterborough, which had become vacant by the appointment of Simon Patrick to the see of Chichester; and upon the deprivation of Ken, and Beveridge's refusal of the bishopric of Bath and Wells, he was appointed to that see. Here he met with a most melancholy end, having been killed at Wells by the fall of a stack of chimneys through the roof of the palace, which were blown down in the great storm of wind, Nov. 26th or 27th, 1703. His wife was killed at the same time, being found dead in bed, and the bishop dead on the floor, a short distance from it.<sup>2</sup> The bishop must have married while he held the living of Stanground; for, in his memoir of himself, he complains bitterly of the inconvenience, after he was deprived of this living, of being without clerical income with an increasing family.

Of his numerous children, two daughters only survived him, the greater part of his family having died of the Essex fever during the time he was the incumbent of Rayne. The younger, Anne, died single at Kensington. Her will is dated April 30th, 1728, and was proved May 16th following. By it she directs her body to be buried in the cathedral church of Wells, at an expense not exceeding £100; and she directs her executors to expend a farther sum of £300 in erecting a monument to the memory of her father and mother, for which she suggests a short English inscription; but this part of her will was not complied with, as the inscription on the tomb is

<sup>2</sup> Landsdowne MSS. le Neve, in the British Museum.

a very long Latin one. The elder daughter married, in 1706, Sir Richard Everard, Baronet, of Langley, in Essex, one of the early governors of North Carolina, who lived and died in Virginia, and whose descendants are among the most distinguished families in that state. Of these may be mentioned, as worthy of special notice, Richard Kidder Mead, a member of Congress; and Bishop Mead, the head of the Episcopal Church in that state. To her sister Susanna Everard, Anne Kidder devises all her real estate, and, among other lands, "my farme at Heathfield, in the county of Sussex;" and, by a codicil, she gives legacies to her sister's four children.

George, the grandson of Thomas, removed from Maresfield to London about the time that the descendants of Richard, Thomas's elder brother, left Maresfield for Lewes; and he was the founder of the London and Irish branch of the family. At what time he migrated from Maresfield to London with his family is not exactly known; nor am I able to connect the London branch one with another in regular succession. At this distant period of time they are not to be known otherwise than individually by their wills. Referring, then, to these documents, and taking them, as far as we can, in the order of their date, we find the will of a John Kidder proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in 1647: in it he is described as of St. Anne's, Blackfriars. The business in which he was engaged is not mentioned. Among the London *Tradesmen's Tokens*, published by Mr. J. Y. Akerman, are two with the name. One has in three lines across the field, "William Kidder, 1666, in Blackfriars," and in the field, W. K.; the other is without date, and has across the field, "Susan Kidder, Sempster, Southampton Buildings," and in the field "S. B. K. Semster." The will of Thomas Kidder, of London Bridge, citizen and merchant tailor, was proved in 1656. He must have been a man of some wealth, for he left considerable sums of money to his widow and to each of his four children. His grey and chestnut geldings he gave to his brothers, Richard and Edward; and to his lovyng friend and neighbour John Worger his ring, with a death's head on it. He also gave legacies of money and clothes to his servants. He was probably of the Lewes branch. The will of William Kidder was proved in 1665, in which he is described

as a "citizen of London, weaver." Among other bequests he gives a small sum "to the poor of St. Buttolph's, Aldgate." The will of Richard Kidder of London, citizen and merchant tailor, dated January 10th, 1680, was proved in 1681, and directs rings of 10s. a piece value to be given to such of his friends as may attend his funeral, the charges of which he limits to £100, or thereabouts, which implies considerable opulence. The will of a Jeremiah Kidder, described as "late of St. Paul's, Covent Garden," was proved in 1697, and his widow Mariana's in 1715. He probably was the son of William Kidder, of East Grinstead, and a brother of the bishop. There are also extant wills of Nicholas Kidder, of Greenwich, in 1697-8, and others of later date.

Another resident in London who became a man of some notoriety was Edward Kidder, a pastrycook, or, as he called himself, "pastry-master," who carried on his business in Queen Street, Cheapside. So important an accomplishment was the art of making pastry considered in his day, that it was not unfrequently taught in schools established for the purpose. This induced him to open two such schools, one at his own place of business, and the other in Holborn. He also gave instruction to ladies at their private houses. So popular did his system of teaching become, that he is said to have instructed nearly 6000 ladies in this art. He also published a book of *Receipts of Pastry and Cookery*, for the use of his scholars, printed entirely in copper-plate, with a portrait of himself, in the full wig and costume of the day, as a frontispiece. He died in 1739, at the age of seventy-three; and his will, dated 1734, was proved in 1739. In it he gave to his wife Mary Kidder a gold watch, a diamond ring, and all the other rings and trinkets used by her, and also all the furniture of the bedroom in which he lay in the house in Queen Street; and to his two daughters, Elizabeth and Susan, he bequeathed all his money, Bank stock, plate, jewellery, &c. His daughter Elizabeth's will was proved in 1758, and her sister Susan's in 1768. Susan, amongst other bequests, gave to her cousin George Kidder, of Canterbury, pastrycook, £50, and her copper-plates for the receipt-book.

What business George Kidder followed in London I have been unable to ascertain; but it was probably that of a silver-



smith, in which his son Vincent was certainly engaged in the year 1650. During the Commonwealth this Vincent Kidder joined the Parliamentary forces under Cromwell, and was actively engaged in the reduction of Ireland. He was an enterprising and successful officer, and attained to the rank of a major in the army. A grant of 1000 acres had been made him at Rochestown, Kilkenny, of which he was deprived at the Restoration, but which was, upon his petition, restored and confirmed to him and his heirs for ever on the 6th of October, 1676, by the commissioners appointed under the Act of Settlement, it having been proved to their satisfaction that the land in question was allotted and assigned to him, or to those for whom he claimed, for his and their services as soldiers in the late war in Ireland, and that they were in the actual possession of them May 7th, 1659.<sup>3</sup> He married Ellen, daughter of Adam, second son of Sir Thomas Loftus, Bart., of Kyllian, county Meath, and grand-daughter of Adam Loftus, Archbishop of Dublin, and Lord Chancellor of Ireland in 1678. By her mother, who was the daughter of Richard Cosby, of Stradbally, Esq., she was lineally descended from Thomas of Woodstock, seventh son of Edward III. Adam, their eldest son, who married Cecilia, daughter of Thomas, and grand-daughter of Sir Dudley Loftus, and who resided at Parke, county Meath, was attainted by James II. in the memorable Parliament held in Dublin, 1693. In the will of his widow, proved in 1735, he is described as "Lieut. Adam Kidder, of General Steward's regiment of foot." Vincent, their second son, who pursued his father's business of a silversmith, was a lieutenant in Captain Collingham's company of Irish Volunteers, and greatly distinguished himself at the battle of the Boyne, for which he was made a colonel; and hence the adoption of the word "Boyne" as a motto to their coat of arms.

"January 15th, 1810. Grant of coat of arms under the seal of Ulster King at Arms, to the descendants of Vincent Kidder:—

Vert—3 crescents—or—2 and 1.

Crest—A hand couped below the elbow proper valed azure holding a packet, thereon the word 'standard.'

<sup>3</sup> Certificates of Adventurers, roll 24, memb. 25.

Motto—‘Boyne.’

“Recorded in the College of Arms, London, May 22, 1827.”

The arms on Bishop Kidder’s tomb in Wells Cathedral are those of the family of Kyddall in Lincolnshire, namely, “Sable, a saltere ragulé argent.” See York’s *Union of Honour*. Other authorities (Burke, and Berry) describe the saltere as “embattled, counterembattled.”

Vincent was admitted a freeman of the Dublin Goldsmiths’ Company in 1690, became master of the same company in 1696, and assay-master in 1697. As a mark of esteem for him a piece of plate was presented to him, in 1717, by the corporation; and his full-length portrait was for some years placed in the Goldsmiths’ Hall, but is now in the Assay Office in the Custom House, Dublin. The crest of the Irish branch of the family—a hand holding an assay ticket, with the word “standard” written on it—is an allusion to the office of assay-master which Colonel Kidder held in this company. Of his eight children, Thomas alone survived him, and was ten years old at his father’s death in 1736. Having been defrauded of his patrimony by his guardians, he was sent to England, and settled as a tanner in Lancashire. He had a large family. His two surviving sons, Thomas and Edward, were both citizens of London—the latter dying in 1817, the former in 1820, and both were buried at Maresfield. Of his six daughters, Anne married James Crosby, to whose son of the same names, a Fellow of the Antiquarian and a Member of the Sussex Archæological Society, I am under considerable obligations for much information embodied in this memoir.

The descendants of John, the third son of Richard, who died in 1549, appear to have left Maresfield about the time of the migration of his cousins, descended from the two elder brothers, when the spirit of enterprise seems to have taken possession of the family, and to have carried them forth into the world in search of a larger field of active utility. James, the grandson of this John, removed, about the year 1599, into the adjoining parish of East Grinstead, where the family of William Kidder had been previously settled. His son James emigrated to America in the year 1630, and, settling himself at Cambridge, was a landowner there in 1649. He married Anna, the daughter of Elder Francis Morne, one of

the most opulent and respectable residents of that place. He was probably among the first settlers in that state, where he combined a military life with the peaceful pursuits of agriculture. His descendants are now very numerous in America, being spread over the broad expanse of territory from the Penobscot to the upper Mississippi, and from Canada to Louisiana, some of whom have been legislators of the particular states to which they belong, and two have been members of Congress. By marriage they have become connected with some of the leading families in that country.

His grandson, Reuben Kidder, was the successful and popular founder of the New Ipswich colony, in Hillsbury county, New Hampshire.

Other members of the Kidder family left Maresfield, and settled themselves in the counties of Surrey, Kent, and Gloucestershire, during the seventeenth century; while the heads of the house continued to reside in their native parish, and on their slender patrimonial estate, until 1724, when the last, a hale and venerable man, died, and was buried at the advanced age of eighty-three, shortly after which the property was purchased by, and merged in the estate of, the owner of Maresfield Park.

Although the family are now so widely dispersed, yet so endeared to the different members of it is the parish of Maresfield, from whence they sprung, that as many as can be are brought to Maresfield to be interred; and their tombs, after recording the fact of their death and burial, and any remarkable events that may have happened to be connected with the history of their lives, do not fail to set forth that they were "descended from the ancient family of Kidder, of this parish."



# THE CHANTRY OF BRAMBLETYE, AND SEDITION IN SUSSEX, TEMP. ELIZABETH, 1579.

BY WILLIAM DURRANT COOPER, F.S.A.

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THE following extracts from the State Paper Office give us a curious insight into the apprehensions felt in Sussex, whenever the dignity of Elizabeth was questioned. The disturbed state of the county in the last quarter of the sixteenth century, has been noticed on a former occasion. (*Archæol. Coll.* Vol. V. p. 195.) From the examinations sent up to the Council by the justices in quarter sessions assembled, it seems that their fears were very much excited by the charge made by an angry woman against a poor attorney, who set up a right derived under the crown itself against the interest of the very gallant Mrs. Pykas. Fortunately the Council saw nothing so formidable in the matter as to take any further notice of Lord Buckhurst, or his relative or attorney, or the querulous leader of the little host of servants.

The papers were kindly pointed out to me by Mr. Robert Lemon, F.S.A., of the State Paper Office, where the Justices' letter and the examinations had become disconnected, till he brought the several parts once more together.

Of the manor of Brambletye no accurate particulars have been published. It formed a portion of the large possessions of the St. Cleres, till the death of Thomas St. Clere, on the 6th May, 1435,<sup>1</sup> leaving his three daughters his coheireses: Elizabeth, then aged twelve; Eleanor, then aged eleven; and Edith, then aged nine years.<sup>2</sup> The manor was holden of the King as of his duchy of Lancaster by military service, and was worth

<sup>1</sup> Inq. p. m. taken at East Grinstead, 13th March, 17th Henry VI. No. 56.

<sup>2</sup> *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* Vol. VIII., p. 131.

100*s.* a year. As St. Clere, however, had his park at Lanertye, in East Grinstead, he is not likely to have had a chantry at Brambletye, nor can I discover the founder. Upon the division of the estates of St. Clere, Brambletye came to his eldest daughter, Elizabeth, who married—firstly, William Lovell (by whom she had one son, Henry, who died leaving two daughters coheiresses, Elizabeth and Agnes); and secondly, Richard Lewknor, who is the first person described as of Brambletye,<sup>3</sup> and who, most probably, built the house. His wife, Elizabeth St. Clere, died before 1486, without leaving any children by him; and he himself died 13th February, 1503,<sup>4</sup> without issue, although he had taken for his second wife Katherine, daughter of Lord Scales, and widow of Sir Thos. Grey, Knt., one of the ladies to the Queens of Edward IV. and Henry VII. She died in 1505, and was buried at East Grinstead, where her monument recorded that she and Lewknor, her last husband, not only provided many ornaments for that church (the patronage of which had been appropriated, 26th Edward III., to the priory of Lewes),<sup>5</sup> but also an almshouse for three persons. To Richard Lewknor and his wife Katherine, therefore, may be, with all likelihood, ascribed the foundation of the free chapel or chantry of Brambletye. It was endowed out of the manor with lands, and a rent-charge of 26*s. 8d.* After the dissolution of the colleges, chantries, &c., 1st Edward VI., the return<sup>6</sup> states that Edward Stevynson was the last incumbent, “about thre or foure yeres past,” and that “this chauntry or free chappell was dissolved by the Lorde Wyndsore this thre or foure yeres, who deneith the same to be the king’s, albeit the fermor of the said Lord’s manour of Brameltie is bounden by his lease to pay the rent aforesaid to the chauntry preist accordingly.”

By the examinations it appears that there had been a commission in the time of Elizabeth (although I cannot find it among the public records), under which the chantry lands had been found as belonging to the crown, who had granted them

<sup>3</sup> *Sussex Arch. Coll.* Vol. III. p. 95.

<sup>4</sup> *Inq. p. m.* Suffolk, 18 Henry VII. No. 97.

<sup>5</sup> A chantry in this church was founded 19 Edward II. by William Hellindale, and was endowed with lands in East

Grinstead and rents out of the manors of Imberhorne and Dodeleswell.—*Inq. ad quod damnum*, No. 116.

<sup>6</sup> Carlton Ride MSS., under Est Grenstede.

to John Farnham, a large recipient of these grants; and he had aliened the lands to Lord Buckhurst.

STATE PAPER OFFICE, DOMESTIC, MAY, 1579.

*Proceedings against John Turner for seditious words spoken on livery and seizin of Brambletye Chapel to Lord Buckhurst's use.*

Our duties to your lordships in most humble wise remembered. There came before us at the late sessions, holden at Lewis now after Ester, on Katherin Pickas, who, among other matters then and there declared by her unto us, did affirme that on John Turner in seeking to make liverie and sesin of a dede made from John Farnam of a chapel and certein landes to the Lord Buckhurst, in w<sup>ch</sup> the said John Turner was atturnie for that purpose, did speke certein evell and unsemely wordes toching the Quenes ma<sup>tie</sup> such as she thought fit to imparte unto us. The effect whereof was thus: whan the said Katherin Pickas and vj other w<sup>th</sup> her had found the said John Turner and v others w<sup>th</sup> him, at a place being nere to the hous of on Steven Frenche within Grinsted parishe in Sussex, she asked of the said John Turner what he and the rest did there. The said John Turner answered "to take possession for my Lorde of Buckhurste for the chapel of Brambletie, and land w<sup>ch</sup> (as he said) pertanied thereunto;" the saide Katherin answered "by what authoritie?" and the said Turner answered "by authority from John Farnam." "What hath he to do here?" (said the said Katherin.) This matter is ended by the Quene, God save her highnes." "Yt makes no matter for the Quene" (said the said Turner.) "No (said the said Katherin). Is my lord of Buckhurst above the Quene?" "Yea (said Turner), in this respecte." Upon the informacon of w<sup>ch</sup> saide wordes unto us some of us were of opinion that we shold consider of the matter among ourselves, and accordingle to procede as to the same caus upon the statute made against suche as shalle use any fals seditious or slaunderous wordes against the Quenes highnes;<sup>7</sup> others were of mind that in a matter thus concerning

<sup>7</sup> The stat. 1st Eliz. c. 6, extending to Queen Elizabeth the act of 1 and 2 Phil. and Mary, c. 30, by which the justices were enabled to punish the first offence by the

pillory and loss of both ears, or a fine of £100 and three months' imprisonment; and the second offence, by imprisonment for life, and loss of goods.

her ma<sup>tie</sup>, we ought rather to remit the iudgement thereof to the order and wisdomes of your honorable lordships: unto w<sup>ch</sup> presentlie we all assented. And therupon we toke the examinacons by othe of all such as were said to be present at the said place and time, whan the said wordes were supposed to be spoken, save of the said John Turner, and of on Alexander Middleton being but a boy of xiiij yeres of age: unto bothe w<sup>ch</sup> we forbare to offer any othe, becaus the on was the partie acused, the other of so yonge yeres; but how far furthe the same wordes are proved or disproved by the deposicons of thos that were present, or how they are to be understode or expounded, we do most humbly referre to the judgement of your Lordships, to whome we send herewithall the examinacons of the said parties at large, and so doe most humbly take our leave. ffrom Lewis in Sussex this second day of May 1579.

Your Lordships humbly to comande,

T. BUCKEHURSTE.

RICHARDE COUERT.

THOM. PELHAM.

JOHN COLEPEPER.

GEORGE GORINGE.

JOHN SACKEVILLE.

To the right honorable and our verie good Lordes  
the Lordes of her Ma<sup>ties</sup> most honorable Privee  
Counsellors be thes deliuerede.

Katherin Pycas, wife of James Pycas, about forty-four years of age, deposed that she being at Stephen Frenches door in Grinsted, there being then also present John Turner, Gilbert Sackville, Gent., Robert Fryer, Edmund Tomson, Robert Payne, Evans Flud, Henry Cropper, John Cotty, Edward Matthew, Richard Knight, Alexander Mydelton, and Jone Grame, the conversation passed as set out in the letter: adding that Turner spoke the words very vehemently: she added "I hope my Lord of Buckhurst will take nothing away from us wrongfully." "No, I warrant you," said Mr. Sackevyll, "there is never a right further from you;" and then she related a further talk with Mr. Sackevyll, who did not deny that the words were used. (Signed by the above six justices, and also by Richard Shelley, Laurens Levat, and Henry Bartlet.)

Henry Cropper of Bramblety, servant to Mr. Pycas, con-



firmed his mistress: as did also other servants, viz. John Cotty, Edward Marten, Richard Knight, Alexander Mydelton, and Jone Greme.

John Turner, gentleman, aged thirty-eight years (unsworn), stated that by virtue of a letter of attorney by John Farnham, Esq., to Gilbert Sackvill and himself, jointly and severally, to make livery and seizin of the chantry and chapel of Bramblety to Lord Buckhurst, they came to a green between Stephen Frenche's house and the chapel, intending to make the delivery to Robert Fryer to his lordship's use, in the presence of Evans Flud, Edmund Tomson, and Robert Payn, but were set upon by Cotty, Matthew, Cropper, and others; and after some blows Turner, seeing Katherin Pyeas coming towards them in great haste, and others following her with staves and other weapons, Turner and his party departed from the green to a lane a little beneath Frenche's house, and then Catherine Pyeas asked Turner "what have you to do here? and will you shew your authority?" Whereupon he referred to the deed and grant to Lord Buckhurst, and the letter of attorney to deliver seizin. They then asked how Mr. Farnham came by it? and he said by the Queen's Majesty's letters patent. Then she said that her title was good, and that she had proved it before the Queen's Majesty's commissioners. Whereupon Turner answered that if her title were good, that which he did could do her no hurt, and wished her, if her title were good, to shew it to Lord Buckhurst by her counsel; and he thought if her title fell out better than his lordship's, she would find that favor, that he would not shew her. She said that she would shew it to my lord and my lord's betters, and to them that would not be afraid to shew it him, and that it was but a private thing, and that my lord would stop a poor man's living. Turner then said "there is a better way," and then went into a field, and she remained in the lane, and then went again after Turner and his friends with her company with staves. Turner asked her what she made in that ground, and she said it was her land, and Turner said it was Henry Payne's during his lease, and she answered, he should not enjoy it, and bid her men drive them out, and follow them, "you Berkshire gentleman, you think to make me stoop to you, but I will never do it:" whereunto he answered, "no, good gossip,

I mean it not," and so departed homeward and returned not.

Gilbert Sackfyle, aged sixty-eight years of age, said he was not present near Frenche's door where the words were supposed to be spoken, but he did hear the portion about it not being further from her, if her title were good. And afterwards meeting with her again, she said "we may thank you for all this," and further, "will not you say as yonder Jack hath saith?" "What is that?" "Marry," said she, "he said my Lord of Buckhurst is above the Queen," whereupon Sackville answered "he has too much wit to say so." "And will not you say so?" quoth she twice together: "No, marry, will I not," said he: but whether she said that the words were concerning the Queen, that the Lord Buckhurst was above the Queen in this respect, he knew not.

John Fryer confirmed the memorandum of the conversation as set down by Turner a few days after the discourse.

Edmund Tompson denied that those words, nor were the like spoken in his presence, and he was near enough to hear; and Payne and Flud confirmed him.

The Council, however, were not so much frightened as the Sussex magistrates, and accordingly no notice appears in the minutes of the letter or of the sedition!

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Abbey ruins at Fife

W. P. 1. 1841

THE RUINS OF THE ABBEY OF FIFE

W. P. 1. 1841

THE PREMONSTRATENSIAN ABBEY OF BAYHAM;  
WITH SOME PARTICULARS RELATING TO ITS ORIGIN  
AND HISTORY.

BY THE REV. GEORGE MILES COOPER.

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PARTLY READ AT THE NEWHAVEN MEETING, SEPTEMBER, 1856.

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To the lover of picturesque antiquity the ruined Abbey of Bayham presents remains more interesting perhaps than those of any other monastic establishment in the county of Sussex. Of that county it is just within the limits, being situate in the parish of Frant, but so near to Kent as to have part of its domain in the adjoining parish of Lamberhurst. Surrounded by watery glades and scenery of the deepest repose, it well deserves its ancient name of "Begham," which has been interpreted to mean "an abode encircled with streams as with a garland," the Saxon "beag" or "beg" signifying a chaplet or crown. Begham was afterwards changed to Begeham, Beigham, and finally, Bayham. A footpath leads the visitor by the side of a rill which, being first headed back so as to form a narrow pretty piece of water edged with lofty trees, afterwards finds its way to the meadows below in a devious rapid course, here and there diversified by a tiny waterfall. This stream once turned the abbey mill, which stood near to the main edifice, but has long since entirely disappeared. Crossing what was formerly the mill-dam, you find yourself in the vicinity of the ruins, which stand in the pleasure-grounds belonging to the Marquis of Camden's modern mansion, and constitute, an antiquary may perhaps be excused for thinking, their most attractive ornament.

Among the most conspicuous parts remaining are a few arches of the refectory, and portions of the dormitories, with

a fractured stair that led to them. Beneath may be seen the ruins of certain small apartments, roofed over by very massive vaults somewhat rudely constructed: these were the cells wherein the recluses passed their waking hours in solitary silence, or in the stated exercises of private devotion. Around an open court, of which the cells and dormitories form the south side, appear to have been cloisters for their daily walk; and on the north side stands the abbey church, or such parts of it as have escaped destruction, the south wall being still very lofty, and in some danger of falling, were it not for the shores and braces by which, in addition to the ancient buttresses, such a catastrophe is carefully sought to be averted. Entering in at the west end, one is struck with the apparent narrowness of the nave in proportion to its length and height, the extreme measurement from east to west, including the chancel, being 257 feet, and the height, from the ground to the plate-beams of the roof, 50; whilst its width is only 24 feet. It is crossed by a transept of 86 feet in length, and their intersection was formerly surmounted by a central tower supported by clustered pillars, highly ornate and elegant; of these three out of four are yet in tolerable preservation, but one has fallen to utter decay. The general character of the architecture is that of the thirteenth century.

The situation of this abbey is low and damp, the moisture arising from the rushy winding streamlets in its vicinity being so great as to render the turf of the lawn adjacent little better than moss. Beautiful even in desolation, it must have been singularly beautiful in its complete state, and, from its sylvan and sequestered position, well suited for the purposes of religious retirement and contemplation.

This monastery owed its immediate erection to Sir Robert de Turnham, a distinguished soldier of Richard I., who appears to have enjoyed a large share of favour both with that heroic monarch and his ignoble successor. Weaver, in his *Funeral Monuments*, p. liv., speaking of the foundation of Begham, quotes some rugged lines (which he attributes to Robert of Gloucester, but which are, in fact, taken from a rhythmical history in an anonymous MS. of A.D. 1448, in the College of Arms) to show that de Turnham, after many acts

of valour, met his death at the hands of the Saracens, and was pathetically lamented by his royal master.

“Robart of Turnham with his Fauchion,  
Gan to cracke many a crown.”

“But,” adds Weaver, “he was so busy in cracking the Sarasins’ crownes, that he tooke the lesse heede (methinkes) of his owne, for then and there he was slaine, together with Robert de Bellemont, surnamed *Blanchmaines*, Earle of Leicester, and other noble warriours,” whose loss King Richard is made to lament in some more verses.

This affecting narrative, however, so far as concerns our founder, proves to be a mere poetic fiction; for Sir William Dugdale, who derived his information from authentic records, relates in plain prose that de Turnham came safe back from the Holy Land, bringing with him “the King’s harness”; that he was active in raising means for the ransom of Richard from his captivity in Germany, towards which ransom he was himself excused from contributing on account of his zealous exertions, and partly (it may be) because of his personal favour with the King; that he was afterwards employed in many important offices, being several times sheriff of Surrey (and once, we may add, of Sussex); and finally, that he died in peace, full of years as well as honours, in the thirteenth year of King John. However truly, therefore, the poet of Gloucester may sing the fate of the *white-handed* Earl of Leicester and other heroes,<sup>1</sup> it is certain that this man of the red hand returned to England; and to him, as we shall see, our abbey was indebted, not strictly for its first origin, but for its site and name, together with some other valuable additions to its endowments.

A remarkable passage in the military career of this valiant knight is related by the same laborious and accurate writer, Sir William Dugdale (*Baronage*, i. 662). In an expedition against the Island of Cyprus, Sir Robert, he tells us, had the command of half the galleys; and upon the capture of that island with its emperor, he was associated with Sir Richard

<sup>1</sup> Among the warriors at this time with Richard is mentioned Sir Robert Sakeville, whose son Jordan married Ela de Dene,

subsequently patroness of the Abbey of Begham.

de Caunvill or Camvill in the government of the place. Soon after, upon the death of de Camvill at the siege of Acon, he became sole governor of Cyprus, and, raising a considerable force, gave battle to a new emperor, whom he conquered and hanged upon a gallows.

Perhaps it was some feeling of compunction for such deeds of violence which led him, after his return to England, to direct his thoughts towards religious foundations. The glory of his exploits could not hide from him the danger of blood-guiltiness; and, like many others of his order in similar circumstances, he strove to quiet the misgivings of conscience by establishing houses consecrated to God, the solemn services performed in which might (it was conceived) avail for his future benefit.

Besides contributing largely to the establishment of Begham, Sir Robert was the sole founder of Cumbwell Abbey, in the neighbouring parish of Goudhurst, a house assigned to the canons of St. Augustine. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and at the dissolution granted to Sir John Gage, when its clear income was £80. 17s. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. Part of the building, used as a farmhouse, was standing in the beginning of the present century, but was then finally demolished.

The principal seat of this family seems to have been at what is now called Thorneham, in Kent, a parish not far from Maidstone, in the lathe of Aylesford, where the ruins of their ancient castle, seated on a rising ground, may still be seen.

The manner in which two small houses of Premonstratensian monks, at Brockley in Deptford, and at Ottenham in the parish of Hailsham, were brought together at the end of the twelfth century, and formed into one community at Begham, will be found already narrated in the fifth volume of the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, p. 155. Both were in circumstances of penury, and both desirous, very naturally, of bettering their condition; and in consequence, as it would seem, of their complaints, Ela de Saukeville, daughter of Ralph de Dene, the founder of Ottenham, joined with Sir Robert de Turnham, the patron of the Deptford monastery, in consolidating these two kindred fraternities, and in effecting their joint settlement at Begham. In the case of Ottenham, the canons loudly pro-



claimed their poverty; and at a very early period of that abbey's existence (about A.D. 1190), Richard de Brade had given them permission to remove the seat of their monastery to his church at Hellingly, or to any other part of his property which they might prefer; but they wisely declined to make a change which would have left them still dependent for subsistence upon their own unaided resources. In the case of Brockley, I do not find the same complaint of insufficient means actually expressed; but their speedy migration sufficiently indicates that they were dissatisfied with their position, and desirous to exchange it for a better. Ela obtained the right of advowson to the new abbey, which continued with her descendants, the Sackvilles, till its suppression. From this fact it seems a natural inference that the endowments of the house at Ottenham exceeded in value those of Brockley, unless indeed the patronage were conceded to the lady from other considerations of which we have no distinct mention.

Of the possessions belonging to Ottenham an account is given in the volume of these *Collections* just referred to: it will only be necessary here to notice the portion which the monks of Deptford, who owed their institution in good measure to the Turnham family, contributed to the common stock, with some acquisitions subsequent to the union. The manor of Brockley, their original endowment, consisted of the farm now called Hither or Upper Brockley, near New Cross, in the parish of Deptford, and of that which is now Forest Place, *alias* Brockley Farm, in the parish of Lewisham.<sup>2</sup> It appears to have been given by the Conqueror to Gilbert de Maminot, whose great-grandson Walchelin de Maminot granted it to Michael de Tunham for an annual rent of xij*l.*, Michael, in consideration of this grant, paying down 40*s.*, and becoming his feudatory tenant—"homo meus." This Walchelin married Juliana Countess of Brockley, and relict of Hugh Bigod; and to the Countess Juliana, after the death of her second husband, Michael, with the consent of his nephew Stephen, sold it for the purpose of enabling her to found there a religious house, about the end of Henry II.'s reign

<sup>2</sup> Hasted's *Kent*.

or the beginning of the reign of Richard I. Her charter of foundation is preserved in the *Monasticon*:—"Know all men, sons of our Holy Mother the Church, as well present as to come, that I Juliana, Countess of Brocele, do give, grant, and confirm, for the salvation of my soul and for the souls of my father and mother and of my lords Hugh, Bigoth, and Walkelin Maminot and of all my ancestors, for a perpetual alms to God and St. Mary of Brocele and the brethren of the Premonstratensian order there serving God, all the land of Brocele with its appurtenances in wood and plain, in arable and pasture, meadow and marsh, roads and paths, which Michael de Turneham sold to me, as his free gavilikinde and stockikinde, to found there, with consent of his nephew Stephen de Turneham, a house of religion," &c., with other property granted, which she goes on to describe. The monks were afterwards confirmed in their possession by Geoffrey de Say, who had married Alice, sister and coheir of the above-mentioned Walchelin, and so became patron of the convent and lord of the barony in which it stood. There is also a deed whereby Geoffrey's son, of the same name, confirms a grant to these monks made by his father and "Aliz" his mother, with the consent of Gilbert Bishop of Rochester, of the church of St. Nicholas of Grenewich,<sup>3</sup> with all its appurtenances, during their stay at Brockley.

It was about the year 1200, that Sir Robert de Turneham assigned his manor of Begham to be the seat of an abbey dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, when both he and Ela de Saukeville gave their formal sanction to the transfer to this place of the Premonstratensian canons, previously settled at Brockley and Otteham. At first the abbey was called Beaulieu,<sup>4</sup> from the beauty of its situation; but this title was soon merged in the more familiar name of Begham, or Begeham. Besides the manor and land which thus afforded to these vagrant monks "a local habitation and a name," the pious knight added other valuable donations, proofs of his munificence and good will. He first confirmed all the grants

<sup>3</sup> The parish in which the old town of Deptford, then called West Grenewich, was situate.

<sup>4</sup> The charter of Robert de Turneham, authorizing the removal of the Otteham

monks to Begham, and granting them a full right of property with their brethren of Brockley in all its possessions, speaks of it as "*Abbatia que dicitur Beuliv.*"

which Michael de Turneham, his uncle, had made to Brockley, viz., the lands of Blechinden, Faukrige, Wichilinden, Wimbrig, Estehrige, Matefeld, and what was then known as Nicholas' Land.<sup>5</sup> The four last had been previously bestowed upon Michael, by Richard de Wotringaberia (*Wateringbury, in Kent*), for services rendered in Normandy and England, Michael agreeing to be "his man," and giving him a certain palfrey which had been sent (*missum*), and a sword: and the grant of them by Michael to Brockley was afterwards confirmed by Hamo de Wotringeberia.<sup>6</sup> Sir Robert added of his own gift, the land of Kingswode, in Sandrigg,<sup>7</sup> which he bought of William de Kaio; that which he held at Rokeland (in Wartling) of the monks of St. Martin's de Bello, subject to a quit-rent of 5*s.* at Michaelmas, in lieu of every service; certain lands also at Grimbroc,<sup>8</sup> held by him of the monks of St. Pancras, in Lewes, with a similar reservation of 2*s.* yearly; and that which he purchased of Gunnora<sup>9</sup> and her sons, in Sandrigg near the abbey, subject to the same quit-rent. To these were added the manors of Rokely, Grimbroc, and Childhurst (*alias Gildhurst and Chittlehurst*<sup>10</sup>), with the men, rents, and all appurtenances, accompanied by an entire relinquishment of all rights which he either had or might have in them, or his uncle before him. In this deed is disclosed a trait of character creditable to our valiant knight: death had not extinguished his love of that royal master for whom he had fought, and whose captivity he had laboured so assiduously to abridge. All these fair lands and many privileges were given for the soul of the good King Richard:

<sup>5</sup> Blechenden Farm and Matfield, both in Brenehley, and Wimbridge, near Bayham, still retain their ancient appellations slightly altered.

<sup>6</sup> Add. MSS. 6037, Cartæ 162 and 164. In the reign of Henry II. (A.D. 1154-1189) this Richard de Wotringaberia held two knights' fees in that place of Walter de Meduana, who held the same of the King *in capite*. (Libr. Rubr. Scac. f. 84, cited by Hasted.)

<sup>7</sup> Now King's Toll Farm, and Sandhurst Farm, near the abbey. I am indebted to J. W. Roper, Esq., of Frant, for kindly assisting me in several of these identifications.

<sup>8</sup> Grimbroc (*Greenbrook*?) otherwise

Crimbroc, must mean the modern *Cranbrook*, of which Bayham possessed the manor (see Tanner, page 215). It was granted to Robert de Turneham and his heirs, when *Robert* was prior, to be held in fee and hereditarily.

<sup>9</sup> Gunnora—Two ladies of this name occur in our Sussex monastic documents; one, the wife of William de Cabaigues, the family connected with Horsted Keynes; the other of Sir Walter de Letton, a benefactor of Michelham Priory (see *Sussex Arch. Coll.* VI. p. 135). The former is probably here meant.

<sup>10</sup> Now Chilthurst, in the parish of Wartling, part of which is the site of a church lately erected at Bodle Street.

to which grateful dedication, loyalty first, and then domestic affection, prompted him to add—"for the salvation also of my Lord King John and his children, for my own salvation, and for the souls of all my predecessors and successors."

Towards the end of his life, Sir Robert presented King John with "two horses of price," for a confirmation of the grants made by himself and others to the canons of Begham, which that monarch accordingly gave in two charters: the one confirming to them the possession of the Brockley foundation, dated at Merlberg (Marlborough), March 17, in the 9th year of his reign (A.D. 1207); the other comprising the Ottenham property, dated at Cnapp, 6th April, 1210. Lastly, the gifts of Robert, his brother, and his uncle Michael, are confirmed by Stephen de Turneham, with other land at Waldelintune (*Whatlington?*) and Nodingeford, or Hodingeford—for it is thus diversely transcribed; and one virgate in Oxney.

Upon these ample foundations our abbey began to rise; but the progress of the building does not seem to have been rapid, notwithstanding the zeal of its powerful friends, and the active exertions of the brethren. It is, indeed, reasonable to suppose that edifices erected on such a scale, with so much attention to ornament as well as solidity, usually occupied a long period in their construction. In the present instance we have evidence that about A.D. 1234, which must have been several years after the commencement of the work, it was still in progress. A declaration of indulgence was then issued by Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, with a view to aid in raising the funds necessary for its completion. An indulgence was, in those days, one of the most efficacious methods of opening the purse-strings of the faithful. The Primate expresses himself in the following form:—"Edmund by the mercy of God Archbishop of Canterbury, &c., Trusting in the merits of all the saints, we offer to all who have confessed their sins and are truly penitent, and who, out of the good bestowed upon them by God, shall have contributed somewhat from a feeling of piety towards the construction of the church of the Blessed Mary of Begeham, or shall have visited that place for the purpose of offering up their prayers, a relaxation of forty days from the penance enjoined upon them: But we will not that any preacher be admitted by these our

letters. Given at Mallinge,<sup>11</sup> October 2nd, in the 9th year of our Pontificate.”

In this instrument we have revealed to us one of the powerful influences by which those elaborate and elegant structures were raised, which were once the glory of our land, and the indiscriminate destruction of which it is impossible not to lament, with whatever advantages it may have been attended.

Meanwhile, accumulations of property began, and went on for a long series of years to the increase of our abbey's permanent revenue, in spite of the statutes of mortmain, often amended and still eluded by the clergy, then the sole administrators of the law, and to whose ingenious devices for this purpose some of its most refined subtleties are said to have owed their origin. Pieces of land, houses, and money-rents, generally in the neighbouring parishes, with names often difficult and sometimes impossible now to identify, were acquired by gift, advantageous purchase, or, more rarely, by exchange, as the opportunities presented themselves which are sure to occur to a perpetual incorporation.

Besides the documents printed in the *Monasticon*, there is in the Ashmolean Museum a collection of autograph charters, and other writings relating to Bayham, the deposit of Anthony Wood, the biographer of *Oxford Worthies*, and himself one of their number—a man studious of the past, and warmly attached to his university. There are also in the British Museum, the ancient chartulary of this abbey, which narrowly escaped entire destruction in 1731, by fire at Westminster, and an abridged transcript of it, made under the direction of Sir Edward Deering. These preserve many memorials which throw at least a partial light upon the early history of the abbey, and by a skilful restoration of the scorched leaves, the original manuscript is in most parts legible. Omitting what would be a repetition of matter already published in connection with Ottenham, I will avail myself of these sources of information so far only as to notice the most material particulars relating to Begham.

<sup>11</sup> The archbishop was at that time, I presume, staying at his college of Benedictine Canons at South Malling, near

Lewes, of which see the Rev. E. Turner's account, *Sussex Arch. Collections*, V. 127, &c.

A confirmatory charter of Edward II., dated at "Mersefeld," 23rd Sept., 1326, assures to the canons a privilege originally granted by Henry III., but hitherto not used, of holding a market every Thursday in their manor of "Rokelaunde," and an annual fair to last three days, viz., the vigil, feast, and morrow of St. John Baptist (June 23—5), "provided that the said market and fair should not prove hurtful to other markets and fairs in the neighbourhood." By a second deed of like nature, dated at "Wodestok," 6th June (but without mention of the year), he confirms the grant by Sir John de Wanton of the possession and use of the common and briary of Ferenthe<sup>12</sup> (*Frant*); also a grant by Richard Earl of Clare, of pannage for twenty hogs in the south part of his forest of "Tonebrug." The De Clares were then settled at Tonbridge, the town and castle of which they obtained of the Archbishop of Canterbury, in exchange for their ancestral castle of Brion, in Normandy; and this Richard seems to have been the third of that name, who married Amicia, daughter of the Earl of Gloucester, and eventually heir to all that earldom, and died A.D. 1206.—*Baronage*, i. 206.

In Lamberhurst, lands called Sutham and Wyntercroft, were given by John de la Burne; certain meadows by Adam de Fernethe, lying between the street which led from the village towards the abbey, the granges which belonged to the parson of Lamberhurst, and land belonging to Jordan de Petterigg of the tenement of Tonge.<sup>13</sup> "Symon le Puer de Peperlonde" granted a path of 20 feet on the eve of Palm Sunday, A.D. 1242, being "the year in which Earl Richard, brother of the king (*Henry III.*), returned from the Holy Land." The canons possessed also in the same place, lands called le Rere, at Sharpeshull, names still retained in Rearwood and Sharp's Hill, near the abbey. The name de Lindregge appears in these deeds, derived from what is still called Lindridge Farm, in Lamberhurst, one member of which family, born in 1566, is honourably mentioned by Dr. Harris (*History of Kent*, i. 172) as the author of "a stone causey" there, which

<sup>12</sup> Probably meant for "Fern ethe," a large part of Frant at the present day continuing to be an uncultivated common. "Ferenland," *i. e.* Fernland, afterwards occurs; and Adam de "Fernethe"

is a witness to one charter and a donor in another.

<sup>13</sup> There is still a Tonges Wood in Lamberhurst, and a farm so named in Hawkhurst.

used to bear his name. A grant is mentioned as made "in Easter week, the year after King Henry, son of King John, crossed the straits (*transfretavit*) to Gascony."

At Mattefeld, now Matfield Green, in Brenchley, 18 acres of land, with one-third of a messuage there belonging to him, were given by William, son of Alexander de Mattefeld, the canons paying him four marks sterling for compensation (*ingersuman*). In what is now called Lewis Heath, Horsmonden, John de Grotherd, rector, gave a manor to provide for one chaplain who should celebrate divine service in the church of Horsemonden and the chapel of "Leues-hothe." In Wythiam, Sibilla de Icclesham, widow (great-grand-daughter of the founder of Ottenham), about A.D. 1250 granted land and all the tenements of the peasants (*rusticorum*) which she there possessed, for the support of one canon, who should celebrate divine rites for her and for the souls of her ancestors. Abraham de Benstede gave all his land of Hordene (a farm in Goudhurst) with the men belonging to it, viz. Ailward le Wade, Hamon de Plustlingehurst, William the miller, Christiana daughter of Ailwin, and William le Pier point, to which gifts 3*s.* 4*d.* rent was afterwards added by Matilda de Bendestede in her widowhood. Other donations were, the land of Hodingeford, being a fourth part of a knight's fee, by Robert de Glotingeham; two acres of land near the abbey by Emma de Creuquer (*Crevecœur*); land in "Westkeckenham" (by which afterwards appears to be meant Echingham) by Adam son of Edicius de Westkeckenham; with lands and a share in a mill at Rokeland, by Guido de Mortemer and Reginald Giffard respectively.

In the chartulary is a mandatory letter from William, Abbot of Dureford, to the Lord William Arblastar (*Arcubalistarius*) of Guildford, charging him and his heirs to be answerable to the abbot and convent of Begham for 12*d.* of annual rent from the date affixed—March 10, 1236; and William de Lingmere gave one goshawk (*espervarium*)<sup>14</sup> as the annual rent which Richard de Herstbrige used to pay him every feast of St. James (July 25) for his land of Herst, in the parish of Hellingleggh, with the homage of the said Richard.

<sup>14</sup> Spelman says, that by the Salic law the penalty for stealing one was 120*s.*

Detached portions of land and tenements acquired by the monastery commonly became absorbed in the principal estates; and all distinct mention of them ceasing, the valuation of the abbey property A.D. 1527, when it passed into the hands of Wolsey, comprises the whole under a few general heads. In that valuation the manor of Pepingbury (Pembury) is mentioned, where they had two farms, Pepingbury magna and Pepingbury parva *alias* Bowridge;<sup>15</sup> these, with the advowson of the church, land called Crockhurst in Breuchley, and various other tenements, were the gift of Simon de Wahull, afterwards confirmed by Walter, his son and heir, and by Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford, the lord of the barony. Hasted affirms, that among the gifts of Simon were a mill at Pembury, another at Elvindeune, the meadow of Penderigg, and the land of Reddene in Breuchley, as well cultivated as waste. From the same valuation it appears that they held the manors of Friston and Excette, rents and lands at Covehurst and Couling in Brightling, marsh land at Luddenham, the rectories of Newington and Marden, and also a property called "Lamporte in Borne."

This last was half a hide of land, the gift of Thurstan, son of Gilbert de Hodinges, to Ottenham, soon after the foundation of that abbey: its situation can only be conjectured from its name. Thirty years ago there was, at what is called "the Wish" in East Bourn, close to the sea, a stagnant rushy pool of considerable size, partly supplied by the drainage of the neighbouring fields, partly by salt water oozing through the shingle by which its mouth was closed. Vestiges of it are yet visible, though it has since been itself drained and cultivated. This the late Mr. Davies Gilbert believed to be the remains of a Roman navale, or wet dock, for the accommodation of their vessels, which that enterprising people had formed artificially, in the absence of any natural harbour on that part of the coast. There is good reason to suppose that East Bourn was a Roman station of note. The remains of a villa were discovered some years ago at the back of the sea-houses, in a field belonging

<sup>15</sup> Now called Great and Little Hawkwell. With the former was connected an old moated mansion, pulled down many

years since by the late W. Woodgate, Esq., who built with the materials the present Townhall of Tunbridge.



to the family of Willard. In this part of "Borne," now known as Meads (anciently "Medesey," low grassy lands or islets near the sea), and not far from the "Landport," I am disposed to place the gift of Thurstan.<sup>16</sup>

Occasionally we meet with particulars of an exchange, which may in part explain apparent discrepancies in the different statements of abbey property. Thus Richard, Abbot of Begham, quitclaimed to Thomas, Abbot of Robertsbridge, seven acres and a half with five "deyweris<sup>17</sup> of land" in Walderne, for so much of the wood called Blakestocke in Hellinge, on the Sunday before the feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle (June 11) A.D. 1296; and "Rikeward" of Hellingegh gave twenty acres of marsh in exchange for the moiety of the mill in that place, which belonged to the abbot and convent, covenanting on the part of himself and his heirs not to raise the water in the mill-pond above its usual level, nor do anything else which might damage the meadows adjoining.<sup>18</sup>

Benefactions conferred upon our abbey had sometimes special objects in view, expressly stated. In the case of a few earlier and greater benefactors, the perpetual right of presentation to a canonry was stipulated for, as by Jordan de Saukeville (about 1220), and earlier still, by Ralph de Brade (about 1190, before the removal from Otteham). We have recorded too the formal admission of Wybert Brade grandson (*nepotis*) of the latter by Jordan, Abbot of Otteham, with an acknowledgment that upon Wybert's avoidance of his canonry, Ralph and his heirs had the right to present to the abbot and convent another fit person suited to their order (*ordini nostro congruam*), whom they promise to receive with kindness and make a canon according to their custom (*ad custamentum nostrum*), and so in succession for ever. Henry, son of Reginald

<sup>16</sup> *Landport*, near Lewes, was probably so termed from a cause slightly different, it being in early times a sort of inland harbour which stood far up what was then a muddy estuary, and still retains the name, though no longer appropriate.

<sup>17</sup> "*Dejwerca terræ*." Ducange gives passages in which this word occurs, but no explanation beyond "*modus agri*." To me it seems nothing more than the barbarous Latin by which was intended

to be meant a "day's work"—so much as a good workman (here a wood-cutter) could accomplish in a day. As applied to ploughed land, this would be about an acre.

<sup>18</sup> "*Ita quod ego vel heredes mei non exaltabimus stagnum aliter quam solet esse, neque aliquid aliud faciemus per quod pratium predictorum canonicorum deterioretur.*"

de Winchelse, gave 5*s.* 3*d.* annual rent, which Roger the son of Harold used to pay him for marsh-land at Hyam (*Higham*), "to find one lamp perpetually burning upon the high altar of their church;" and William Sarp granted a house and land in Sandrigg, which Ralph the merchant held before him, "for charity to be dispensed at the abbey-gate," giving exclusive right over the said tenement to the person who for the time being should fill the office of "*portarius*."<sup>19</sup> Sometimes reservation was made of what in conventual language was styled a corrody—an allowance of food or money for the maintenance either of the donor himself or some needy dependant. So Richard de Wichilinden gave all his land of Wichilinden for a grant of food and clothing, in sickness and in health, as long as he pleased to remain as a servant in their house; and William de Richerville, land in Exsete, saving the right of his lord, Henry de Hertefeld, for a corrody in their house "as long as he should live."

The fullest and best account of one of these grants with which I have anywhere met, was made to Simon Payn, who, by a charter still preserved in the Ashmolean Museum, had given to the canons 2*s.* rent paid him by Andrew Croichuke, for three acres of land in Friston. His benefactions, however, must, one would suppose, have been much more than this trifling amount of rent, for the helps conceded to him and his family by the society are unusually large and stated with great particularity. As a very complete specimen of its kind, and as showing also the prices of various articles, this grant may perhaps be allowably given entire.

"We Richard, Abbot of Begham, and the convent of that place, have granted to Symon Payn of Friston and Emma his wife the corrodies of two canons to be received in our Abbey of Begham as long as they shall live; that is to say, Every day two loaves of convent bread and two of black bread; two

<sup>19</sup> "That this officer," says Dr. Burn, "was not the janitor or porter, seemeth probable, for that divers have been promoted to be abbots from that office" (*Eccles. Law*, ii. 487); but then, his conjecture that the portarius was one who "took care of the carriages and such like," seems not to elude his own difficulty, for this office also was of too monial a nature to

be a stepping-stone to the abbacy. I think it evident from this charter that the officer in question was the same as was otherwise called "*eleemosynarius*," the almoner, the canon who superintended the distribution of the daily dole at the abbey-gate, as well as of the alms given on the founder's day, obits, and other solemn anniversaries.

flagons of convent beer and one of household beer (*cervisia familiaris*); and for the further supply of their table (*in companagium*) they shall have every year two fat pigs of the value of 6s., one fat ox (*bovethum*) or cow, value 6s. 8d., one thousand red herrings and thirty mackerel (*mulvellos*) worth 4s., half a cwt. (*dimidium pondus*) of cheese 4s. For potage, 4 bushels of wheat meal (*farinæ*) or 8 of oats value 20d., two bushels of conventual peas 12d., two bushels of coarse salt (*grossi salis*) 5d., for clothing 20s., and for shoes 3s. Two cartloads of straw, and six of wood, to be brought at a convenient time to their residence; a suitable dwelling (*habitaculum sufficiens*), and pasture for one cow with our own cows. Moreover to Henry their son, designed for holy orders (*clerico contrecto*), his maintenance of our charity at the abbey-gate, so that if his health allow he may minister to us; but the two younger sons we will put into some mechanical office within the bounds (*cepta*) of our abbey until they shall have learned to support themselves. To the two daughters of Simon by his first wife, Constance and Godiva, we will give each one mark, and to the two by the second wife, Agnes and Alice, two marks each, in satisfaction of all demands (*pro omnibus demandis*). We have also remitted to the said Symon a debt due to us of fifteen silver marks, and have paid for him to his creditors as follows: to Henry le Wyte of Seford 40s., to William de la Slade 42s., to William le Plattere 42s. To the observance of all which things we bind ourselves upon the faith of our religion and under the penalty of 100s. to be paid to the fabrick of the cathedral church of Chichester. Given at Begham in our chapter on the day of the Conversion of St. Paul in the 18th year of King Edward (*Jan. 25, 1290*).”

In making these concessions our canons seem usually to have had a sharp eye to their own interest, securing some valuable reversion by taking upon themselves a temporary charge. Sometimes they were granted to old servants, as in the case of Walter Crop,<sup>20</sup> who, upon condition of his continuing in their service, had a life-grant of the allowance customarily made to one free servant (*libero servienti*)—the

<sup>20</sup> This name, now unknown, was once very common in Hailsham. William, Robert, and John, occur in the Nonae Returns (A.D. 1340); and Alwin held

marsh-land given to the Abbey of Ottenham about 1200.—*Sussex Arch. Collections*, V. 158.

said Walter solemnly promising upon the holy gospels that his chattels "moveable and immoveable, had or to be had," should pass at his decease to the use and benefit of the Abbey of Begham, "any will of his to the contrary notwithstanding." The same prudent foresight shows itself in other instances. They bought a considerable portion of land of Adam Fitz-Walwyn for 30*s.*, with half a seme of wheat given to his wife and one sheep to his son; they permitted Gregory de Rokesle, citizen of London, to celebrate divine rites in the chapel (*oratorio*) which he had built in their parish of "Westgrenewiz," but reserved to their own church all the oblations which might be offered in it. The deed is dated at Begham on St. Andrew's day (*Nov.* 30) 1283.

Now and then, important services, done or expected, obtained privileges somewhat resembling a corrody, and designed to be not only a reward for the past, but a sort of retaining fee for the future. Thus we find the abbot and convent granting to Master Eustace de Wroteham, "for services of importance done and to be done" in their behalf, an annual pension of 4 marks, with the additional undertaking that whenever he wished to seek relaxation from business and refreshment in their house, they would reasonably assign a competent lodging and other things for himself and his two horses and the servants in attendance upon him, and be chargeable with his expenses.<sup>21</sup> A similar grant is made in 1275 to Master William de Tonebrig (Tunbridge). These probably were their legal advisers for the time being.

Great was the apprehension felt by the "religious" of any interference on the part of other ecclesiastics, with the interests of their house, or their own influence in its vicinity. An Indian tribe scarce guards its hunting-ground with keener jealousy against the encroachment of rivals. In the ancient chartulary is an agreement between the abbots of the Cistercian and Premonstratensian orders, that no person belonging to either order should build a place or abbey (*locum vel abbatiam*) within four leagues of an abbey belonging to the other. A nunnery (*mansio sororum*) might not be nearer than two

<sup>21</sup> Quodcumque ad monasterium nostrum spaciandi causa declinare voluerit locum competentem et cætera sibi et duo-

bus equis suis et famulis sibi servientibus rationabiliter assignabimus et impendemus"—no date.

leagues. Neither was to exact or receive tithes of the property or labours of the other. It is also stipulated that neither should receive any monk or novice belonging to the other order without mutual consent: perhaps the easy distance between Bayham and the Cistercian Abbey of Robertsbridge rendered this part of the compact in their case particularly desirable. In a conveyance also of certain lands in Withyham by Thomas Abbot of Begham (about the year 1260) to Roger de Horne, power was given to the latter to alienate it at pleasure "except to places or men of religion or to Jews" (then held in great abhorrence), where we see the same exclusive principle of keeping their own vicinage to themselves.

There are recorded in this same chartulary numerous acts of manumission, whereby the monks conferred freedom upon their villein tenants. To attribute to the villenage, which so extensively prevailed in this country during the early Norman reigns, the odious features of slavery in its more unmitigated forms, would be a great mistake. It certainly involved a curtailment of personal liberty extremely abhorrent to our modern notions; for villeins were "*ascripti glebæ*," bound to the soil, from which they could not be removed without their lords' consent, and with which they were transferred from one owner to another. But they had, on the other hand, certain rights in that soil, and were allowed to derive from it a competent maintenance. And though in strictness all the chattels of the villein, whatever property he might have accumulated, were considered as belonging to his lord, yet such extreme right was seldom enforced, and never without general reprobation. It does not appear that in England this humble class of dependents was treated, as a class, with injustice or cruelty. Happily the master's interest came in aid of his humanity: he would naturally desire to see those, upon whose strong arms he must depend for the cultivation of his estate, and the fulfilment of his military service due to the king, at least in as effective condition as his horses or his oxen, and not indisposed to do him service. But the advance of society became at length too great to permit the continuance of this servile condition. Charters of enfranchisement, which had always been occasionally granted for services rendered, or for a price

paid, and sometimes, doubtless, from more noble and disinterested motives of religion and humanity, grew more and more frequent, until at length all remains of villenage disappeared in the reign of Elizabeth.<sup>22</sup>

As the ecclesiastical bodies were probably amongst the most considerate and indulgent of masters, so there is reason to believe they were among the greatest promoters of manumission, not only by their persuasions, but by their example. The large number of charters for the emancipation of villeins found in these records of Bayham is a proof that our canons took their part in forwarding this good work; and in the great change thus effected, we may hope they were rewarded by finding free labour more pleasant and more profitable than the reluctant services of their old bond-tenants.

The income of this house in 1291, arising from its temporalities, was reckoned only at £37. 2s. 4d. In the valuation then made for Pope Nicholas' Taxation, it stands as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Apud Friston cum Grang' de Lese (Rotulo Originali Lose)	6	15	4
Marisk apud Aylesham	6	0	0
Begehham	2	0	0
Rokeland cum Childhurst and Coveling	12	0	0
Oteham	2	10	2
Tolton (R. O. Teliton) now Tilton	3	6	8
Hellingeleigh cum Coteford	2	10	2
Ketenham	2	0	0
Summa	£37.	2s.	4d.

But they had several churches belonging to the monastery, the emoluments of which, after deducting the stipends of the vicars, would make a considerable addition to their revenues. From the above date to its final suppression I find no further statement of income; but in 1526, when this abbey with several other minor houses was granted to Cardinal Wolsey for the foundation of his two colleges at Oxford and Ipswich, it was estimated altogether at £152. 9s. 4½d. In the interim it will appear, from the details of some visitations to be noticed

<sup>22</sup> One deed of manumission may serve for a specimen.—“John, A. of B<sup>m</sup>, &c. We do release from servitude Philip, son of Alan de Teletoun, our native serf, and his chattels, and do quitclaim him with

Giles son of Simon de Swintoun for 100s. of silver first paid into our hands.”—(Tilton and Sherrington are both in Selmeston parish.)

hereafter, that the canons were often in pecuniary difficulties, perhaps from bad management, rather than insufficiency in their endowments.

A lease is preserved in the Ashmolean collection, dated January 28, 1522—and it must have been one of the last granted by the convent—whereby Richard Abbot of Begham lets to Thomas Wyllard, of Lamberhurst, “a house called the Owlhouse,<sup>23</sup> togydder with certen landes and ij petts [*i.e.* pits] and certeyn wodlandes lying round about the same house.” The boundaries are specified with much minuteness: amongst which are mentioned “a carrying-way used for colys”—probably *charcoal* for the ironfounderies, “a gate callyd Yengate”—“Yen” being perhaps a corruption for wen, wain, or wagon; also Tonges-wood and Tonges-gate near the abbey, a name which again savours of the forge. This lease is for twenty-one years, at a rent of “eyght shillynges and one henn every yeere at the feste of the Byrth of our Lord god;” with the usual covenants for distress and re-entry in default of payment: Wyllard being bound to “Kep and make all manner of clau-sell,” *i. e.* fencing about the house, wood, and land.

In the same collection is a folio volume in MS. containing a detailed account of the proceedings of Richard Redman, then Bishop of St. Asaph, whose visitations of the Abbey of Dureford have been adverted to by Mr. Blaauw.<sup>24</sup> In some places it is defective, and of what remains parts are illegible from decay and discoloration, with the additional disadvantage of a difficult character of writing and contractions. This prelate, who was Abbot of Schappe (Shap) in Westmoreland, as the commissioner appointed by the Abbot of Premonstre, made several visitations of the houses belonging to the Premonstratensian order in the province of England. The particulars of eight such visitations to Bayham are recorded in this book, and, with the exception of the first and last, they are very fully given. The bishop usually took with him as his assessor Robert Bedale, the prior of his own abbey. The programme of his journey is in every instance given with much precision, the exact hour of his anticipated arrival at the monastery to be visited, and, in one instance, the phrase

<sup>23</sup> This farm retains its ancient and curious name.

<sup>24</sup> *Sussex Arch. Collections*, VIII. 87.

“not having dined” (*impransi*) is significantly added as a hint to his entertainers—the hour of dinner, or the hour of supper, “at sundown or thereabouts.” The days also for instituting his inquiries into the state of the society and of declaring his decisions (*interrogare et definire*) are exactly marked out; where he is to lodge, and at whose expense—at Rochester or Ashford, in his way to Begham from St. Rhadegund’s near Dover, at the cost of the abbot of the latter monastery—at Lewes in his journey onward to Dureford his expenses are to be defrayed by the Abbot of Begham—at Arundel by the Abbot of Tichfield—at Wynchester by the Abbot of Dureford. In four instances he enters our county at Begham and leaves it at Dureford, the extreme east and west limits, where the Premonstratensian canons were stationed, like the outposts of the monastic host of Sussex; in two the direction is reversed; and in one altogether wanting. One specimen of such a “Progressus Visitationis” has been already given,<sup>25</sup> and supersedes the necessity of adding one here. But of the condition in which the bishop found things at Begham, and the steps he took for their amendment, it may be desirable to state summarily what the visitor relates at considerable length, that we may judge, so far as the investigations of one inquirer may enable us, who certainly had no prejudice against his own order, nor any wish to magnify their failings, what foundation there was for the general outcry against these institutions on the score of immorality at the time of their suppression. It must be owned that in the present case the reports upon the whole are not very favourable, the visitor finding more to censure than to commend; but every one knows how readily the characters are run down of those who, from whatever cause, have become unpopular. The unfortunate have few friends—

“Quid  
Turba Remi? Sequitur fortunam, ut semper, et odit  
Damnatos.”

I. The first Visitation appears to have been, not by Bishop Redman, but by the Prior of Hales Owen, and took place in July, 1478. The result has disappeared, probably with one of the missing leaves of the volume; but we are told that the

<sup>25</sup> *Sussex Arch. Collections*, VIII. p. 91.



abbot was at that time Robert Hertley; the brethren, Thomas Cotyngnam formerly Abbot, William Fawkley, Robert Wester, Richard Bexley, William Thornton, John Drakes, Thomas Willus, and Richard Greg a novice not yet professed.

II. On the second occasion, September, 1482, the name of the abbot is obliterated; four of the former monks have disappeared, and their places are supplied by John Dale sub-prior, Thomas Fyscher, William Maskyn, and Thomas *Greenwiche*. Bishop Redman, who is now visitor, finds matters in great disorder, three "apostates"<sup>26</sup> he excommunicates forthwith, the number of residents is insufficient for the performance of divine service by day and night; wherefore he most strictly enjoins the abbot to call together the canons and increase their number, that there may be at least six present every day in the convent. The buildings he sees (*occulariter conspicimus*) in utter ruin, so that without immediate and diligent repair the whole were in danger of falling to the ground: whereupon he lays his commands upon the abbot, on pain of deposition, that with all speed and by every means in his power he should labour unceasingly to repair, rebuild, and maintain the dormitory, refectory, bakehouse, hall, and other parts of the fabric. At the same time he commends him for his indefatigable and successful efforts to discharge many pecuniary obligations incurred by the monastery owing to the negligent administration of his two predecessors in office, and for his foresight in providing grain and stock of various kinds for the use of the community.

III. When he comes again in July, 1488, some new names appear in the list of monks—Thomas Studley, Thomas Preston, William Leeds, and John Egglisfeld, the abbot being Robert Naysh. Divine service is still incompletely performed,

<sup>26</sup> "Apostatæ"—offending brethren, generally removed from their own monastery to another of the same order for purposes of correction. The following, marked "Formula" in the margin of the chartulary, was the form of their dismissal: "L., Abbot of B., to the venerable Abbot of C., health, &c. Brother N., his faults requiring it, is sent (*emissus extat*) to your church by the Fathers and Lord Abbots visiting our church by authority of the Lord Abbot of Premonstre

and the chapter general. We beseech you therefore kindly to undertake this charge, holding ourselves bound in any similar case to requite you with a grateful return (*in casu consimili ad grata vicissitudinis teneamur repensivam*). We send him to you sufficiently clothed, and give you power by these presents to hear his confession and give him absolution of his sins whilst he shall continue in your society." (Add. MSS. 6037, f. 43.)

owing to the fewness of the canons. Wherefore the visitor issues his mandate that the Lord Abbot should increase their number by recalling such as were serving in country cures (*seculo celebrantes*), and forbids him to license any for the future to such cures, excepting only of churches belonging to the monastery. "And whilst he faithfully and laudably manages all temporal matters without (*foris*), that Martha also may study within with Mary (*ut Martha studeat eciam intus cum Maria*), that divine service may be duly celebrated day and night, we charge all the brethren that they be obedient to him and his subprior, shewing them due reverence, and never without their permission going beyond the enclosures (*septa*) of the monastery or beyond the cloisters, on pain of being considered apostates (*sub pena apostatarum*); so that by their new and better mode of life the ill report of them at present spread on all sides may be removed." John Egglisfeld, who had been guilty of striking one of his brethren but had submitted to penance, is declared to be absolved and restored. Then follow some strictures upon excess of apparel:—"We forbid moreover all the brethren of the said church to use in their house unsightly and foppish shoes or boots after the fashion of the laity (*deformitate et curiositate sotularium et caligarum ad modum laicorum domo uti*), but as becomes religious persons altogether to avoid such vanities on pain of the greater excommunication." The abbot, finally, is commended for his good management in paying off £20 of the debts left by his predecessors, though still burdened to the extent of £100; and for his sufficient provision of grain and animals for the year's consumption.

IV. On the next similar occasion, in October, 1491, there are graver offences to call for reprehension; some new names appear in the list of canons, viz. John Falde, John Maynard, John Marston, and John Hilton, in the place of others removed; and Thomas Cotyngham is again abbot.

Brother Thomas Studley is accused of incontinency, and, being summoned before the visitor, denies the truth of the charge; but, because he could not readily and lawfully clear himself, a suitable punishment is imposed upon him, viz. xl days of the heavier penance (*gravioris culpe*) (which comprised "thrusting into a monastery, branding, fustigation, or

imprisonment," according to Linwood, p. 321), and after its completion, removal to the monastery of Newhouse, an abbey of the same order in Lincolnshire, for three years, which banishment, because of the perversity of his manners, was to be continued till the next provincial chapter. He was also forbidden, on pain of perpetual imprisonment, thenceforth to frequent the place where the offence (*nephas*) aforesaid was alleged to have been committed, as long as the suspected female continued there, or to hold any conversation with her for the time to come. The visitor then goes on:—"We give the strictest injunctions to the subprior of the said church, as he values his salvation, to correct the excesses of the brethren, and if any will not suffer themselves to be corrected by him, then let him take care to report to the Lord Abbot. Moreover we will that they all arise by night (*noctuanter*) to matins, otherwise on the same day following let them strictly fast on bread and water (*in pane et aqua jejunient*). We farther injoin that every day they be careful to say the matin lauds (*matutinas*) of the blessed Mary, with the other hours, on pain of contempt. All manner of pursuit of game (*omni-modas venationes*) and wanderings abroad (*alicubi discursus*) by night or day, we prohibit on pain of the greater excommunication; and all eating or drinking in the houses of secular persons within a league of the monastery, on pain of xx days heavy penance. We order also that the abbot shall not easily permit or license those under his authority (*subditos*) to travel about the country (*circumvagare*). We also strictly charge every brother within and without the house, on pain of contempt, to provide himself a cape (*capam*), that all may be able to serve the Lord and to appear in public in one uniform habit. Although the abbot by his praiseworthy foresight has added to the yearly revenues of the monastery to the value of 50 marks, yet he has also by his good management redeemed the whole of the debts (*eciam universa debita sagaciter redemit*). With grain in sufficient measure, and with animals of either sex, the house is abundantly furnished."

V. The next visitation took place in June, 1494, when Cotyngham is once more deposed, and Robert Naysh again abbot. Studley has come back from his relegation to New-

house, and the only new name is that of Thomas *Depford*, novice and professed. This is a maiden assize, nothing is to be censured, and the good bishop in jubilant strains, blesses and dismisses the assembly. "All things" (says he) "within and without are arranged in orderly manner (*ordinate disponuntur*) by the laudable providence of the said abbot, and with our benediction bestowed we briefly conclude our visitation. And whereas at his creation (*in creatione*) the said abbot was involved in very heavy debts, yet now more money is due to him than he owes to others, and this notwithstanding the different burdens in many ways laid on him by the buildings and tenements belonging to the monastery."

VI. In October, 1497, his tone is changed, and grave reprehension again deemed necessary. Richard Bexley is now abbot, two new names appear among the resident canons—Thomas *Ledes* and Thomas Gregg, with three fresh novices—Thomas Stoure, Roger *Mallyng*, John Brynkley. The visitor now finds that Thomas Preston has often gone out at night to suspicious places, and to a woman of doubtful reputation, called Agnes Skynner; upon being charged with which, he asserts that he has corrected his fault. But on a fuller inquiry of the brethren, the bishop learns that no penance has been enjoined on him for it, for which omission being required to clear themselves, they plainly show that the accused was by no means corrected. "Wherefore" (says the bishop) "we sentenced him to undergo the penance due to graver offences for xl days in the monastery of Croxton (an abbey of the order in Lincolnshire), and thither to go forthwith, to remain there for the space of seven years, unless in the interim it should mercifully be otherwise determined concerning him. There moreover we found Thomas Studeley, an apostate, whom, for his apostacy, sitting before our tribunal we pronounced to be both suspended and excommunicated. But one William Ledes a canon cited (as his superior alleged) before us, but not appearing, we present do now cite by our decree, and farther we do strictly charge the Lord Abbot, as he would preserve his obedience inviolate, duly to cite or cause to be cited the aforesaid Thomas before us in the monastery of Croxton on the morrow of St. Peter ad vincula next to come, there to undergo what justice exacts and requires. For the rest we

command the Lord Abbot that the number of the canons be increased with all possible speed, in order that divine worship may be more quickly performed (*celerius agatur*). To the same abbot we have given our commands about coarse bread (*de pane grosso*); in other respects we do not find many things there amended. But though the abbot has not malt for brewing, except as occasionally provided (*in brasia non habeat nisi ex provisione*), yet with wheat and other grain he is sufficiently furnished, beasts and all other fatted animals being in praiseworthy abundance."<sup>27</sup>

VII. Upon occasion of the seventh visitation in 1500, we have this preface:—"But here the aforesaid Reverend Father, resting at pleasure in the city of Exeter, and deliberating already in his own mind upon his intended visitation of the other monasteries belonging to our order, resolves to begin his progress on the 8th of September at Hunnington" (*Honiton*). Then follows the plan of his movements through Tichfield to Dureford and Bayham.

At Begeham, on the 29th September, he happily feels no need to prolong his inquiry; he finds a sufficiency of everything, and no complaints are brought before him. "But" (he adds) "for the laudable providence of the same abbot, we are bound to render due thanks to God to the utmost of our power. The church of the convent also, which at the creation of the said abbot was dilapidated and hampered (*circumligata*) exceedingly with a load of debt, we now find freed from everything of the kind. Of animals moreover and grain an ample store has been provided for the year." Only one new canon appears in the list—John Garnthorpe, and one novice—Roger Burton, Bexley continuing as abbot.

It is well to conclude with this very satisfactory "*definitio*"; and I am almost glad that of the next visitation,

VIII., made in 1503, both the scheme of progress and result of the investigation are lost. Bexley is still abbot, and the monks this time without any change; even Tom Studley, who seems to have been the black sheep of the flock, remains marked as "apostate," and such we must be content to leave

<sup>27</sup> "Animalibus ac omnibus aliis animalibus satis laudabiliter provisus." *Altilia* are *Fattlings*, any creatures, whether

beasts, fowls, or fishes, kept up and fatted. —*Vet. Glos.*

him. But with his single exception, it is pleasant to think that, whatever may have been the faults of our canons, they at least had the grace to reform them upon the admonition of their right reverend visitor. What more indeed can be said of the wisest and best? for the best are only they that have the fewest faults, and the wisest those who see their errors and amend them.

From these curious documents, it appears that the inmates of a monastery were sometimes a more fleeting community than the fellows of a college in one of our modern universities. The changes, considering the smallness of the body in which they took place, are remarkable. The number of resident members of the house was on the average nine, including novices and apostates—the latter sometimes not properly belonging to it, but sent thither for a time from some other convent as a punishment for transgression. Yet in the twenty-five years which intervened between the first and last visitations, no fewer than twenty-seven different individuals formed part of this small staff, enough to change the whole exactly three times in that period of time. It would look as if the White Canons shifted from place to place, as their services were wanted in their different houses or secular cures. The frequent change of abbots also is worthy of note, five persons filling the office in the above period; as well as the facility with which they were created, deposed, and reinstated. Thomas Cotyngnam had been abbot previously to the first visitation, which found him deposed; we see him restored in 1491, and again deposed in 1494. Robert Naysh, his predecessor in 1488, disappears in 1491, succeeds him in 1494, and is himself succeeded by Bexley in 1497. We may also notice in the cases of Thomas Greenwich, Thomas Depford, Thomas Ledes, and Roger Mallyng, the custom so prevalent among ecclesiastics of dropping their family name, and assuming in its stead that of the place of their nativity; of which we have well-known instances in the two famous Williams—of Wykeham and Waynflete.

I cannot learn of any public transactions of importance in which the abbots of Begham took a prominent part; they seem rather to have shunned notoriety than courted it. In Rymer (i. pt. 1, p. 101) is a bull of Pope Honorius, A.D. 1227,

which must have been issued in consequence of some application, not otherwise known, from the abbot of that day, begging to be excused from taking any part in the business of the papal commissions in this country.

“*A Bull of Exemption.*”

“Honorius Bishop, servant of the servants of God, to our beloved son the Abbot of Begham, health and apostolical benediction.

“Thou hast humbly entreated us that, Whereas thou hast no skill in law, and by the tumult of judicial proceedings (*strepitu judiciorum*) it happens that repose for holy contemplation is in thee impeded, we would deign to exempt thee from the trouble (*sollicitudine*) of our commissions. We therefore, acceding to thy entreaties, by the authority of these presents, indulge thy devotion, so that thou mayest not be held bound to proceed according to our commissions which in future may happen to be addressed to thee, though they make no mention of any indulgence of this nature. Be it lawful therefore for no man to infringe this writing (*paginam*) of our concession, or with rash boldness to go contrary to it. But if any one shall presume to attempt this, let him know that he will incur the indignation of Almighty God and of the blessed apostles Peter and Paul.—Given at the Lateran, 3 kalends of June, in the eleventh year of our pontificate.”

Upon one occasion indeed, in the year 1454, Thomas, Abbot of Begham, acting as commissioner for the Abbot of Premonstre, held an assembly of certain English abbots of the order in his abbey of Begham, and they jointly convened a general chapter to meet at Northampton in the summer of that year.<sup>28</sup> But in general they do not appear to have engaged actively in such affairs, and in one instance are recorded not to have been present, either in person or by proxy, at the meeting held at Lincoln in July, 1310.<sup>29</sup> Laurence was at that time abbot, who resigned his office upon a visitation by the abbot of Langdon in 1315, and it may be presumed had shown remissness in the discharge of his duties.<sup>30</sup> In 1478 the house appointed the prior of Schappe, Robert Bedale, to be

<sup>28</sup> *Sussex Arch. Collections*, VIII. 81.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.* 71.

<sup>30</sup> MS. No. 59, in Library of Corpus

Christi College, Cambridge, referred to in the *Monasticon*.

their proctor, with full powers to act, discuss, determine, agree, or disagree, in their behalf, in all matters brought before the provincial chapter appointed to be holden in the summer at Notyngnam before Bishop Redman. This instrument is given at length in the Ashmolean MS., from which we have already quoted so largely. Upon the whole we may infer that our abbots were too much enamoured of their pleasant retirement to leave it without strong reluctance; and though Nottingham was not then what it is now, it is no great matter of wonder that "Beaulieu" was more to their taste than a busy town and a bustling assembly. Our abbots were modest men, and some of them, as we have just had proof, not very highly gifted with faculties of government and administration; they might be conscious, therefore, of their incapacity to make a figure in the general chapter of the order.

It is said in this same MS. that the abbey had five churches. That of West Greenwich (or Deptford) was part of the foundation of Brockley, as the church of Hellingly was of the foundation of Ottenham, before the union of the two houses at Begham. The latter was the gift of Richard and Randolph (or Ralph) Brade, owners of the valuable property still known as "The Broad," in that parish, and was given sometime during the episcopate of Seffrid, the second Bishop of Chichester of that name, which lasted from 1180 to 1204. It is interesting to trace in these records the rise of a parish church. First, we find mentioned the dedication of the structure by this prelate, and its endowment by one of the Brade family, at its first erection, or perhaps at its re-edification in a better style on the site of some meaner fabric. "I, Nicolas, eldest son of Ralph Brade, when Bishop Seffrid the second dedicated the church of Helling, endowed the same with twelve denarates<sup>31</sup> of land belonging to my freehold, of which William de Mericfeld is tenant, because there was no other person there who would endow it; and the bishop urgently asked for an endowment, lest so excellent a work should to some extent be deprived of its right." Next we have two other members

<sup>31</sup> Denarata. Cowell explains this to be an acre; if so, may not this denomination have arisen in very early times

from rent (*denarius*), as *Dejwerca*, from labour?



of the same family, with the consent and aid of the bishop, putting the monks into possession of the newly erected church. "We Seffrid Bp. of Chichester, on the presentation of Rikeward and Randolph Brade, have admitted the abbot and canons of Oteham to the church of Helling, and have canonically instituted them in the same, whereof we will that they perpetually possess the fruits, saving the rights of our church of Chichester, and saving also a reasonable vicarage, whence the chaplain, who upon the presentation of the abbot shall minister in the same, may be able to derive an honest maintenance."

The church of Hailsham, which also belonged to them, was about a century later the subject of a vehement and protracted litigation. In the Episcopal Register, C. 84, at Chichester, the whole case is recited in full in a declaration made by Gilbert de Sancto Leofardo, the bishop, William (de Bracklesham) the dean, and the chapter of the cathedral church. From this instrument, dated 1296, it appears that a dispute had long before arisen between the abbot and convent of Begham on the one part, and Master de Blockendon on the other, about the church or chapel of Haylesham: the former alleging that it was a chapel belonging to them and dependent upon their church of Helling, the latter denying these premises, and asserting that he was rector of the church of Haylesham. Of the grounds on which these conflicting claims were supposed to rest no evidence appears here or (so far as I can find) elsewhere; not the least explanation being given as to the manner in which the church of Hailsham originated, beyond the assertion of the canons, which was probably the truth, that it was an offset from their mother church at Hellingly. Many tedious processes at law had been instituted without arriving at any satisfactory result. To complicate matters, Blockendon had died during the proceedings, as also had "Dominus Bogonus de Clare," who succeeded to his claim upon the rectory; and the Bishop of Chichester holding with them that the church at Hailsham, as from ancient time a mother and parish church, ought to be governed by a secular rector, a fresh suit was instituted in the Court of Canterbury. A compromise, however, was at last effected, all parties agreeing to refer the matter in question to the

arbitration of the archbishop, and peaceably to abide by his decision. The primate consents to undertake the business, and after duly weighing the arguments on both sides, and invoking the assistance of the Holy Spirit, pronounces judgment as follows:—"Imprimis, That the church of Haylesham with all the rights belonging to the rectory thereof, as of a chapel of the church of Helyngle and dependent thereon, shall remain for the future in full right with the abbot and convent of Begham and their successors, to be holden to their own uses for ever, and the church or chapel itself of Haylesham we '*ex abundanti*' appropriate to the same; saving a perpetual vicarage in the said church or chapel, the vicar whereof and his successors shall be fully entitled to all the oblations made therein and all the obventions<sup>32</sup> of the altar of the same, including the small tithes." Reservation is then made, to the abbot and convent of immunity from paying tithes, and to the ordinary of his authority. The vicar for the time being was required to associate with himself a priest-vicar (*unum presbiterum secundarium*) duly qualified to assist him in reading and singing in the church, and for his help in the parish, to be maintained at his expense. He was to find wax for lights around the great altar, with the sacramental bread and wine, and incense for burning. The monks, on the other hand, were bound to keep in repair the granges and other buildings attached to the rectory; to store and thrash out the great tithes and the produce of their demesne lands in their own barns and nowhere else;<sup>33</sup> to repair the chancel and rebuild it if fallen down. They were also to find in the church itself, when needful, books and ornaments, for the safe custody of which the vicar was (except in the case of unavoidable accident) to be responsible, as also for moderate repairs in the binding and covering of the books, and for the mending and washing of the vestments. The vicar was further to provide rushes in summer and the canons straw in winter for the church and chancel. Finally, the right of presenting to the vicarage, when vacant, is assigned to the abbot and

<sup>32</sup> *Obvention* differed only from *oblation* in being a more comprehensive term, including all the customary offerings to the priest at the four principal festivals and at the celebration of the occasional offices.

—(*Vide Burn, Eccle. Law, iii. 19.*)

<sup>33</sup> I can conjecture no other reason for this restriction than that it would oblige them to keep the buildings in good condition.

convent, and all former proceedings and judgments touching the matters in dispute are solemnly annulled; and thus was terminated this long litigation.

There are two presentations to this vicarage recorded in the Chartulary: one dated Wednesday after the Feast of Pope Gregory, 1288, when Abbot Richard presented to Gilbert, Lord Bishop of Chichester, William de Templo to be chaplain to the vicarage of Haylesham—which presentation might perhaps be the immediate cause of the contention so tardily settled; the other, dated February 2, 1307, when Laurence, Abbot of Begham, presented John Fyndon to be instituted by Bishop John de Langton.

Provision, it will be observed, was made for strewing the earthen or paved floor of Hailsham church with straw or rushes, according to the season of the year; and in some copious extracts from old parish account-books in the city of Norwich, with which I have been favoured, I find numerous entries for *pea*-straw used for such strewing. It is well known that houses also were littered in the same way; and the reader will remember that in Simon Payn's corrody two cartloads of straw were allowed annually, to be applied probably to this use. Residences of the highest rank were not above the necessity of such homely accommodation. Hentzner, in his *Itinerary*, says of Queen Elizabeth's presence-chamber at Greenwich, "The floor, after the English fashion, was strewed with *hay*." And in Newton's *Herball to the Bible*, mention is made of "sedge and rushes, the whiche" (says that old writer) "manie in this countrie doe use in sommer-time to strewe their parlors or churches, as well for coolness as for pleasaunt smell."<sup>34</sup> If, however, we may trust to an epistle, wherein Erasmus gives an account of this practice to his friend Doctor Francis, physician to Cardinal Wolsey, I am afraid it will appear that, the rushes being seldom thoroughly changed, and the habits of those days not very cleanly, the *smell* soon became anything but pleasant, and would horrify the members of a modern sanitary commission. He speaks of the lowest stratum of rushes (the top only being renewed)

<sup>34</sup> The species preferred was the *Acorus* or *Calamus aromaticus*, the sweet-scented flag or rush, which, when bruised, gives

forth an odour resembling that of the myrtle. In the absence of this, inferior kinds were used.

as remaining unchanged sometimes for twenty years! a receptacle for beer, grease, fragments of victuals, and other abominations too unsavoury to be mentioned. To this filthiness he ascribes the frequent pestilences with which the people were afflicted; recommending the entire banishment of rushes and a better ventilation. (*Epist. D. Erasmi*, Lond. 1642, p. 1140.) In a more artificial form, as woven into mats and hassocks, rushes still retain an inoffensive and useful place in our churches and houses.

But, though few are ignorant of this ancient custom, it may not perhaps be so generally known, that the strewing of churches grew into a religious festival, dressed up in all that picturesque circumstance, wherewith the old church so well knew how to array its ritual. Remains of it linger to this day in remote parts of England. In Westmoreland, Lancashire, and districts of Yorkshire, there is still celebrated, between haymaking and harvest, a village *fête* called "The Rush-bearing." Young women dressed in white, and carrying garlands of flowers and rushes, walk in procession to the parish church, accompanied by a crowd of rustics with flags flying and music playing. There they suspend their floral chaplets on the chancel rails, and the day is concluded with a simple feast. The neighbourhood of Ambleside was until lately, and may be still, one of the chief strongholds of this popular practice; respecting which I will only add, as a curious fact, that up to the passing of the recent Municipal Reform Act, the town-clerk of Norwich was accustomed to pay to the subsacrist of the cathedral an annual guinea for strewing the floor of the cathedral with rushes on the Mayor's Day, from the western door to the entrance into the choir: this is the most recent instance of the ancient usage which has come to my knowledge.

A third church belonging to Begham was that of Pembury, the gift of Simon de Wuhull: being sufficiently near to the abbey, it was, sometimes at least, served by one of the resident members. In the five last of the visitations above noticed, extending from 1488 to 1503, Thomas Willus is mentioned in the list of canons as "Vicar of Pepyngbury"; and a path still exists known as "The Priest's Path," leading through the woods of Bayham to Pembury church, often trodden, doubtless, by his feet.

Their fourth and fifth churches I cannot name with certainty; but as they are said in the *Abstract of Property*, A.D. 1526, to have then possessed the great tithes of Newington and Marden, they were probably patrons also of the churches at those two places.

Like other owners of property in those unsettled times, the abbots of Begham were involved in many suits at law which are recorded in the Chartulary. Seven compositions occur between the abbot of Begham and various other abbots and priors with whom he was at issue (*secum discordantes*); and also eleven agreements "made in the King's Court at Westminster" between the abbot and divers other litigants; but the particulars are of little present interest. One case, however, related more fully than the rest, affords proof that landlords in those days well knew how to adopt stringent measures towards refractory tenants, and could serve writs of ejectment *more Hibernico*, when milder methods of treatment were found inefficacious. It runs thus:—"Solomon Abbot of Begham, &c. Upon occasion of a certain court-service of the Earl of Gloucester which his bailiff had unjustly exacted of our tenants in villenage at Bertele,<sup>35</sup> within our manor of Begham, whence we were drawn into a plea in the court aforesaid, contrary to the tenor of our charters; after many vexations we have compromised matters in this way (*quicquid sub hac forma*), that we have removed Richard Browning, Henry the Wyse, and Doucea le Swan, from their residences (*mansionibus*) and lands:—But amongst these (tenants) was a son of disobedience, of hard and stiff-neck (*filius inobedientiæ duræ cervicis et obstinatæ*), Matthew Scot by name, who would not remove from our land, affirming that he was free; but by pulling down the houses in which he dwelt we expelled this person from our villicat (*villicatu*), whilst to the rest we assigned cottages and small portions of land (*mansiunculae et portiunculae terrarum*). Moved however at length with compassion for the poverty of the said Matthew Scot we appointed this remedy (*tale apposimus medicamen*), To wit that he coming into full court at Begham, on the Thursday next before the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary, in

<sup>35</sup> *Bartley* is the present name attached to a mill, a cottage, and a considerable wood, all within a mile of the abbey. The MS. transcript has *Berkele* in error.

the 26th year of the reign of King Edward, should altogether renounce his right, if he had any, in the tencement which he sometime held of us in villenage at Berteleye—which he having accordingly done, the same abbot, moved by pity and piety, not by reason of his renunciation, hath caused 50s. sterling to be paid to the said Matthew, and discharged him from further attendance on the court in respect of his land (*ipsum de terra sua abire dimisit*).”

The Abbey of Bayham was visited, it would seem, by King Edward I. on June 21st, 1299 (*Sussex Arch. Coll.* II. p. 144), but certainly by King Edward II. on Monday, August 27th, 1324 (*Sussex Arch. Coll.* VI. p. 44), on his way to Robertsbridge. Another visitor, of great, though not royal, celebrity in his day, Richard de la Wych, Bishop of Chichester, afterwards known as Saint Richard, is said to have made some stay at Begham; and such was his reputation for sanctity, that the bed on which he lay was supposed to retain certain miraculous qualities of a healing nature (*Sussex Arch. Coll.* I. p. 168). The abbots appear to have taken but little part in matters of public business, with the sole exception of acting occasionally, in conjunction with other ecclesiastical and lay owners of property, on the coast of East Sussex, as commissioners for maintaining the embankments whereby the levels were guarded against inundations of the sea.

Some members of the founder's family chose this abbey, hallowed doubtless to their minds by the recollections of many generations, as a last resting-place for their mortal remains. Sir Thomas Sackville, son of Sir Andrew by his second wife Joane Burgess, who died 11th Henry VI. (A.D. 1433), in a will dated December 1st, 1432, expresses his desire to be buried in the church of Bayham.<sup>36</sup> Richard Sackville also, son of Humphrey by his wife Katherine, daughter of Sir Thomas Brown, who was treasurer of the household to King Henry VI., was interred, we are told, in the Lady Chapel. Others probably of their early patrons and benefactors were deposited within the consecrated walls, whose names have perished with their tombs.

From various sources I have culled the names and dates

<sup>36</sup> “Ego T. Sakevile miles de comitatu Ecclesiâ de Beigeham.”  
Sussexiensi volo me sepultum esse in

of ten abbots, besides the six (marked \*), which are given from Hasted in the *Monasticon*.

ABBOTS OF BEGEHAM.

	A. D.
Jordan, 1st Abbot of Ottenham, translated to be 1st Abbot of Begham about . . . . .	1200
Reginald . . . . .	1221—1252
John . . . . .	1257
Thomas . . . . .	1265
John . . . . .	1272
Richard . . . . .	1283—1296
Laurence (resigned in 1315) . . . . .	1307, 1315
Lucas de Coldone . . . . .	1315
Solomon . . . . .	1352
*Robert Frendesbury . . . . .	1405
*John . . . . .	1413
*Thomas Cottyngham . . . . .	1454
*Robert Hertley . . . . .	1478
*Robert Naysh . . . . .	1488
Thomas Cottyngham, again abbot in . . . . .	1491
Robert Naysh, restored . . . . .	1494
*Richard Bexley . . . . .	1497—1522
William Lameden, who surrendered to the king in . . . . .	1526

No seal of Bayham is known to exist ; a very minute fragment only, insufficient to convey any idea of the whole, except that its form was oval, remains in the Record Office.

In the year 1526, this house, with several other minor monasteries, was granted by Henry VIII. to the magnificent Wolsey, for his intended foundations at Oxford and Ipswich. Among the Burrell papers (Add. MSS. 5706, p. 50) is the copy of an Inquisition taken at East Grinstead on the 19th July, 17th Henry VIII. before Thomas Heron, Esq., upon the oath of Edmund and John Alfrey, Robert Duffell, Richard Cole, Thomas Cottleford, John Attwell, and nine other jurors, apparently with a view to ascertain the true value of the abbey property, preparatory to this grant. There were at the time of its suppression five canons only, in addition to the abbot, who were drafted off by the cardinal to other houses of the same order, on the authority of a bull issued by Clement VII.

Notwithstanding the odium which conventual establishments had generally incurred at the time of their dissolution, they carried with them, in their fall, the sympathies of many

who were personally interested in their continuance. The tradesmen with whom they dealt, the artisans whom they employed, the traveller who found shelter and hospitality beneath their roof, the poor who shared the dole at the abbey-gate—"quos sportula fecit amicos," these were all incensed at the sudden and entire cessation of advantages which had been so long enjoyed. The histories of that period inform us how greatly the public peace was disturbed by crowds of beggars, who had been thrown upon their own resources by the abolition of the monasteries. In the case of Bayham such strong feelings were excited, that more than one tumultuary attempt was made to replace the ejected canons by force in their abbey. Some records of those transactions have already appeared in these volumes (VII. 221), but to the documents cited by Mr. Blaauw I will here add the brief account given by Grafton:<sup>37</sup>—"You have heard before how the cardinal suppressed many monasteries, of which one was called Begham, in Sussex, the which was verie commodious to the countrey: but so befell the cause that a riotous company, disguised and unknowne, with painted faces and visors, came to the same monasterie, and brought with them the chanons, and put them in their place againe, and promised them that whensoever they rang the bell, they would come with a great power and defend them. Thys doinge came to the eare of the king's counsaile, which caused the chanons to be taken, and they confessed the capitaynes, which were imprisoned and punished." Being, of course, speedily and with little difficulty put down, those abortive efforts could produce no other effect than to render the condition of the poor monks more destitute than it might otherwise have been.

Upon the great cardinal's disgrace, in 1530, the estates reverted to the crown; and Sir William Burrell says,<sup>38</sup> "In a book in the office of the surveyor-general of crown lands, I find an annual rent of £16. 13s. 4d. issuing out of the manor and priory (abbey) of Otham, allotted as part of the jointure of Queen Katherine." This, however, was in fact a part of the possessions of the suppressed Priory of Michelham, being

<sup>37</sup> *Chronicle*, p. 382, new edition, Esq.  
obligingly communicated by W. D. Cooper, <sup>38</sup> Add. MSS. 5706, p. 211.



a rent-charge anciently assigned to the canons of that house by the abbey of Begham, in settlement of some conflicting claims.—*Sussex Arch. Collections*, V. 163, n. 22.

With the crown the abbey property, in part at least, remained, according to Sir William Burrell, till the 25th year of Queen Elizabeth, when by a writ of privy seal all that part of it which was in Sussex, and then left in the Queen's hands, was granted to Theophilus Adams, of London, gentleman, and Robert Adams, citizen and grocer, to be had and held to their own private use and that of their heirs and assigns. But in the *Monasticon* it is said that Elizabeth granted Bayham to Anthony Brown, Viscount Montague. I know not how to reconcile these two statements, unless by supposing that the grant to Viscount Montague, of the site and a portion of the estates, was first made, and then what remained was assigned to the Messrs. Adams. Certain it is that an act of Parliament was passed in 1714, enabling Ambrose Browne to sell the manor of Begham, which then passed into the possession of John Pratt, Esq., of the Wilderness, in the county of Kent, serjeant-at-law, and afterwards Chief Justice of the King's Bench, whose son became the first Earl Camden and Lord High Chancellor of England. In this family the property has since continued, the present owner being grandson to the illustrious Chancellor.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL OF WALTER  
GALE, SCHOOLMASTER AT MAYFIELD, 1750.

EDITED BY R. W. BLENCOWE, ESQ.

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IN two former volumes of our Archæological work we were enabled to publish extracts from the journals of a country gentleman and a country clergyman, who lived in Sussex about the middle and latter part of the seventeenth century. These genuine records give us considerable insight into the social and moral character of the different classes to which they belonged. We are now enabled, through the kindness of Mr. Ross, the mayor of Hastings, to present to the public another record of the same nature, but of a later date by nearly a century, in the shape of the Diary of a Schoolmaster in a country parish, which carries our sphere of observation among a different and much more extensive class, and completes, as it were, the picture of Sussex manners and habits in the days that are past.

This diary was found by Mr. Ross, spread out in a garden at Hastings to be dried for the purpose of lighting fires. By him the papers were rescued from the flames, and kindly communicated to the Society.

On Friday, the 29th of June, 1750, there were assembled in parochial conclave, in the church of Mayfield, the vicar and six more of the principal inhabitants of the parish, the trustees and managers of a free-school recently founded and endowed there, and then and there did they proceed to appoint Walter Gale the schoolmaster, his qualifications being, as is recorded in one of the parish books, that he was a member of the Church of England, of known affection to the present establishment in church and state, understanding the grounds and principles of the Christian religion, of sober life and conversation, of a meek and humble behaviour, having a good government over himself and his

passions, a frequenter of the holy communion, possessing a genius for teaching, writing a good hand, and understanding arithmetic well: amongst other duties he was to be particularly careful of the manners and behaviour of the poor children committed to his care. To these rules were subscribed the names of John Gorman, vicar; the mark of John Kent  $\times$ , Edward Sawyer, Samuel Baker, John Diplock, Ansell Day, and John Russell.

There is something very interesting in the wise and careful way in which the duties of a schoolmaster are enforced in the rules of many of our old grammar-schools. "He shall be a man," say the statutes of the school of St. Mary Overy, passed in 1614, "of a wise, sociable, and loving disposition, not hasty or furious, nor of any ill example; he shall be wise, and of good experience to discern the nature of every child, to work upon the disposition for the greatest advantage, benefit, and comfort of the child, ever proposing to clear up and put life and spirit into the capacity and memory; love, patience, diligence, gentleness, and moderate desire of praise in the scholars." And Archbishop Harsnett, in founding his school at Chigwell, in Essex, 1629, says:—"I publish the true intentions of my heart, that I more affectionately desire that the poor scholars of my schools be nurtured and disciplined in good manners, than instructed in good arts; and therefore I charge my schoolmasters, as they will answer it to God and to good men, that they bring up their scholars in the fear of God and reverence to all men."

No such happy accident as that which caused the ample foundation of the schools at Wickwar, in Gloucestershire, in 1684, had ever occurred at Mayfield. No poor boy, apprenticed, as young Hosea was, to a weaver of that place, in carrying, according to custom on a certain day in the year, a dish called whitepot to the bakers, let it fall and broke it, and, fearing to face his mistress, ran away to London, where he prospered, and, remembering his native village, founded the schools there which bear his name. No William Jones was there, who, if the traditions of Monmouth be true, left that place to become a shopboy to a London merchant in the time of James I., and by his good conduct rose first to the counting-house, and then to a partnership in the concern; and, having realized a

large fortune, came back in the disguise of a pauper, first to his native place, Newland, in Gloucestershire, from whence, having been ill received there, he betook himself to Monmouth, and meeting with kindness among his old friends, he bestowed £9000 in founding a free grammar-school.<sup>1</sup>

The salary of the Mayfield schoolmaster was only £16 a year, which was subsequently increased by the bequest of a house and garden, which let for £18 a year. There were none of those perquisites, so common in old grammar-schools, by which the scanty fortunes of the masters were increased, and the boys instructed in the humanities, as in the Middle School at Manchester, where the master provided the cocks, for which he was liberally paid, and which were to be buried up to their necks to be shied at by the boys on Shrove Tuesday and at the Feast of St. Nicholas, as at Wyke, near Ashford. No Mr. Graham had bequeathed a silver bell to Mayfield, as he had done to the school at Wreay, in 1661, to be fought for annually, when two of the boys, who had been chosen as captains, and who were followed by their partisans, distinguished by blue and red ribbons, marched in procession to the village green, where each produced his cocks; and when the fight was won, the bell was appended to the hat of the victor, to be transmitted from one successful captain to another.<sup>2</sup> There were no potation pence, when there were deep drinkings, sometimes for the benefit of the clerk of the parish, when it was called clerk's ale, and more often for the schoolmaster, and in the words of some old statutes, for "the solace of the neighbourhood:" potations which Agnes Mellers, a vowess, the widow of a wealthy bellfounder of Nottingham, endeavoured, in some degree, to restrain, when she founded the grammar-school in that town in 1513, by declaring that the schoolmaster and usher of her school should not make or

<sup>1</sup> See Carlyle's *Concise Description of the English Endowed Grammar Schools*, from whose book all the cases alluded to are taken.

<sup>2</sup> Cock-fighting was, in fact, the great national amusement, particularly in the north of England, and Berwick-upon-Tweed was among the places most celebrated for it. The grandfather of a friend of the editor's, some ninety years ago, was travelling in the north of England, when a cock-fighting was about to take

place. The parties were in want of an adept in putting on the spurs: he was recognised by an acquaintance, who exclaimed "Here comes a Berwick man; he knows how to do it."—Cock-fighting is now legally a misdemeanour; and on the 15th of April, at the Liverpool Police Court, James Clark, a publican in Houghton Street, was fined £5 and costs for permitting cock-fighting in his house.—*Times*, April 20, 1857.

use any potations, cock-fightings, or drinkings, with his or their wives, hostess or hostesses, more than twice a year. There were no "delectations" for the scholars, such as the barring out of the schoolmaster, which Sir John Deane, who founded the grammar-school at Witton, near Northleach, to prevent all quarrels between the teacher and the taught, determined should take place only twice a year, a week before Christmas and Easter, "as the custom was in other great schools." No unhappy ram was provided by the butcher, as used to be the case at Eton in days long by, to be pursued and knocked on the head by the boys, till on one occasion the poor animal, being sorely pressed, swam across the Thames, and, rushing into the market-place at Windsor followed by its persecutors, did such mischief, that this sport was stopped, and instead thereof it was hamstrung, after the speech on Election Saturday, and clubbed to death. None of these humanizing influences were at work at Mayfield: there was not even the customary charge of 5*s.* to each boy for rods—a painful tax to the scholar who needed their reforming influence, but still more so to him who was too good ever to require it.

No such rules as those in force at the free grammar-school of Cuckfield prevailed at Mayfield. They were not taught "on every working day one of the eight parts of reason, with the word according to the same, that is to say, Nomen with Amo, Pronomen with Amor, to be said by heart; nor, as being a modern and a thoroughly Protestant school, were they called upon before breakfast upon a Friday to listen to a little piece of the Pater Noster or Ave Maria, the Credo or the verses of the Mariners, or the Ten Commandments, or the Five Evils, or some other proper saying in Latin meet for babyes." Still less, as in the case of the grammar-school at Stockport, did any founder will "that some cunning priest, with all his scholars, should, on Wednesday and Friday of every week, come to the church to the grave where the bodies of his father and mother lay buried, and there say the psalm of De Profundis, after the Salisbury use, and pray especially for his soul, and for the souls of his father and mother, and for all Christian souls." Neither did the trustees, that they might sow the seeds of ambition in the minds of the scholars, ordain, as was done at Tunbridge and at Lewisham, "that the

best scholars and the best writers should wear some pretty garland on their heads, with silver pens well fastened thereunto, and thus walk to church and back again for at least a month:" a ceremony which in these days would infallibly secure for them all sorts of scoffings, and probably a broken head.

Walter Gale, the object of the choice at Mayfield, and the writer of the journal from which the following extracts are taken, was not such an one as Joseph Moxon, who, having acted as waiter at his father's inn at Market Bosworth, was placed by the patron of the school there at the head of it, despite of all his own earnest remonstrances and protestations of incompetency. On the contrary, he was a sort of universal genius: he could turn his hand to almost anything; and, in addition to his scholastic functions, he was a land-measurer, a practical mathematician, an engraver of tombstones, a painter of public-house signs, a designer of ladies' needlework, and a maker of wills.

When the people of Chorley, in Lancashire, built their schoolhouse, they recorded this their resolution, that no schoolmaster or minister who might hereafter be, should, for "diverse great causes, inhabit therein;" the real "great cause" being, as was afterwards explained, that the wives, and children begotten in such habitation, might become chargeable to the parish. This difficulty, as far as Walter Gale was concerned, was obviated by the selection of a single man, who dwelt with his mother at a place called Coggin's Mill, near Mayfield. The school at first was held in a place partitioned off from the church. A schoolroom was afterwards built, which it is to be hoped, "all superfluity of too curious works of detayle and busie mouldings being layd apart, was edified of the most substantial stufte of stone, lead, glass, and iron."<sup>3</sup>

Immediately upon his appointment, Master Gale began to keep a journal, and among his earliest notices we find the following account of a dream, which, as we shall see hereafter, was never realized:—

"Tuesday, 14th.—I dreamt last night that I should be advantageously married, and be blessed with a fine offspring,

<sup>3</sup> Such are the injunctions for building Eton College given by its royal founder Henry VI.

and that I should live to the age of 81, of which time I should preach the gospel 41 years; this I conceived in my sleep was a prophetic dream, which God in His infinite mercy grant, together with ability to perform that holy function, becoming the state to which I thought I was wonderfully raised. Amen!"

The writer of the diary had been an officer of excise, and had been dismissed for reasons which may, upon further acquaintance with him, be easily guessed at, and, notwithstanding his high aspirations, was anxious to be restored to his former office. In a letter written some time after his appointment to a Mr. Price, requesting him to use his influence for that object, he gives the following account of his new situation. He says:—

"Dec., 1749.—The many vicissitudes of fortune which I have experienced since my being discharged from the office would constitute a pretty good history; so that, passing over these circumstances, I take the freedom to inform you that I am now at the head of a little free school at Mayfield, in this county, which is famous for being the repository of several notable relicks of antiquity, of which the principal one is a pair of tongs with which the inhabitants affirm, and many believe it, that St. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, who had his residence at a fine ancient dome in this town, pinched the devil by the nose when, in the form of a handsome maid, he tempted him. What made it more terrible to this sightly tempter was, that the tongs happened to be red hot, and it was one that St. Dunstan made use of at his forge, for it seems that the archbishop was a blacksmith as well as a saint."

"Sunday, 3rd Jan.—I came to Hothly and attended divine service, which was performed by the Rev. Richard Porter. Text, St. Matthew, 5th chap., 19th verse. The subject of his discourse kept very close to the sense and words of the text, and seemed to be but little less than a comment thereon, and tended to nothing more than to shew that those, who by their lives' example, precepts and commands should teach others to break the commandments of God, should be called the least in the kingdom of heaven, viz., be excluded for ever therefrom, it being a more heinous offence to corrupt others than to live loosely ourselves."

The importance of attending to sermons and of taking down notes of the preacher's words was more thought of in the days of old than at present. In the rules of many an old grammar-school this duty and practice are strictly enjoined both on schoolmasters and scholars.

"15.—I posted a note for Verral, to desire him to send me to-morrow, Bishop Beveridge's *Great Necessity and Advantage of Publique Prayers and Frequent Communion*, and Burket's *Poor Man's Help*, which books are for Mr. Newington's son Zebulon, at Withernden.

"Wednesday, 6th.—Mr. Hassell the conjuror came to school, and brought with him a map which he had made of a farm belonging to Colonel Fuller. We went together at noon to Elliott's, where he treated me with a quartern of gin, and I gave him a dinner at Coggin's Mill. Having dined the conjuror, we returned to Elliot's, where he treated me as before. I wrote the title of his map, and at four o'clock we went to Beale's to the clubb; at six I went to the school and finished his map, and he, as a satisfaction, promised me half-a-crown. At nine he returned to Heathfield, carrying with him my Little's *Introduction to Astrology*. He gave me directions to write to Mr. White of Rotherfield, to demand Raleigh's *History of the World*, which he had in his hands."

The profession of a conjuror a hundred years ago was by no means uncommon, nor does it seem to have been thought a discreditable one. A person of the same name was in full practice as a cunning man in the neighbourhood of Tunbridge Wells very recently. One of the best known of his craft was a man of the name of Saunders, of Heathfield, who died about fifty years ago. He was a respectable man, and at one time in easy circumstances; but he neglected all earthly concerns for astrological pursuits, and, it is said, died in a workhouse.

"11th.—Master Eastwood came to the school: he invited me to the Oak, and treated me with a mugg of fivepenny.

"14th.—I found the greatest part of the school in a flow, by reason of the snow and rain coming through the leads. The following extempore verse I set for a copy:—

'Abandon every evil thought,  
For they to judgement will be brought.'

In passing the Star I met with Mr. Eastwood; we went in



and spent 2*d.* apiece. Fitness the miller was there, from whom I learnt that twenty drops of the spirits of hartshorn in half a quartern of gin, will drive an ague: he affirmed that it had driven his many a time.

“Dec. 1st.—Gathered some prime rosses, which for beauty and fragrancy came but little short of those gathered in April; it appeared that they might have been gathered a week sooner.

“Master Kent came to Coggin’s Mill, and, in computing the charitable contributions given to make an establishment for the school, we made out £371, besides many that are not applied for.

“19th.—I called at Mr. Goodman’s to know how long he would have the boys be from school at Christmas. He considered that it was a bad time for business, and ordered them a fortnight now and three weeks at Bartholomew Tide.

“20th.—I went to Mr. Sawyer’s with the key of the school, and stopt and smoaked a pipe of tobacco. One of his daughters said that she expected a change in the weather, as she had last night dreamt of a deceased person.”<sup>4</sup>—This superstition still lingers in the Weald of Sussex.

“21st, St. Thomas Day.—I began to paint Turner’s sign; went to church and attended prayers, which being finished, I went to the school where we were followed by Mr. R. Baker and his lady and Master Kent, who ordered Stephen Parker the sexton, who kept the doors, to let some of the dollers in, which being done, he distributed the cash, I taking the account of the receivers; we found the number to be 108.”

This old custom of going a gooding on St. Thomas’s Day is wearing out. It was very common in the south-eastern counties of England, and still prevails in the town of Lewes and some of the neighbouring parishes. It is confined to women, who formerly, in return for the alms which they received, used to present their benefactors with sprigs of evergreens, probably to deck their houses with at the ensuing festival.—(Brand’s *Popular Antiquities*.)

“Returning to Coggin’s Mill, I found old Fitness there, who

<sup>4</sup> Among the rules of the school at Chigwell, in Essex, which was founded in 1629, it was declared that “the master must be a man of sound religion, neither

Papist nor Puritan, of a grave behaviour and sober and honest conversation, no tippler or haunter of alchouses, and no puffer of tobacco.”

wanted me to go with him to witness a will which he had in his pocket, in which his uncle had given him all the moveables at the mill. It was drawn up in a foolish manner by Browne of Rype. The old man came and signed the will, the witnesses being Master Weston and his wife, both of whom signed with a †.

“22nd.—Fitness called at our house on his return. I endeavoured to persuade him to get his uncle to sign a new will, looking upon the other as good for nothing, which he promised to do.

“26th.—I began to draw the quilt belonging to Mr. Godman.

“30th.—I finished the bed-quilt after five days' close application. It gave satisfaction, and I received 10s. 6d. for the drawing. Mr. Godman did not say he thought it too much, but that 'twas a pretty deal of money.

“As I returned home at 6 o'clock I observed the planets in this order:—

\* Mars.

\* Jupiter.

\* Venus.

▷ Luna.

“They made a fine appearance, and the sky being clear the whole celestial sphere appeared in perfect harmony.

“Jan. 1st, 1751.—I was at the Rev. Richard Porter's, and continued there this day, and posted for him a translation from Longinus of Sappho, which he had anew translated into Sapphic verse, to the sound time and metre with the original Greek.

“2d.—I went to Hammond's, and drank with him a bottle of beer and two drams. I invited him to the butcher's, and treated him with a mugg of beer. Master Dumbrell came in; we went to Gurrs, where he spent 1s., and I went home to bed.

“I was informed at Mast. Hammond's that Mast. Dumbrell, having been caught by Ditchers in his wife's chamber, was obliged to give a bond of £30 before he was permitted to leave the room.

“Wednesday, 3d.—I went to the butcher's, to call him to go to Chalvington, but he being drunk, the journey was de-

ferred. I met with Mr. Vine and Mr. Price, who treated me with a quartern of brandy and a mugg of ale.

“4th.—I past accounts with Widow Cane, £1. 13s. 0d.; Mr. Thatcher, £1. 10s. 0d.; and Mr. Markwick, £1. 17s. 6d.; this money was in full for their tombstones; and I desired the favour of Mr. Goldsmith to employ me in painting the Commandments, a thing they intend to have done in their church.

“Sunday, 7th.—Gave my attendance at divine service. Two o’clock, I went to the Star, at Heathfield, where I found the conjuror, and spent 3½d. with him.

“8th.—Began my school at noon. I waited on Miss Anne Baker, of whom I received a neckerchief to draw.

“10th.—Came to the church, Mr. Newington’s boy, at Withernden, who brought me the unhappy tidings that my sister was very ill, and that I was desired to go there that day. I dismissed the scholars, and went to Withernden.

“I found my sister extremely indisposed, and unlikely to live. I was informed by my sister Stone that she had miscarried the Sunday before, and had had a very ill time of it. Mr. Harvey, Chancellor Jordan’s curate at Burwash, had been there the night before, and had administered the sacrament to her. I stayed there that night, and, my sister being somewhat better, she ordered me to tell my mother to come to her.

“11th.—My cousin, John Vine, came to me, and brought with him Camden’s *Britannia* and a parcel of Ephemerises; he was so good as to stay with me; we went to Mr. Moon’s, and supped there, and spent the evening in very agreeable chat.

“Sunday.—I set out for Withernden. My sister was still extremely ill. I told them in discourse that on Thursday last, the town clock was heard to strike 3 in the afternoon twice, once before the chimes went, and a 2d time pretty nearly a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an hour after. There were present at the time in the school, Mr. Sawyer, Mast<sup>r</sup>. Kent, Cousin Vine, and myself, who all observed it. The strikes at the 2d striking seemed to sound very dull and mournfully; this, together with the crickets coming to the house at Laughton just at our coming away, I look upon to be sure presages of my sister’s death. At 4 P.M. I was called up by my mother, who said

that my sister, having took a composing draught, had lain down in an insensible condition, and she feared that she would never wake; at 7 I set out for Mayfield, when my sister, to our general griefs, seemed just expiring. Finished drawing Miss Anne's handkerchief, and carried it home to her, receiving 1s. for my labour. Miss Patty, her sister, gave me a pair of shoes to draw in diamonds.

"Met with Mr. Roberts, who invited me in, and gave me a dram and a pint of mild.

"18th. Harry came with the unwelcome news of my sister's death, 11 P.M. I met Mr. Roberts, who invited me in, and gave me a dram.

"22d.—I set out to attend my sister's funeral. Bands were supplied to every one of the near relations, and gloves to every one who attended, as also red and white wine. Next to the corpse followed my brother Newington and Joe, then my brother and sister Stone, then Mr. Joseph Newington and his wife, Dr. Newington and his wife, Mr. Benj. Newington and his wife, Mr. J. Newington and myself. There was a sermon preached on the occasion by the Rev. Mr. Hailley, The text was, 'Keep innocency, and take heed to the thing that is right,' &c. The sermon being ended, we conducted the corpse to the grave,<sup>5</sup> in the before-mentioned order. We being prodigiously cold, went to the Bear, and refreshed ourselves.

"26th.—I was informed by my mother that I had been called upon last night by a man from Hailsham. He proved to be Master Ley from BRIGHTHELMSTONE: we went to Peerless, where he spent 5*d.* and I 9*d.* I put into his hands my best wigg to be buckled, which he said would come to 2*s.* 6*d.* I paid him a 1*s.* towards the work to be done to my wigg."

There seems to have been no such stipulation with Master Gale as that in force at the school at Lewisham, "that the schoolmaster should not follow vain and gaudy fashions of apparel, and wear long-curved or ruffin-like hair;" nor were the boys of Mayfield, as was the case there, forbidden to wear long-curved, frizzled, or powdered or ruffin-like hair, or to cut it in such sort or manner that both the beauty of their fore-

<sup>5</sup> The grave is on the north side of about in a line with the end wall. the chancel, about six rods therefrom,

heads might be seen and that the hair should not grow longer than above one inch below the tips of their ears.

“Monday, 5th.—Being very wet in going to town, I went into Peerlesses to dry up, and spent 2*d*. Here was Satan, who affirmed that his father voided a worm out of his mouth upwards of 5 ells long. He said he would produce a woman in the town who would vouch for the truth of the assertion.

“Sunday, 11th Feb.—Gave attendance at divine service, 4th chap. of St. John, 24th verse. He gave an historical account of our Saviour’s conversation with the Samaritan woman; he then made an explanation of Jacob’s ladder, and he found great fault with some of his auditors that they did not attend prayers on holydays.

“15th.—Master Kent and Mr. M. Baker came to the school. They discoursed with me of the number of scholars I would teach for £16 per ann. Master Kent proposed 24, but after much debate the number was fixed at 21, the third part of which are supposed to be writers.

“27th.—This being Shrove-Tuesday, I went to Halland to the Nursery. This being the day for the rearing of the sign, I found several people there, and I took my dinner with them.

“Wednesday, 28th.—It being extremely cold, I went to Peerless and bought a quartern of anniseed and borrowed a prayer-book to go to church: at noon I returned the book, and spent 2½*d*. Went to Mr. Baker’s, and did the drawing for Miss Anne’s handkerchief, and took for my reward a pint of strong.

“Sunday, 4th.—I took the conjurors dividers to Heathfield, and I left them, the conjuror not being at home. Returned to Mayfield, accompanied part of the way by my Cousin Vine: we came to the conclusion, if the weather remained fine, about a journey to Bourn, and we agreed both of us to put off our schools on that day.”

A singular specimen of a schoolmaster was his Cousin Vine, and one strongly tinctured with the superstitions of the times. He is said to have made it part of his duty to instruct his scholars principally on the power and malevolence of Satan. One of his pupils, who survived till within the last twenty years, used to relate how that he thought Satan had his dwelling among the tombs in Heathfield Churchyard, and that he

often expressed a wish that he would show himself in the day-time, thinking that Master Vine, with his forty scholars, would be able to drive him once and for ever out of the parish.

“9th.—I went to Heathfield and met with John Vine, who had neglected to put off his scholars, and raised some weak excuses against going.

“5th March.—Master Thos. Merchant, at Little London, came into the school to confer about painting the Commandments at their church. I made the price two guineas, which he had no objection to. I went to Heathfield, and went to the Star and met Master Starr there, who was drinking with an old soldier and Welch Bess, his odiously swearing trull.

“10th.—Being disappointed of my Bourn journey, I set out for Laughton after drinking a quartern of gin, and came to Whitesmiths, where was a hurley bolloo about Mr. Plummer’s (now a custom-house officer) having seized a horse loaded with 3 anchors of brandy, which was carried off by him and two soldiers, and afterwards stabled at Parishe’s; John Willard and Wm. Bran being there, followed and overtook them, and prevailed with them to go back. Parish took the seized horse and put it into Martin’s stable.”

Two years only before this occurred a special commission, at the head of which that great judge Sir Michael Forster presided, had been sent to Chichester to try seven smugglers for the murder of two custom-house officers under circumstances of atrocity too horrible to be related. They were convicted, and, with the exception of one who died the night before the execution, they were all executed and hanged in chains in different parts of Sussex. A company of foot guards and a troop of horse attended to prevent all chances of rescue, so thoroughly were the feelings of great numbers of the people enlisted on the side of the smugglers. Seven more were tried and convicted at the following assizes at East Grinstead for the barbarous murder of a poor fellow named Hawkins, who was suspected of giving information against them, and who was literally flogged to death, and for highway robbery. Six of them were executed. Most of them belonged to the celebrated Hawkhurst gang, who were the terror of the counties of Kent and Sussex. Three more were tried at the Old Bailey for joining with sixty others in breaking open the custom-house

at Poole, and taking away a quantity of tobacco which had been seized and deposited there. They were executed at Tyburn. The place called Whitesmith was celebrated for its nest of smugglers long after this time. It has been stated, by a person who took the office of overseer of a neighbouring parish about forty years ago, that one of the outstanding debts of the previous year was due to —— of Whitesmith, a well-known smuggler, for “two gallons of gin to be drunk at the vestry”!

There were places of deposit for the smuggled goods, most ingeniously contrived, in various parts of Sussex. Among others, it is said, was the manorial pound at Falmer, under which there was a cavern dug, which could hold 100 tubs of spirits; it was covered with planks, carefully strewed over with mould, and this remained undiscovered for years.

In the churchyard at Patcham there is an inscription on a monument, now nearly illegible, to this effect:—

### Sacred to the Memory

OF DANIEL SCALES, WHO WAS UNFORTUNATELY SHOT, ON THURSDAY  
EVENING, NOV. 7TH, 1796.

Alas! swift flew the fatal lead,  
Which pierced through the young man's head.  
He instant fell, resigned his breath,  
And closed his languid eyes in death.  
All you who do this stone draw near,  
Oh! pray let fall the pitying tear.  
From this sad instance may we all  
Prepare to meet Jehovah's call.

The real story of his death is this. Daniel Scales was a desperate smuggler, and one night he, with many more, was coming from Brighton, heavily laden, when the excise officers and soldiers fell in with them. The smugglers fled in all directions; a riding-officer, as they were called, met this man, and called upon him to surrender his booty, which he refused to do. The officer, to use the words of the editor's informant, a very respectable man and neighbour, who in early life was much engaged in such transactions, knew that “he was too good a man for him, for they had tried it out before; so he shot Daniel through the head.”

Sir John Deane, the founder of the Grammar School at

Wilton, near Northleach, declares, in one of his statutes, "Because nothing that is perpetual is pleasant, I will that the schoolmaster shall have liberty, in every year, to absent himself for thirty days, to recreate himself." A sentiment in which Master Gale entirely concurred.

"Sunday, 18th.—I gave attendance at divine service morning and afternoon. Meeting afterwards with Mr. Cates, he invited me home with him, with which I complied, and partook of an entertainment, which consisted of cherry brandy, elderberry wine, &c. I smoked two pipes of tobacco, and left his house soon after sunset.

"26th.—Mr. Rogers came to the school, and brought with him the four volumes of *Pamela*, for which I paid him 4s. 6d., and bespoke Duck's *Poems* for Mr. Kine, and a *Caution to Swearers* for myself. He wanted to borrow of me the three volumes of *Philander and Silvia*, which I promised to lend him. I went to Mr. Baker's for the list of scholars, and found him alone in the smoaking-room; he ordered a pint of mild beer for me, an extraordinary thing. Left at Mr. Rogers' the three volumes of *Love Letters from a Nobleman to his Sister*.

"Sunday, April 1st.—Gave attendance at divine service. Text, 'Lazarus, come forth.' He remarked that Lazarus lived thirty years at Bethany after he was raised, a living monument of this great miracle of our Saviour.

"The passing-bell at this church was rung from 2 till 3 o'clock, for Mr. Baker, at Hamsall.

"Sunday, 15th.—Noon. Gave attendance at divine service, and, by God's grace, to all the duties of this part of the day and year.

"Sunday, 22d.—Came to Hoathley. There being no service there, by reason that Mr. Porter was gone to Chayley, to officiate for his uncle, who was indisposed.

"26th.—I set off for Brighthelmstone, and came at noon to Malling-street, and went to the Dolphin. Kennard told me that Burton's successor had had a great many scholars, but that their number began to decrease, by reason of his sottishness, and he offered, if their dislike of him should increase, to let me know of it. The rain clearing off at three o'clock, I set out for Brighthelmstone, passing through South-



over, but being advanced on the hills, the rain returned, and drove me for shelter under a thin hawthorn hedge, and I was obliged to return to Grover's, where I drank tea, and discoursed merrily, but innocently, with his wife, notwithstanding which, Grover was so indiscreet as to shew some distaste at it, and to have great difficulty to keep his temper.

“ Sunday, 6th.—I went to church at Hothley. Text from St. Matthew: ‘Take no thought, saying, What shall we eat, and what shall we drink, or wherewithall shall we be clothed,’ and I went to Jones’, where I spent 2*d.*, and here came Thomas Cornwall, and treated me with a pint of twopenny.

“ 10th.—I finished diamonding two heel-bands and three hind-quarter pieces of a pair of shoes for Squire Baker's lady.

“ May, 1750, 13th Sunday.—I heard, on my arrival at Coggin's Mill, that Mr. Godman had died the day before. Gave my attendance at church. Service was performed by the Rev. Mr. Delves (text, Acts xxiv. v. 25), who made an excellent discourse. On Wednesday, the hearse with the corpse of Mr. Godman set out from the vicarage, to be deposited in the Horsted chancel in that church (Framfield).

“ 19th.—Mr. James Kine came; we smoaked a pipe together, and we went and took a survey of the fair; we went to a legerdremain show, which we saw with tolerable approbation. Went to Waghorne's, to leave my serge German breeches, they being too big for me.

“ 26th.—Old Kent came, and I went with him to Mr. Baker; they said they should have a ragged congregation of scholars, who should sit together in the new gallery, and that they should insist on my sitting with them: to this I did not assent.

“ Sunday, 27th.—I set out with Mr. Cates for Buxted, and we came to Hartfield at eleven, and went and dined with Mr. Martin on a neck of mutton and a pudding-cake; after dinner we were entertained with two bowls of milk-punch, and then, with Mr. Ball, Mr. Martin, and their wives, we set out for Witheyham. They went with the intent to pay a visit to the curate, who was not at home. We procured the keys of the church and vault, and then we went to Spencer's, where we had a large bowl of milk-punch, which cost us 6*d.*

each : when we had finished it, we separated to our respective homes. I came to Mayfield at 11 o'clock.

"May 28th.—Gave attendance at a cricket-match, played between the gamesters at Burwash and Mayfield, to the advantage of the latter.

"Friday, 29th.—St. Peter and St. Paul. I went to the fair at Wadhurst. Took a turn in the fair, where, on sweethearts and maidenheads, I laid out 2*d*.

"30th.—I found myself this morning with an unusual chilliness in every part of my body, attended with such a pain in my limbs that made it very difficult for me to stand upright ; at 1 o'clock I went to Peerless, and had a 1*d*. worth of gin, to warm my stomach ; at 4, I went, as before, and bought a quartern. 7 o'clock, I finished drawing a waistcoat for Mr. Baker ; I carried it home, and received 2*s*. from his lady for my work.

"31st.—Mr. Baker told me I had not enough for drawing his waistcoat, and he gave me 5*s*. for my further satisfaction, and for measuring his hop-garden. At 11, Mr. Baker, his lady, Miss Patty Baker, and Mr. Samuel, set out for Bristol ; at 6 o'clock I finished a poem on Mr. Baker's journey, which I showed to Mr. Keats, and it met with his approbation.

"June 1st.—I dismissed the scholars, finding myself indisposed, and went to Mr. Mascalls, where they assured me I had caught the measles.—Sunday, 3*d*. As they did not come out by last night's sweating, I went to Dr. Maynard, with an intent to be blooded ; but he dissuaded me, affirming that though the measles had not made their appearance, yet he could feel them within the skin, ready to come out ; a few made their appearance about the temples in the afternoon.—4th. The distemper, now came on apace, so that I prepared for bed, and went to it almost blind. My mother and Mary Cornwall sate up with me. Finding myself extremely ill, I sent to Frantfield Street, with word to my brother Stone of my illness, to pray him to come to me, intending to make my will and appoint him my executor.

"6th.—My brothers Newington and Stone came to see me, and my cousin Ellis and his wife, and about this time the distemper came to its height. I gave an old German serge coat for my godson. At 11, I sent Mascall to town for a pint of

white wine, sugar, and mace, which cost 2s. Tried to compose myself this night to rest, but found it impossible; when I shut my eyes, every thing seemed to be inverted in a strange huddling confusion.

“13th.—Sent Mary to her brother’s for a neck of mutton, and went down stairs for an hour or two. Mr. Cates came, and showed me a newspaper with the verses on Mr. Baker’s going to Bristol. The bread growing very bad, I gave Mary Cornwell the greatest part of a loaf.

“Sunday, 17th.—Gave attendance at divine service fore and after noon.

“Sunday, July 1st.—Set out with Mr. Kine and Mr. Wynsch, in a body, to Withyham. We came there, and took a survey of the vault of the church, in which were many coffins, some of them in a ruinous condition. Here is deposited, in a brass case, the heart of a young lady, who died in France, of whom nothing was brought home but her heart. We next went into the chancel, in which is an incomparable fine monument, erected to the former Duke and Dutchess of Dorset and their 13 children; the surviving children are represented as holding an olive-branch in their hands, those deceased a death’s head. On the north side of this monument kneels the Duke in his armour, and a commanding-staff in his right hand. On the south side the Dutchess, in her boddice and a dress used in those times; and on the top their eldest son, lying nearly supine, with a skull held on his left knee, and resting himself on his elbow. Having finished our remarks, we dismissed the clerk with a shilling, and gave our attendance at church. Having discharged our reckoning, 9 p.m. we set out for Penshurst, and put up at the Leicester Arms, the keeper of which is clerk of the parish, who provided us with seat-room at the church. The service there being ended, we repaired to the park, and took a view of the external part of the house belonging to that ancient family of the Sidneys, and examined every creek and corner, in search of something curious. We returned to the Leicester Arms, and sent up a man to know if we could see the inside of the place; being told we could, we went to the house, and found the gates open, and the porter attending, as if he expected persons of the first rank. However great his disappointment might be,

we were introduced to a genteel woman, who shewed us the house, in which we saw more rarities than I can recount; I shall therefore only remark, that on coming away we gave her 2*s.* 6*d.*”

A great gap occurs here in the manuscript, many of the leaves having been lost, and when the diary is resumed, it is clear that things had not gone on well with some of the trustees and Master Gale, old Master Kent leading on the attack upon the schoolmaster.

“1758. Tuesday, 25th April.—I met the old man in the town, who, without any provocation on my part, or saying a word to him, loaded me with opprobrious language, and told me the report of the town was, that I was a drunken, saucy, covetuous fellow, and concluded with his opinion, that I had neither good breeding or honesty. In answer, I disallowed the report the old man charged upon the town; I allowed there might be a little truth in my being covetuous, but as to drunkenness and sauciness, it was utterly false.

“May 6th.—I sent to Mr. Kine, of Ticehurst, the following letter:—

“My deare Friend,—I was sometime ago told that the gentlemen of Ticehurst were intent upon fixing a salary for a charity school. If such a scheme should be revived, and it should be worth acceptance, I intend to make them the humble offer of my services, and I should be obliged to you to sound the disposition of those gentlemen you may fall in with, especially Mr. Medlicott and Mr. Noakes; who can tell but their estates are put into their hands for some such good purpose as this? It may appear odd to you, that, being the master of a school, I should seek after another. It is true I might save myself that trouble, if I could be mean-spirited enough to put up with all the indignities offered me by my antagonist, old Kent, a bare recital of which would fill a volume in folio. So far as you can be serviceable in it, I make no doubt but you will; should it ever be in my power to make good this kindness, I shall esteem myself happy in doing it.

“‘From, deare friend, yours sincerely.’

“10th.—Received a testimony of a death in our family

within a twelvemonth, and, by the appearance of it, I suppose it to be myself.

“15th.—I left the following letter for Mr. John Langham:—

“This is humbly to intreat the favour that you will please, at the first agreeable opportunity, to know of Mr. Tapsell, whether he shall make any alteration in his furnace clerks; if he should, please to inform him that it is my desire to serve him in that capacity. The reason for endeavouring to leave Mayfield, is on account of some disagreeable alterations the trustees are making in the school.

“‘Sir, your very humble servant.’

“27th.—I was told this day that old Kent, by reason of his having been treated by his cousin John Collins, yesterday, at the Star, got very drunk, at 12 o’clock at night, which occasioned him to be absent from divine service this day forenoon.

“Saturday, 29th.—Went to Beale’s, to read the newspaper. Mr. Olive said that he and Samuel Young, last Saturday night, were with old Kent, at the Forge, and that he paid his reckoning freely; that towards 10 o’clock in the morning they had him home, and that, notwithstanding the old woman’s scolding, they staid drinking a bottle or two of the old man’s beer, and left him on the bed extremely drunk.

“August 2.—The Wadhurst gentlemen came to play a cricket with those of Mayfield, when the former beat the latter by 106.

“Sunday, Sept. 17th.—The old man met the children, and heard some of them say the Lord’s Prayer.

“Dec. 14th.—The two old men, Kent and Edwards, came to school, and attended while the boys went through the Exposition and Catechism, and also reading the prayers. I delivered to him the abstract I had made of the *Christian Schoolmaster Instructed*; he promised to return it to me in a little time.

“8th Jan. 1759.—Left at Ruth Levett’s a pair of stays of my mother; on coming away, she told me that she was, the Saturday before, at old Kent’s; whilst she was there, old Sawyer came in, to whom old Kent said he might take away his book again, meaning my manuscript; that the old woman had read it over to him, and that it was the ——— nonsense

that ever was; and thereupon they put the question, 'What is to be done with him?' to which the old woman replied, that 'the quarter sessions were not over.' By what was here said, she supposed that something was intended to be done against me by those old men at the quarter sessions.

"Saturday, 7th.—I set out for Frantfield fair, with a roasting pig for my sister Stone. Came to her, and there drank tea with the incomparable Miss Foster.

"22d of July.—I was seized with the rheumatism. Dr. Duplock came, and as the pain affected the loins, he bled me in the foot.

"24th.—Left off school at 2 o'clock, having heard the spellers and readers a lesson apiece, to attend the cricket match of the gamesters of Mayfield against those of Lindfield and Chailey.

"28th.—My foot being tender with bleeding, I did not go to church.

"August 2d.—Having taken three pills, I sent to Peerless for a 1*l.* worth of warm ale.

"13th.—Having taken 3 pills, I sent for a 1*l.* of warm ale, which I took to Mother Keats' and eat with it a hot roll.

"July 2d.—I went with Master Freeman to Wadhurst; we went to the Queen's Head, where we had a quartern of brandy. I went to the supervisor's house, and returned to the Queen's Head, and had three pints of fivepenny, between myself and 3 others; we set out together at 8 o'clock, and being invited to a mugg of mild beer, we went in to Mr. Walters'. We left him with a design to cross the fields through Mephams Gill; but it being extremely dark, we kept not long the right path, but got into the road, which, though bad, we were obliged to keep, and not being able to see the foot-marks, I had the mischance of slipping from a high bank, but received no hurt. Old Kent came to the knowledge of the above journey, and told it to the Rev. Mr. Downall, in a false manner, much to my disadvantage; he said that I got drunk, and that that was the occasion of my falling, and that, not being contented with what I had had, I went into the town that night for more.

"5th Nov. Powder Plot.—Attended divine service, and returned to dinner at my friend Fielder's house, where I par-

took of a handsome entertainment. The text was 2d Sam. 22d chap. 40th verse. The minister divided his discourse into three heads:—1st, he spoke of the benefits vouchsafed to this nation by Divine Providence; 2d, the thanks we ought to give for so great blessings; 3dly, he expatiated on the wily intrigues of the Church of Rome, whose constant endeavour it was to extinguish the whole community of Protestants, who are the true followers of the doctrines of Christ and his Apostles; and, in conclusion, he admired and wondered at the incorrigibleness of the Jacobites, their aptness to rebel, and their blind zeal in adhering to the principles of Popery and superstition.

“April 10th.—My mother, to my great unhappiness, died in the 83rd year of her age, agreeable to the testimony I had of a death in our family on the 10th of May last.

“13th.—Having, by the assistance of Master Weston, got 24 men together to carry my mother to Frantfield, we set out and passed through the town, and came to Luff’s about noon. I spent 1s. on them, and we reached my brother Stone’s about 2 o’clock. We put the coffin into the parlour, and went to Cripps’, at the Greyhound, where I treated them with bread, beer, and tobacco, 8s. 6d., and with cheese, 2s. 6d. After paying them 2s. 6d. each, they returned to Mayfield.

“14th.—I went to Mr. Whately’s and paid him 8s. 6d. for reading the service and breaking the ground.”

Master Gale, having reason to believe that his enemy old Kent intended to inform against him as being an unlicensed teacher, having gone round the parish and called upon his neighbours to certify to his good qualities, “his attachment to church and state, his sober life and conversation,” the last of whom was old Mr. Diplock of the Moat, with whom he took part in a bottle of strong beer, in due time received his license, which, omitting the preamble, ran as followeth:—

“To our beloved in Christ Walter Gaile, of the parish of Mayfield, in the Deanery of South Malling aforesaid, greeting.

“Whereas you have been recommended to us by the testimony of the ministers and churchwardens and many of the principal inhabitants of the parish of Mayfield, as a person of a sober and virtuous life, and of sound morals, and well qualified

to teach and instruct youth in reading, writing, and arithmetic, whereby we are inclined to have a favourable regard unto you; we therefore by these presents grant unto you the said Walter Gaile, in whose fidelity we greatly confide, our license and faculty to teach and instruct the youth of the parish of Mayfield, as a schoolmaster in reading, writing, and arithmetic.

“Given under the seal of our office this sixteenth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven.

(Signed)

“JOHN BUTTERWORTH,

Doctor of Laws, Dean and Commissary, &c. &c.”

“I was called upon by Bassett, who came to quarrel with me on account of my correcting his boy for some enormous crimes he had been guilty of, all which he foolishly denied at first, and insisted upon it that his boy was unjustly corrected; yet in the end he confessed everything that the boy was beat for.

“11th May.—Dick Pentecost was sent to school to be taught free, notwithstanding the list was full before, by the order of old Kent, for no other reason than his father was poor. I told him I had enow without him, and he might tell the old man, that when I had two of his family I had as many as were appointed.

“29th.—The old man entered the school with George Wilmhurst and Eliz. Hook, and said they should be taught free. I asked him how many I was to teach free; without any further ado, he flew into a violent passion. Among other abusive and scurrilous language, he said I was an upstart, runnagate, beggarly dog; that I picked his pocket, and that I never knew how to teach a school in my life. He again called me upstart, runnagate, beggarly dog, clinched his fist in my face, and made a motion to strike me, and declared he would break my head. He did not strike me, but withdrew in a wonderful heat, and ended all with his general maxim, ‘The greater scholler, the greater rogue.’

“30th.—I told Mr. Dungate of my entering on the assistant hop business at Rotherfield with the approbation of Mr. Baker, of which he also approved. I then delivered a paper which ran thus :—

“‘Whereas the deplorable situation of the schollers of the free school, arising from their being confined in a close room



with a charcoal fire, hath been made to appear, it is thought absolutely necessary to do something whereby the pernicious vapour which arises thence may be vented and carried off, for which purpose a cupola has been proposed; it appears by an estimate that the charge will amount to £3. 3s.; it is proposed to raise that sum by subscription.'

"3rd Sept.—Set out as hop assistant for Rotherfield, and surveyed the short ride.—4th. The ride being of extraordinary length, I made it my practise to ride, having the use of a mare of which Mr. Tucker had the keeping of in the forest, and given to me. I set out on horseback, surveying till I came to Mr. Bridge's, who entertained me well. I staid there from 9 till 10, and then set out for Green Hedges; and on my return, in riding down Enting Hill, at a very steep part of the hill, for want of a crupper to the saddle, my weight drove it down to the mare's withy, which occasioned it to turn round, and me thereby to fall to the ground. I unfortunately sprained my wrist in a horrible manner, and broke a rib on my right side, which came against a stony bank. As soon as I could make a shift to rise, I took advantage of the rising ground to mount again, and rode forward to Dowgates, and left the mare with Master Wickens, finding myself incapable of getting off or on, and returned to my lodgings at Rotherfield.

"5th.—Finding myself much worse than I was overnight, I rose with extream difficulty, and dressed myself, and bathed my wrist with a fomentation of pot liquor and bran.

"8th.—I was encouraged, by finding my pains in my right side considerably abated, to walk on the forest, where I found Mr. Tucker hunting the warren for a stray rabbit. We went together to Mr. White's to breakfast, and afterwards we sate down with the alderman and drank of raisin wine—very good!

"3rd Oct.—I came to Mayfield and found in the church-porch the two Wilmshursts and Geo. Richardson, who through James's too mild treatment was got to be master. I ordered him into the school, and took the management myself. I was told by Mr. Downer that the day before James had been so indiscreet as to suffer Richardson's boy George to bring beer into the school, and, old Kent coming in before the mug was out, the boy asked him to drink; thereupon he fell into a great heat, and drove the boy out of the school."

Such a circumstance as this would probably not have occurred had the liberal rule in force in several old grammar-schools prevailed at Mayfield, that the boys should have an hour from three o'clock till four for their drinkings.

"26th.—I was called into the little chamber over the club-room, and there I found Mr. Baker, Mr. Dowgate, old Sawyer, and old Kent, who said that 'I spent my time in reading printed papers to the neglect of the children; he said that I was covetous, and undertook to do other persons' business to the neglect and detriment of the school; that the children did not improve, and that he would get an old woman for 2*l.* a week that would teach them better.' I answered that 'many of them were extremely dull, and that I would defie any person that should undertake it to teach them better.' He then said 'that I got money so fast that I was above my business, and it made me saucy, and that I had been always discharged from every place where I had any employment, unless it was from old Mary Weston's, and he did not know whether I had been sent from there or no.' I answered that 'he was again mistaken, that I was not above my business, but carefully discharged it; nor could I be called saucy for defending the truth, and that he was grievously out in affirming that I had been discharged from the places I had served, for contrariwise, I met with advancement on leaving every one of them.'"

Those who have had experience in the teaching the youths of Sussex, will probably agree with Mr. Gale in his estimate of their natural intelligence, in which they certainly are inferior to the children of the north of England. Henry Bexwyx, and Johame his widow, who founded a school at Manchester in 1524, give as their reason for so doing that "the children of the county of Lancaster have pregnant wits, but that they have for the most part been brought up rudely and idly, and not in virtue, cunning, erudition, literature, or good manners."

The remainder of Master Gale's diary is lost. It was probably very voluminous, for he held his place till 1771, long after his great adversary, old Kent, was laid in his grave. Whether he fell in consequence of pressure from without, such as, in 1631, was brought to bear upon the mayor and aldermen of Chester, who were called upon "to appoint a new

master instead of old Mr. Hawarde, who was inefficient, and young William, who was idle and neglectful," will probably never be known. This much, however, is certain, that at a meeting held on the 18th of October, 1771, it was resolved *nem. con.*,

"That the schoolmaster, Mr. Walter Gale, be removed from the school for neglecting the duties thereof, and that he have notice to leave the same the next quarter-day.

(Signed)

"ROGER CHALLICE, Vicar.  
JOHN DUPLOCK.  
JOHN WOOD.  
T. HUETT DUNGATE.  
THOS. MAYNARD."

And, on the 10th April, 1772,

"It was ordered that Mr. Gale, the old schoolmaster, be not paid his salary due, till he has absolutely put the schoolhouse in such a condition as to the form of it as it was at the time of his entering upon such house.—Agreed to *nem. con.*"

Two or three years ago a friend of the editor visited the school of ——— in no distant or obscure part of England; and, observing some deep-coloured stains upon the oaken floor, inquired the cause. He was told that they were occasioned by the leakage of a butt of Madeira which the master of the grammar-school, who had grown lusty, not having had for some time any scholars who might afford him the opportunity of taking exercise, employed himself upon a rainy day in rolling up and down the schoolroom for the purpose of ripening the wine and keeping himself in good condition. It may be satisfactory to know that this ceremony has ceased, and that the school in question is now carrying out worthily and well the objects for which it was founded.

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NOTES ON  
THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, BUXTED.

BY THE REV. HENRY ROSEHURST HOARE.

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THIS venerable building occupies a sheltered nook in Buxted Park, in the shade of surrounding trees. In the olden time, when the parishioners were few, their habitations probably were scattered, in spaces reclaimed from the forest or the moor, so that their church found a place for itself in the immediate vicinity of the manor-house; and still it stands alone, unapproached by any dwelling save the adjacent hall. Like many of its sister buildings, it presents traces only of its former beauty; but these may be noted before they pass away, possessing as they do somewhat of historical interest.

The Church of Buxted, dedicated to St. Margaret, was till lately a peculiar of the diocese of Canterbury, but is now in the archdeaconry of Lewes, and in the deanery of South Malling. The patronage of the rectory still belongs to the archbishop. To this was appended the Chapel of the Holy Cross, Uckfield ("Buckstede cum Capellâ de Okingfield," according to the Lambeth Register); but some years ago this was detached and made a distinct parish.

*Ground Plan.*—This building consists of nave, north and south aisles, chancel, north transept, west tower, north and south porches. Excepting the chancel, it is mainly in the Early-English style of the date 1250; but, as many of the ancient features have been destroyed, it is more difficult to judge accurately of the period of erection.

*Dimensions.*—

	Length.	Breadth.		Length.	Breadth.
Nave . . .	65.6	25.8	North aisle	47.4	9.7
Chancel . . .	40.6	20.10	South aisle	63.	14.8
Transept . . .	17.4	14.10	Tower . . .	16.3	15.3

*Nave.*—The nave is divided into four bays : on the north the piers are alternately circular and octagonal; those on the south all circular. The capitals are moulded, and the arches worked with plain chamfers. On the north is a clerestory of three square-headed windows of three lights. The roof is of high pitch externally : within it is partially ceiled, and has moulded tie-beams carried on braces and wall-pieces. The entrance to the tower is by an arch with semi-octagonal jamb-shafts.

*North Aisle.*—The original windows are gone; those now inserted are of the square-headed Tudor style, of two lights cinquefoiled, one on each side of the porch, and one at the west end. The roof slopes to the nave-wall.

*Font.*—The font is in the north aisle between the entrance



Font.

and the west window : it consists of a square bowl carried on four detached shafts and a central stem, upon a low plinth.

*South Aisle.*—The windows are similar to those on the north; at the west end is a small cinquefoiled light for the vestry. The doorway is of later date than the wall. The roof is a separate span, coved internally, and divided by pur-lines and moulded ribs.

*North Transept.*—The north aisle opens by an arch into the transept : the north window is large and of good proportions, but the mullions and tracery have been destroyed : the date is of the Early Decorated period, judging by the label moulding outside and inside. Of the east window there are traces on the outside. This transept has been used as a family

chapel, for in the east wall is a trefoil-headed piscina, well moulded, with a shelf in the upper part. The inner moulding is a roll with a square fillet, and the trefoil curves outwards: the label is pedimented, and the basin channelled in six grooves, now mutilated.

The transept has double buttresses at the angles, and a chamfered stringcourse, joining that of the chancel: the gable is coped, with a socket at the top for the cross.

*Chancel.*—The chancel is large and of good proportions, and doubtless had a fine appearance in the days of its perfection. The north side is lighted by three windows: two of them are of three lights, trefoiled, the centre light reaching to the top of the arch. The window between these is a single light, unfoiled; within the sill on the inside rises the arch of the priest's door. On the south side are two windows, each a single light; that to the eastward is cinquefoiled, the other plain.

The east window is large, and a fine specimen of the Early Decorated period. It is of five lights, trefoiled; above each light is a pointed trefoil, and above these, ten quatrefoils, four, three, two, and one; those in the two lower rows are elongated in the lower foil. The mouldings are of two orders. The window is low in proportion to its width, and has, as also the others, the label moulding of the scroll form both on the exterior and interior.

There are no remnants of stained glass, excepting two or three quarries with leaves outlined.

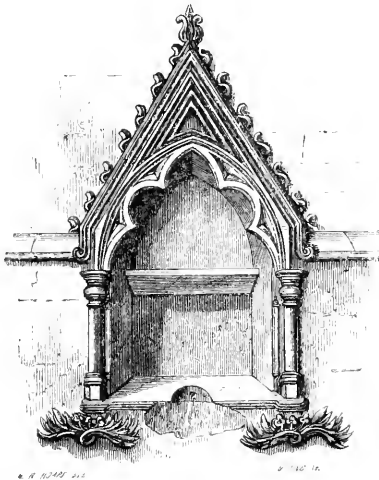
In the south wall is a handsome piscina, 6 ft. 6 in. high, 3 ft. 2 in. wide; it has jamb-shafts, with moulded caps and bases; these latter are carried on bunches of flowers, with leaves spreading on each side.

The arch is cinquefoiled, with a label of the roll and fillet, pedimented.

Adjacent to the piscina is a wide depressed arch, formerly the canopy of the sedilia: at first sight it seems like a recessed tomb, but recent repairs have brought out traces of three seats, graduated. It is unusual to find a canopy thus embracing three seats without division.<sup>1</sup> The altar steps abut upon the

<sup>1</sup> This canopy is noticed in the *Handbook of English Ecclesiology*, p. 59.

eastern jamb : the jambs and arch are of the scroll moulding ; the arch is crocketed like the piscina, and within, it is seven-foiled by broad cusps with round finials.



Piscina.

A stringcourse of the scroll shape is carried along the chancel on each side, cut away from the east wall : a chamfered stringcourse undercut runs round the exterior. The coping of the gable is carried on hip-knobs of figure-heads, and ends with a finial in place of the cross.

The date of this chancel marks the rise of the Decorated style ; for it is recorded that the builder was Sir John de Lewes, rector of the parish, in the year 1292.

My authority is Sir William Burrell's MSS., probably from the Lambeth Register, particularly that of Archbishop Peckham, to whose primacy the date in question belongs.

It is important to note the details of those buildings the dates of which are known, as they are guides by which we may judge in cases of uncertainty.

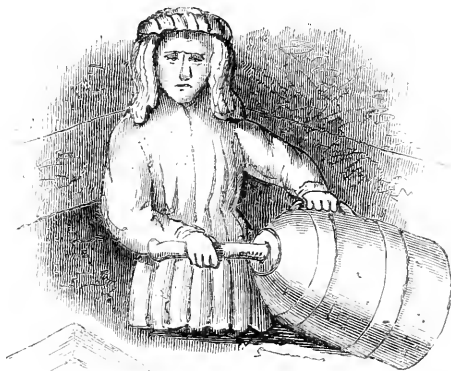
The original internal framework of the roof does not remain : it is coved in stucco, ornamented with panelling of squares, enclosing circles with central bosses ; *fleurs-de-lis* occupy the angles. Along the cornice, in each panel is an urn, from which run festoons of leaves and bunches of fruit ; tradition tells that these are intended to represent the hop-plant, and

that this stucco work was a thank-offering of Dr. Saunders, rector in the reign of Queen Anne, in consideration of an abundant yield of hops.

Here is an old miserere, or litany-desk, with a seat. The uprights of the desk are finished with poppy-heads.

*South Chantry.*—At the east end of the south aisle is a modern building containing the seats belonging to the hall. The east window, pointed, and of three lights, is filled with a picture in stained glass, of the Ascension, as a memorial of the late Earl of Liverpool, who died in 1852. On a scroll of brass beneath: “In vitro supra picto in memoriam optimi Patris Caroli Cecilii Cope, Comitis Liverpool, Monumentum piæ recordationis et luctus fieri fecerunt liberi ejus. A.D. 1853.”

*North Porch.*—The label of the outer doorway rests on mutilated figures of angels, holding shields curved inwards: that on the east side of the arch (and perhaps the other) formerly held a plate of metal, of which the outline and rivet-holes only remain; the plate was doubtless graven with an inscription or coat of arms. The cornice of the roof is embattled, with a stringcourse below, at the angles of which are heads pierced for spouts, and in the centre a curious piece of carving—the half length of a woman, holding a churn in the left hand, and the handle in the right; this is evidently intended as the Rebus of the Alchorne Family, of whom pre-



Rebus.

sently. Though it does not quite fulfil the conditions of the rebus, which require that all the syllables of the name should



be indicated, there is little doubt that the churn is the intended emblem of the second syllable of Al-chorne. Probably a member of the family built the porch, in the reign of Henry VII.

On each side is a single light, now blocked. The inner doorway is of Early English character; on the eastern jamb is a small cross patée incised, probably a dedication cross, supposed to mark the spot sprinkled with oil on the day of consecration. A small cross of different outline occurs on the south doorway at Laughton, and on one of the piers in New Shoreham Church.

*Tower.*—This presents a good design for an Early English tower; it has three stages, the highest of rather smaller dimensions than those below: the first is flanked by two pairs of buttresses; and at the north-east angle is a circular stone staircase to the second stage. On the north and south sides there is in the first and second stage a single lancet; on the west side a doorway, above it a circular window, cinquefoiled; and above this, in the middle stage, a blocked lancet: the belfry windows above consist of a plain circle on each side, without traces of having been foiled. The spire is rather low, constructed with shingles of oak; the broaches at the angles are more effectively managed than is usual in this district.

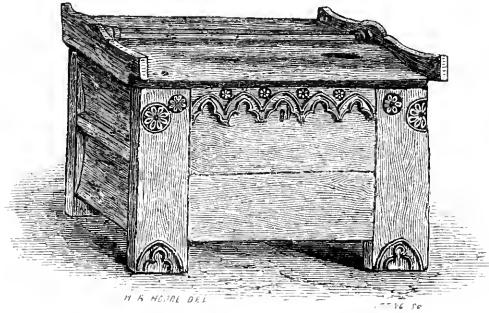
*Bells.*—The peal consists of six, of good tone and weight; three of them bear “William Hull made mee, 1686,” in one of which sixteen coins are fixed. The others are of later date, made by Tester and Pack, of London, 1757, 1761, one of which thus records:—

“At proper times my voice I raise,  
And sound to my subscribers’ praise.”

In this steeple there is a dangerous accumulation of sticks and twigs, left by the jackdaws, which in case of fire would quickly cause the flames to spread beyond control.

*Church Chest.*—An oak chest, probably used for the church vestments, still remains; it is of large size, rude workmanship, and of great age, doubtless coeval with the church. In front, just below the lid, is a row of trefoil heads, chamfered, similar in shape to those on the font; between them are rude eight-foiled rosettes. The front feet have sunk trefoils; and along the centre of the lid is a triple roll-moulding; the lid is par-

tially decayed, seeming to have been exposed to the weather. The lock has a long slip of iron turning into a staple on the lid at each end, but this seems of later date; there are no



Church Chest.

traces of hinges on the lid, only holes at each corner as if for bolts, and tenons fitting into mortises. The chest for a long time stood in a corner of the tower, serving as the sexton's depository; but it has been taken out and cleaned, and is to be placed in the vestry.

*Yew-tree.*—Whilst commenting on the antiquities of Art, it may not be amiss to note this specimen of Nature's antiquities. A noble old yew-tree stands north-east of the chancel, measuring 23 feet 4 inches in circumference. It is probably coeval with the church. There was a protective statute of Edward I., forbidding the felling of trees in churchyards—A.D. 1307, 35 Edw. I. "Ne Rector arbores in cemeterio prostrernat."—White's *Selborne*.

*Monumental Remains.*—The memorials of the dead in this church need themselves recording now, for they are gradually decaying, and several have already passed away. The most ancient is that in the chancel, of SIR JOHN DE LEWES, rector, and builder of the chancel, on a slab of Sussex marble, bearing a sunken floriated cross; round the edge is an inscription in Lombardic capitals, which, with the cross, was formerly filled with brass. Most of the letters are now obliterated, and the copy preserved is evidently incorrect.

"Sire Johan de Lewes hici git—fut (*qui?*) cest Chauncellere fit—Taunt cum Personne fut—Dieu de l'aume eut merci."

Near to this slab is the fine brass of BRITELLUS AVENEL, rector. At the intersection of the arms of a fine floriated cross, is an ogeed quatrefoil, enclosing the half figure of a priest in eucharistic vestments; the ground is diapered. At the points of the cross are triple leaves; the stem is similarly adorned. Round the edge of the slab is a narrow rim of brass containing the inscription, with the symbols of the Evangelists at the corners. The inscription ran thus:—

“*Hic jacet Dominus Britellus Avenel, quondam Rector Ecclesie de Buckstede, qui obiit in Festo Sancte Mariæ Magdalene, anno Domini millesimo cccº . . . . . Deus. Amen.*”

When the above copy was taken, the former part of the date remained, and this too is now gone, together with the prayer; all the rest is perfect. Mr. Hussey, in his *Churches of Sussex*, assigns it to the close of the reign of Edward III.; but I should judge it to be earlier. This is figured in Mr. Boutell's *Monumental Brasses*.

At the entrance of the chancel is a slab commemorating CHRISTOPHER SAVAGE and his son ROBERT, rector; a brass plate, with the following inscription:—

“*Here lyeth graven [under] thys stoon, Kffore Sabage both  
Flesh and Boon:  
Robt. him sone was Person here, more than xxiiii yeere:  
Crost Godys sone borne of a Mayde, to Kffore & Robt.  
him sone foresaide,  
That owt of this worlde ben passed us fro, gr[at]h thy  
mercy to us also. Amen.*”

No date accompanies these rugged rhymes; probably Robert Savage was rector in the fifteenth century.

On a slab formerly in the chancel (possibly under the floor of the south chantry), “E. L. 1657.” Edward Lyndsay, son of Richard Lyndsay, Esq., of Buxted Place.

In the north aisle, a small half figure in brass, of a priest holding a chalice, mutilated. Near to this is the matrix of another small brass figure. According to the Burrell MSS., there were formerly in this aisle:—“*Dominus Deonicus Slon, qui obiit 17 December, 1485.*” As also, “*Of your charyte*

pray for the soule of Thomas Smith of Buckstede in the County of Sussex Esquier and Anne his Wife, which Thomas decessyed ye xxvii day of October, in An. Dni 1558: whose soul Jesu pardon."

In the south aisle, a slab bearing a brass shield with a stag salient, the arms of Warnett (though without the fretwork over it belonging to that coat); this was doubtless the slab which formerly bore the inscription in brass:—"Orate pro animabus Johannis Warnett, Benobs, unius Sociorum de Furniball Inn, qui obiit xvii die Octobr. A.D. 1486, et Johannaë uxoris ejus quæ ob. vii<sup>o</sup> die Junii An. Dom. 1496. quorum animabus propitiatur Deus. Amen."

These were the Warnetts of Hempstead, in Framfield, a portion of which estate lies on the Buxted side of the boundary stream.

On a slab in this aisle are the matrices of the figures of a man and woman, and of a plate for inscription. It was probably this which recorded, "Johannes Attewelle et Isabella uxor ejus . . . 12 die men. Maii An. Dom. 1438, quorum." . . .

A portion of the brass of Thomas Smith is preserved at the rectory; also fragments of two small figures in brass, a Priest and a Knight, which were found in the rectory barn.

In the south chantry are tablets and hatchments to the families of Waldo, Medley, and Jenkinson, and various others of late date in the church.

The following shields are drawn in the Burrell MSS., as formerly belonging to this church, though no account is given of them.

1. Six lions rampant.—Egles of Copwood. The heiress of this family married Richard Beard Streatfeild, Esq., of Chiddingstone, in Kent.
2. Three fleurs de lis, and three on a chief.—Saunders.
3. A cross flory.
4. Three leopards' faces.
5. A stag salient, over it fretwork.—Warnett of Hempstead.
6. On a bend between two unicorns' heads erased, three lozenges.—Beverley.

*Ecclesiastical Notices.*—The payments of this church were

as follows:—On the Taxation of Pope Nicholas, 21 Edward I. 1292, Ecclesia de Boxsted cum Capell, 48 marks. At a valuation of the deanery of South Malling, in the reign of Richard II., Buxted paid the sum of 32*s*.

The rector of Buxted was bound to find a sub-deacon for the collegiate church of Malling, and to pay him annually the sum of 40*s*. On account of this charge, the rector was to be excused any other payment than synodals and the dean's procurations.<sup>2</sup> The value of this rectory in the King's Books is £37. 5*s*. 2½*d*. The yearly tenths, £3. 14*s*. 6¼*d*.

A grant was made by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 1292, to John de Lewes, Rector, of two acres on the waste of Crowburgh, on a place called "Scherche," near Gelde-regge (Gildridge), to found a chapel and cemetery, in compensation of one acre, where a chapel formerly stood, according to Archbishop Peckham's Register.

"1585, 17th October (28th Elizabeth), Sir Philip Sidney died, possessed of this advowson, leaving Elizabeth, wife of Roger Earl of Rutland, his daughter and heir.

"1608, 19th April, Thomas Earl of Dorset died seized of the advowson.

"1624, 28th March, Richard Earl of Dorset died seized of the advowson."—*Burrell MSS*.

*Registers*.—The Parish Register begins in the year 1567: the earlier books contain some curious entries of parochial incidents already published in Vol. IV. of the *Collections*, pp. 251-5; where our readers will find notices of William Sumers, the parish clerk, a "very rare singer," who died in 1558; of Richard Bassett, the old clerk and sexton, *not* a rare singer, who died in 1666; of the presentation of Walter Cushman the Romanist, for sacrilegious conduct, and his subsequent reconciliation, June 2nd, 1588; and of the combination of the parishioners for the better observance of the sabbath, in which they agreed that the parish feast (commonly called "Yon faull") shall be kept upon St. James's Day, except it fall upon Sunday, and then it must be kept on the next day. This was signed 2nd January, 1613.

*Hospital*.—Of the old Hospital of William Heron, Lord de

<sup>2</sup> See Vol. V. of the *Collections*, p. 137.

Say, there seems to be no record left, nor am I able to trace its history in the parish. Dugdale gives the following notice of its foundation:—"William Heron, Lord de Say, by his testament bearing date October 30th, 1404 (6th Henry IV.), appointed that Sir Robert Pebelow, parson of Westbourne, Sir Piers, vicar of Bourne, feoffees of the Brewose his lands, which fell to Elizabeth Lady Say his wife, by inheritance, should deliver all those lands unto her next heir, on the Brewose his side, charging them as they would answer at the day of doom, to compleat an hospital which was begun at the church of Buckstead, of six or four poor men at least; and a chantry priest to govern them there, the priest to have for his support ten marks per annum."<sup>3</sup>

*Charities.*—A bequest was made in the year 1573, by Mrs. Anne Smith (probably daughter of Thomas Smith, whose tomb has been noticed), to the poor of Lewes, Hove, and Buxted, for the details of which I am indebted to the rector, the Rev. H. Kingsmill: it is entitled "An Abstract of an Indenture, between Tho. Pownde in the county of Suthrey (Surrey), Esq., on one part, and Will. Morley of Glynde, and Anth. Stapleye of Framfield, on the other. Dated Nov. 20th, 1573, in the 15th of Queen Elizabeth."

"Anne Smythe in her widowhood deviseth and appointeth, by her will, an yearly annuity of six pounds, 13s. 4d. to be for ever granted (out of the farme of Wyke (*alias* Upwyke) in the county of Sussex), unto certain poor of the several towns and parishes of Lewes, Hove, and Buxtede, to commence immediately after her death."

The abstract further records, that Thomas Pownde being seized of the reversion of the farm of Wyke, sold the said reversion after the decease of the said Anne Smythe, upon condition that the said farm was discharged from this annuity. To release the annuity Thos. Pownde granted to William Morley, Anthony Stapley, and their heirs, a like annuity of £6. 13s. 4d. upon the manors of Wilting and Hollington in Sussex, to be paid at the feasts of Michaelmas and Lady Day. "To pay, &c., to the churchwardens of Buxted, £1. 6s. 8d., to be distributed yearly upon Ash-Wednesday among eight of the most impotent of the poor, *i.e.*, to each person 3s. 4d.; and in case this

<sup>3</sup> Dugdale's *Baronage*, vol. i. p. 730; Tanner, *Notitia Monastica*, p. 565.

annuity is not paid within two months after due, then it shall be lawful for William Morley and Ant. Stapley to enter and distrain in the said manors," &c.

John Langworth, D.D., by his will, dated 1st November, 1613, gave a legacy of 50*s.* to the poor of Buxted.<sup>4</sup>

There are other charities of later date in the parish.

*List of Rectors.*—A.D. 1292, Sir John de Lewes. 1320 (?), Britellus Avenel. 1352, John de Harewell, resigned (?). 1352, John de Severle, inducted 6th March. Robert Savage, rector twenty-four years. 1535, William Levett. 1545, Richard Collier.

1554, Alban Langdale, D.D., instituted. He was deprived as a recusant, in 1559: Thomas Fawton, B.D. (or Ffawdon) was instituted by Queen Elizabeth in Langdale's place, but he appears to have died the same year.

1573, John Langworth, D.D. (20th March).

1581, Henry Monuques. 1589, William Attersoule (?). 1613, William Smart.

1620, 6th June, John Titchborne, D.D., presented by John Langworth, Esq., of Ringmer.<sup>5</sup>

It appears that Christopher Swale, D.D., was collated to the rectory in the same year by Archbishop Abbot; and on this collation a dispute arose between Tichbourne appellant, and Swale respondent: it came by appeal before Sir John Hayward, Knight, and Thomas Eden, the King's Delegates, who found the church to be filled by Tichbourne; dated 6th June, 1621.

1638, Dr. Bernard. He is said to have been chaplain to Archbishop Laud, but this is doubtful. In the Rebellion he was deprived, and supplanted by Stephen Street, sequestrator.

1661, Robert Middleton, M.A., buried 7th February, 1673.

1673, February, Anthony Saunders, D.D., chaplain to Archbishop Sheldon, chancellor of St. Paul's Cathedral, and rector of Acton, co. Middlesex. He rebuilt the rectory (or a portion of it), as appears by the initials A.S. on one of the window-cornices, the date 1694 on another. He also founded a school in Uckfield for twelve boys, six of Buxted,

<sup>4</sup> Burrell MSS.

<sup>5</sup> Lambeth Register, Burr. MSS. "Ad

presentat. Joh. Langworth de Ringmere  
Arm. pro hac vice indubitati patroni."

and six of Uckfield, endowing it with lands in both parishes. He was buried 13th January, 1719.

1719, Robert Wake, M.A., fourth son of Sir William Wake, Bart. (who died Jan. 1692); probably of the family of Wake, of Courteenhall, co. Northampton. He was afterwards dean of Bocking, in Essex.<sup>6</sup>

1724, William Clarke, M.A. He resigned in 1768, and died 21st October, 1771.

1768, 4th November. Edward Clarke, B.D., succeeded his father. He died 24th November, 1786. He was father of Dr. Edward Daniel Clarke, the well-known traveller. Of these distinguished men notices are given in Horsfield's *History*, i. 368.

Apart from the history of the manor, other families claim a passing notice.

The family of Alchorne, already mentioned, have for a long time been resident in this parish. They were originally seated at the manor of Alchorne in Rotherfield, where, according to documentary evidence, they held lands in the reign of King John. A branch of the family settled in Kent. Philipott, the antiquary of that county, mentions "Alchorne, the cradle or foundation of whose family was at Alchorne in Rotherfield."<sup>7</sup> The period of their early residence in Buxted is uncertain: it seems to have been in the fifteenth century. Several of their descendants remain in the district. Mr. Alchorne, of Harlands Farm in Uckfield, informs me that the family formerly possessed the farms of Grovehurst, Puckstye, and Maypole, in Buxted, the last of which is still in his possession. Arms: *Argent*, a buck's head cabossed *sable*, a chief indented of the last. Crest: a human heart *gules*, ducally crowned *or*, between a pair of wings *argent*.

The manor of Hendall in Buxted was in early times the seat of the Westons, a branch of the Wistonnestons or Wistons of Wiston, afterwards of the Popes, who intermarried with them; after whom a branch of the Pelhams resided there early in the sixteenth century. Mr. Lower, to whom I am indebted for the following notices of the last-named family, has furnished me with a sketch of the pedigree of Weston, by

<sup>6</sup> Hayley Collection, Add. MSS., folio 6344, col. 877.

<sup>7</sup> *Villare Cantianum*, p. 68.



which it seems probable that an heiress of this family married a Pelham.

Thomas Pelham, Esq., was of Hendall, and afterwards of Laughton. He died February 1, 1516, 7 Henry VIII. He had four sons, John, Thomas (ob. cœlebs), William, who succeeded his eldest brother John in the inheritance of Laughton, and Anthony, who inherited the Buxted estate; also two daughters, Catherine, married to Thomas Morley of Glynde, and Joan, who died unmarried.

Anthony Pelham, Esq., of Hendall, died November 22, 1566, 9 Elizabeth, leaving by Margaret his wife Herbert Pelham his son and heir, aged twenty. Herbert Pelham married Elizabeth, second daughter of Thomas West, Lord La Warr, and died 31st July, 1625, 1 Car. I., leaving two sons, Herbert, ancestor of the Pelhams of Swineshead, co. Lincoln, and Thomas, who founded the house of Pelham of Compton Valence, co. Dorset.

The old mansion of Hendall has been modernised, but still retains its Elizabethan character in the gables and windows. The cellars are extensive, and there are traces of underground passages from the house.

In the *Nonæ Returns* of 1341, "it was estimated upon the oath of John de Schodwell, Ralph de Nywenham, Oliver Taillour, and Richard at Donne, parishioners of the church of Boxstede, that the ninth of sheaves is worth per annum £20, and the fleeces and lambs 6s. 8d. And thus the sum is £20. 6s. 8d. And although the church of Boxstede is taxed at £32, the aforesaid jurors declare that the messuage of the rectory there, with its enclosed garden and curtilage, together with the lands and woods which belong to the church as glebe, is worth one hundred shillings a year; and the tithe of hay is worth sixty shillings a year; and the tithe of mills £1. 6s. 8d.; and the tithe of milk, calves, hens, sucking-pigs, geese, hemp and tares, with the oblations and herbage, is £2. 6s. 8d. And that all the aforesaid things amount to the extent of the tax of the church of Boxstede. Thus is the total sum as aforesaid £32, and equal to the taxation of the church."

It only remains to note concerning this church, that it is well worthy of a complete restoration, which we hope may be

accomplished at no distant period. When we consider how many relics of past ages have perished, it should be our care to preserve those that yet remain: they are each one of local interest, and in the aggregate, of national value. The parish church is a link between the present and the past—a legacy from ancient benefactors intended for the benefit of all. If, as Mr. Ruskin suggests, in his *Lamp of Memory*,<sup>8</sup> “the mansion may be made to tell its history,” certainly the church may do the same; and while the one is of interest to a few, the other is so to many. We seem to see the various groups who trod the footworn pavement, and took their accustomed places; and we are curious to know what was the tenor of their lives. The contrast may strike us when we compare the busy comers and goers of the present day with those who seldom went beyond the bounds of their forest home; but the thought follows, in how many points they were as we are. The font and the tomb tell of the bounds of human life; we trace the varied circumstances of joy and sorrow which marked the path between them, and confess that all were our brethren, though they lived in a less favoured age. We may well gather up whatever things true and of good report those ages bore, like wild flowers on a ruined wall; and learn perhaps some useful lessons, when we thus pause to look back, and trace out the memories of times long passed away.

<sup>8</sup> *Seven Lamps of Architecture.*

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# NOTES RESPECTING HALNAKER, BOXGROVE, &c.

FROM A SURVEY TEMP. QUEEN ELIZABETH.

BY MARK ANTONY LOWER, M.A., F.S.A.

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OUR member Evelyn Philip Shirley, Esq., M.A., having kindly placed at the Society's disposal a MS. relative to Halnaker and other manors in the same locality, I have selected such entries from the 14 folios of which it consists as appear to be worthy of preservation in the *Collections*. The MS. is entitled—

“A Surbave taken by the Commaundemente of the Highe and mightie Prince, Thomas, Duke of Norff. Earle Marshall of Englund of the Mannors, Landes, Rents, Parkes, Warrens, Psonages and other Hereditaments ffollowinge. Begonne the xxv<sup>th</sup> daye of September, Anno xij<sup>o</sup> Eliz—R'. By us Robte Harrys and John Dobbes, servaunts to the said Duke.”

It contains, I. “Halnaker mannor” with the “ffreeholders of Halnaker, Woodcoote, Strethampton, and Westerton; among the tenants are Thos. Coverte, T<sup>h</sup>eiress of Sir William Shelley, Thos. Boyer, gent. — Scroope, Esq<sup>r</sup>. Henry Marvyn, Esq. T<sup>h</sup>eiress of Thos. Bushoppe, William Paget, Esq. William Devenish, gent. Anthonie Vicompte Montague, and the Deane and Chapter of Chichester. All the freeholders are assessed at a money payment, except in two or three instances. John Legard for “certaine londes in Westerton” pays annually a Broad Arrow; Thos. Bushoppe's heirs pay one paire of Guiltt Spurrs for knight's service for the manor of Hunston—a sub-infeudation; and one or two others contribute a “lb. of peper.” II. Copieholders of Halnaker (sometimes spelt Halfenaked) Woodcoote, Westerton, and Compton; among these appears Sir Thomas Palmer, knt., who holds at will

30 acres called the "Redd vynes" at the rent of 66*s.* 8*d.* III. The demeanes of Halnaker, Robert Palmer, gent. pays £3; and Thos. Roffe for his "wyndmyll" £7. 10*s.* or 30 quarters of "oots" as the lord may elect. Sir Thos. Palmer pays for the "ffearme of the Scyte of the mannor of Woodcoote and its demeanes" £10. 6*s.* 8*d.*; and John Peryn (or Perrier) for the farm of the demeanes of Strethampton £30 annually. The annual value of the manor and its sub-infeudations is four-score and five pounds, seventeen shillings, three pence halfpenny farthing. IV. "Instructions towchinge the manno<sup>r</sup> of Halnake<sup>r</sup> and the members of the same."

"**Ad.** that the Mannor howse of Halnaker standeth in the Parke thereof, and ys dystaunte from Chichester iij myles and from Arundell vj myles; the same ys watered w<sup>th</sup> ij wells, onely one of them being w<sup>th</sup>in the walls of the said howse, and the other nere adioyninge w<sup>th</sup>out the walls.

"The Parke thereof conteyneth by est' iiii myles Compasse w<sup>ch</sup> may yerely sustaine viij<sup>c</sup> (eight hundred) Deare, with some provicōn of haie in winter yf maste ffayle; and there be at this Survaye viij<sup>c</sup> Deare as yt is enfourmed us.

m<sup>p</sup> that w<sup>th</sup>in half a furlonge of Halnaker parke pale on the west side thereof lyeth *a parke called Goodwoode Parke*; and by the Northest parte thereof lyeth one other Parke called Shelhurst parke, distaunte from Halnaker pale one quarter of a myle. And on the North side of that pale lyeth one other parke called Estden, halfe a myle dystaunte. \* \* \* \* In the woods called the Weestwood and the Haselette, Shovelers and Herons have lately breed and some Shovelers breed there this yeere. \* \* m<sup>p</sup> The soyle of the said parke is a sweet and short feede best for Deare and Sheepe."

Up to this period lords of manors in some instances claimed a feudal and proprietary interest in the *homines* or peasantry; and perhaps the last manumission from serfdom in England was that of the three brothers Gorringe, bondmen of the manor of Falmer in the reign of James I.<sup>1</sup> The survey before us states, "There be no costome or *bounde-men* thereunto regardaunt or belonging that we understand of."

"The late chappell of St. Rooks" is incidentally mentioned. This stood on the lofty elevation still called Rooks Hill, near

<sup>1</sup> See *Notes and Queries*, Vol. I.

the remarkable circular earth-work called the Trundle, in the parish of Singleton. The dedication was probably to St. Roche the Confessor.

V. BOXGROVE MANOR, freeholders there ; including Thomas, Lord Buckhurst, — St. John, gent., the Dean and Chapter of Chichester, the late hospitall of St. Jeames in the este Subberbes of the cytye of Chichester, the late hospitall of St. Marie in Chichester, the mayor of Chichester, Thos. Bowyer, gent., John Ryman, gent. VI. Copyholders in Boxgrove.

VII. Among the tenants-at-will in Boxgrove are Sir Thos. Palmer for the profits of the dove-house and 200 acres of heath-ground, &c.; and William Devenyshe for the “ffearme of the parsonage of Boxgrave, the tythe coorne, woolle, and lambs w<sup>ch</sup> answereth yerely lx quarters barley and xl quarters wheate ; the barley rated at viiis. the quarter, and the wheate at xiijs. ivd. the quarter ; delivered at the barne doore, amounting to L*l*. xiijs. iiij*d*., besydes iiij*l*. he payeth to the vycare for his pencon yerely, and all other ordynary and extra-ordynary charges.” VIII. Among those holding leases are named Thos. Stempe and Thos. Starre “for the ffearme of parte of the Scyte of the late Pryorye and one great barne or highall, and demeane landes.”

The Rev. William Turner, vicar of Boxgrove, informs me that “the family of Stempe (or Stampe as the name is now spelt) are mentioned in the earliest documents relating to the parish, and have left it only about twelve months ago. They retain a house and some little land.” This name was formerly widely spread in both divisions of the county, which indicates an early settlement of the family in Sussex, and renders it probable that they sprang from the ancient Norman family of Estampes.

“The proffet of one ffaire there holden on St. Blase’s day worth yerely xs.” The church of Boxgrove is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Blaise, and hence the fair. St. Blaise’s day is fixed in the Roman calendar on Feb. 3, but by the alteration of the style Feb. 14, on which day the fair still continues to be held, being, I think, the earliest annual fair in the county.

IX. “Instructions towchinge the manno<sup>r</sup> of Boxgrove, &c. *M<sup>d</sup>*. the Scyte of the late Pryorie walled round about w<sup>th</sup>

bricke and stone w<sup>th</sup> divers ruynous howses, viz.: one employed for A Brewhouse, one for A Barne to laie the Tythes growinge uppon the demeanes and tennants londe, one stable for xx<sup>tie</sup> Geldings, one Dove-house w<sup>h</sup> is letten to S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Palmer in charge for ij*l*. yerely rente, certayne rowmes above and under where may be made w<sup>th</sup> some paynes-taking CC quarters of malte yerely, and chambers sufficient to laie and kepe y<sup>e</sup> same. But there is no Cestrall (cistern?) to steepe the Barly, yet one kyll to drye malte, whereuppon may be dried v Combes at one tyme, and that day by daye consequently. And there ys one well thereunto adioyninge of v ffadome deepe w<sup>ch</sup> serveth by pypes under the Grounde.”

“The parishe churche nowe was sumtyme the Church of the late pryory there, covered w<sup>th</sup> Hor[sham] stone;<sup>2</sup> and so be the most parte of the other howses excepte the barne w<sup>h</sup> ys covered w<sup>th</sup> Shingles. M<sup>p</sup> the parsonage ys Improprate whereunto do belonge all the Tythes w<sup>th</sup>in Boxgrave, Halnaker, Strethampton, Croker’s Hill, and Esthampnett. And the Lord is patrone of the vicaridge, endowed to w<sup>ch</sup> vicaridge belongeth a man<sup>c</sup>on house decaied, lyinge one the west syde of the waie leading from Boxgrave to Halnaker. \* \* \* \* M<sup>p</sup> that the cheiffe house of Halnaker and the late Pryorie of Boxgrave lye w<sup>th</sup>in the halfe hundred of Boxe, to w<sup>h</sup> hundred are suiters the hamletts of Boxgrove, Halnaker, Crocklane, Esthampnett, Merston, Runton, Woodcoote, Strethampton, Westerton, and the Tenements of the Manno<sup>r</sup> of Walton y<sup>t</sup> do apperteine to Will<sup>m</sup> Dawtrie, Esq. \* \* M<sup>d</sup>. There are noe Boundemen belonging to this Manno<sup>r</sup>.

“Sum of the yerely valewe of }  
both the Manno<sup>r</sup>s aforesaid. } ccxxxix*l*. ixs. ij*d*. ob q<sup>r</sup>.”

It has been doubted whether the ancient parish church of Boxgrove was identical with the priory church: the document before us dissipates that doubt. I may add that the vicarage of Boxgrove was endowed with the great tithes of the parish by Lady Mary Morley (afterwards Countess of Derby) in the year 1704. That benevolent lady also founded and endowed twelve almshouses in the village.

<sup>2</sup> The MS. is slightly defective here, but there is no doubt of the word Horsham being meant.

SADELESCOMBE AND SHIPLEY,  
THE PRECEPTORIES OF THE KNIGHTS  
TEMPLARS IN SUSSEX.

BY W. H. BLAAUW, ESQ., M.A., F.S.A.

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ALTHOUGH the two Preceptories held in Sussex by "the Master and Brethren of the Soldiery of the Temple of Solomon," have left no local traces in stately buildings or illustrious names, yet the importance of the Order calls for some detail of their possessions in the county.

Of all the religious orders sanctioned by the Church of Rome, the fate of none is more remarkable than that of the Knights Templars; who united the enterprise of the camp to the self-denying discipline of the cloister. Although their career was brief, lasting only 194 years, they gained, by the splendour of their exploits, a wider and more permanent fame than other orders have in much longer periods; and, after being fostered by the enthusiasm and bounty of admiring nations, this shining light of Christendom was abruptly quenched in ignominious gloom. Countless wealth enabled its Grand Master to rank with princes, and its chief officer in England to sit in Parliament; while fresh troops of these military pilgrims, on the recurrence of every spring and summer, left their homes equipped for the wars of Syria.

Their lands paid no tithes to the church, and no aids to the sheriff. No interdict could suspend the religious services of their churches; and by the special favour of popes, no one could lay violent hands on any who took refuge in them, without incurring excommunication. In 1256, Pope Alexander had expressly confirmed to the English Templars all their privileges, even though "they had, by negligence or forbear-

ance, frequently omitted to use them (*propter negligentiam seu simplicitatem uti multotiens omisistis*).”—(Rymer, *Fæd.*)

For the superintendence of the numerous manors and farms belonging to the Order all over England, the Master of the Temple in London issued directions to the country establishments, which, from the letters commencing formally with *precipimus tibi*, acquired the name of preceptories. At the head of each of these a knight, entitled Preceptor, resided on the spot as steward; and in this manner the preceptories of Sadelescombe in the rape of Lewes, and of Shipley in the rape of Bramber, were early devoted to the use of the Order by pious founders.

The members of the Order were knights, serving men (*servientes*), and chaplains. In these preceptories, many a knight of East and West Sussex had the opportunity of occupying himself in the management of the landed property, and of preparing himself by military exercises for the Crusades of the Lion-hearted Richard and Edward I. Their serving-men could there be trained to arms before following the knights to war, and there the wounded or aged warrior might, in his retirement, impart his skill and experience to stronger hands.

To what length the privileges of the Templars extended may be authentically seen by the enumeration of them before a jury of knights specially elected (*milites ad hoc electi*) to hear and determine upon their claims in the time of Edward I.

This jury of knights was, no doubt, a *grand assize*; an extraordinary jury so called, instituted by Henry II. to diminish the frequency of trials by battle or combat, a measure most likely due to the advice of his Justiciary, Ralph Glanvill, whose Tractate *De Legibus Angliæ* contains a minute description of the mode of proceeding. The sheriff, pursuant to a writ for the purpose, returned four knights of the county, and they chose twelve others to be associated with them. Trials by juries of this kind have taken place within recent times, in certain actions, which were abolished about twenty years ago.

The Templars, by their attorney Roger de Alkare, formally claimed for all the Brothers of the Temple and their lieges to hold all their lands of every description absolutely free, “with *sok* and *sak*, *thol* and *them*, *infangenthefr* and *utfangenthefr*, *hamsokne*, *crithburg*, *blodwith*, *fludewith*, *frithewyte*, *frentwyte*,



*hengwyte, leyrwyte, flemenefrith, murder and larceny (murdro et latrocinio) forestall, ordel, and orest."*

The above-mentioned privileges were in the nature of regalia. The terms by which they are designated, though most of them are not of frequent occurrence, are hardly capable of precise explanation, the glossarists differing about their meaning. They were antiquated at that time, and there is even reason to think several of them had become obscure. However, *soke* and *sak* may be taken to mean a soke or jurisdiction, with a court for administering justice and keeping the peace among those within its limits. *Thol*, though often said to signify exemption from toll, cannot be so understood here, as such an exemption is afterwards specially mentioned. It would rather seem to have meant a right of imposing tolls of some kind, and may import the privilege of having a market. *Them* may have been an authority over villains or serfs beyond what a lord ordinarily had, or, according to another signification of the word, a right to call on suspected persons, to show how they became possessed of goods supposed to have been stolen. *Infangenthefr* and *Utfangenthefr* were a right to try thieves taken within the soke, whether they belonged to it or not. *Hamsokne* imports the immunity of a dwelling-house, and here probably meant authority to punish offenders that violated it, and also a right to violate it for the ends of justice. *Crithburg* probably the same as *Grithbrech*, which was a breach of the peace. *Blodwith, Fludewith, Frithewyte, Frentwyte, Hengwyte, and Leyrwyte*, are to be found in the glossaries, but with unsatisfactory attempts to explain them; it may however be stated generally, that they were fines for the various offences indicated by their names: *wyte* being a fine to the king over and above the *bote, were*, or compensation to the injured person. *Flemenefrith* was probably either the offence of harbouring outlaws or other fugitives from justice, or else the right to their goods. The word is found variously spelt: a more correct form is *Flemafermth*, which seems to have the former meaning. *Forestall*, a word of divers significations, may have here meant some kind of obstruction to justice. *Ordel* was the trial by ordeal; and *Orest* was that by battle or combat, a kind of legal duel: it is a word of rare occurrence, and is sometimes written *ornest*. The effect of the

numerous privileges specified in the claim was to give the Templars judicial authority in regard to the various offences above mentioned, and to empower them to employ the ordeal and combat in addition to the ordinary modes of trial.

They also claimed "to be quit from all *amerçiements* (*miseri-cordiis*), from all *scot* and *geld* of the king's sheriffs, and from all *aids* (*auxiliis*) of kings, sheriffs, and all people, from *murage* and *hidage* and *carucage*, *danegeld*, *horngeld*, and from military levies (*de exercitibus*) and *wapentac*, *scutage* and *tallage*, *lestage*, *stallage*, shire and hundred pleas, and causes of actions (*querelis*), and *wards* and *wardepeny*, *averpeny* and *hundredpeny*, *brugauelpeny* and *thythyngpeny*."

These payments and duties, from which the brethren claimed exemption, were chiefly in the nature of taxes of various kinds, some general and others local; the rest, with few exceptions, were prerogatives of the crown. Only very extensive proprietors were liable to them all. The names of most of them sufficiently indicate their natures. *Murage* was a contribution for the repair of walls. *Hidage* and *Carucage* were land-taxes of so much per hide and per plough respectively. *Danegeld* was a tax towards the defence of the coasts from the Northern pirates. It is generally supposed to have been abolished in the reign of King Stephen. *Horngeld* is said to have been a payment for cattle in a forest. The occurrence of the word *Wapentac* between "exercitibus" and "scutagiis" is remarkable, and suggests the meaning, once ascribed to it, of a muster of the militia of a division so called. *Tallage* was a species of tax: *Lestage* and *Stallage* were tolls. *Pleas* and *Causes of Action* may have had reference to the duty of freemen to give attendance at the county and hundred courts, and to serve on juries of different kinds. *Wards* were watchmen, and *Wardepeny* a payment for maintaining them. *Averpeny* was probably a commutation for work by beasts of draught and burden, that the king might require when he travelled. *Brugauelpeny* has not been discovered elsewhere, yet it no doubt meant the same as what has been termed *Borghalpani*, *Boreghalpani*, *Borughalpani*, *Borwhalpeny*, *Borethalpeny*, *Borthalpeny*, *Brodehalpeny*, and *Boardhalpeny*; which last word has been explained by Spelman and others as if it were the original, to signify a payment for setting up tables, *boards*, and stalls in

fairs and markets ; but this is hardly admissible, and the payment should rather be some borough tax or fine answering to Hundredpeny, and Tithingpeny. It is not clear whether the latter part of the term was originally *peny* or *halfpeny*, for the spelling Brugauelpeny suggests that the word may have been primarily Burg (or Borg)-gavel-peny, *i.e.*, Borough-tax-peny. Such a term would, after the elision of the *v* (a practice once very common when this letter occurred between two vowels, see *Notes and Queries*, vol. iv. pp. 55 and 213), have easily become contracted into Borgalpeny, and then have assumed any of the forms above mentioned. There was a "Bagavel" formerly paid at Exeter towards reparations. However, Borg, Brug, &c., in this instance may not be for Burg, a borough town, but for Borh or Borg (also corrupted into borough), a pledge or surety ; and Borg-gavel-peny may have been a contribution to the common fine, once very general, and still payable in some places, on a view of frankpledge ; and the Hundredpeny and Tithingpeny may have been a payment of a similar kind ; for we read in *Fleta*, and in the Statute of 3 Edw. I. c. 18, of common fines in counties ; and these were probably assessed and collected by hundreds, and also by tithings, where the latter divisions existed.

"And from all works (*operibus*) of castles, parks, and closed bridges (*pontium clausuris*), and from all carriage, loading and water transport (*carreio summagio et navigio*), and from the construction of royal edifices, and from all manner of forced labour (*operacione*);"—and they claimed "all *waifs* in their fees, freedom from all tolls in all markets, and at all fairs, and in every journey by roads or sea throughout all the kingdom of England, and the chattels of all their men if condemned for any crime whatever."

This catalogue of privileges and exemptions shows with how formidable a burden of duties the less favoured portion of the community was loaded ; and it is no wonder there was so general an appetite for similar exemptions, that it required strong measures to reserve them solely to the Templars. The claim appears to have been made at the assizes held at Chichester on the morrow of St. John the Baptist in 1279, in the 7th year of Edward I. The verdict of the jury of knights given on oath was that "the Templars have enjoyed all these

liberties, with some exceptions, namely, that they are not free nor ought they to be free from pleas in the king's courts of justice; that their tenants in Compton, in the rape of Pevensey, are bound to attend the hundred of Tottenore, and to come to a view of frankpledge twice a year; that the Baron of Arundel receives an amercement for crime; that their tenants in the vill of Lewes pay and ought to rank with the men of the said vill as to what related to the crown." The jury declared the Templars to have usurped nothing from the king, but they add that "they receive under their protection men who are not their tenants, nor hold anything under them, nor belong to their fee, and that they accept yearly payment from them for such protection; which men moreover wear the cross of the Templars upon their tabards, and pass free from all toll through the kingdom of England, and appropriate other houses and curtilages upon the fees of others, not their own, and fix up crosses upon those houses and fees." They are accordingly prohibited from extending their protection to others than their own men.—(Cotton. MS. Nero E. vi. f. 165.)

The claim of privileges immediately follows, in the MS. Chartulary, the report of a trial at the Chichester assizes respecting some land at Compton, on which the judges declined to adjudicate, as a charter of Henry III. had been pleaded by the Templars, and the case was remitted to the king's courts at Westminster; but there can be little doubt that this gross abuse of the peculiar privileges of the Templars prevailed in other counties, as well as in Sussex, and was a fraud both upon the king and other landowners. A remarkable act of Parliament was therefore passed in 1285 (Statute, 13 Edw. I. cap. 33) to put an end to it.

"Inasmuch as many tenants erect crosses, or permit them to be erected, in their tenements to the prejudice of their lords, in order that the tenants may be able to defend themselves against the capital lords of the fees by the privilege of the Templars and Hospitallers, it is enacted that such tenements shall be forfeited (*incurrantur*) to the capital lords or the king in the same manner as is elsewhere provided concerning tenements alienated in mortmain."

*Sadelescombe*.—There has been a singular confusion with

respect to the locality of the Preceptory of Sadelescombe, arising from there being two places of similar name in Sussex. The one is a *parish* near Battle, in the rape of Hastings, now called Sedlescombe or Selscombe, where the Preceptory of the Templars has been erroneously placed; and it forms a curious perplexity, that it appears by the MS. Pleas of the King's Bench (9 Hen. III. Mich. *rot.* 18, wrongly referred to as *rot.* 28 by Tanner's *Notitia*) that in the year 1225 the advowson of the church of Sedlescombe was actually claimed by the Prior of the Hospital of Jerusalem. The verdict of the jury on that occasion confirmed this right, inasmuch as the last *persona ecclesie*, Roger, who had become a monk (*reddidit se religioni*) at Lewes and was then dead, had been admitted on the presentation of the said prior, who had since rightfully presented John, and was entitled to recover the presentation against Robert Basac.

As the Hospitallers afterwards succeeded to the possessions of the Templars at the other place, Sadelescombe, the two Orders and their property seem to have been too easily looked upon as identical, and mistakes grounded upon the error may be observed in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, vi. 817; Tanner's *Notitia*, p. 562; and Horsfield's *History of Sussex*, pp. 180, 525. Mr. Hussey, in his *Sussex Churches*, p. 259, rightly conjectures the true locality, but misnames "Jeffery Lacy" as the original benefactor, and makes no mention of the private chapels at Sadelescombe and Shoreham.

Sadelescombe (four miles N.W. from Brighton), where the Preceptory of the Templars really was situated, is an extensive *manor* within the parishes of Newtimber, Hurst, Twineham, and Bolney; and it can be indisputably proved that Geoffry de Say, in the early part of the thirteenth century, held under the Earls de Warenne this manor and much other land in the neighbourhood, which continued in his family to the time of Edward II. (*Inquis. p. Mort.*) In 1295 William de Say held the manor of Westgrenewich in Kent and the manor of Hammes in Sussex. In 1322 Geoffry de Say and Idonea his wife held in Sussex the manor of Hammes Say and the enclosed park of Cokfeud (*Cuckfield*). Among the places to which John Earl de Warenne made his memorable claim by exhibiting his sword in 1279 were "Hammes, Newe-

timbre, Sadelescombe." The first gift made "to the Brothers of the Soldiery of the Temple of Solomon," was of the whole manor of West Grenewiche in Kent; and as this was witnessed by Roger Fitz-Alan, who was mayor of London in 1213 and 1214, the date is thus fixed.

A few years, however, after the death of Geoffry in 1214, his son, of the same name, substituted by exchange for this gift of his father "the whole manor of Sadelescombe, with the service of Matthew de Cumbe," to be held by the Templars "freely, quietly, and wholly, that is, in wood and plain, in meadows and pastures, in waters and mills, in pools, fishponds and fisheries, in roads and paths, and in all other things and places which belong to the said manor of Sadelescombe, without any service, custom, or secular exaction." This deed must have been dated between 1226 and 1230, having been witnessed by Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, William Earl of Salisbury, William Earl of Arundel, Earl Alberic de Vere, William Brigerre, Peter Fitz-Herbert, Robert son of the Earl Robert de Vere, John Fitz-Hugh, John de Bassingburne, Engelram de Say, and Master Helyas de Suthwerke. In October, 1230, this founder of the Sussex Preceptory died in Gascony, well fitted by a life of honourable enterprise (during which he had risked, and for a long time lost, all his possessions as one of the twenty-five Barons of Magna Charta), to know and esteem the Templars, on whom he bestowed this manor of Sadelescombe. His sons Geoffry and William, each in a separate charter, confirmed the grant before the same witnesses, the latter explaining that he did so at the request (*ad petitionem*) of his son and heir Geoffry, and formally devoting himself (*cum corpore meo*), perhaps for future sepulture among them, to the warlike brotherhood (f. 265). The charter of Geoffry de Say, giving the manor of Sadelescombe, was successfully produced in court at Westminster, "a month after Easter," 1237, by Stephen de Andern, as attorney for "Brother Robert de Saunford, Master of the Soldiery of the Temple in England," and acknowledged as valid by his grandson and heir, William de Say, on receipt of 40*s.* fine (f. 269).

As these and many other documents relating to the Templars were collected and arranged in 1442, by Robert Botill, prior

of their successors the Hospitallers, and are now among the Cotton MSS. in the British Museum, where they are marked Nero E. vi., it will be sufficient for the future references in the present memoir to indicate only the pages of this great Chartulary.

As the land was within the feudal territory of William de Warenne, the fifth Earl of Surrey, his sanction to this gift of "the vill of Sadelescombe to God, the Blessed Mary, and the Brothers of the Temple of Solomon," was not only duly given in the presence of Nicholas de Kenet, Osbert Giffard, Hugh de Playz, Ralph de Clive, Michael de Punninghe, William de Stuteville, William de Mortimer, Adam de Kailly, and others, but he added a grant of his own of 40*s.* from his tolls (*de meo censu*) at Lewes, to be annually paid to the Templars on the feast of St. Michael. The witnesses to this gift, dated at Lewes, were Ralph de Warrenne, Jordan de Bloseville, Philip de Cheney (*Querceto*), Hugh de Pierpoint, and a brother of the Templars, Acelyn of Roden (f. 265). W. de Warenne confirmed also to the Templars the messuage of William de Abbendon and his wife Mabilla, in the town of Lewes, paying 12*d.* rent; and after they had ceased to hold it, Benedict the cordwainer took it, on condition of not alienating it in any way. Robert de Pierpoint, then seneschal, Simon de Echyngham, Richard de Cumbe, W. de Mouncell, and the Dean *Geoffry of the Temple*, were witnesses (f. 266).

An establishment thus securely based, naturally attracted additions from other benefactors, and nearly at the same time Simon le Counte (*Simon Comes*), "moved by divine grace," gave the church of Suthwike (*Southwick, near Shoreham*), after the death of his brother William, in the presence of Geoffry Bishop of Ely (1225-29), Evrard, chaplain of the Abbess of Barking, the Monk Humfrey, Simon David de Middleton, and others. To the seal of John le Counte's confirmatory charter the Bishop of Chichester was a witness (f. 265). The same Simon le Counte also gave the church of Wodemancote, with all its appurtenances, "to God and the Brothers of the Temple," before the same witnesses. "With the assent of William, the parson of the church of St. Julian of Kyngeston, he gave to his kinsman Robert, clerk, a third part of the land and of the sheaves of tithes of Suthwik, Kyngeston, Brambre-

dene, and Broc, in a deed witnessed by (among others) John Tresgoz and his brother Henry, Walter de Tresgoz, Symon de Middleton, John le Counte and his brother Philip, John de Andringeton" (f. 266).

In the rape of Bramber, Alan Trenchemere, "for the souls of himself, of his father and mother, and of all his friends living and dead," gave to the Templars some land, with a saltpan extending from the door of his house at Schorham to the sea. The witnesses to this grant were Philip de Hastings, Richard de Hastings, and Jordan his esquire (*armigero suo*), William Trenchemere, and others. On the Templars establishing a private chapel here, complaints arose from the foreign Abbot of Florent, that "this oratory, constructed within the parish of his church at Schorham, which is situated in the port of the sea, was contrary to his privilege." Inasmuch, however, as the Pope Alexander III. (1159-1181) had given to the Templars full license to build and maintain a church and chantry on their own lands, the abbot agreed that the chapel should be upheld where it was, but on condition that the Templars should collect no tithes, and should not admit the parishioners to the daily services or to burial, but that, after hearing mass in their own parish church, they were permitted on solemn days and Sundays to resort for devotion to the chapel to hear votive masses (*missas votivas*), while passengers and strangers only were allowed to make voluntary oblations there (f. 151). This is a curious instance of the jealousy with which the rights of the Church were guarded against the encroachments of the Temple.

We afterwards find in an indenture (*scripto bipartito*), dated in London, at Easter, 1253, Rocelin de Foss, Master of the Temple in England, granting a lease to William Bisshop of Stanninges and Dionysia his wife, for their lives, of the messuage at Schorham held by Matilda of the Temple, at the rent of 20s. a year, with covenants to sustain and keep in repair the houses and *chapel* existing there, and with fines at their deaths. To this deed Hugh Waldefare, Philip de Holeburn, John de Beauchamp, William le Mercer, Finian de Schorham, John de Swele, Peter of the Wood, and others were witnesses (ff. 152, 266).

One of the Templars here, Alan de St. George, appears to



have purchased by three silver mares the freedom of Jocelin de la Westende from William Earl de Warenne, who, however, bound him to continue his burgage dues in Schorham (f. 267).

After the transfer of this property to the Hospitallers, we find that, from some unstated motive, they soon relinquished it. On February 10th, 1325, "Thomas Larchier, the humble Prior of the Holy Hospital of Jerusalem, with the assent of his Brothers," granted in their chapter, at Clerkenwell, near London, "the messuage called the Temple with a certain chapel in it," to be held for ever by "the Prior and Brothers of the Order of the Blessed Mary of Mount Carmel of New Shorham," renouncing all manner of right or claim to it in their favour.

The next benefactor recorded was Walter le Wrenge, who gave "to God, the Blessed Mary, the Master and Brothers of the Soldiery of the Temple of Jerusalem, all the land and its appurtenances which he formerly held in *Farncombe, of the parish of Pagham*" (*Patcham*), and confirmed the gift by his seal, before the witnesses, Sir Luke de Poyninges, Sir Robert de Cokesfelde, Henry de Wayvell, John de Pierpounde, Andrew de Sonde, William de Perching, Walter le Fre, Robert de Cauteys, Ralph de Wylecombe, Adam Wyghare, and others (f. 266); and the same persons attested another confirmatory charter as to this "land in *Farncombe, near Sadeliscombe*" (f. 267). The exact description of the locality in these deeds is quite decisive, and it must have been of these lands that a lease for five years from Michaelmas, 1272, had been granted by Walter de Farncombe, probably the same person who, after giving them to the Templars, dropped this territorial designation, and called himself Walter le Wrenge. The lease bound the tenant, Thomas Belhoumme, to pay annually 10*s.* 3*d.* "to the *Preceptor* of the House of the Soldiery of the Temple of Sadellescombe," and to the lessor 5*s.*, and a weekly supply of half a bushel of wheat and half a bushel of barley, with a prohibition against assigning the lease to any monastic house or to Jews (*domibus religionum et Judæis*)—Madox, *Formulare Angl.* p. 136. One apparently of the same family, Payen Wrenge, with all his family and his tenement in Dorkyng, was given as

“his native” by William Earl de Warenne, to the Templars, as testified by Robert de Pierpoint, then Seneschal, Simon de Hechyngham, Richard de Cumbe, William de Moncell, and others (ff. 267, 154).

In Heghstede (*Isted*), in the parish of Bolne (*Bolney*), Matthew de la Cumbe had given his half yardland “as held of the manors of Sadeliscumbe of the Templars,” to his brother Richard, who renounced all his right in favour of them. To these and some other deeds relating to this land, there are witnesses, whose names are connected with Sussex families and localities; John de Pierpoude, Richard de Benedfield, Richard de Sondikot, Walter de Brandreth, Matthew de Epeleye, Walter and Robert le Waps, Walter de Radyngdene, Bartholemew de Bolnee, William de la Honiwode, Hugh de Heghstede, Humfray de Gatewyk, and others. Among other deeds is one of Matthew de la Cumbe giving freedom from all claims of villanage (*ratione nativitatibus aut servitutibus*) to his tenant Richard, the son of William of the Court of Heghestede (ff. 267, 8, 9).

All the above documents are classed in the Chartulary under the heading of “*Prioratus ecclesie—Sadelescombe;*” for the Preceptories of the Templars became priories under the discipline of the Hospitallers. There is one extraordinary instrument among them, which appears to have come from a foreign archbishop, in which the Templars (it would seem, of Sussex) are advised to admit a married lady into their Order, her own husband acting as the messenger.

“Reception of Johanna Chaldese as a sister of the Templars. To the very dear to him in Christ, S. Master of the Brothers of the Temple of Jerusalem in England, Azo Archbishop greeting in the Lord. Know that Johanna the wife of the bearer of this present letter, Richard de Chaldese, knight, who by the grace of God has proposed to submit herself to the yoke of the rule of the Temple, although worn out by age (*se jugo regule Templi subdere proposuit licet confecta senio*), insomuch that no sinister suspicion can henceforth arise concerning her, has promised in the presence of my officers to preserve her chastity, and has promised finally that she shall submit to the rule of the Temple; wherefore we, desirous of bearing our testimony to the truth, have thought it right to

certify this to you with my letters hanging outside (*cum literis meis extra pendentibus*)"—f. 266.

We have no explanation of who the lady was, nor where she was admitted to live as a Templar.

Upon the violent seizure of Sadelescombe by King Edward the Second, a valuation was made of the property by the King's orders. This took place on the spot before Walter de Geddyng, sheriff of Sussex, on the Sunday before the feast of St. Valentine, February, 1308. The jury were John de Dene, John le Post, Andrew de Sonde, Adam le Fraunk, Robert de Hales, Robert Santys, Paulin de Nitimber, Walter le Shepherd, John Sieth, John Scrace, William de Risbrigge, and Walter Teneday; who on their oaths made a return that the Templars had on last Christmas Day at Sadelescombe a messuage, with a curtilage and garden, valued at 5*s.* a year; 163½ acres and 1 rood of arable land, valued at 4*d.* an acre, sum 5*l.* 7*d.*; 9 acres arable land, valued at 1*d.*, sum 9*d.*; sheep pasture, worth 20*s.*; a windmill, worth 13*s.* 4*d.*; other property at Hechsted in the vill of Bolne, at Blakefeld in the vill of Balecombe, belonging to Sadelescombe, all held by them from the ancestors of Geoffry de Say and of Earl Warenne in fee; a messuage at New *Schorham with chapel*; a messuage at Lewes; the said Brothers also had at Farnecombe in the *vill of Pecham*, 15 acres. "The total of the annual value of the above-named was £20. 5*s.* 3½*d.*, and no more." All was then in the hands of the King (f. 272). At the same time the manor of Sadelescombe was reported as of £23. 13*s.* 2¼*d.* annual value, comprising a hall (*una aula*), two granges, an oxshed, a stable, a cowshed, a garden, a pipe of cider price 4*s.*, herbage 3*s.* 4*d.*

When the King's purposes of confiscation became more developed, he sent down, a few months later, two commissioners, John de Foxlee and William Merre, to collect more detailed reports of the value, certified by juries. The inquiry was held at Horsham on Thursday, the feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist (August 29, 1308); and perhaps the choice of the day, hitherto kept by the Templars in honour of their patron saint, had a peculiar omen and significance. The unusual number of twenty-one jurymen (among whom are John Ottehale, Philip de Heyworth, John atte Helegrove, Ralph de Suggeworth, Walter de Brenteregge) appear on the

record, and report the Templars as having possessed at Sadelescombe 170 acres of arable land at 6*d.* per acre annual value, 6 acres meadow at 18*d.*, pasture for 16 oxen valued at 12*d.* each, for 300 ewes at 2*d.*, for 100 hoggets at 1*d.*, and for 150 lambs at 1*d.*, as well as common pasture for 200 sheep in the manor, valued at 1*d.* each. The record then enumerates the free tenants of sundry messuages: at Shoreham valued at 20*s.*, and suit of court 12*d.*; at Lewes at 12*d.*; and at Heghstede altogether rated at 79*s.* 7*d.* The customary dues (*custumaria*) are detailed, such as "Robert Sewyne holds a messuage and half a yardland valued at 17*d.*, and renders 2 bushels of salt 4*d.*, and he owes work for three days a week, except during four weeks in autumn, each work valued at 1*d.*; he must plough one acre, valued at 6*d.*; and find an ox to draw his lord's timber five times a year." The total value of these and other similar services is put at 101*s.* a year. Among the tenants of cottages, which vary from 10*d.* to 2*s.* a year, amounting in all to 9*s.* 3*d.*, is one bound to work two days a week, except four weeks in autumn, his work reckoned at 1*d.* a day. A valuation is then given of the live and dead stock, and household furniture of the Templars at Sadelescombe:—

36 qrs. 6 b. barley at 4*s.* per quarter, 10 qrs. oats at 2*s.*, hay 6*s.* 8*d.*, a horse 10*s.*, 12 oxen at 12*s.* each, 4 bullocks at 8*s.* each, 163 sheep at 18*d.*, 357 ewes at 14*d.*, 125 hoggets at 10*d.*

Two casks and 1 pipe of cider at 9*s.* the cask, a lead 6*s.*, 2 brass pots 10*s.*, 2 pipkins 12*d.*, 2 dishes 3*s.*, a basin 10*d.*, 1 *crater* 3*d.*, 1 tripod and 1 andiron 6*d.*, 1 chest 12*d.*, 3 tables with trestles, and 1 form and 1 chair 2*s.*, 1 hempen towel, 1 handwiper (*manuterga*) 12*d.*, 1 mazer cup 2*s.*, 3 empty casks, 3 barrels 3*s.*, 4 vats and 1 tub and 2 kneading-troughs (*alveas ad pistrinam*) 3*s.*, 1 sieve 1*d.*, 1 mortar and mustard-mortar 7*d.*, 1 axe, 2 shovels, 2 spades 10*d.*, 1 iron firefork (*furcam ferream ad ignem*) 1*d.*, 1 kettle 18*d.*, 1 tub for chopping malt (*heram pro brasia sectanda*) 3*d.*, 2 winnows 2*s.*, 2 sacks and 2 choppers and 4 sieves and 1 riddle 8*d.*, 1 bushel and 1½ bushel 6*d.*, 2 ploughs with coulter and share and other apparatus 4*s.*, 3 harrows 3*d.*, 2 waggons 3*s.*, 2 ladders 6*d.*, 1 cinder-wheel (*ciner', rotat'*) 2*d.*, 2 dung forks and 2 sheaf forks 2*d.*, 40 hurdles 20*d.*, 6 wattles for sheep 2*s.*

utensils for dairy (*utens' ad dayher'*) 6*d.*, 3 ganders and geese 3*s.*, 8 capons 18*d.*, 2 cocks and 12 hens 20*d.*, 6 pieces of bacon at 10*d.* each, 2 pieces of timber 2*s.*

There were also 35 acres sown at 6*s.* per acre, valued at £10. 10*s.*

The above catalogue represents the occupation of the Templars as farmers and housekeepers, with no approach to luxury. The following articles belonged to their chapel at Sadelescombe; and they seem always to have carefully provided for divine service in their private chapels, wherever they had property, even where it was so small as at Shorcham:—

1 cup 10*s.*, 2 pair of vestments 6*s.* 8*d.*, 1 missal 20*s.*, 1 temporal and sanctorum 10*s.*, 2 handwipers and 1 tin vial (*fiol de stagno*) 6*d.*, 1 salter (*sic*) 12*d.*, 1 tin buckett (*sic*) for holy water 1*d.*

The jurors reported the total value of the manor of Sadelescombe as £20. 15*d.*

The total value of all the goods found there as £75. 10*s.* 1*d.*  
—*Add. MSS.* 6165.

There were other benefactions in East Sussex which the Templars enjoyed, and which seem to have been managed by the Preceptor of Sadelescombe.

On the feast of All Saints, 1279, Ralph, son of Richard Brahecope of Compton, on the death of his ancestor, acknowledged the right of the Templars to 87½ acres of land in Compton, in the parish of Ferles, before the King's Justices Itinerant at Chichester, and with the Lords, William Maufe, William de Echingham, Robert Lyueth, Knights, W. Daus, W. de Compton, as witnesses (f. 164).

Theobald de Englescheville, having received the manor of Compton, worth 100*s.* a year, in the hundred of Tottenore, from King Henry III., "his eschaet from the lands of the Normans," had given it to the Brothers of the Temple; a transfer which, a jury in aftertimes intimated, was made without any authority known to them (*nesciunt quo warranto*) (f. 166).

This grant was disputed at the assizes held by John de Reygate, at Chichester, on the morrow of the feast of St. John the Baptist, 1279. Roger the son of Gilbert de Compton sued the Templars respecting a virgate and half of land, of which he asserted that his own grandfather Jordan had seizin,

and that the Templars never had seizin. On the other hand, the defendants pleaded that Theobald Englescheville had in fact seized Robert de Saunford, Master of the Temple, and the Brothers of the Temple, in this fee, and they produced in court a copy, certified by the King Edward I. (Windsor, Nov. 2, 1279), of the grant enrolled in Chancery, by which King Henry III. had given (Windsor, May 16, 1247), to Theobald de Englescheville, the manor of Tinewyk, and all the land held by Luke, son of John in Appetreford, in the parish of Hampton, and all his land in the parish of Ferles, on the tenure of presenting the King and his heirs for ever, a pair of gold shoes at the sacrament at Easter, every year, in lieu of all service (f. 164). It was upon the production of this royal grant, that the justices referred it to the courts at Westminster, and the elaborate claim of privileges, already detailed, was made.

It was not long after taking Compton into the King's hands, that the Sheriff of Sussex, Walter de Gedding, summoned a jury to ascertain its yearly value. On the Tuesday after St. Valentine's feast, February, 1308, Osbert Giffard, Simon de Warbelton, Richard de Seles, Thomas de Sheryngton, and others, jurymen, reported that the Templars held on the preceding Christmas in Compton, a messuage, with garden and curtilage, valued at 3*s.* a year; 73½ acres 1 rood arable land, described as lying between the messuage and the hill, worth 12*d.* an acre; 6 acres at 3*d.*, 5½ acres at 1*d.*, pasture for oxen at 5*s.*, and for sheep 25*s.*, rent from free tenants 10*s.* 7½*d.*, amounting to a total of £6. 8*s.* They recorded the origin of the title from the gift of Henry III., and that the Templars had been bound in consequence to support a chaplain to celebrate divine service, and to pray for the souls of King Henry, Queen Alianora, and their benefactor Theobald Englecheville, in a certain chapel on the lands; which the Templars had fulfilled, and done at Sadlescombe (f. 164).

As in the case of Sadelescombe, a similar but more detailed valuation was taken a few months later, before the King's Commissioners at Horsham, August 30, 1308. (*Add. MSS.* 6165, p. 355.) Robert le Husiere, Osbert Giffard, Henry Gilebert, Walter Colekyn, Robert de Birche, Nicholas Garlaunde, Thomas le Heye, John de Gissyngham, Hamo le

Neem, Simon de Seldemerse, Richard atte Delve, and Reginald de Compton, were sworn as the jury, as to what the Templars held in the hundred of Tottenore, in the rape of Pevensey. The free tenants named are Gilbert Copedrage, rendering 10*s.*; and Osbert Giffard, who appears as jurymen on both occasions, paying 1 lb. of pepper, price 12*d.*: these tenants and Simon de Warbelton owed suit to the court of Compton.

In the live and dead stock, the barley is valued at 4*s.* a quarter, oats at 2*s.*, beans at 3*s.* 4*d.*, peas at 2*s.* 8*d.*, vetches at 2*s.* 8*d.* On the land sown with wheat, the growing crop (*vestura*) was estimated at 5*s.* per acre.

There were 2 draught horses 20*s.*; 13 oxen, 4 bullocks, at 6*s.* 8*d.* each; 297 sheep at 16*d.* each; 2 ploughs, 2 waggons out of repair 2*s.*; 26 hurdles for the fold 13*d.*, 2 wattles for the sheep 3*d.*, and some others implements for agriculture.

The same jury also returned the value of what the Templars had possessed in the hundred of Langebrugge at Berewyk. Brunnyng Randolph and six other tenants held each a mesuage there with a rood of land, paying 5*s.* a year, and suit of court valued at 6*d.*—"Total rent of Berewyk 40*s.*, and 16 hens worth 2*s.*"

Total of the portion of the Temple in Compton and Berewyk, £8. 15*s.* 3¼*d.*

Total of the value of all goods found in Compton, £57. 14*s.* 0½*d.*

There was also a separate valuation taken at Berewyk on the Tuesday after the feast of St. Valentine (Feb. 1308), on the oaths of Osbert Gifford, Simon de Warbeleton, Richard de Seles, Gilbert Copedragh, Thomas de Sheryngton, and others. The property of the Templars at Berewyk was recognised as having been the gift of Walter Fitz-Geffrey, and valued at 46*s.* 11*d.* a year (f. 151).

The Hospitallers, when recording in 1485 the former possessions of the Templars, enumerate Sadelescombe under the head of the Preceptory of Cressing Temple, in Essex (*Monast.* vi. 834); and it is very probable that the whole district was under such superintendence for the purposes of visitation. Its subsequent history has been so much misrepresented by various authors, that it may be well to continue it onwards on the authority of the documents in the Chartulary.

The account rendered by the King's officer, Henry Cobham junior, of the receipts from the manor of Sadelescombe, during the year 1312-13, shows that he had received £4. 15s. 8d. from it, with the "*hameletts*" Heghsted, Shorham, and Lewes; 30s. from the mill and some land; £12. 4s. 3½d. from barley, oats, sheep, wool, hoggets' skins, and garden; and £4. 15s. from the customary labour; and that on the other hand, he had paid to a chaplain for divine service in the *chapel* of the manor at Sadelescombe, to pray for the souls of the benefactors, 40s., as the Templars used. The manor and all the chattels were then, by the direction of the King's writ (Westminster, Nov. 28th, 1313), given up to Albert, Grand Master of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, and to Leonard de Tybertis, Prior of the same (f. 271).

John Earl de Warenne, within whose feudal territory the manor was situated, took the opportunity of deriving advantage from this transfer; and accordingly he came forward to claim again as a founder, not willing to see his grants disposed of to others without his assent. It is certain that he contrived to keep the proceeds of Sadelescombe for his own benefit, or that of his family, though a legal transfer of it had been effected by Parliament. Even in 1338 the records of the Hospitallers denote, that among the property of the Templars not delivered into their hands was "the manor of Sadelescombe, occupied by the Earl Warenn, worth 100 marcs (£66. 8s.) a year" (p. 213, in the Rev. L. B. Larking's interesting *Knights Hospitallers*, lately published by the Camden Society). The earl had then also quartered his illegitimate son, Sir John de Warenne, upon them: "to brother John de Warenne, beyond his dress and necessaries, by order (*per preceptum*) of his father, Earl de Warenn, 5 marcs a year more than the other brothers receive" (pp. 29, 208, in the same work).

On February 23, 1326, an indenture, the earliest French document in the Chartulary, was sealed at London between the Earl and the Prior of the Hospitallers, "pur le manoir de Sadelescombe," in which he recites his grant of all that belonged to the Templars to Thomas de Nerford (his second son by Matilda de Nerford), who had sublet it to John de Brewose. In consequence of the statute (17th Edward II.) giving all possessions "que jadis furent au Maitre et freres de



l'Ordre de Chivalerie du Temple en Angleterre" to the Hospitallers, in order to be free from all suits, a payment of £200 is agreed to be made on the next feast of St. John the Baptist (f. 270).

The object of the earl was to secure a profitable interest to his son; and, although the manor was acknowledged to be the right of the hospital, yet it seems to have been understood that the earl's son should be admitted as tenant on very easy terms. A grant of the manor of Sadelescombe was made by Philip de Thame, prior of the hospital at Clerkenwell, on the Thursday before the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen, 1342, "to the noble man Thomas Nerford, Knight, and the Lady Alicia his wife, for all their lives, on the service of rendering one rose flower to the prior annually on the feast of St. John the Baptist." The witnesses to this were, John de Ifeld, Andrew Peverell, Roger Leukenor, Hugh de Baucy, Knights; Thomas de Weyvill, Nigell de Broc, and John de Vilers. Another deed of the same date appoints persons to give seizin of the manor, and all the goods and chattels in the manor, to the grantees (f. 269).

Thomas de Nerford, his wife Alicia, and their son William, received also in the following year, 1343, other lands at Farncombe in the vill of Peccham (*Patcham*) from W. de Sadelescombe, who had acquired them from Walter de Peccham, late parson of the church of Terryngge. This appears to have also been the property of the Templars; and the grant was dated at Sadelescombe before witnesses, John Pierpoint, Richard Ladman, John Vilers, Walter Pakyn, Walter de Erlee, Robert Pepelon, and others (f. 270).

The *Inq. p. Mort.* 1344, shows Thomas de Nerford, *Chivaler*, died seized of the manor; and in that dated 1397-8, Richard Earl of Arundel is found to have died seized of it in 1393; on whose execution it fell into the King's hands.

The next document, "an Inquest taken for the manor of Sadelescombe," records the grant of Philip de Thame, and the death of Thomas de Nerford, and afterwards that of Alicia, who had granted the manor to Richard, the late Earl of Arundel, who had held it at the will of John de Radyngton, the late prior, and of Walter Grendon, then prior; and the earl having no other right, the manor by his forfeiture is declared to be the

right of the Hospital. In pursuance of this the King directed John Brook, his eschaetor in Sussex, to restore to the Hospital what had been forfeited by the earl, Westminster, May 11, 1397 (f. 270); and in the possession, therefore, of the Hospitallers it remained until the general suppression of that Order.

There is no allusion in the *Nonæ* to the Hospitallers having any property in "Nytymbre."

The only trace of any additional gifts to the Hospitallers is a small one of a virgate of land in Burewadescote (*Burwash?*) granted by Gilbert Marshal in the presence of John de Hastings and others (f. 270).

After thus detailing the history of the Sadelescombe Preceptory, we may turn to West Sussex, where we shall find the Preceptory of Shipley—or, as it was variously spelt, Scaplei, Chapeley, Schapeley, Eschepelei—of much earlier date, and endowed with greater benefactions. We may trace the sources and particulars of its property, and may afterwards follow with interest the sad story of the suppression of the Order, and, as far as the contemporary annals enable us, may exemplify it by the individual fate of the last Preceptor of Shipley.

Being situated within the feudal territory of William de Braose, his confirmation of any gift to a religious order was necessary; and in his deed we have the narrative that Richard de Harcourt—who had received the vill and church of *Heschapelia* from William's father, Philip de Braose (paternal uncle of Richard and Philip de Harcourt), in exchange for Washington, which appears as the domain of William de Braose in Domesday—had given them to his brother Philip de Harcourt, Dean of Lincoln, and that Philip had freely given them to the Templars.

The grant of Philip de Harcourt runs thus:—"Moved by the words of the Gospel, 'Give unto Cæsar what are Cæsar's, and unto God what are God's,' and excited by the grace of the Holy Spirit, I give and grant to God, and to the Blessed Mary, and to the Soldiers of the Temple of Solomon, for ever, in perpetual alms, a certain portion of the earthly lands which God has granted me to possess in this world, namely, the land of Heschapelia, with all its appurtenances, and the church of the said vill."

To the deeds of gift and confirmation (which must have been made between A.D. 1125-30) the same witnesses appear:—Hugh de Combe, Norman de Combe, Simon le Counte, Nicholas, and William Bernehus, and Tristin, a Brother of the Temple (p. 148). Pope Honorius II. (Dec. 21, 1124—Feb. 14, 1130) having ascertained that the diocesan bishop had agreed to this grant, certified to the Master and Brothers of the Temple their canonical and peaceful possession of the church and vill of Shepeleia (f. 148).

The pious and generous founder of Shipley, Philip de Harcourt, was a member of an ancient Norman family. His grandfather had assumed the name of Harcourt, and his father, Robert le Fort, had built the castle, which still in its ruins bears his name. His elder brother Richard, Sire de Renneville, was himself a Templar, and in 1150 founded a preceptory on his estate, where he was buried. (*Dict. de la Noblesse*, par M. de la Chenaye Desbois, 4to, 1770-S.) By his faithful adherence to Henry II., both when Duke of Normandy and afterwards as King, Philip's name is found frequently associated in the same documents with that of his sovereign, and in 1146 with that of the Empress Maud. (*Rot. Scacc. Norm.* ii. lxx.) He was the third son of Robert de Harcourt and Coleta d'Argouges, and continued Dean of Lincoln several years after the grant of Shipley, as well as being Archdeacon of Evreux. On the death of Roger, Bishop of Salisbury (December, 1139), Henry endeavoured, without success, to make Philip his successor in that see; but shortly afterwards his influence prevailed in obtaining for him the bishopric of Bayeux, vacant by the death of Bishop Richard (a baseborn son of Robert Earl of Gloucester), April 3, 1142. He went to Rome in 1144 for the Papal sanction, and was present at the coronation of his friend Henry II. at Westminster, in 1154, and at the translation of the bodies of the Dukes Richard I. and II., at Fescamp, in 1162. We shall presently see his grant of Sumpting church, in 1156, to the Templars; and his liberality was also great to many Norman monasteries, and to his own cathedral of Bayeux, where he founded three prebends, and which he began, in 1155, to rebuild, after a destructive fire. (*Gallia Christiana*, folio 1715, t. xi. page 360.) His niece Beatrice having, by some tragical event not explained

to us by chroniclers, been killed by a nephew of Philip de Colombieres, the bishop exacted, as a compensation, a liberal gift to the Abbey of Plessis by Philip's brother, Roger Bacon, *chevalier*, who held a fief near Bayeux, before he allowed Philip to make his peace in the presence of the King. On the same occasion he compelled Philip to return some church property that he had taken. One of the strangest incidents of his candidature for the bishopric of Salisbury, appeared some years later; when, either by compulsion of law, or by motives of conscience, he publicly restored to Jocelin, the Bishop of Salisbury, "an arm covered with golden plates, and adorned with precious stones, carried away from the treasury at Sarum, and paid him 10 marcs; and so the dispute between them entirely ceased." This was certified by Hugh, the Archbishop of Rouen, at Rheims, in the presence of the precentor and two archdeacons of each see, and communicated to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. (D'Anisy's *Archives du Calvados*, ii. pp. 153, 441, and 477.) There can be little doubt that this was some sainted relic: respecting the acquisition of such articles a peculiar morality was often prevalent. After an active life, he died February 1163, and was buried on the north side of the entrance of his own cathedral of Bayeux.

Returning from this biographical digression on the important founder of Shipley Preceptory, who has hitherto been nearly unnoticed in local history, the account of its subsequent fortunes may be continued.

There were conflicting claims put forward by the neighbouring monks of Sele, which it was necessary for the Templars to compromise in order to enjoy peaceable possession of Shipley; but in the year 1181, William de Braose, in person, arranged terms between the Temple and Sele. The latter yielded to the Temple all the tithes and assarts at Cnapp, in the parish of Shepeley, beyond the river towards the north, and received as their portion the tithes of the ancient demesne of Shepeley, and of Richard the Huntsman, which they held of old, and 4*s.* customary rent from the church of Shepeley. This agreement was witnessed at the time by Laurence, the prior of Sele, and the Brother William de Matenvill, before Philip de Braose, William's brother, Philip son of William,

Roger de Braose, William de Weston, Hugh son of Buci, Robert de Sunting, Robert chaplain of Sele, and others (f. 148). It was also agreed, in pursuance of a letter from Pope Gregory VIII. (Nov. 8, 1187) to the prior of Merton, the dean and archdeacon of St. Paul's, London, and others, that if any monk of Sele should perform divine service in the *chapel de la Cnappe*, he should pay all obventions to the church of Shipley, and receive from the Preceptor of the Templars a free remuneration; while, on the other hand, the Temple agreed, for the love of peace, to pay to Sele 6s. a year on the Assumption of the Blessed Mary, in the house of the Temple at Shipley, or on the morrow at Sele (f. 148).

William de Braose, in another deed, confirmed the grant of five acres in front of the port of Brembre, given to the Temple by his mother Anor, from her dower, for the soul of her husband Philip; and Henry de Harecourt was a witness to this deed (f. 149).

On a complaint of the Templars that the rector of Westgrenestede had unjustly deprived the church of Shipley of tithes, the Pope, Boniface VIII., at the end of the thirteenth century authorised the Prior of Lewes to hear and determine the controversy (f. 149).

Another dispute having arisen as to the boundaries of the parishes of Shipley and Horsham, an amicable agreement was made on the vigil of St. Michael, A.D. 1247, between Robert de Sanford, Master of the Temple in England, and the Brothers of the Temple at Shepeley, on one part, and Alicia de Bissepeston, then prioress of Ruser, and her fellow-nuns, on the other part, in the presence of Brother John de Hamedon, then preceptor of Shepeley, and Brother William the chaplain, Philip dean of Storketon, Robert vicar of Horsham, Reginald de Hegton, Godfrey de Horsham, and many others. From the north of the hedge dividing the lands and tenements of the Temple and the wood of W. de Breuse of Crochurste, as far as the land of William de Essington, called Twinham, was to remain to Horsham, and all south to Shipley; sealed by Sir Robert vicar of Horsham, Sir Robert priest vicar of Wonham, Stephen de Fischebourne, and others (f. 149).

We learn the name of another preceptor of Shipley, Richard Aranch (*Acranche*, or perhaps *Argences*, a Norman family near

Lisieux), in a deed dated "in the year next after the feast of St. Michael after the death of Ralph (de Warham) Bishop of Chichester" (who died Sept. 14, 1222), agreeing to a lease for five years of all the land of the Templars at Seleborne, for 40s. annual rent, and 2 mares ready money, to Roger Charlecote. This was done with the assent of Alan Marcel, Master of the Temple in England, and witnessed by Peter the chaplain, Ranulph, Gilbert, and Robert, all brothers of the Temple, James de Norton, and others (f. 150).

Other benefactors followed. David Puhier gave the Templars of Shipley three acres of the assart of his wood in Ruffield, and pasture for a horse and six beasts in his wood (f. 150); five acres were given by Hugh Buzi and his wife Matilda, as witnessed by Mathew de Apsele, and William the chaplain of Findone (f. 150); John de Weston made a grant, confirmed by his son William, and his nephew Walter, of land at Berewyk, in his manor of Hecton, for the soul of King Henry, witnessed by Geoffrey Fitzpiers Earl of Essex (who had married the heiress, Beatrice de Say), Bardoph de Bruwer, Hugh clerk of the Temple, Richard de Mucegros, Wymund de Craucumbe, Gervase de Sparkeford, &c. (f. 150).

When the day of confiscation came, an extent was soon taken of the yearly value of the tenements and ecclesiastical benefices "in the manor of Shepeley" held by the Templars. On the Monday before the Feast of SS. Perpetua and Felicitas (March 7, 1308) the jurors at Shepeley, William atte Dene, John atte Lee, Philip atte Gate, Ralph le — (*sic*), Ralph atte Hulle, William le Iremonger, Simon de Lotenhurst, John Poyntell, William de Penebrugge, Richard atte Nasche, and Richard le Gor, reported that the Templars had held on the preceding Nativity of our Lord in the manor and its members, namely, Dorkyng, Wodemaneote, and Suthwyk, a messuage with a garden and curtilage in Shepeley, valued at 4s. yearly, 52 acres arable land in the places called Wilfield and Lambardeslond at 4*d.* per acre, total 17*s.* 4*d.*; in the places called Tyntesfordfeld, Santeresfeld, Shepeliesfeld, Hunypoute, Mulfeld, Garston, and Shypenefeld, 160 acres arable land at 3*d.* per acre, total 40*s.*, 1 acre meadow at 12*d.*, 8*s.* in hay and pasturage, 18 acres wood, the pasturage worth 2*d.* per acre, total 3*s.* The underwood was not sufficient for the fencing on the manor;

the pannage worth 4*s.* Free tenants paid 10*s.* 6*d.*, villains 20*s.* 4*d.*; fowls and dues (*onera*) 1*l.*, works 23*s.*, suit of court 2*s.*; at Dorking 2*s.* rent.

The church of Shepeley, for their own use, was worth 20 marcs a year; the advowsons of Wodemancote and Suthwyk taxed respectively at 10 marcs and 15 marcs. The church was recognised as the gift of Robert de Harecourt, given him by William de Braose, an ancestor of William de Braose, then alive, in pure alms, and "rendering as service to him, fencing four perches of the paling (*palicii*) of the park of Knep, from the timber of the said William"; a certain ancestor, whose name is not remembered (*non occurrit*), of John Earl de Warenne, had given the rent at Dorking; William le Counte, ancestor of the heirs of Thomas de Hantyngetote, had given Wodemancote and Suthwyk. The Templars had given to Robert de Burstowe, for his services fulfilled, and as long as he could serve, for ever, his food at the table of the esquires (*victum suum ad mensam scutiferorum*), in the house of the Brothers of Shepeley, and 10*s.* a year for his clothes, to be given him by whomsoever should be Preceptor of the house (f. 152).

It is pleasant to meet with this comfortable provision for their old servant, but when the property of the Templars was "taken into the king's hands," it may well be feared that it was discontinued.

The royal commissioners, John de Foxlee and William Merre, summoned a jury of the rape of Bramber, to ascertain fully the yearly value of Shipley; which met at Horsham, on the feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist, August 29, 1308. (*Add. MSS.* 6165, p. 360.) The jurymen were William de Clothale, William de Doure, Ralph de Gatewayke, Robert Michel, John de Wantelee, Geoffrey le Boteler, William Merrue, John atte Compe, John de Gatewayke, Walter le Fraunkeleyn, Mathew de Apselee, John le Eyr, John Virly, John atte Hulle, Henry Barnekneppe, and John Smethe, sixteen in number; and the same jury seems to have also examined into the value of Sumpting. The report of the number and value of the acres, belonging to the Master and Brothers of the Soldiery of the Temple, corresponds nearly with that made in March; but the messuage, with its curtilage and gar-

den adjacent, is valued now, for easement of the houses, at 5*s.* instead of at 4*s.* Some curious details are given of the services due from free tenants. One Ralph atte Hull pays 8*s.* a year, and 6*d.* for attendance at the manor-court every three weeks, and for service by reapers in autumn on one day, with food supplied by the lord (*ad cibum Domini*); and he must provide a man to mow, fed twice a day by the lord; the service is valued at 2*d.* John Malynsessone held 20 acres arable and 2 of meadow, paying 2*s.* rent; attendance on court twice a year 3*d.*, with services, so as to make the value 10*s.* 11*d.* "There was also a villain (*nativus*), William Waldere, holding half a yardland, paying 4*s.* 4*d.*, giving two hens at Christmas as dues (*de gavelle*) 3*d.*, 10 eggs at Easter 1*d.*, and bound to find 4 men at the biddings of the lord (*ad precarias Domini*)<sup>1</sup> in autumn for one day twice, the service valued at 4*d.*, and he shall do two averages (*averagia*, work done by the tenants' cattle, *averia*) worth 2*d.*, and when the average is thus done, he shall have half a loaf at Advent, and he shall harrow for one day, fed by the lord, value 6*d.*; total of rent and services, 5*s.* 3½*d.*" Godfrey de Noteham held on the same tenure. William Lambard, holding a *ferling*<sup>2</sup> of land at 23*d.* rent, was bound to work twenty-one days, valued at 1½*d.* a day, between June 24 and Michaelmas, and if he mow was to have dinner (*prandium*) twice a day from the lord, and to do two bederepes in the autumn, fed by the lord, value 2*d.*, and to do one average, so that he may return home the same day, and shall have a loaf, service valued at 1½*d.*, and he must harrow at 1*d.*, fed by the lord; total rent and services, 5*s.* 0¾*d.* Ralph Walder and William atte Wodegate held on the same terms. William le Frenshe held a house (*coteriam*) and 8 acres for his services, and 9*d.* rent, and was obliged to work fourteen days, and also do one bederepe in the autumn, fed by the lord. William le Shepper and William le Partrick held tenements on similar conditions, while William le Lokere for his holding had to work two days in autumn, without food

<sup>1</sup> On the lord's *biden* days, or *bederepe*; so many days' work at harvest time, to be done for the lord, at his summons. This tenure did not strictly entitle them to be called free tenants; the verdict of a jury, in 1203-5, in the case of Prior Geoffrey, of

Canterbury, as to the land of a tenant, was *non est francum tenementum, sed ad furcam et flagellum ad falcandum et metendum*.—Add. MSS. 6037, c. 1810.

<sup>2</sup> A *ferling* should be a fourth part, but is variously estimated at 32 or 10 acres.



given (*sine cibo*) and do one bederepe with food; and Adam le Coher had to work eight days without food given. "From all these villains and free tenants, the lord at their deaths shall have as *heriott* the best beast, and all, both villain and free, cannot marry themselves, nor their sons, nor their daughters, without the license of the lord, and are fineable (*talliabiles*) at the will of the lord."

"The church at Shepelee, which the Master and Brethren of the Soldiery of the Temple had for their own uses, is worth £13. 6s. 8d. a year."

The inventory of the live and dead stock of the Templars, found by the jury in the manor of Shipley, gives us evidence, as at Sadelescombe, of their farming industry, with no symptom of luxurious living.

In the grange,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  qu. 2 b. wheat at 6s., total 46s. 6d., and 10 qu. 5 b. of meslin (mixed wheat and rye, *mixtilione*) at 4s. 8d., total 49s. 7d.; 100 qu. oats at 2s., valued at £10; 121 qu. 2 b. smaller oats at 20d., valued at £10. 2s. 1d. 18 acres sown with wheat, and 13 acres with meslin, valued at 2s. each, total 62s. A cart-horse 8s., a plough-horse 3s., 2 pack-horses 16s., 4 colts, 10 oxen at 10s., with many bullocks, heifers, calves, swine, 49 old ewes called *crones* (*oves matricēs vocatē crones*) at 12d. each, 95 hoggets at 12d., ducks, geese, 20 capons at 2d. each, cocks at 4d., hens at  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 2 carcasses of oxen at 4s., 22 bacons at 3s., and 14 carcasses of sheep, which were probably the salted provision on which, with 2 casks and 1 pipe of cider, the Templars of Shipley had relied for their winter food; that winter which they were destined to pass in prison. Their household goods were all simple enough: one hempen towel (*mappa de hemp*), other towels and a savenape, a mazer cup 2s., and 12 white cups (*ciphi albi*), 2 ironbound tankards (*sic*), and a wooden "tancard," empty casks and barrels, and tubs and vats (*cune, cumelini, tine*), a bucket, a leaden boiler (*plumbum in fornace*), a boulding vessel with boulder, sieves, and troughs (*alvei*), pots, a kettle (*cacabum*), pipkin (*pocenet*), brass and iron dishes, a gridiron, a tripod, mortars, a hand-mill for mustard (*mola manualis ad sinapem*), 3 kitchen knives, 1 grater (*micatorium*), a skinner (*sic*), 2 axes and 2 bills. Besides a washing tub, a bench, forms and stools, and 1 and-iron (*andarium*), there were 6 chests, 3 coffers, and 4 harness

coffers, 2 moulds for cheese, a churn for butter, 2 milk-pails, a plough, 2 carts, one of which was without iron, with ropes, 2 waggons, 7 harrows, 2 wooden shovels, flails, dung forks, a spade, a bushel and a pek (*sic*) measures, a woollen and a hempen winnower, a leather sack, 3 sieves and a riddle, a cinder wheel (*ciner' rotal'*), a chopper, 25,000 shingles (*cin-dule*) at 4s. per 1000, 150 boards, 25 sletes (*sic*) for hurdles for the folds, and 30 hurdles, ladders, timber, a saddle and bridle.

The armoury and wardrobe were furnished very poorly, and only valued at 31s. 3d. altogether, consisting of 1 haketoun, 2 pairs of plates, 2 gorgets, 1 bacenet, 1 pair of gloves of plate (*par cirothecarum de plates*), 1 pair of greves (*sic*), 1 pair of cuissarts (*guisoz*), 2 helmets, 2 bows with 7 arrows.

The church furniture was also on a mean scale. Two irons for making oblates and wafers 4s., a cup worth 10s., 2 suits of vestments 30s., 3 towels, 2 pewter candlesticks, 1 pewter pail for the chapel, 2s. 10d.

We then have reported their small library of "two books, of Kings, and of Beasts (*liber Regum, liber bestiarum*), which are not valued, because the jury do not know their price." The only articles at all betokening the gentle blood of the knights follow: 20 silver spoons at 10d. each, 3 rings of gold at 1s. each, and 3 silk purses at 1s. each.

Two clothes-bags with two trunks (*ij sakadras cum ij barhud*), 2 caskets, 2 basins, 2 pails for harness, 2 beds complete, 2 saddles for the sumpters, 2 pairs of barells, 1 saddle for the *Preceptor*, value of all 40s.; cash 8s. 6½d.

"Total of the value of the manor belonging to the manor in Shepeleie . . . . .	£ 8 18 1¼
Total of the value of the church of the same vill, which the Temple held for their own uses . . . . .	13 6 8
Total of all goods found in them . . . . .	73 12 3"

Two unusual words, *sakadras* and *barhud*, occur in the last paragraph of the above inventory, on which a few words of explanation may be given, since they indicate the adoption by a country jury of two French terms, probably then in general use. In *sakadras* we may readily recognise *sac-a-draps*, bags

for containing clothes, perhaps conveyed on sumpters when travelling. *Barhud* is more often met with, though with varied orthography. From the inventories of the Priors of Finchale, in 1307 and 1411, and of Durham, in 1446, published by the Surtees Society, may be quoted:—

“1307. Item in sella, freno, uno sacco cum le barhide emptis pro Priore, xxs.

“1411. Item i sella pro cariacione cum barhyde.”

“1446. Item ii clothesekkez, item iii paria de coffers, item ii barehidez.”

An unfortunate interpretation is given by the editor, that the word meant “bear-skins used as trappings to horses.” *Bahut*, however, certainly was a trunk, and the term was used in England in the time of Edward I. Among the duties of the officer who had the care of the king’s sumpter-horses, which when worn out he was to deliver over to the almoner, was that of providing bags and trunks for travelling. “*Ejus est etiam carectas emere, saccos, bahuda, et ejusmodi harnesia tam sumeriorum quam carectarum competentia.*”—*Fleta*, lib. 2, c. 21. Ducange interprets “Bahudum, arcæ species, Gallis *bahud*.” Lacombe, in his *Dictionnaire du Vieux Langage François*, gives, “Bahut, un coffre couvert de peau ou Bahuce, une valise.” The word is still in modern use, and retains its place in *Dictionnaire de l’Académie*.

The *barrels*, which are mentioned among the Shipley goods, may have been used for the simple process of cleaning armour by rolling it in a barrel with sand and bran, as is still the practice in the East. Such an article is found in the inventory of Dover Castle, 1344: “1 barelle pro armaturis rollandis;” and in that of Hengrave Hall, as late as 1603: “1 barrel to make clean the shirts of maile and gorgetts.”—See *Arch. Jour.*, xi. 382, and note, p. 386. In the *Monasticon*, vi. 625, some land is held “by the service of rolling a coat of mail once a year.”

It may have been observed that “empty casks” are among the furniture both at Sadelescombe and Shipley: some of these were probably for receiving the broken victuals for alms, as in Dover Castle, 1344, “1 doleum vacuum pro elemosina imponenda.” The military at Dover had also, in the same inventory, “1 skren ante caminum in camera.”

At the time of the Nonæ, Shipley Church was in the hands of the Hospitallers, and in the parish the only man "who had property besides his corn and sheep was Peter atte Temple, who has now chattels of the value of 20s."

In 1338, the Hospitallers valued "the messuage and garden at 2s., 212 acres of land (of which 52 were worth 3*d.* a year, and 160 worth 2*d.*) at 45*s.* 4*d.*; 8 acres of meadow at 8*d.* each, value 5*s.* 4*d.*; 10 acres of wood, small and destroyed by the lord of the fee, wherefore nothing can be gained from it; by rent with works and customs 23*s.* 10*d.*, and the church at 12 marcs."

There does not seem to have been a separate preceptory at Sumpting, as the property of the Templars there could without difficulty be managed by the neighbouring preceptor of Shipley.

The same generous founder and the same feudal lord, Philip de Harcourt and William de Braose, concurred in giving the church of Sumpting "to God, the Blessed Mary, and the Brethren of the Temple of Solomon." The grant by Philip Bishop of Bayeux, William de Braose, and William de Harcourt, was dated at Rouen, A.D. 1154, and was witnessed "by Hilary, Bishop of Chichester, in whose hands they had placed this gift, who on their petition and with their assent had given it to the Templars, by Henry Duke of Normandy (*afterwards King Henry II.*), at whose request (*rogatu*) they had made this gift, by Gilbert Bishop of Hereford, Simon de Tornabu, and *brother* Ralph de Valtort, and *brother* Henry Malbane, and *brother* Henry English (*Anglico*) (f. 154).

The confirmatory charter of Bishop Philip runs thus:—"Inasmuch as it has been the custom of old to transmit by letters what was wished to reach posterity with assured truth, —lest at any time his gift should be withdrawn or disturbed by the vexatiousness of wicked men," and mentions to Bishop Hilary the date of A.D. 1154, as that of his resignation of the church, and calls William de Harcourt one of its assenting patrons (*advocatis*) (f. 154). Bishop Philip, when reporting to the Archbishop of Canterbury that "he considered it his duty to assist and give comfort to the poor committed to him by God, and especially to religious brethren," had the honour not only of "Henry Duke of Normandy, but of the Empress

Maud his mother," to witness his grant (f. 154). At the time of the grant, two priests, Roger and Gerboda (or Gebgerboldus, as another charter names him), had a life interest in the church of Sumpting, and this Bishop Hilary expressly reserves, in the presence of his Archdeacon Henry, Master Gilbert a canon, and Master Jordan Gunter (f. 154).

In return for this acquisition, the Templars agreed with Seffrid II., Bishop of Chichester (1180-1204), to secure to the vicar "all offerings to the altar, and the tithes of a mill and of two acres in which the Brothers will build once at their expense for his use two fair houses (*duas domos honestas*), and pay him two marcs a year:" this is witnessed by S. archdeacon, William the parson of Bradewater, Joseph the priest, and others (f. 154); and was confirmed by Simon, Bishop of Chichester, at Ferringe, Feb. 6, 1206, and by Archbishop Theobald, together with the gift of the manor of Bustelesham by the Earl de Ferrers to the Temple (f. 155).

Thomas, son of Bernard, gave to the Templars at Sumpting William Byke, son of Seine of Suntinges, with all his chattels and following, as testified by Adam Tardcurteys, William de Kam, Herbert Pierpunte, and others (f. 154); and Helia, the daughter of Bernard, gave up to the church of Suntinges, the chapelry of her house (*capellaneam domus meæ*), half a hyde of land, 2 sheaves of the tithes of her domain, all the tithes of things tythable in her court, the tithes of two hydres at Bradewater, pasturage for 4 oxen and 1 horse, and also the same amount which the church had separately for the chapelry, and the tithes of hay of her domain which William de Harecourt had given to provide a light in it on all Sunday nights: Geoffry Bishop of Ely (1174-89), Robert, Thomas, and William, sons of Bernard, Godfrey Suntinges and Caperun his son, attest this, and it is confirmed by Bishop Seffrid, with Luke his treasurer, and the Canon Seffrid, and by Archbishop Richard (ff. 155, 156).

Another of the same family, Roger, son of Bernard, was also a liberal benefactor of half a virgate, held *in capite* of Walter Fitz-Richard in Eddewarth, namely, 33 acres in one part, and 33 acres in another, with the assent of his wife Margaret, his son Udard, and his heirs (f. 157).

On a subsequent dispute arising as to the above-mentioned

chapelry with Payen, clerk of Findone, the Templars promised to pay him in the church of Sumpting every Michaelmas 20s., as long as he lived in a secular habit (f. 156).

The clergy (*clerici*) of Stanninges afterwards made claim to the right of burials, and the tithes of parishioners, and took possession of them after the Templars had enjoyed them more than thirty years. The Pope Lucius III. accordingly deputed Waleran Bishop of Rochester (1183-4) to hear both parties and determine their rights, when the Abbot of Fescamp renounced all the claims of Stanninges in favour of the Temple, and an agreement was drawn up to that effect at Chichester, on Oct. 28, 1184, as testified by Dean S., the precentor Luke, the Archdeacon P., and the chapter of Chichester (f. 157).

A remarkable substitute for a seal was resorted to by Philip de Bernehus to confirm his gift of one acre to the Templars, though witnessed by Robert the priest, William de Harecourt, and his own son and heir Roger. "That they may receive me into their fraternity and house, in order to confirm this gift, I have thus impressed this wax with my teeth, instead of a seal (*hanc ceram pro sigillo dentibus ita impressi*)" (f. 157).

Others of the same family as this Templar contributed gifts. William Bernehus gave four acres in Sumpting, as witnessed by Sir Andrew Peverell, Sir Henry de Wistanested, and William Bernehus of Bradewater; and he also gave half an acre at Pende, before the witnesses, *Robert priest of Suntyngge*, William clerk of Bradewater, William de Harecourt, and others (f. 158); and a perch of land adjoining this gift was added by Simon de Lancinges, with the assent of his wife Emma and his son William: this gift "to the church of St. Mary of Suntinge" was witnessed as the former one, by Robert the priest of Suntinge, and William the parson of Bradewater (f. 158).

Reginald de la Roche of Heredune, having received lands at Luministre from William Harang, gave them to the Templars; which was confirmed by William de Hotot and his wife Emma, daughter of W. Harang, as also by his son, Richard de la Roche (f. 159).

Ralph Garnegan, Lord of Palinges, transferred to the Templars the 6s. a year due to him from Mathew Avenell, as testified by the esquire of Bohun (*armigero de Bohun*) and his

brother, William Bastard, William Avenell, Garagan de Bromhurst, and Ralph de Palinge (f. 159).

Half an acre above Westbone was given to the church by Walter, son of Hanselm, as witnessed by *Engelbert, parson of the said church*, Gregory the chaplain, William Bernehus, and others (f. 159).

The chapel of St. Peter of Cocham passed into the possession of the Templars, as appended to the church of Sumpting, and William Bernehus of Cocham gave them "two acres lying near the house of the said Brethren at Sumpting to the east;" and Henry de Wisteneston, John le Counte, William Bernehus of Bradewater, Simon de la Pende, and William Traisheures acted as witnesses (f. 160).

Others of the family of Bernehus, however, endeavoured afterwards to deprive the Templars of this chapel of Cocham; and it was only after a formal hearing of the disputants before the Priors of Waltham and Hertford, deputed by Pope Honorius III., that an agreement was come to on June 1, 1228, at Dynesley, in Herts, where the Templars held a chapter. Robert Engles appeared here as proctor for the Temple, and complained that William Bernehus had for five years abstracted from their dues at Cocham to the value of 6 marcs, and had restrained two chaplains from performing divine service there; which he said belonged to the mother church (*matricem ecclesiam*) of Sumpting. William Bernehus, Knight, on the other hand asserted that he had acted with the approval of the bishop. Amicable terms were then agreed upon; the Temple was to provide a chaplain for daily service at Cocham, namely, a mass with matins and the hours, with baptisms and purifications, and William Bernehus withdrew his claims, paid 6 marcs to the Temple, and promised to give 4 acres near the vicar's messuage and pasture for 100 sheep for the better support of the chapel. The two priors say, "We lovers of peace confirm this agreement." (f. 161).

The charter of William Bernehus, giving "to God, St. Peter, and *Adam of the Temple, vicar of Sumpting*," the croft in the parish called Bussecroft, and 1 acre at Exenbridge, contains a curious account of the processions then in use. It seems that Adam had refused to hear any confessions at Cocham, but required the parishioners to come to the mother church; whereas

Cocham claimed all church rites except sepulture. It was agreed that in future "all church services shall be done at Cocham, but no burials or processions, except the processions on Palm Sunday at a certain cross outside the chapel where they have usually been, and on the eve of St. Mark round the corn of the village (*circa segetes ejusdem ville*), and on one Rogation day to the church of Launsynge (*Lancing*), and also those processions which cannot be omitted (*que non possint dimitti*), namely, round the fountain there with crism and oil at Easter and Pentecost:" the witnesses to this arrangement were Robert Salvage (*Salvagijs*) and his brother William the parson of Bradewater, Andrew Peverell, Richard the chaplain of Launcyng, Roger de Hecton, William Bernehus de Bradewater, Humphrey de Cocham, Robert Pountell, and others (f. 161).

In additional compensation, Thomas the son and heir of Nicholas Bernehus undertook to pay to the Temple 10*s.* a year during his father's life, in the presence of Brothers Walter de Doora, and Peter, Robert the priest, and others; and moreover Nicholas, led by his conscientious penitence, confessed his wrong-doing, and that he had no just claim to what he had seized at Cocham, before the bishop at Henefeld, and had a penance enjoined him (*penitentiam recepit*) (f. 260).

In the time of Bishop Ralph Nevill, Adam of the Temple, chaplain, was admitted by him on the presentation of Alan Marcell, Master of the Temple in England, to full possession of the vicarage of Sumpting, with all the rights belonging to it among the parishioners of Bradewater and Cocham (f. 160). To this vicar, in order to ensure divine service in the chapel of Cocham, Robert de Sanford, a succeeding Master of the Temple, assigned four acres (3 acres in Middelforlong in Sumpting and 1 acre near le Dene), an annual payment of 5*s.* 4*d.*, two loads (*summas*) of wheat, and two of barley, every Michaelmas at Sumpting, and in default the chaplain was to discontinue divine service: this agreement was signed in London, October, 1241, and Adam the chaplain at the same time, touching the Gospels, swore to fulfil on behalf of the Templars all that they were bound to do towards William Bernehus and his heirs (f. 160).

In 1261 Thomas the chaplain was sued by William de



Sompting for breaking into his house, eating and drinking at his cost, and criminal conversation with his wife; but was acquitted by the jury, on the ground of the lady's consent.—Cartwright's *Bramber*, 103.

On the Wednesday before the feast of Saints Perpetua and Felicitas (March 7) 1308, a jury was summoned to Sumpting to estimate the value of the property of the Temple there—Ralph le Veske, Laurence de Duryngton, Andrew de Luchepole, Thomas Poynaunt, Ralph Bernard, John le Eyr, William de Esshele, John le Faulkner, Philip Skilly, Geoffry le Shephirde, Adam Eyneth, and Roger Forei. They reported that the Temple had 59 acres of land arable and pasture, the church of Sumpting to their own use and the chapel of Cocham annexed, and the right of appointment to the vicarage, all being originally granted by Robert de Harecourt, who had received them from William de Brewose, ancestor of William de Brewose then living, on the service of fencing 14 perches of the park paling at *la Kueppe*; also 9 acres given by W. Bernehus: the Templars had usually given to the vicar for the time being two marcs for divine service, and 3 acres for a chaplain at Cocham, and had paid 2 marcs a year to the Abbot of Fescamp for customary tithes of sheaves (f. 162).

The more detailed survey of Sumpting made by the King's commissioners a few months later, at the same time and place as that of Shipley, reported that the Templars had a messuage, a church and land adjacent as glebe, the messuage worth 2*s.* a year, 60 acres arable worth on an average 12*d.* a year, pasturage for 8 oxen with Andrew Peverel value 4*s.*, common pasturage for 100 sheep, and at Cocham for 100 sheep, value by profit of the land if they had sheep, 4*s.* The church of Sounting was worth in tithes, oblations, and other items, £23. 7*s.* 4*d.* a year; 6*s.* rent from William Avenel, given by him at Michaelmas as alms, for he held nothing of them.

Among the goods and chattels were found 10½ quarters of wheat at 6*s.*, 4 bushels of fine wheat 2*s.* 6*d.*, 34 qrs. of barley at 3*s.* 8*d.*, 20 qrs. of peas at 2*s.* 3*d.*, 12 qrs. of vetches at 2*s.* 6*d.*, 25 a. 1 r. sown with wheat, value of the growing crop at 3*s.* per acre, 8 oxen at 12*s.* each, 10 capons at 2*d.*, 2 cocks at 2*d.*, 10 hens at 1½*d.*, a plough 2*s.*, 2 harrows at 2*d.* each, an iron-

bound cart out of repair with all harness, a hempen rope, an iron fork and a dung cart, value of all 6s.; a waggon, 2s., a shovel, 2 flails, 3 dung-forks, 2 tables with trestles, a form and a chair, 2 chests, a towel, a basin, 3 brass pots and a pipkin, 2 empty casks, a barrel and a tub, a tripod, a lamp, a bushel bound and a wooden bushel, 2 choppers, a winnow, a bag of hemp, 2 sieves, a sower (*seminal*), 3 ladders at 6d., 12 hurdles for fold 9d., and 500 shingles worth 2s. 8d., old timber 5s. 3d.; from a loan in the hands of others, 5 qrs. 6 b. of barley at 4s., payable at Easter, value 23s.

	£	s.	d.
Total of the value of the portions of the Temple in			
Suntyngh, together with the value of the church			
of the said vill . . . . .	27	13	4
Total of the value of all goods found there . . . . .	24	19	7½

Walter de Gedding, the sheriff of Sussex, received all these goods and chattels by virtue of the King's writ. (Add. MSS. 6165, p. 365.)

In 1338 the church of "Suntyngh" appropriated and annexed was valued by the Hospitallers at £17. 17s. 6d.

Another small property of the Templars was stated by a jury assembled at Horsham by the sheriff of Sussex, Walter de Gedding, on the Sunday before the feast of St. Gregory (March 12), 1308, to have been the grant of a certain ancestor of Hugh de Nevile, whose name they cannot remember (*de cuius nomine non occurrit memoria*); so soon does the recollection of even generous deeds and great names pass away. The jurors, among whom were Walter de Wepenhurst, Robert Goneshutte, Henry atte Knolle, and William atte Denne, say that the Temple had in Lokeswode, in Wysburghe, a messuage with curtilage, let at 2s. a year, and 100 acres of great wood of oak (*bosci grossi de quercu*), the pannage of which was worth 6s. 8d., but the pasturage, being common to others, was not estimated, though 16d. was received from neighbours (*vicinis*) for pasturage in the wood. The free tenants paid rents amounting to £4. 17s. 5½d., with attendance on court and "laghedayes," worth 4s. Total value 111s. 5½d. (f. 142).

The more detailed inquest, including the goods and chattels here, took place on September 2, 1308, at Chichester, before the King's commissioners; and the jury (among whom were

Henry Fitz le Roy, William de Slyfthurst, Roger atte Cleye, Robert le Covert, John atte Doure, Richard Amaunt) make a similar report as to the pannage of Lockeswode being of no value, because the tenants of the Brethren kept 44 pigs free of pannage and pasture there. The fixed annual rents, paid by tenants for messuages and lands, were due from William de Lockeswode, Robert de Gunneshudde, Walter de Hudifold, Robert Jakeman, Robert atte Hulle, Robert atte Blakewell, Richard Rolf, Richard, William, John, and Walter de Okehurst, William le Skynnere, Walter le White, William the smith, John atte Lydenge, Philip atte Murihull, and others. William atte Mersch paid 4*d.* for free entry and outlet of the wood with his cattle (*cum averiis suis*). Total of all the rents £4. 19*s.* 9*d.*

Suit to the court of Ushuddebruge was due twice a year at Michaelmas and le Hokeday, valued at 4*s.*; and the Temple also received 6*d.* a year from William Avenel, and 4*s.* from Robert Brugham, "but the jury do not know for what portion of land." Total of all lands and rents with privileges of court in the rape of Arundel, £6. 1*s.* 5½*d.* (Add. MSS. 6165, p. 359.)

In 1338 the rent of Lokeswode was reckoned by the Hospitallers as seven mares.

After the act of Parliament had given over to the Hospitallers all that had belonged to the Templars, William de Whitby, clerk, proctor for the Prior and Hospital of Jerusalem, claimed before Bishop John Langton, October 7, 1316, "the vicarages of the churches of Shepeley and Suntynge, and whatever the Templars held in the churches of Wodemancote and Suthwich from time immemorial, and warned him not to admit any person except on the presentation of the Hospital: this was done in the presence of William de Eseden, Archdeacon of Lewes, and Master Robert de Derby, officer of the prior (f. 163).

At the time of the *Nonæ*, in 1341, the church of Sumpting was considered as belonging to the Hospitallers.

After thus enumerating the benefactors of the Sussex Preceptories, and detailing their property at the moment of their being deprived of it, we may follow to the end the story of

these gallant knights, and may feel the force of the lament in the old chronicler, quoted by Mr. Addison in his interesting History of the Templars:—

“ Li frere, li Mestre du Temple,  
 Qu'estoient si rempli et ample  
 D'or et d'argent, et de richesse,  
 Et qui menoient tel noblesse,  
 Ou sont il? que sont devenu?”

Probably of all “their gold, silver, and riches,” the only object ever handled by the Templars of Shipley now remaining is the beautiful reliquary, still the property of the parish. It is 7 inches long by 6 inches high, and its wooden frame still preserves some of its coverings of gilt plates ornamented with enamel, which appear to be of the thirteenth century. They represent the Crucifixion with the Greek letters  $\chi\rho\xi$  over the cross, the Virgin Mary and St. John standing near, and other saints under semicircular arches on each side and at the ends. It has been well engraved in Cartwright's *Rape of Bramber*, p. 304.

The very greatness of their wealth and privileges had raised up against the Order both the jealousy of the church and the covetousness of sovereigns. The Holy Land had been lost in spite of the efforts of Crusaders and Templars, and the forced inactivity of this military Order may have suggested the convenient opportunity to the French King, Philip—“the modern Pilate,” as his contemporary, Dante, indignantly terms him—“to carry his covetous greed into the Temple.” After he had begun their ruin by the simultaneous arrest of all the Templars in France, early in the morning of Friday, October 13, 1307, it was not long before Edward II. struck a similar blow in England. Having been but a few months on the throne, the King was at first greatly startled by the gross anomaly of accusing as infidels and blasphemers men who had been risking their lives for Christianity; and his letters are extant, dated December 10, to his brother Kings of Sicily, Portugal, Castile, and Arragon, in which he expressed his disbelief in the charges against men who had been so often praised by himself and by all in his kingdom, “for the constant purity of their Catholic faith, and for their life and morals.” A letter, however, from the Pope, Clement V., a Frenchman, dated at

Poictou, December 22, soon reached him, in which the Pope assured him that the Templars had in express words denied the Saviour, and that they adored an idol in their chapters. He therefore enjoined him "so prudently, so cautiously, and so secretly to devise his proceedings, as to cause in the best manner possible the seizure of all the persons and goods of the Templars in one day." To this scheme he wrote his assent on December 26, 1307, and at once with no more scruple set about the measure of imprisoning at one fell swoop all the Templars in his dominions, though many of them had been companions in the peril and glory of his own father.

To Walter de Gedding, sheriff of Sussex and Surrey, as to the sheriffs of every other county, were directed the King's commands to await further instructions at an appointed place with trustworthy men of their bailiwicks on the Sunday before Epiphany. On this holy day the expected orders were delivered to him by priests, who were to exact an oath of secrecy until their execution. By these measures was secured, on January 8, 1308, the sudden capture of nearly all the Knights Templars in England, and the confiscation of all their property. This simultaneous arrest, contrived and ordered by the Pope, has been on more than one subsequent occasion adopted by France, following her own example, but remains a single instance in English history.

It is well known with what a steady and indignant denial these gallant knights met the foul charges of vice and idolatry imputed to them; and even the King hesitated to extort confessions by the compulsion of torture until this doubt too was overcome by the reproof of the less scrupulous Pope. Clement V. thus wrote to the King:—"You have forbidden the proceedings of inquiry by torture concerning these crimes, although these Templars are reported not to confess the truth. Attend, we beseech you, my dearest son, and consider if this is suitable to your honour and safety, or befits the condition of your kingdom." The King accordingly, in an order dated from Linlithgow, expressly alleged that his permission to examine the Templars by tortures or by other suitable methods, as often as the prelates and inquisitors pleased, was given in compliance with the Holy See (*ob reverentiam sedis apostolicæ*).—Rymer's *Fœdera*.

Some Templars succeeded in avoiding personal suffering by flight and disguise; but among the numerous knights who were thus suddenly arrested was *William de Egendon, the Preceptor of Shipley*, who shared with many high officers, and many preceptors and chaplains of the Order, all the wrongs and humiliations inflicted upon them in the Tower of London.

The evidence against the Templars, which has since been made public (*Concilia Brit.* ii. 329—387), makes us in modern times wonder, that Christian bishops and nobles should have listened to the plain and consistent evidence of the knights, and to such loose hearsay tales of the few accusing witnesses, without perceiving where the truth lay. Langton, Bishop of Chichester, who had recommended himself to Edward II. as a partisan of the favourite Gavaston, and had been rewarded with the chancellorship, was on this occasion a constant and zealous *inquisitor* (the term given in the King's warrant may well stand untranslated), and undertook, in 1310, together with the Bishop of London, to report the result of the tortures applied in case of non-confession of guilt. The King indeed, with an outward show of mercy, so far restricted the severity of these prelates, that the tortures were "not to cause mutilation or perpetual disabling of limb, or violent effusion of blood."

It does not at all appear that popular feeling accorded with these persecutions. When a daring satirist of the time proposed to establish a new order of monks, and in coarse poetry proceeded to select some one characteristic vice from each existing order as forming the statutes for that of Bel-Eyse, it is remarkable that he adduced nothing against the Templars or their fellow-soldiers the Hospitallers, more criminal than that they wore long robes, well fitting shoes and hose, and that they rode well-paced palfreys.

"Qe sunt mult corteis chevalers,  
E ount robes bien avenauntz,  
Longes desqu' al pié traynantz,  
Soulders e chausés bien séantz,  
E gros palefrois bien amblantz."

*Political Songs*, p. 140, *Camden Soc.*

From the imperfect sources of information transmitted to us, we can glean little of the personal history of the Pre-

ceptors and Templars of Sussex; and indeed, if we have been able to describe the founders and benefactors of the Preceptories of Sadelescombe and Shipley, it is due to the pious gratitude of the Hospitallers, to whom their property was transferred. When accepting the wealth, they also adopted the duties of the Templars, and not only preserved the charters, which had become the title-deeds of their own future estate, but also enregistered the names of their benefactors, as those for the repose of whose souls their own prayers were to be continued. The two names of Sussex Preceptors which have occurred are quite insufficient to tell us of their series or of their duration; and it is indeed probable that, unlike the abbots and priors of monasteries, the preceptors frequently changed their residence at the will of the Master of the Temple, to fulfil civil or military duties elsewhere. The judicial records at the time of their suppression furnish us with some interesting particulars of those who were at Shipley in the later times.

As no Preceptor of Sadelescombe appears among the prisoners, he probably evaded capture, and was in that respect more fortunate than William de Egendon, the last Preceptor of Shipley. The sheriff had been ordered to arrest him and all other Templars, guarding them safely, and honourably (*honeste*) in some competent place, elsewhere than on their own possessions, but not in strict and vile prison (*ita tamen ut non sint in durá et vili prisoná*), and also to take possession on behalf of the King of all the lands and tenements, goods and chattels, with papers, writings, and all manner of muniments of the Brethren of the Temple, and to report to the King the number and names of those imprisoned, and where and in whose custody they were placed. In consequence of this order their persons were kept in confinement by the sheriffs more than twenty months, unexamined and untried; and it was not before the middle of September, 1309, that the prisoners were ordered to be brought up to the Tower of London. The Archbishop of Canterbury and his suffragan bishops were appointed to meet the Pope's inquisitors, four Frenchmen, two of whom were abbots and one his own chaplain, in order to inquire into the guilt or innocence of the accused.

The first meeting of the court took place in the Bishop of London's palace on Monday, October 20, 1309, when eighty-seven articles of accusation preferred by Clement V., with his bull, were read.—*Concil.* ii. 329.

These articles imputed to the Templars, that they denied the Saviour; that they spit and trod, with other indignities, upon the cross; that they adored a certain cat; that they disbelieved the sacraments; that they believed in the power of the Grand Master, Visitor, and lay Preceptors to give absolution of sins; that their admission was clandestine with indecent practices; that they had been long suspected of impiety; that they worshipped idols with three or two faces, which they thought efficacious to enrich them and make the trees grow, binding the head of the idol with the cords of their waist; that they killed or imprisoned any who refused such ceremonies, and took an oath not to reveal them; and that they confessed to their own order only, and swore to augment the Order by all means good or bad (*per fas aut nefas*).

On Tuesday, the next day, the court sat in the chapter-house of the Priory of the Holy Trinity, in the presence of Ralph Bishop of London; and forty-one Templars were at length brought there from the Tower to meet the accusation for the first time; among whom were William de Egendon, the Preceptor of Shipley, and five others, who had been a few years previous peaceably assembled at Shipley in solemn ceremonies and divine service.

It seems to have been the duty, or at least the custom, of "the Grand Master of the Temple in England," for the time being to attend at the formal reception of Brothers into the Order; and William de la More, in that capacity, was accordingly proved by many witnesses to have sanctioned such admissions by his presence not only at Shipley but at numerous other preceptories. When called upon in his examination, June 8, 1310, to describe the mode in which absolution was given by him to delinquent Templars, he explained that offences against the discipline of the Order only were pardoned by him, so far as he was empowered by God and the Pope; that in graver cases the offender, after confessing his sins in the chapter, received three strokes from a strap on his bare back (*cautus dorso corrigiis*), and was asked if he sought



for pardon from God, and that the other brethren were then invited to pray for his pardon, and repeat a Pater Noster on his behalf; but such absolution was not pronounced in the name of the Holy Trinity, as was the privilege of priests.

One of the witnesses, Roger de Stowe, when examined on his oath, declared that, though he had now been a secular priest for nearly two years, he had been admitted into the Order of the Temple at Easter seven years past (A.D. 1302) in the chapel (*capella*) of *Schepelee* by Brother William de la More the Grand Master, in the presence of Brothers Thomas de Thoulouse, knight, John de Stoke, priest, and Roger le Norreys; that his reception into the Order was in the manner and form always used, with the four oaths of obedience, chastity, to live without private property, and to lay violent hands on no one except in self-defence or against the Saracens.—*Concil.* ii. 342. On this point all the testimony was uniform, as also on their abhorrence of idols, and blasphemy.

Brother William de Egendon was examined as a witness on November 8, 1309, and deposed that he entered the Order at Dineslee, in Hertfordshire, fourteen years ago (A.D. 1295), and had been admitted in the chapel there by William de Forest, then Grand Master, in the presence of seven brothers and others now dead, taking the usual oaths and with the usual forms. He had been Preceptor of Shipley four years.

Brother Thomas de Thoulouse, Knight, when examined, October 31, was preceptor at Huppeldon, co. Hereford, and dated his admission at Dineslee forty-three years ago (A.D. 1266), so that he must have little expected in his old age to have such charges to answer. He seems to have been frequently present at the reception of other knights, and could therefore bear good witness as to the uniformity of the method. The belts worn by the Templars were converted into charges against them as if used for idolatrous purposes; but this witness declared them to be worn only as enjoined by St. Bernard.

Brother Alan de Neweson, probably from Temple Newsom, co. York, was examined November 7, 1309, and had been a Templar for six years from his admission in the chapel at "Ewelle" on taking the usual oaths, and had been more than five years at Shipley. He was again examined on February 6,

1310, before the Bishops of London and Chichester, in the church of St. Botolph.

Roger le Norreis, who was one of those present in 1302, in the chapel of Shipley, was precentor of Temple Cressing, in Essex; and when brought up from the Tower as a witness on November 10, 1309, deposed to his admission into the Order at Dineslee on the feast of St. Barnabas, June 11, sixteen years ago, which would throw it back to 1293. On his second examination, January 29, 1310, being asked whether unworthy persons had been admitted, or whether there was a popular suspicion of unrighteous practices among the brothers, he boldly answered that "good men were chosen, and that no good persons suspected them"—galling words to the French deputies of the Pope and the Bishops of London and Chichester, who sat listening to him. At another time, March 3, he said he had witnessed the admission of William de Egendon and ten others, as well as the burial of some publicly, in the presence of many laymen; one of the charges being that such rites took place at night secretly.

Another of the Templars at Shipley, in 1302, was Brother John de Stoke, chaplain, who had entered the Order seventeen years previously at Belesale at one o'clock on the day, not at night; and as to burials being secret, he only knew of one who, having died excommunicated for purloining the goods of the house, was buried in the highway. It appears that John de Stoke had thrown off the dress of the Templars, and had so escaped arrest up to November 10; but being then detected, was captured and brought before the Court of Inquisitors on November 15, 1309.

Examinations were going on about the same time at Lincoln, York, and Dublin, into the cases of the Templars imprisoned there.

In the Archbishop's Chamber at York, on May 1, 1310, Brother William de la Fenne, Preceptor at Purfleet, gave evidence of his admission into the Order fifteen years before (1295), with the usual oaths and forms, in the dormitory at Shipley, in the presence of Guy de Forest, then Grand Master, and many other brothers then dead.

The Inquisitors, on November 19, 1309, brought forward six new questions, on which they took evidence. These applied

to the supposed secrecy of the admissions and ceremonies of the Templars, and whether they had in their conversation said anything that had the flavour of infidelity (*aliquid quod saperet infidelitatem*), or whether others had ever suspected them of impiety or having idols. This invitation to bring forward even suspicions opened a wide door to loose accusations. On March 3, five more articles were added to the inquiry, as to how many and what brothers each had personally been acquainted with, and as to clandestine burials. All the above named who had been at Shipley were examined again in March upon these points. William de Egendon testified that he had not seen more than one knight admitted, and, like the others, denied any secret burials. One knight who had been thirty-eight years in the Order, gave the striking answer that he had never witnessed any burials except of those who had died in the Tower. One of the accusers was a Templar, John de Gertia, and he bare witness that he had heard from a woman named Cacocaca that a servant, fourteen years ago, had secretly seen and watched the Templars while they placed an idol upon the crucifix, and that one brother who had refused to do so had been confined inside a well with the lid shut down (*clauso puteo cum cooperculo*); and he also deposed that one Walter Salvage, of the household of the Earl of Warenne's grandfather, had, two years after entering the Order, been so removed away that neither the earl nor his other friends could ever learn what had become of him.

Another Templar, Richard de Kocfeld, deposed that Brother John de Borne had told him and others that the Knight Templar Walter Bachelor had procured his admission, and had asked him afterwards how he liked the Order, to which John de Borne, who was confessor to the Earl Warenne, answered that he had ruined his soul by entering the Order. The witness had also heard from Walter, the rector of Hodlee (*Hothly*), who had heard from a certain vicar that Walter Bachelor, to whom he was priest, had told him that there was one article of the oath of admission which he could never reveal to any living creature.

Another brother, Stephen de Stapelbrugge, a fugitive apostate, who had been captured at Salisbury, deposed that he had been made to spit upon the cross and to deny the Saviour

and the Virgin, and had heard say of other impieties insisted upon under threats of death. This examination was held on June 23, 1311, before the Bishops of London and Chichester, Robert de Leisset, Archdeacon of Chichester, John de Slynden, and others.

To such hearsay evidence the Templars, conscious of their innocence, could only oppose their denial; and they said that they disbelieved that any brothers had confessed to any iniquity unless compelled by torture, and if they had so confessed they lied (*nisi per tormenta, et si sint confessi mentiuntur*). Others said they would sooner die (*citius vellent mori*) than renounce their Order.

There seem to have been exertions made to induce the prisoners to confess; and one Templar swore that, when he was in Lincoln prison, the Abbot of Lagny, one of the Pope's inquisitors, had, on his refusing to confess, sworn with his hand on his breast "by the Word of God that he would make him confess before he had done with him." Fearing death in consequence of this threat, he had bribed the sheriff and keeper of the prison with 40 florins to let him escape in open daylight, which he effected, but was afterwards recaptured.

Time however was wearing on, the weary series of examinations had now continued for nearly two years, the Templars had been imprisoned for more than three, and it is probable that all parties were tired out, and became more willing to close the proceedings by a compromise.

After a copy of the examinations had been given to the Templars on April 22, 1311, they were required to make their answers in eight days, and the Bishop of London's officer was sent into the Tower to confer with them. The imprisoned Templars said that, being mere laymen, they had no legal advisers to defend them, though they held the same faith as the Holy Church, and if they had erred in anything it was from ignorance. "We therefore pray you (they concluded) for the sake of God, and the salvation of your souls, that you judge us as you may wish to answer for yourselves and for us before God."—*Concil.* p. 364. On the eighth day, however, twenty-eight Templars, among whom were William de la More and Alan de Neweson, were brought from the Tower before the inquisitors in Berkynge Church, and there tendered a paper

which was accepted as a confession, for it declared, as the court interpreted it, "that though they were sincere Christians, they were in such evil repute, as to having denied the Saviour (*se adeo diffamatos esse super abnegatione Christi*), and treated the Cross with contempt, and other heresies, that they were unable to prove themselves innocent (*quod se super his purgare non possent*); and therefore submitted themselves to the discipline of the church, and implored its pardon."—*Concil.* p. 391.

It is a curious feature in the proceedings of this court, that three languages—Latin, French, and English—were used according to the capacity of the prisoners.<sup>3</sup> In the present instance the paper was in French.

To this formula of confession the other Templars in the different prisons gave their assent; Roger Norreis and seven others imprisoned in Aldgate; William de Egendon, John de Stoke, and four others, in Criplegate; Alan de Neweson and five more in Southwark, with others in Ludgate and Newgate.

Most of this took place in one day, April 29, 1311. The Bishops of London and Chichester had the power of giving them absolution; and this they did with much pomp, seated at the west door of St. Paul's, surrounded by priests and people, while the Templars on their knees before them publicly abjured all heresies, some with cries and weeping.

The official document, embodying the record of all the proceedings of the court, takes credit for having successfully discovered the truth by various means, "by examinations devised by the bishops themselves in person, also by the clergy of the Templars, and even by severe and cruel lay persons sometimes exercising the judgement of blood, who had from a certain knowledge been sent to terrify them (*et etiam severas et crudeles personas laicas, judicium sanguinis quandoque exercentes, ex certa scientia eis ad terrorem missas*), and also by the consistent confession of three Templars."—*Concil.* 393. Considering that torture had been insisted upon by the Pope, sanctioned by the King, and directed by the French abbots and English bishops who formed the court of inquisitors, the

<sup>3</sup> "Sacerdotes et literati in Latina, laici vero in lingua Gallicana, quidam in Anglica lingua."—*Concil.* ii. 391. One witness is

said to have deposed "in Anglico et titubando" on June 8, 1310.

avowed use of these "severe and cruel laymen" is remarkable.

On Monday, July 12, many great noblemen, the Earls of Leicester, Hereford, Pembroke, and Warwick, for the first time attended the council, and witnessed the absolution, either in French or English, but principally in French. Some of the Templars imprisoned in the Tower were too sick to leave it; others from their age could not stand up, and received pardon there. The Preceptor of Shipley, William de Egendon, abjured in French, and submitted to the correction of the church.

Some were made to prostrate themselves bareheaded on the door-steps of Berkyng Church, and were afterwards led by hand up to the altar, which, after praying, they devoutly and with tears kissed.—*Concil.* p. 392.

The knights were thus at length released from their prisons, but were sent by direction of the bishops into divers monasteries to perform penance. William de la More alone refused to admit himself guilty of what he had not done; and was doomed to be shut up in the vilest prison, confined with double irons (*in vilissimo carcere ferro duplici constrictus*), and from time to time to be visited and importuned to confess. The gallant Master did not long survive this treatment.

Twelve Templars survived so as to appear among the pensioners of the Hospitallers so late as 1338; and among these were Roger de Stowe, receiving 100*s.* a year, and Alan de Neusom, having a pension of six marcs.

The Archbishop of Canterbury at last, on August 15, 1312, published the Bull of Pope Clement V. dissolving the Order of the Templars, and thus ended the brief and brilliant course of men, whose name still sounds in our ears suggestive of chivalrous adventure and eager courage, in spite of the calumnies and ignominy which clouded their latter years.

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## BODIAM, AND ITS LORDS.

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PARTLY READ AT THE BODIAM MEETING, 10TH JULY, 1856.

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BY MARK ANTONY LOWER, M.A., F.S.A.

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THE history of Bodiam begins with the great Norman Survey. The account given of it in Domesday Book is this:—"Osbern holds a hide and three roodlands in Bodeham of this manor, which was always included in the district of Werste, where the hall was situated. Roger has half a hide, and Ralph two roodlands. There is one plough and a half in the demesne, and seven villeins with ten bondmen have four ploughs and a half. The whole value in the time of the Confessor was six pounds; it has since been estimated at six; but it is now appreciated at nine pounds." The manor of Werste, now Ewhurst, was in the rape or territory of the Earl of Eu, a kinsman of the Conqueror, who held it in domain, and consequently Bodiam was immediately dependent upon that great feudal lord. I may remark that the original seat of this eminent personage was at what is now called "La Ville d'Eu" in Normandy—in modern times the fine château of the late King Louis-Philippe,—and that after the Conquest his principal English residence was the Castle of Hastings. His tenants Osbern, Roger, and Ralph, were probably followers who had fought under his command at Hastings, and who were thus allowed to participate in the spoils of the Norman Conquest. In this and the following century, the possessors of the estate assumed the surname of De Bodeham; and under Henry II., Roger de Bodeham held the sub-infeudation with four knights' fees, amounting to 2560 acres, including a park, the name of which is still retained.

In the Chronicle of Battel Abbey there are some rather interesting notices concerning the parish and family of Bodeham. The first relates to the very Osbern, who, as we have seen, was the principal feudatory, here, of the Earl of Eu. The Chronicler states that, "in consequence of the dryness of the soil around Battel Abbey, and the deficiency of well-irrigated meadows, a certain knight of these parts, named Osbern Fitz-Hugh, by the advice of Abbot Gausbert and the monks—with the consent of his Lord, William Earl of Eu, and the confirmation of King William—gave and granted out of his domain thirty acres of meadow, Norman measure, lying in his manor called Bodeham, about seven miles distant, partly of his free donation, and partly by way of sale, he receiving fifty shillings in recompense; and this by his charter he confirmed for ever to the Abbey of Battel, free from all challenge or exaction of his heirs and all other persons, and from every charge whatever." One can scarcely forbear a smile at the mixed character of this transaction. The good Osbern, while desirous of securing the eternal welfare of himself and his family, was by no means inattentive to his worldly interests in thus drawing a balance of two-pounds-ten in his own favour.

The next mention of Bodiam in the Chronicle refers to the appointment of a bailiff, or keeper of the meadow, on account of its remoteness from the Abbey. The monks of Battel prevailed upon another knight of these parts to give a piece of land upon which to erect a house for the keeper. The name of the knight was Robert Borne, who also conceded to the abbey a right of way through his lands. "The brethren, in acknowledgment of this kindness, and for the sake of evidence hereafter, gave him six shillings and iron leg-harness, which some properly designate greaves (*sex solidos, et caligas ferreas, quas quidam proprie ocreas dicunt*),<sup>1</sup> by which he might equip one of his brothers for the wars." "Now," adds the Chronicler, "there was a slip of land lying between the above-mentioned meadow and the recently-acquired keeper's house, which seemed convenient for the brethren, for the purposes of a wharf, on which they might land such things as were brought thither for their use by a vessel (*navigio*). The venerable Abbot Walter [*de Lucy*] therefore, personally and

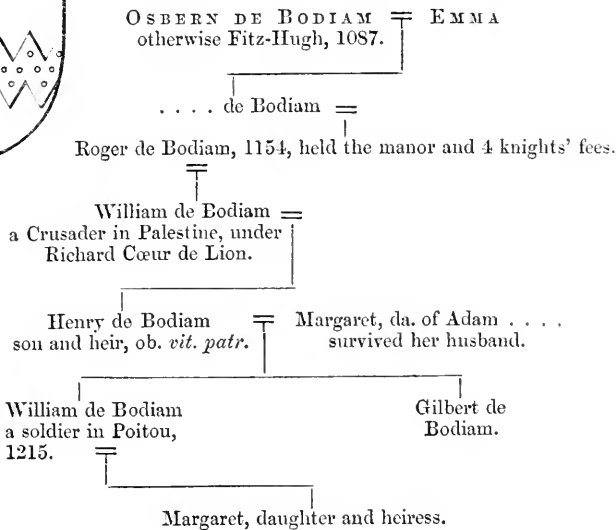
<sup>1</sup> Lat. edit. p. 132; my Translation, p. 145.



through his friends, applied to Robert Borne and Ralph his son, and prevailed upon them to give that slip of land as they had done the manse which it adjoined . . . to God and St. Martin, to be quietly held for ever." These transactions took place between the years 1157 and 1171. The latter passage is interesting, as showing that the river Rother was navigable for a sailing-vessel in the twelfth century.

Emma wife of Osbern de Bodeham (previously called Fitz-Hugh) gave to Battel Abbey land worth six shillings in the manor of Bodiam, and a mill called Sansci near Criuil in Normandy—Robert Earl of Eu, her lord, confirming the gift in the presence of many witnesses.<sup>2</sup>

There is not, so far as I am aware, any pedigree of the De Bodiams in existence. The following is the best approximation to one that I have been enabled, after much investigation, to arrive at:—



I infer that the interval between Osbern, 1087, and Roger, who occurs in the Black Book of the Exchequer, 1154, as owner of four knights' fees in Bodiam, includes a lord of

<sup>2</sup> *Chron. de Bello*, p. 55. Trans. p. 60.

Bodiam whose name does not transpire; and I presume that William was the son of Roger. William de Bodiam, according to a roll in the library of Sir Edw. Dering, quoted in Hasted's *Kent*, joined the Crusade under Richard I., was at the siege of Acre in 1190, and bore for arms on that occasion, *Gules, an inescoccheon argent, an orle of bezants*, a coat materially differing from that afterwards assumed by the family.—(Dansey's *Crusaders*.) William had a son and heir, Henry de Bodiam. Though he died before his father, he is styled Lord of Bodiam, in a deed by which he enfeoffs Robert de Ore with all his lands called Ore and Kemehethe,<sup>3</sup> in the parish of Battel. The deed, which is without date, is witnessed by Lord William de Echingham, Lord Matthew de Hastings, Richard de Ashburnham, and other distinguished persons.—(Thorpe's *Cat. Battle Abbey Deeds*, p. 8.) About the end of Richard I. or the beginning of John, Margaret, widow of this Henry, sued her father-in-law, William, for her thirds of twenty pounds land with the appurtenances in Bodiam, which had been allotted to her by way of marriage settlement on her espousals with Henry, by William de Bodiam the defendant. That deed had been witnessed by Alured de St. Martin (the founder of Robertsbridge Abbey), Rd. de St. Leger, Ralph de Bodiam, Reginald de Bodiam, and others. William, the defendant, pleaded that his son Henry had never had seisin of the lands in question, but did not deny his deed, and the thirds were consequently awarded to the plaintiff.—(*Rot. Cur. Reg. Sussex*, i. 365).<sup>4</sup>

The name of William de Bodiam occurs in many records from the year 1199 downwards; but whether in some of them the father-in-law of the widow Margaret, or her son, who succeeded his grandfather as lord of Bodiam, is intended, is by no means clear. Poor Margaret, besides the loss of her husband, and her subsequent struggle for dower, seems to have

<sup>3</sup> Kemehethe, now *Camehide*. One of the silly legends connected with the Norman Conquest is, that some time before the battle of Hastings, Duke William, imitating the example of Queen Dido at Carthage, purchased as much land on the Sussex coast as he could compass with a bull's hide, which being cut into slips was made to reach several miles inland, namely

from Bulverhythe, alias BULLHIDE, to CAME-HIDE, in Battel, for hither says the tradition *came* the hide!!

<sup>4</sup> For several references to records I am indebted to Mr. Blaauw, and for some miscellaneous information to the *Gentleman's Magazine* for Sept. 1856, contributed by Mr. W. D. Cooper, to whom I also owe other valuable communications.

fallen into other troubles. In the time of King John her estate was confiscated on the plea of rebellion, but in 1st Henry III., that monarch directed the sheriff of Sussex to restore seisin thereof to her, she having returned to fidelity and service. (*Rot. Lit. Claus.* 1217, p. 328.) The Earls of Eu still continued to hold feudal dominancy over the de Bodiams, and exercised some undue exactions; wherefore King John in 1215 issued his mandate to the sheriff to prevent the then earl from harassing William de Bodiam for military service in respect of his four knights' fees, he having duly paid his relief to the King during the time that the earl's lands had been in the King's hands,<sup>5</sup> and especially as to tallage, as William was then serving in person in Poitou, and if anything had been seized from him on that behalf, it was to be restored without delay. (*Rot. Claus.* 16 Joh.) The same year the King restored to William de Bodiam land held during the minority of the daughter of Stephen de Canardinton (Kenardington, co. Kent), then deceased, whose heir he was. By a deed, without date, William de Bodiam confirms the feoffment of lands in Pette, hitherto held by Edwardus Cuparius to his brother Gilbert de Bodiam. To this deed, which is sealed with an equestrian figure, the names of William, chaplain of Bodiam, Robert de Glotingham, Adam, parson of Icklesham, and others, occur as witnesses. By another dateless deed, William de Bodiam, son of Henry de Bodiam, for the good of his soul, and the souls of his antecessors and successors, enfeoffs the Abbey of Battel with his possessions in the fee of Bodiam. (*Thorpe's Cat. Battel Abbey Deeds*, p. 8.) And by another deed, also undated, Gilbert de Bodiam, for the salvation of the souls of himself and his lord and brother William de Bodiam, grants to Battel Abbey, in pure and perpetual alms, the lands in Pette which William his said brother had aforetime given him upon his service. (*Thorpe's Cat.* p. 9.) Margaret, daughter of William de Bodiam, by a sealed deed without date, also confirms to Battel Abbey the same lands in Pette. (*Thorpe*, p. 9.)

The William de Bodiam who figures in these transactions was probably a benefactor to the Abbey of Robertsbridge, and

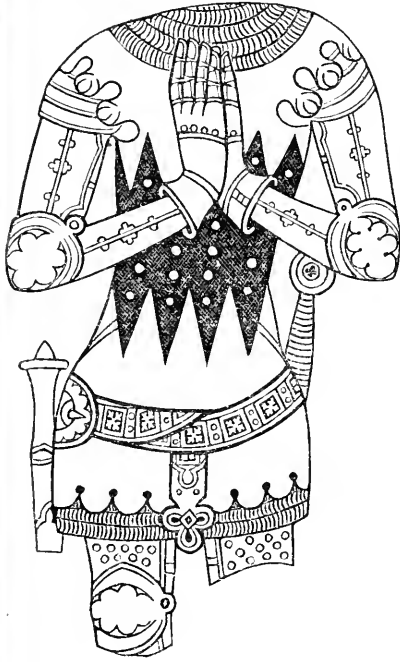
<sup>5</sup> July 7, 1215, William de B. paid relief of thirty marks and service for one year with horses and arms. *Rot. de Fin.* 15 Joh.

he would seem to have been buried there. Among many fragmentary stones which I sketched at Robertsbridge Abbey in the year 1831, and most of which have subsequently perished—having been *macadamized*, as I am most credibly informed, to mend a neighbouring highway—was one which I take to have formed part of his tomb. (See the subjoined woodcut.)



I believe that Margaret, the daughter of this William, was the heiress who conveyed Bodiam to the Wardeux family, but the proofs of this have hitherto eluded my research. It is clear that in the next generation the Wardeux family were lords of the manor; though it is equally certain that individuals of the Bodiam name continued to be landed proprietors, here and in the adjoining parishes, for many years subsequently. About the year 1250, Simon de Bodiam appears as witness to a deed from Reginald Abbot of Battel to Dionysia Palmer. In 1263, William and Henry de Bodiham were witnesses to a deed of gift from Robert de Glindlee (Glyndley in Westham) to Lewes Priory.—(*Sussex Arch. Coll.* iii. 197.) A few years later, in 6th Edward I., among those who had summons, as possessors of lands worth twenty pounds per annum, to take up their knighthood in the counties of Surrey and Sussex, was a John de Bodiham, while the manucaptor of Masters William Aguilun and William de la Legh, the commissioners, was a Henry de Bodyham.—(*Parl. Writs*, vol. i. p. 217.) In the 28th year of the same reign, according to a statement in *Gent.*

*Mag.* (March, 1837), without any reference, Thomas, son of Lucie de Bodihamme, recovered in the King's Court against Reginald —, one messuage and 12 acres of land in Bodiam. Many years later still, some branches of the old stock must have regarded Bodiam as their home; for the church contains



a mutilated miniature brass of an armed knight, upon whose surcoat the fesse dancettée and pellets of the family arms are gracefully represented; and this brass cannot, in my opinion, be assigned to a date anterior to the earlier part of the reign of Richard II. This truncated fragment, which measures only fourteen inches in height, was long lying loose, covered with dust, until some years since, when the late incumbent, the Rev. Sir Godfrey Thomas, Bart., had it affixed to the chancel wall. Subsequently, during the recent restoration of the building, it was fixed, with other brass fragments, at

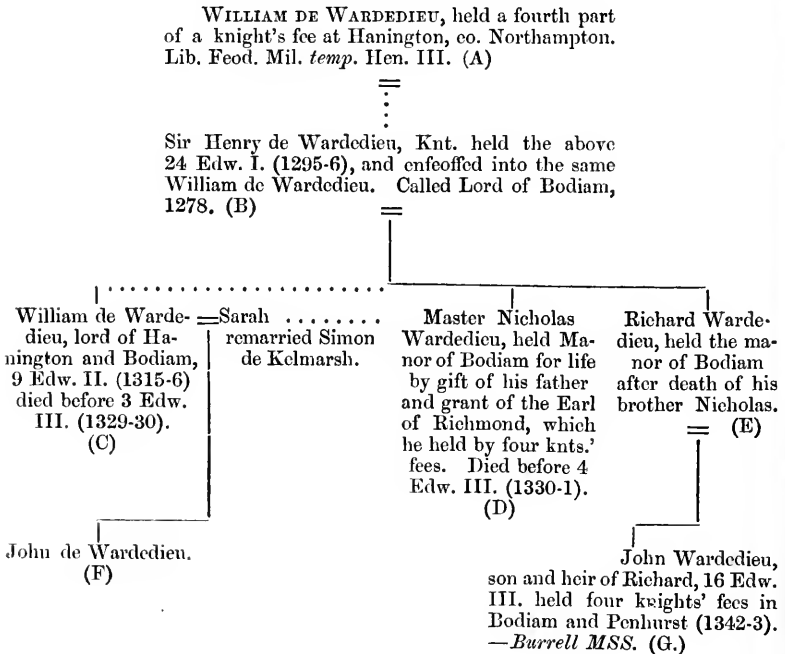
the west end of the church. A brass escocheon of the Bodiam arms, apparently of anterior date, is also preserved in the same position. Other families of Bodeham existed contemporaneously. Many notices occur in records of one entirely unconnected with Sussex, who derived their surname from Bodham near Erpingham, in Norfolk, one of whose members, William de Bodeham, was engaged in the expeditions of Edw. I. against the Welsh. There were in Sussex two other places called Bodeham, one in the parish of Battel, repeatedly mentioned in the archives of Battel Abbey, and another near Petworth, which belonged *temp.* Edw. III. to the great feudal house of Paynel.

Some obscurity attaches to the origin of the family who next succeeded to the lordship of Bodiam. Their name is variously

spelt Wardedieu, Wardedn, Wardou, Warddieu, and Wardeux. It is asserted in a small local publication, *Gleanings concerning Battel Abbey*,<sup>6</sup> that their progenitor was a cadet of the family of Monceux, lords of Herst-Monceux, who, becoming in the thirteenth century a ward of the Earl of Eu, (to whom the manor of Bodiam of which he was proprietor was feudally subject), assumed the surname of Ward d'Ou, which he transmitted to his descendants. But as the name is usually found with the territorial prefix *de*, this statement may well be questioned.



The following pedigree, for which I am indebted to the kindness of William Courthope, Esq., Somerset Herald, shows the descent of Bodiam for several generations:—



At this point of the pedigree some doubt of the proper line of continuity arises from the contemporaneous existence of two Johns de Wardedieu. The John mentioned below must have been the son either of William (C) or of Richard (E);

Mr. Courthope is inclined to think the former; "but," as he justly observes, "this part of the pedigree is obscure, as there was clearly a Robert Wardedieu about this time Lord of Bodiam."

<p>—JOHN DE WARDEDIEUX, of Bodiam, a ward of John de Britania, Earl of Richmond, 4 Edw. III. (1330-1).—<i>Inq. Post Mort.</i> 1377. Assessed for £20 lauds at Bodiam <i>circa</i> 13 Edw. III. Held fourth part of knight's fee at Hanington, co. Northton. 20 Edw. III. 1346-7.</p>	<p>—Alice, daughter and heir of Theobald de Nevill, died seized of manor of Allextion, co. Leicest. and Forestership of co. Rutland, 45 Edw. III. 1371-2.<sup>7</sup> Widow of John Hake-luyt, lord of Allextion.</p>
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(II)

Elizabeth, heir to her father, and 30 yrs. of age, 51 Edw. III. (1377); living 1383.

—SIR EDWARD DALYNGRUGE, born *circa* 1346. Had a restoration of the Forestership of co. Rutland, 1378-9. Owner of the Hanington property, 1377-8. Builder of Bodiam Castle.

Besides the information conveyed by the foregoing tables, the following is of interest in connection with Bodiam.

Sir Henry de Wardedieu (B) was a person of considerable influence. His name first occurs as lord of Bodiam 12 kal. May, 1278, when he releases to the abbot and convent of Battel, and the sacristy thereof, all services due to him for lands and tenements in the fee of Bodiam, Pryckle Wode, and Angmehurst. The witnesses are Dom. Robert de Passelegh, William de Penhurst, and others. This deed of release with a well-preserved seal of red wax remains among the charters of Battel Abbey.—(Thorpe's *Cat.* p. 50.) In 24 Edward I. (1296) he was enrolled as a knight holding lands in the Rape of Hastings. He was summoned to a military council held at Rochester on Sunday, 8th Sept., 1297, and the same year he was appointed assessor and collector of ninth for the county of Sussex. Though he does not appear in the roll of English heroes who in 1300 took the castle of Carlaverock in Scotland, he was summoned the following year to perform military service against the Scots, in the muster made at Berwick 24th June, 1301. A year later he was chosen a knight of the shire, in connection with John Heryngaud, and received payment of his expenses in Parliament Oct. 1, 1302. He died before the year 1315.

<sup>7</sup> The office of Chief Forester to the King seems to have been hereditary in the Nevill family for many generations, and

they gained a bad name for their exactions under the Norman forest laws.—See *Trans. Chron. Battel Abbey*, p. 122.

John de Wardedieu (g) who as heir of Richard de W. was in 13 Edw. III. assessed at ten marks for his lands in Bodiam, rendered himself obnoxious to a charge of disloyalty towards the King. It appears from the Rolls of Parliament (the date of the year is uncertain) that "at the council of our Lord the King, John son of Richard Wardedeu of Bodiam in the county of Sussex, and John de Boxhurst of the county of Kent, represent, that though neither by that court nor by the common law of England, the body of any one ought to be taken, nor his lands and chattels seized into the hands of the King, save upon some sufficient cause, yet our Lord the King had issued his briefs to certain people to take the bodies of the aforesaid John and John, and to seize their lands and chattels . . . . in consequence of the information of certain persons who are deadly enemies to the said John and John, charging them with confederacy and conspiracy with the Enemy, as having been staying with them in their galleys and ships on the sea-coast in the county of Kent with an evil design (*pour mal faire*), of which they are in nowise culpable, as they are willing it should be ascertained by every means that our Lord the King and his council may devise and ordain. The aforesaid John and John therefore, for holy charity, ask a remedy of these grievances, inasmuch as otherwise every man would be at the mercy of his foes." To which it was replied, that whenever the appellants chose to appear they should have an answer according to law.—(*Rot. Parl.* ii. 396.) How this affair terminated I cannot ascertain, though it is certain that the King did not ultimately confiscate the Bodiam estate.

John de Wardedieu (n) who, as before intimated, may have been either the appellant in the above case or the son of William de W. (c) was a ward of John de Britannia, Earl of Richmond, who held the Rape of Hastings in the early part of the reign of Edward III., when his wardship was sold to John de Courthope and John de Vyniter, by deed dated at Bodiam on the feast of the exaltation of the Holy Cross, 1331. In a Roll of "Armyd men, as well horsmen as footmen in the Rape of Hastings, a° Edw. III. xij.," communicated by Mr. Somerset Courthope to the *Collect. Topog. et Genealog.* (vol. vii. p. 119), John Wardedeu occurs as chargeable for a man-at-arms in right of his possessions worth twenty pounds in Bodiam. In 1377 he, with Alice his wife, had a grant of the forestership



of the county of Rutland (inherited from the de Nevills, see page 283 *ante*) by gift of Robert de Wardedieu of Bodiam and Joan his wife.—(*Inq. Post. Mort. co. Northampton*, 51 Edw. III.) His daughter and heiress as before stated conveyed the estate to Sir Edward Dalyngruge, when the Wardedieu name as connected with Bodiam became extinct. The name of Wardedieu or Wardeux seems to have been limited to a very few generations, and the number of persons bearing it must have been small, for except those I have mentioned only two individuals have occurred to my research. The first is a Nicholas Varde-dieu, a brother of Battel Abbey 1347, and the other, William Wardedieu, Archdeacon of Chichester, who exchanged for the vicarage of Mayfield, to which he was instituted 15th April, 1382.—(*Inf. W. Courthope, Esq.*) The will of the latter bears date the sixth of the ides of July of the same year, and among other bequests he leaves to Robert de Wardedieu a certain sum *towards the building of the church of Bodiam*.

The period when the original church of Bodiam was founded does not appear. No mention of it is found in Domesday, and early in the thirteenth century a William, *chaplain* of Bodiam, is mentioned (see p. 279, *ante*); but at the time of *Pope Nicholas' Taxation*, 1291, Bodiam existed as a vicarage. The present church has some Early English features in the chancel, remnants probably of the original edifice, though the building evidently underwent a partial re-erection about the time alluded to in the preceding paragraph.

I may here say a few words respecting the church and its monuments. The edifice occupies a commanding site. Its materials are said to have been procured from the immediate vicinity, and a depressed spot close to the southern pale of the churchyard is pointed to as the quarry from which they were obtained. It consists of a low embattled tower, and nave, with north and south aisles, under one roof, and a chancel. Little of its architectural character remains, and nothing has, I believe, been destroyed by the recent repairs. A view of Bodiam Church, from the S.E., is given in the Rev. A. Hussey's *Notes*, page 201.

Sir Wm. Burrell's MSS. mention some painted glass in the windows, including the arms of Alice, widow of the last Sir John Dalyngruge, Beauchamp of Powick, and Boteler of Sudeley, but this has totally disappeared. Some old brass

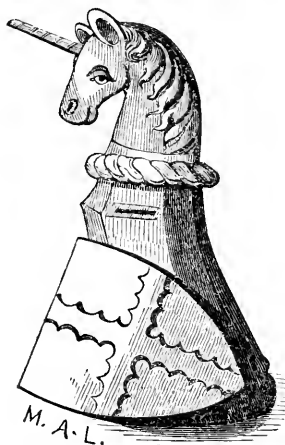
fragments from tombs have been preserved. One of these has already been described. The others are (1) a small plate, thirteen inches high, representing an emaciated figure, in a loose robe or winding-sheet: having the tonsure it may reasonably be concluded to commemorate a vicar of Bodiam; <sup>8</sup> (2) an oblong plate, inscribed—

Pray for the sowll<sup>s</sup> of Thomas Grove and Crestian his wyfe, on whose soullys Ihu have mercy. Amen.

and (3) a larger plate, commemorating one William Wetherden, an incumbent of the church, who, "while an unlearned man, married a wife, but, after her death, devoted himself to liberal studies, took priest's orders, and died 26th Feb. 1513. He gave (it is added) many good things to this church."<sup>9</sup>

Hic jacet d(ominus) Will(elm)us Wetherden, nup(er) vicari(us) isti(us) ecc(lesi)ac, q(ui) q(ui)dem no(n) l(it)er(at)us vxore(m) duxit, qua mortua, se dedit studio l(ib)erali & sacerdotij ordi(n)em suscepit & obiit xvi Febr(u)arij A<sup>o</sup> M. v<sup>o</sup>. xiiij. Multa huic bona ded(it) ecc(lesi)ac.

To return to the descent of Bodiam. The heiress of Wardeieu, as we have seen, married Sir Edward Dalyngruge, of whose family it is now necessary to speak. They have been



(Arms and Crest of Dalyngruge, from Fletching Church.)<sup>10</sup>

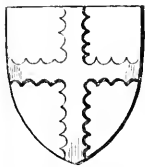
erroneously derived from the county of Hants; but their true origin is from the extinct manor of Dallingridge, on the confines of the parishes of East Grinstead and West Hothly, where they appear to have been located as early as *temp.* Edw. II. John Dalyngruge, the first recorded progenitor of the family, was married in that reign to Joane, a daughter and coheiress of Sir Walter de la Lynde, lord of Bolebrook, in the parish of Hartfield, co. Sussex, who in the well-known Roll of Arms of *temp.* Edw. II. is entered as bearing *de Argent, a une crois engrélé*

<sup>8</sup> It has been inaccurately engraved in the Supplement to Grose's *Antiq.* vol. ii. pl. 5. Another representation of it is given in *Gent. Mag.* March, 1837.

<sup>9</sup> Ornaments and vestments probably, since no endowment of his is known.

<sup>10</sup> At the back of the tomb of a Dalyngruge, who with his wife is represented

*de Goules*, a coat which was afterwards assumed by the Dalyngruges, altering however the field to *Or*.



JOHN DALYNGRUGE,  
of Dalyngruge,  
13 Edw. II.

= Joan, da. and coheir of  
Sir Walter de la Lynde,  
of Bolebrook.

Sir Roger Dalyngruge,  
Sheriff of Sussex, 46  
Edw. III.<sup>11</sup> Had a right  
of free-warren to manor  
of Sheffield, confirmed  
48 Edw. III.

Elizabeth,  
da. and  
heiress of  
John de  
Wardedieu.

= Sir Edward  
Dalyngruge, born  
about 1346.  
Builder of  
Bodiam Castle,  
9 Ric. II.

Walter Da-  
lyngruge,  
living 1398.  
Died before  
1418.

= Margaret,  
da. of John  
Chamond,  
relict of  
Wm. Mow-  
bray; mar-  
3dly, Wm.  
Cheyney.

John Dalyn-  
gruge, lord of  
Sheffield, 1408;  
made his will  
2 June, 1417,  
then about to  
go with Henry  
5th's second  
expedition to  
France. He en-  
deavored Bodiam to  
his first consins,  
to the exclusion  
of his sister's  
children.  
S. P.

= Alice, da.  
and heir of  
Sir John  
Beauchamp,  
of Powick.  
Died  
8 Feb. 1443,  
seized of  
Bodiam, &c.  
*Inq. post  
mort.*  
21 Hen. VI.

= Sir  
Thos.  
Bote-  
ler, first  
hus-  
band.  
Margaret,  
sister and  
heir;  
married  
Sir  
Thomas  
Sackville,  
who (*jure  
juroris*)  
had  
Bole-  
brook.

<sup>1</sup> Richard Da-  
lyngruge, aged  
15, 1408-9, de-  
visee of Bodiam,  
under the will of  
his cousin, Sir  
John D. Died  
*S. P.*, 7 Jan., 10  
Edw. IV. (1470).  
*Inq. p. mort.* at  
Chichester,  
5 Oct.,  
11 Edw. IV.

<sup>2</sup> William  
Dalyn-  
gruge,  
next in  
remainder  
to Bo-  
dium, in  
the will of  
his cousin  
Sir John,  
D.; died  
*S. P.*  
before  
1443.

Philippa,  
sister and  
heir,  
married,  
1st, Sir  
Richard  
Berners,  
and  
2ndly,  
Sir  
THOMAS  
LEWKNOR.

What has been stated of Bodiam hitherto, relates in nowise to the fine old fortress which is at this day the great archæological feature of the district. It was not until some twelve feudal lords had in succession held the estate, during the long period of four centuries, that the **Castle** of Bodiam—

“The battled towers, the stately keep,  
The loop-hole grates where captives weep,  
The flanking walls that round it sweep,  
In gloomy grandeur rose.”—

in a fine brass, figured in *Sussex Arch. Coll.* II. 309. I have little hesitation in assigning this monument to Sir Roger Dalyngruge, who had free-warren in Sheffield (in the parish of Fletching) 48 Edw. III.; though the monument in the opinion of Mr. Boutell belongs to a date twenty

years posterior. (See Pedigree of Dalyngruge, *above*.)

<sup>11</sup> Mr. W. D. Cooper (*Sussex Arch. Coll.* III. 93) makes Sir Roger the elder brother of Sir Edward. For the remainder of the pedigree I have the authority of Mr. Court-hope.

The anterior lords of the manor had been content with a dwelling of meaner proportions, the site of which is indicated by a moated space in another part of the parish. It was reserved for a knightly personage, bred in the camps of the third Edward, to erect a tangible monument of his own greatness in Bodiam Castle.

Sir Edward Dalyngruge commenced his career in the most brilliant period of England's chivalry. Like Chaucer's young Squire, he had accompanied his father in the campaigns of Edward III. against France; like him—

“He hadde ben somtyme in chivachie  
In Flaunders, in Artoys, and Picardie;”—

and had shared in the glories of Cressy and Poitiers. After the victory of Poitiers had established the English supremacy in France, “select bands, under a brave leader, refused to return with their King, and chose to establish themselves as soldiers, independently hiring themselves to the petty contending states of Italy, or supporting themselves by predatory expeditions in the north of France, seizing castles and lordships, and exacting enormous ransoms, particularly for the ladies whom they had taken captive after any surrender. This was the source of very great wealth, and when they re-established themselves in England, they built castles, and endowed chantries and abbeys, as Leland observes, ‘ex spoliis Gallorum.’”<sup>12</sup>

The three most eminent leaders of these marauding parties were Sir Robert Knowles and Sir John Calveley, both knights of Cheshire, and Sir John Hawkwood. The last, whose romantic fame as the stipendiary general of the Florentines, under the travestied name of Giovanni *Auguto* or Johannes *Acutus*, fills a splendid page in Italian history, was a lineal ancestor of the great Sussex family of Shelley. The chieftain, however, under whose banner Sir Edward Dalyngruge placed himself was Sir Robert Knowles, or Knollys, one of the most celebrated warriors of his times—“le veritable Demon de la Guerre,”—as he is styled by an old French author. This personage limited his freebooting excursions to Normandy,

<sup>12</sup> Vide “*Graphic and Historical Sketch of Bodiam Castle*,” by Wm. Cotton, Esq. M.A. London, 1831, p. 14.

Brittany, and Picardy. He compelled the Duke of Brittany to cede to him the castle of Derval, where he dwelt in great state with his captains and retainers, among whom was Sir Edward Dalyngruge.<sup>13</sup> The following distich, by a medieval poet, records his prowess:—

“**Ⓞ** **R**oberte **K**noillis, per te fit **F**rancia mollis,  
**E**nse tuo tollis prædas, dans vulnèra collis.”<sup>14</sup>

O Robert Knowles, the stubborn souls  
Of Frenchmen well you check;  
Your mighty blade has largely preyed,  
And wounded many a neck.

The following particulars of transactions in which Sir Edward Dalyngruge was concerned are furnished by contemporary records. In 1378-9 he had a restoration of the forestership of the county of Rutland (see p. 283, *ante*), he having the previous year, in conjunction with Elizabeth his wife, levied a fine of Hanington, the old ancestral estate of the Wardedieu family. In the third year of Richard II. (1380) he was one of those appointed to oversee and examine the state of the kingdom, and the household of the youthful monarch—a proof of the high estimation in which he was then held. (Rymer's *Fœdera*, vii. 250.) In 6 Ric. II. (1383) he obtained a grant of a market and fair for his manor of Bodiam. In the 9th of the same reign, having amassed a large fortune by war, marriage, and court patronage, he obtained the royal license to build upon the hereditary estate of his wife, the castle of Bodiam, after the model, as Mr. Cotton conjectures, of Derval and other Breton castles, to which he had been accustomed, during the French wars. A copy of the license is given below. Two or three years later he received of the King a grant, in fee, of the Sussex manors of Wilting and Hollington, late the property of Sir Robert Belknap, attainted of treason. (*Rot. Pat.* 12 Ric. II.) In 1386 he was returned one of the knights of the shire for Sussex, and on Oct. 15 of the same year he gave evidence in the celebrated controversy of Scrope against Grosvenor, as to the right of bearing the coat, “Azure, a bend Or,” on which

<sup>13</sup> Cotton, p. 16.

<sup>14</sup> *Archæologia*, vol. vi. p. 146.

occasion the poet Chaucer, and many other eminent personages, appeared as witnesses. On August 8, 1390, he was nominated one of Richard's commissioners to agree upon terms with the King's adversary of France (Rymer vii. 667), and to treat of final peace (*ibid.* viii. 668). Nor was this the only diplomatic affair of importance in which he was engaged, for shortly afterwards he was commissioned to make conditions with the Earl of Flanders and with the people of the three great towns of Ghent, Bruges, and Ypres (*ibid.* 670). Again, the same year, he was one of the great men of the realm whose seals were set to the King's letters addressed to the Pope, setting forth the great grievances which this kingdom suffered from the pontifical court, and praying suitable redress (*ibid.* 675).

A proof of Sir Edward's influence and military reputation is found in the fact that in 16th Ric. II. (1392-3), during the time that the liberties of the city of London were seized into the King's hands, he was appointed Custos of the Tower and City of London.

The license to build Bodiam Castle runs in the following terms:—

“**The King** to all to whom &c. greeting. Know ye, that of our special grace we have granted and given license, on behalf of ourselves and our heirs, as far as in us lies, to our beloved and faithful subject, Edward Dalyngrigge, Knight, that he may strengthen and embattle, construct, and make into a castle, with a wall of stone and lime, his manor-house of Bodyham, near the sea, in the county of Sussex, for the defence of the adjacent country and the resistance of our enemies, and may hold his aforesaid house so fortified, embattled, and castellated, to himself and his heirs for ever, without let or hindrance of ourselves and our heirs, or of any of our agents for ever. In witness of which, &c. The King at Westminster 20th Oct.,” &c.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Rex omnibus ad quos, &c. salutem. Sciatis quod de gratia nostra speciali concessimus et licentiam dedimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quantum in nobis est, dilecto et fideli nostro Edwardo dalyngrigge chivaler, quod ipse mansum manerii sui de Bodyham, juxta mare in Comitatu

Sussex, muro de petra et calce firmare et kernellare, et castrum inde in defensionem patrie adjacentis et pro resistencia inimicorum nostrorum construere et facere, et mansum predictum sic firmatum et kernellatum et castrum inde sic factum, tenere possit sibi et heredibus suis in perpetuum,

From some expressions in this grant it might be inferred that Sir Edward merely enlarged and fortified an older mansion, which was certainly not the case. These licenses to crenellate are usually in a similar formula, which is not by any means to be literally construed. This grant was preceded in the same year by another, in which the King gives to Sir Edward Dalyngruge, in consideration of half a mark by him paid, license to divert the course of a certain running water from a place called Dalyngruge's Bay in the parish of Salehurst, to his mill at Bodiam, through his own land.<sup>16</sup> It appears probable that Sir Edward had views beyond the mere supply of his water-mill, and that he was looking to the means of connecting with the river Rother, the great moat with which to surround his castle—a building which no doubt existed in his own mind some time before the actual "wall of stone and lime" was called into being.

Sir Edward's son and heir, Sir John Dalyngruge, who is mentioned in records as lord of Sheffield in 1408, made his will 22 June, 1417, when about to sail with Henry the Fifth's second expedition to France. By that instrument he entailed the Bodiam estate upon his first cousins, the children of his uncle Walter Dalyngruge, to the exclusion of his sister's children by Sir Thomas Sackville, who as possessors (by some previous settlement) of the paternal property at Bolebrook may have been sufficiently indemnified for such apparent injustice.<sup>17</sup> As Sir John was without issue, he may have entertained a not unnatural desire to perpetuate a name which the warlike achievements of his grandfather and his father had rendered famous in connection with a noble fortress which

sine impedimento nostri et heredum nostrorum aut ministrorum nostrorum quoruncunque. In cuius rei testimonium, Rex apud Westmonast. xx die Octobris. —*Rot. Pat.* 9 Ric. II. p. i. m. 21.

<sup>16</sup> Rex omnibus, &c. Sciatis quod de gratia nostra speciali, et pro dimidia marca quam Edwardus Dalyngregge chivaler nobis solvit, concessimus et licentiam dedimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est, eidem Edwardo, quod ipse cursum cujusdam aque currentis de dalynreggesbay in villa de Salherst usque ad molendinum ipsius Edwardi in villa

de Bodiam, divertere et cursum illum per quoddam fossatum in solo suo proprio ab antiquo erectum usque ad molendinum predictum ducere, ac cursum predictum sic diversum et ductum retinere possit sibi et heredibus suis in perpetuum, sine occasione vel impedimento nostrorum quoruncunque. In cuius rei T. Rex apud Westm. tertio die Febr.—*Rot. Pat.* 9 Ric. II. p. 2, m. 38.

<sup>17</sup> In 1446, Edward, son of Sir Thos. and Margaret Sackville, relinquished all claim to the manor of Bodiam.

the latter had founded. Of the public life of Sir John, little is known except that in 1402, he accompanied the Princess Blanche, daughter of Henry IV., into Germany, whither she was going to be married to Lewis, Elector Palatine of the Rhine and Duke of Bavaria. The royal letters of protection for six months are dated 8th March of that year. (Rymer viii. 347.)

The pedigree of the family of Lewknor, the next possessors of Bodiam, having been printed at large in Vol. III. of the *Sussex Archæol. Collections* (pp. 92 *et seq.*) it is unnecessary to reproduce it here.<sup>18</sup> The compiler of that elaborate table, W. D. Cooper, Esq., F.S.A., has however, in common with Collins, Sir Wm. Burrell, and others, fallen into error as to the relationship



between Sir Thomas Lewknor, and the builder of Bodiam Castle. Philippa his wife, who had been previously married to Sir Richard Berners, was niece, not daughter, to Sir Edward Dalyngruge, as shown in Mr. Courthope's genealogical table (*ante* p. 287), and it was upon her, on the death of her two brothers, Richard and William, without issue, that the entail devolved.

In the family of Lewknor Bodiam remained for some generations, though not without occasional interruption arising from the political troubles of the times. During the Wars of the Roses, individuals of this family, as was often the case in others, espoused opposite sides. Sir Thomas Lewknor of Preston in Binderton, third son of the Dalyngruge heiress by Sir Thomas Lewknor, and his brother Richard Lewknor of Brambletye, adhered to the cause of the usurper Richard III., and the former was made a Knight of the Bath at his coronation, July 6, 1483; but their nephew, Sir Thomas Lewknor of Trotton, and proprietor of Bodiam, attached himself to the

<sup>18</sup> Few Sussex families have in any age been more influential than the Lewknors. Old Gerard Legh, in his *Accedens of Armorie*, speaking of the three chevrons as a coat, says, "The ancestour of this coat hath builded iij great houses in one province"—the chevron being regarded as a pair of rafters, and so emblematical of a

love for building. The Lewknors however had many more than three "great houses" in this county. They possessed besides several minor mansions, the principal seats of Bodiam, Goring, Dedisham, Sheffield, Brambletye, Trotton, West-Dean, Preston, &c.



Lancastrian party, and was attainted of treason in the first year of Richard's reign, for having, after the landing of the Earl of Richmond, assembled men-at-arms, and made traitorous proclamations on Oct. 18th at Maidstone, 20th at Rochester, 22nd at Gravesend, and 25th at Guildford, in company with Sir George Browne of Betchworth Castle, Sir John Guldeford of Rolvenden, Sir John Fagge of Ashford, and others. (*Rot. Parl.* iv. p. 245 *b.*) On November 8, 1483, a commission was issued to Thomas Earl of Surrey, Sir John Broke, Sir Thomas Ethingham, William Scott, Richard Lewknor of Brambletye, Thos. Oxenbridge of Brede, and Vincent Fynche, to levy men in the counties of Kent and Sussex to retake the castle of Bodyam from the rebels. (*Rot. Pat.* 1 Ric. III. 19.) The castle was surrendered, probably without any formal siege, for on May 24, 1484, there is a grant to Geoffry Warton, one of the King's serjeants-at-arms, of an annuity of £10 for life out of the lordship of Bodiam Castle, "late of Thomas Leuknore, Knight, the rebel." (*Ib.* 138.) Nicholas Rigby, one of the yeomen of the crown, was appointed August 15, 2 Ric. III., Constable of Bodiam Castle during life with a salary of £20 per annum, and for keeping the Park there, the customary fees out of the issues of the lordship (*Rot. Pat.* m. 169, no. 114), and on the same day he was appointed bailiff of Winchelsea. After the overthrow of Richard at Bosworth Field, Sir Thomas's attainder was of course reversed, but it was not until 1542 that his son, Sir Roger Lewknor, high-sheriff of Sussex in 1532, obtained full possession of the lordship. This was upon an award of King Henry VIII. determining a suit between Sir Roger Lewkenore, Knight, and dame Elizabeth his wife on the one part, and Sir William Barentyne, Knight, dame Jane (widow of Sir Arthur) Pole<sup>19</sup> and others, concerning the said Sir Roger's lands. The award, which bears the great seal and autograph of Henry VIII., relates to lands in the counties of Sussex, Middlesex, Oxford, Northampton, Leicester, and Huntingdon; and the Sussex lordships and manors specified are Bodiam, Camois-Court, Wanyngore, Dalyngrave (Dalyngruge), Iford, Old Park in

<sup>19</sup> This lady was eldest daughter and coheir of Sir Roger, and afterwards married Sir Wm. Barentyne. Her marriage-

settlement bears date 1 Aug. 24 Hen. VIII. (*Sussex Arch. Coll.* III. 96.)

Roughey (near Horsham), &c. (Thorpe's *Cat. Battel Abbey Charters*, p. 142.)

From this period the Lewknors would seem to have been but rarely resident at Bodiam, and the castle, more from neglect than from the tooth of Time, fell into gradual decay. The baronial age had passed, and with it the necessity for a great proprietor to ensconce himself within the gloomy walls of a fortress. After several partitions and settlements of the estate, a moiety of it became vested in "the son of Sir Lewis Lewknor, who had been Master of the Ceremonies to Kings James and Charles I., and who became (on the breaking out of the Civil Wars) a staunch Royalist. He had a lease of the Bishop's Castle of Amberley, and lived there. When Sir William Waller had taken Arundel Castle, after a siege of seventeen days, in 1643, he resolved upon dismantling and destroying the castles and mansions of the Royalist gentry of Sussex, and for that purpose dispatched parties of soldiers to take away and sell all materials of these buildings,"<sup>20</sup> leaving in this case the bare *enceinte* remaining.

The other moiety of the castle and manor of Bodiam had been awarded to Constance, daughter of Sir Roger Lewknor, and wife of Edw. Glentham or Glenham of Chichester, Esq., who in 1588 joined her husband in a transfer of this moiety to John Levett of Salehurst, Gentleman. Thomas Levett and Margaret his wife succeeded to this right. He died before 1619, and she, as his widow, on May 11, 1619, conveyed her moiety to John Levett of Sedlescombe. (*Battel Abbey Deeds*, p. 151.) On June 30, 1620, this John Levett, Esquire or Gentleman, mortgaged his interest in Bodiam, &c., for £1000 to Thomas Dyke of Ninfield. (*Ibid.* p. 151.) Nov. 14, 1622, a deed of covenant was executed between Sir Ralph Bosville, Knight (great-grandson of Sir Roger Lewknor), John Levett of Sedlescombe, and Thos. Dyke of Ninfield for suing out of a writ of partition of the castle and manor of Bodiam with the appurtenances. (*Ibid.* p. 152.) John Levett appears shortly afterwards to have alienated his interest to Sir Nicholas Tufton of Hothfield in Kent. (*Ibid.*) In 1642-3 John Tufton, Earl of Thanet, made a deed of revocation concerning the same property. (*Ibid.* p. 155.) After the Restoration of Charles II.

<sup>20</sup> Cotton's *Bodiam*, p. 29.

the whole property of Bodiam was vested in the Tufton family. The courts-baron of the manor were held by Richard Kilburne the Kentish historian. From the Tuftons the estate was transferred to the family of Powell, who were of Welsh descent and held Boughton-Monchensey in Kent and Ewhurst in Sussex. Nathaniel Powell, Esq., of Ewhurst, was created a Baronet by Charles II. at the Restoration, and he, or his son of the same name, subsequently to 1664, purchased Bodiam. From the representatives of his descendant, Sir Christopher Powell, Bodiam Castle was purchased by Sir Thomas Webster of Battel Abbey, Bart., whose descendant, Sir Godfrey Vassall Webster, Bart., sold it in the year 1828 to the late John Fuller, Esq., of Rose-hill. From that gentleman it passed, on his death, to the present Augustus Eliot Fuller, Esq., many years knight of the shire for East Sussex, and one of the Vice-Presidents of the Sussex Archæological Society.

Such are the main incidents in the history of this place. The annals of a great feudal fortress would usually, if closely scanned, prove to be a chronicle of tyranny, injustice, and bloodshed. It is probably because we know so little of the secret history of Bodiam that we trace no record of deeds of dishonour associated with its crumbling walls. Perhaps there were none; but assuming, with all candour, that there may have been "stainless knights" among the De Bodiams, the Wardeux, the Dalyngruges, and the Lewknors, most certain it is that "there have been no stainless families since Adam's fall"; and these all flourished during the long period when might prevailed too often over right, and when War was reckoned the noblest of human occupations. And what remains to-day of the De Bodiam, the Wardeux, the Dalyngruge, the Lewknor? Alas! nothing but yon shell of feudalism—those towered walls, grey with the age of some five hundred winters—to beautify the landscape, and to remind us in the most forcible manner, that "the lines have fallen to *us* in more pleasant places, and that *we* have a goodly heritage."

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The following notices of Bodiam, though not immediately concerning its Lords, possess some interest in connection with our subject, and the river Rother.

In 1313 a commission was granted to John Malemayns of Stoke, Robt. de Echingham, and Matthew de Knelle for the banks on both sides of the river of Newendene betwixt Maytham and Bodihamme bridge.<sup>21</sup>

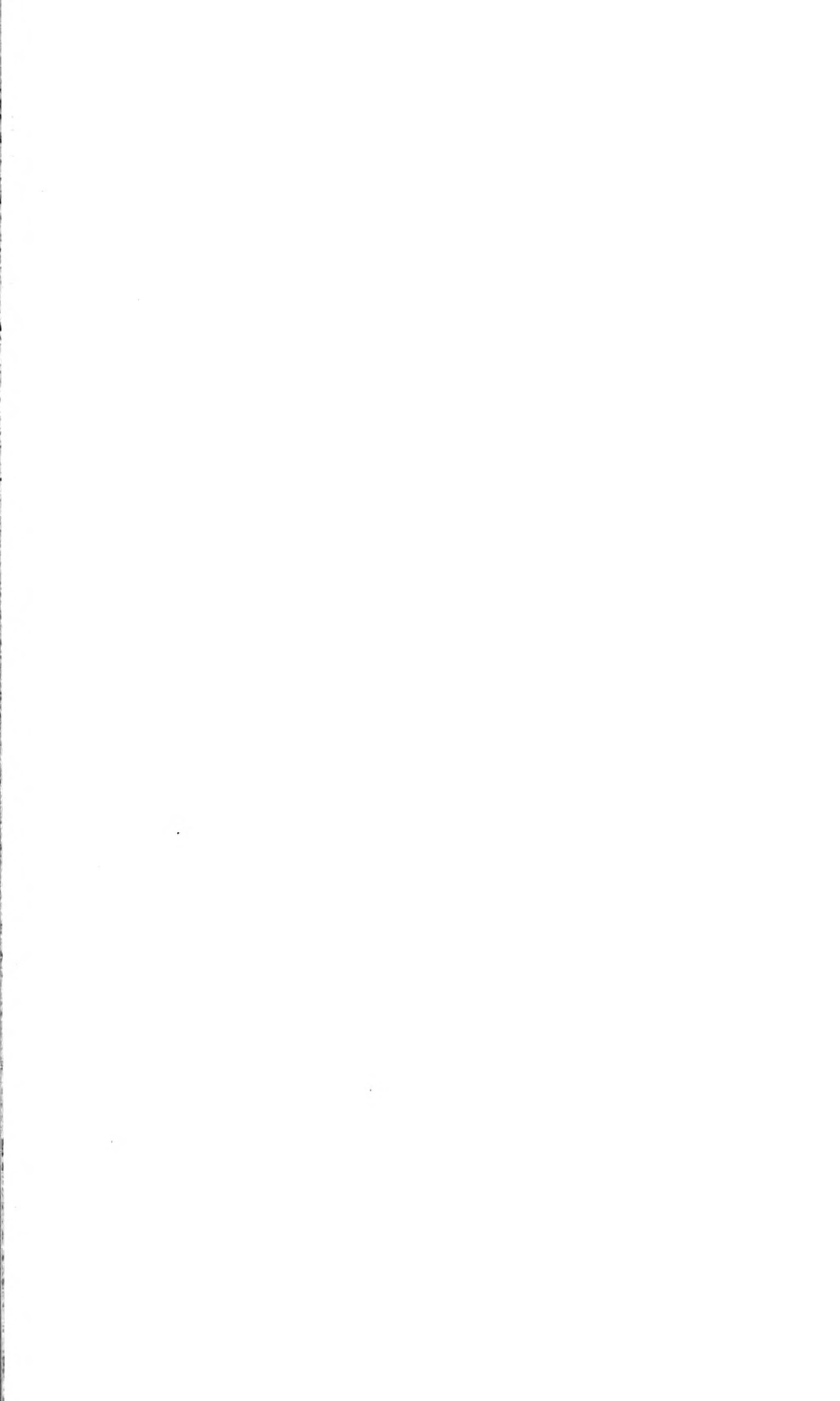
1 Henry IV. *De portu de Wynchelsee providendo.* - "The King to his beloved &c. Robt. Echyngham, Robt. Oxenbrigge, Henry Horne, and Wm. Bertyn greeting. It is given us to understand that many mariners, both native and foreign, daily trading to the port of Winchelsea in ships and other vessels, have filled up and obstructed the channel of the said port from a certain place called Camer (? Camber) as far as Bodyham, with stones, sand, and other ballast, so that vessels, laden with merchandise, have been unable conveniently to enter the port as formerly, which tends to the destruction and danger of our town and its adjacent haven, We, wishing to see to this matter, commission you, or two or three of you, circumspectly and diligently to supervise the said port from Cam(b)er to Bodyham &c." The commissioners are further ordered to appoint certain other places for throwing out ballast, less injurious to the port, and enjoined not to allow anybody of whatever rank or condition to discharge ballast except at those places.<sup>22</sup>

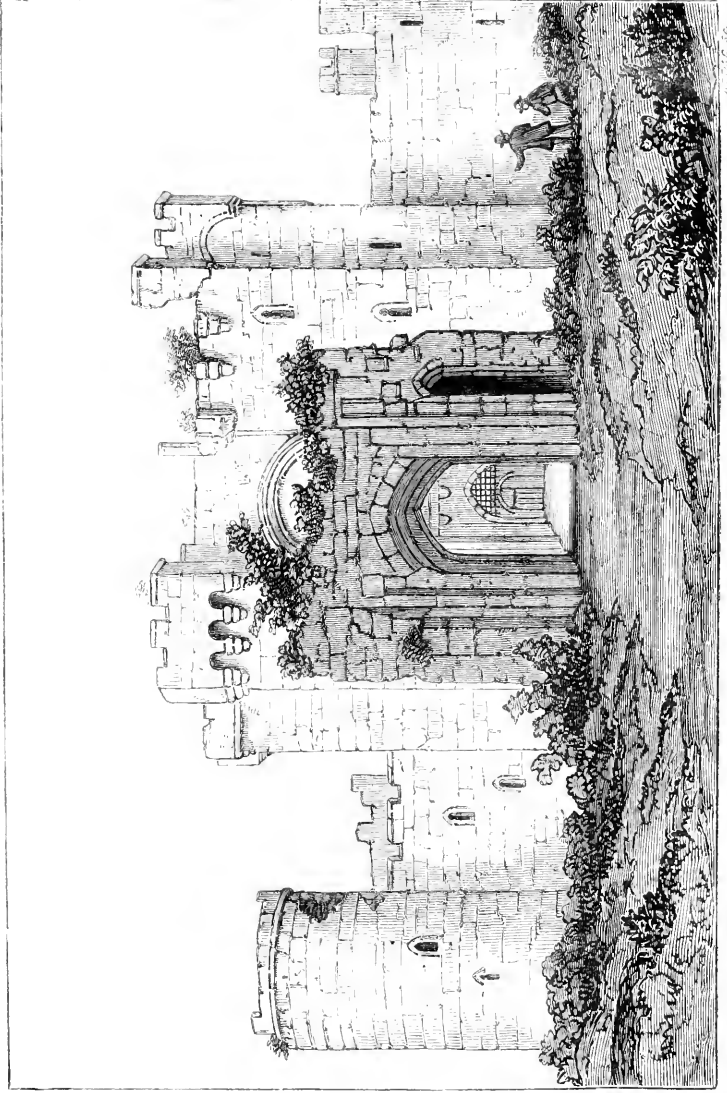
From a Memoranda Roll of the year 1414 it appears that the fosses of the town of Rye and the bridge of Bodyam required repairs, wherefore a commission was issued to the sheriff of Sussex, Sir John Pelham, Richard Norton, Sir Thomas Colepeper, William Cheyné, Stephen Belenham (? Bellingham), Robert Oxenbridge, Henry Hoorne, Willm. Marchaunde, Hamo Belknappe, and John Chidicroft, to do what was necessary.<sup>23</sup> The navigation of the river Rother, or as it was sometimes called the *Limene*, or Newenden river, continued even down to that late period to be regarded as a very important matter; though from one of the mutations to which this river has ever been exposed Bodiam has now long ceased to enjoy the advantages which it anciently conferred.

<sup>21</sup> Holloway's *Romney Marsh*, p. 100.

<sup>22</sup> *Rot. Pat.* 12 May, 1 Henry IV.

<sup>23</sup> Hilary Record, 2 Henry V. Carlton Ride.





BARBICAN, &c., BODIAM CASTLE.

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## THE CASTLE.

BODIAM CASTLE occupies a low site in the valley of the Rother, and the large moat, or rather artificial lake, by which it is surrounded communicates with that river. The ground rises on both sides of the Rother with more abruptness than is usual with the river-valleys of this part of England, and this of course adds much to the picturesque beauty of the scene, whether viewed from the north or the south. The extent of the moat, too, is a peculiarity rarely met with in English castles. It measures from east to west 350 feet, and from north to south 540 feet, and being surrounded with trees, underwood, and bushes, of irregular growth, and broken with flags and aquatic plants, presents a charming study for the pencil of the artist. The building itself forms a parallelogram approximating to a square, with a massive circular tower at each angle. Like Chaucer's castle—

“At every corner of this wall  
Is set a tower full principall.”

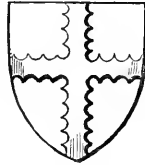
Midway between these angle towers, on the east and west sides respectively, is a square tower equalling the circular ones in height, and rising to a majestic elevation above the curtain walls. The great gateway on the north side is flanked by two fine square towers. Opposite this, in the middle of the southern wall, is a tower, which is pierced by a back-gate or postern, formerly accessible from the moat. Thus the towers, which as well as the connecting curtains remain almost entire, are nine in number.

The great gateway is approached from the north side of the moat by a causeway. About twenty yards in advance of it, or somewhat less than one-third of the width of the moat, stood the barbican or advanced gate, in a strong tower defended by a portecullis, only the west side of which is standing. It contains a very small recessed chamber with a pointed arch, probably used as the porter's lodging. Immediately in front of it the causeway expands, for a short distance, to nearly double its average width, probably for the purpose of giving the defenders a vantage-ground in repulsing the assailant.

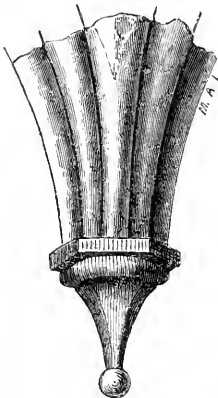
The annexed view of the Barbican and north front of Bodiam is engraved from a copy (obligingly made by Mrs. Blaauw) of

a drawing by Grimm in the Burrell MSS. Grimm's drawing is evidently not from nature, but from some earlier delineation, perhaps of the seventeenth century, for Buck's view from nearly the same point, published in 1737, represents the barbican in a much more ruinous and fragmentary state. This view, though incorrect in detail, especially in so greatly exaggerating the expansion of the causeway, is of considerable value and interest, as showing with some degree of accuracy the character of the advanced work.

The principal gateway is recessed between the two square towers of the north wall. It is defended by very bold machicolations of the parapet, as well as by a portcullis in a well-preserved condition. In front of this there was anciently a drawbridge, which has been replaced by a continuation of the causeway up to the walls. Over the gateway are three shields, with the arms of Bodiam, Dalyngruge, and Wardeux—



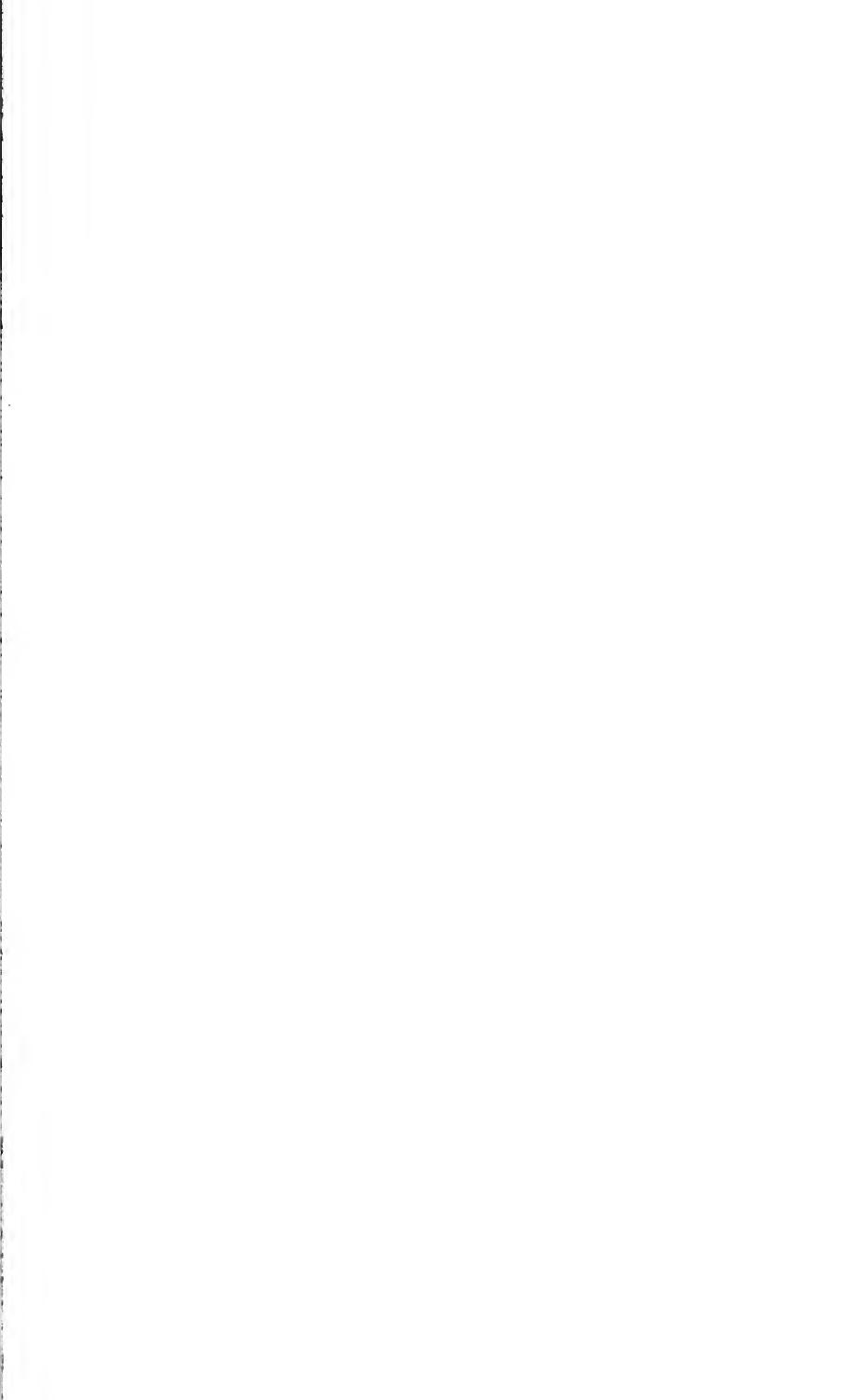
and still higher a helmet with the Dalyngruge crest—a Unicorn's head. Passing the gate, we enter a vaulted passage, thirty feet long by ten in width, divided about midway by an arch, and the grooves of an inner portcullis.

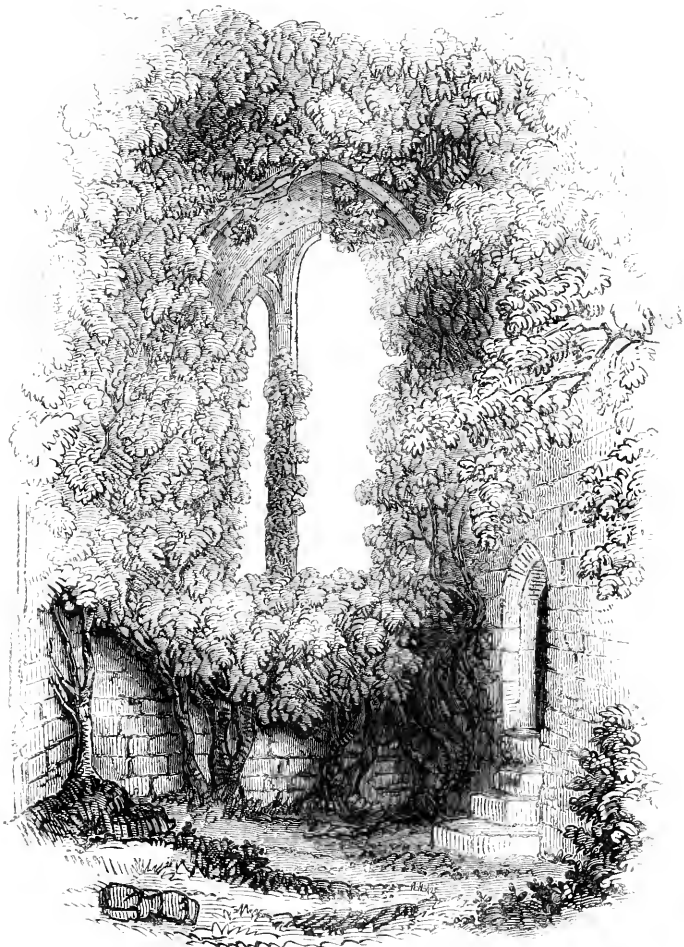


Thus are formed two strong chambers with groined ceilings. Instead of ornamental bosses at the intersections of the ribs, there are funnel-shaped perforations, through which melted lead, hot pitch, and such-like articles might be poured down from the chamber above upon the devoted heads of unwelcome visitors, who, if they escaped unscathed from such a warm reception, found themselves still debarred from ingress into the interior court by a third portcullis. I do not recollect any

other instance of such multiplied defences in the gateway of a







CHAPEL, BODIAM CASTLE.

castle of this period. The angle-springings of the groined ceilings are of a peculiarly elegant form.

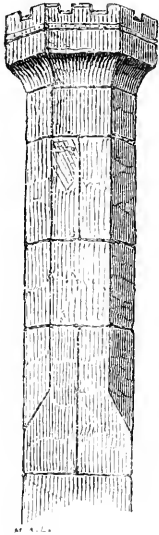
Entering the interior area of the castle, the antiquary views with regret the mutilation to which the building has been subjected; for while the curtain wall is all but intact and the towers remain almost *in statu quo*, as far as the masonry is concerned, not a single apartment of the quadrangular range stands entire, and in some parts scarcely a trace of the inner wall remains.

The apartments to the east and west of the great gateway were probably used as guard-rooms and offices for servants and retainers. The first apartment on the eastern side of the quadrangle, going southward, was the chapel. It was lighted by an eastern window of three lights, now in a fractured condition, and much obscured by ivy: one of the mullions is broken out.<sup>24</sup> In the south wall to the right of the spot where the altar stood, there remains a small piscina with a plain pointed arch. Facing this on the north side is an aperture, which is so constructed opposite to a window in the north-east tower as to afford the occupant of an apartment there a view of the ministering priest at the elevation of the host. To the south-east of the chapel is the small sacristy, over which there was formerly an apartment for the priest, and the pointed doorway by which the latter was approached still remains on the west side. The apartment immediately southward of the chapel, and communicating with the eastern square tower, is traditionally known as the Bower, or ladies' apartment, and on the first floor above was probably a great state bedroom. Still further south, and connected with the south-east tower, was a large oblong room, supposed to have been the Armoury.

The apartments on the south side of the quadrangle were the Great Hall, the Buttery, and the Kitchen. The Hall, which abutted the armoury on the east, was lighted by a lofty two-light window still remaining in the south wall, and indicating the situation of the *dais*, and by two looking into the court, which have disappeared. At the lower or west end of the apartment there was formerly a minstrels' gallery, beneath which three pointed arches opened into the Buttery. These

<sup>24</sup> See View opposite.

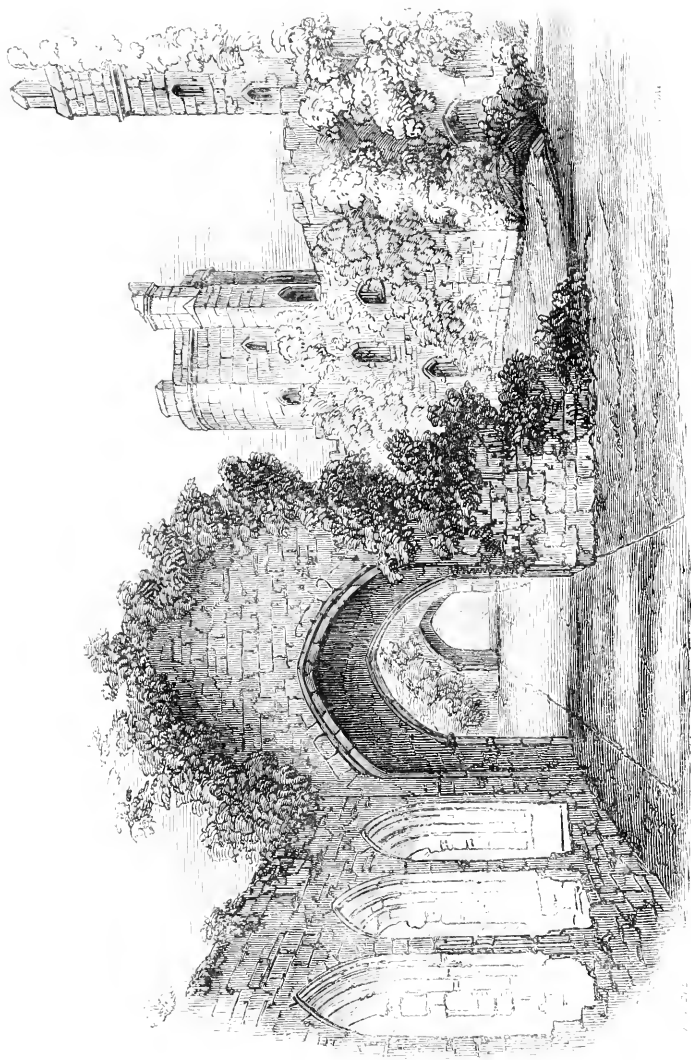
arches still remain, as shewn in the accompanying view from a drawing kindly contributed by Mrs. Wrench, of Salehurst parsonage. The hall was of course open to the roof without the superposition of any other apartment, and it must have



been a finely proportioned room. The Buttery led westward to the Kitchen, which communicated with the south-west angle tower, and was furnished with two vast fire-places, twelve feet in width, one of which had an oven, still partly remaining, attached to it. The chimneys, here and elsewhere throughout the building, are of graceful proportions. They are of stone, octagonal in shape, the shafts being formed of courses each composed of two stones hollowed internally. The coping stones in some instances were ornamented with mimic battlements now much corroded by the weather, as shewn in the annexed cut. Of the range of apartments on the western side of the quadrangle the appropriation is not very clear. They were probably however of an inferior kind—perhaps affording accommodation for stores of various sorts, and for such horses, cattle, and other animals, as had their lodging within the walls.

Such were the main apartments—it now only remains to describe the towers which strengthen and adorn the angles and side walls, and which formerly gave much additional accommodation to the garrison.

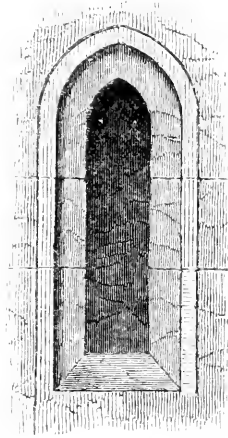
A narrow arched doorway leads from the first groined apartment of the gateway into the basement of the right-hand flanking tower, which measures internally eleven feet by ten, and is lighted by narrow loops. Over it were two stories with fire-places. On the left, a doorway conducts to the basement of the opposite flanking tower, which is of similar size, with like apartments with fire-places above. More inwardly a newell staircase forms the communication from the ground-floor to the upper stories. There were rooms over the entrance gateway as well as over the towers. Over the inner division of the entrance was a parapet overlooking the quadrangle, and access to it was gained by a second stone staircase opening into the court.



BUTTERY ARCHES, BODIAM CASTLE.



The circular angle towers, according to Mr. Cotton's measurements, are twenty-eight feet nine inches in exterior diameter. Internally they are hexagonal, and measure fifteen feet two inches. Their several stories are lighted with lancet-shaped windows, of rather elegant proportions. Their external appearance may be inferred from the accompanying cut. The walls are  $6\frac{1}{2}$  feet in thickness. Each tower had three stories, furnished with fire-places, and reached by a newell staircase. The south-eastern tower is distinguished from the others by having had a groined ceiling to its basement story. This was evidently the grand tower, as its newell staircase communicated with the principal apartments of the first floor, occupied by the lord of the castle and his family.



The eastern and western square towers, also, contained three stories or apartments, measuring about eleven feet by ten feet six, with fire-places, and with *necessaria* constructed in the thickness of the walls.

The southern or postern tower has its basement groined like the grand entrance, with like perforations through the bosses. The exterior gateway was defended by a portcullis, and over the portal still remain three shields, two of which are plain. The third, which is *recumbent*, is carved with three roses upon a chevron, and surmounted with a helmet and lambrequin, and the crest of a ram's head—the armorial ensigns of Sir Robert Knollys, K.G., the chieftain and patron of Sir Edward Dalyngruge, the founder of the castle. A quadrangular platform projects some feet in advance into the moat, on the opposite side of which remain some traces of a landing-place for communication by means of boats.

Mr. Cotton has given a ground-plan of the Castle and some measurements, and the Burrell MSS. furnish the latter more in detail, but there are some discrepancies between these two authorities. Burrell makes the length of the building, measured from the centre of the angle towers from north to south,

one hundred and sixty-five feet, and from east to west one hundred and fifty feet. The inner court is, according to Burrell, from N. to S., 87 ft. 3 in.; from E. to W., 78 ft. 9 in.; but Cotton's measurement is somewhat different, viz., 89 ft. 4 × 76 ft. 7. The Kitchen, inclusive of the buttery, is 59 ft. 9 in. long, by 24 ft. 2 in. wide; and the dimensions of the Great Hall are similar. The chapel measures 30 ft. 6 in. by 19 ft. 2 in. The towers are sixty-five feet high from the surface of the moat, and the average thickness of the walls is from  $6\frac{1}{2}$  to 7 feet.

The thanks of archæologists are due to the present respected proprietor of the Castle, as well as to his predecessor, for the care they have taken of these venerable remains. There is however some reason to fear, that the superabundant growth of ivy, which conceals some of the architectural features, will, without a timely check, disintegrate the masonry, and hasten the destruction of what even Time and the hand of violence have spared.

The arms of the successive lords of Bodiam (as shown over the great gate) are thus blazoned:—**Bodiam**: Or, a fesse dancetté sable bezantée.—**Wardeux**: Sable, six martlets, three, two, and one, Or.—**Dalynggruge**: Or, a cross engrailed Gules.—The central place is however assigned to Dalynggruge, as founder of the edifice.

The steep field lying immediately to the northward of the Castle, and known as the Castle Field, has strong marks of earthworks. It was formerly called the "Gun Garden," and "Gun-Battery Field," and there is a tradition of the Castle having been once taken by an assault from that spot. If there be any foundation for such a statement, it must refer to the time of the mandate of Richard III. for "retaking" the Castle from Sir Thomas Lewknor.

The original mansion of the De Bodiam and Wardeux families has been referred to on a previous page. Its site lies due north of the Castle, near the "Kent Ditch," the boundary of the two counties; and a line drawn from it to the Castle would pass close to the church, which lies midway between the two points. The area of the moat surrounding it measures 3 roods 18 perches, and the inclosed space, now a plantation, contains 23 perches.







ENAMELLED CHALICE.  
FOUND IN A COFFIN AT RUSPER PRIORY

NOTICES OF AN ENAMELLED CHALICE, AND OF  
OTHER ANCIENT RELIQUES, FOUND ON  
THE SITE OF RUSPER PRIORY.

BY ALBERT WAY, ESQ., M.A.

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ON a former occasion I communicated to the Society certain documents relating to the Benedictine Priory of St. Mary Magdalen, at Rusper, accompanied by the few scattered notices which I had been enabled to collect regarding that conventual establishment, situated on the borders of Sussex and Surrey. These have been printed in the fifth volume of the *Sussex Arch. Coll.*, pp. 244-262.

The site of the Nunnery of Rusper is now occupied by a modern house. Some alterations were made in 1840, and in digging foundations several interments were brought to light, supposed to be those of a prioress and some of the sisterhood, with certain reliques, of which I purpose to give a description, supplementary to my former notices. The remains were reinterred in the churchyard at Rusper; a small tablet was affixed to the outer wall of the church, by direction of the late James Broadwood, Esq., of Lync, as a memorial of their discovery and removal. The objects found were preserved by the late Robert H. Hurst, Esq., of Horsham, and were exhibited, by his permission, at the Meeting of the Sussex Archæological Society, at that place, in July, 1855.<sup>1</sup>

I am indebted to the courtesy of Mr. John Honeywood, of Horsham, for the following detailed narrative of the discoveries in question, which occurred under his immediate observation:—

“In the spring of 1840 considerable additions were made to the Nunnery Mansion, and in digging out the earth for the foundations of the new buildings, some human bones were

<sup>1</sup> *Sussex Arch. Collections*, Vol. III. p. x.

first discovered without any coffins. As the excavations proceeded, a stout oak coffin was discovered, very much decayed; the lid and bottom were nearly pressed together, the sides being too weak to resist the pressure of the earth above. On lifting up the lid nothing appeared beneath it but a dark blueish mud, or clay; but on the under side of the lid I observed a small round substance, which proved to be an amber bead. A careful search was then made in the muddy deposit lying on the bottom of the coffin, and twenty or twenty-four beads of amber and jet were found, together with a small gold crucifix, a gold ring set with stones, and a silver brooch. The brooch was so oxidized that it fell to pieces; these I afterwards united together as well as I could, to show the form of the ornament. There had also evidently been a staff deposited in this coffin, and it had been gilded, but it was so completely decayed that only a black line of decayed matter remained, with the particles of gold leaf about it. I always thought that this coffin had contained the remains of one of the prioresses, and that this might have been her official staff. In the progress of the works the remains of about forty of the sisterhood were unavoidably dug up; the bones were carefully collected, and placed in two new coffins covered with black cloth, and decently buried in the churchyard at Rusper. Some of the skeletons lay without any trace of coffins; all the coffins that were found were of greater width at the head than at the foot. In several of the coffins I discovered pewter chalices, or cups resembling chalices in form, and each of these was covered by a paten. The position of these chalices would indicate that they had been placed in the hand or between the hands of the corpse, on the breast. In one of the graves, which appeared to have been disturbed at some previous time by digging through it (unknown probably to the persons who did it), a chalice of enamelled copper was found, with a cover or paten of gilded copper, engraved, but so much oxidized as to crumble to powder. The chalice was also much corroded, but, at Mr. Hurst's desire, I repolished the enamel, and in other respects, by gilding the surface of the metal (perhaps injuriously to its authentic aspect as a relic of antiquity), restored it as nearly as possible to its original appearance. One of the coffins was formed of por-

tions of Sussex marble, three slabs of equal thickness at each side, and two other pieces forming the head and foot of the coffin. A small curved object of lead, resembling a hook, was found with this interment. Another coffin was of lead, which was carefully examined, but nothing was discovered, and it was taken up and buried in another place on the premises. In these two coffins there was little to be seen but slaked lime; all the bones were completely decomposed; the enamel of the teeth alone remained to show that human bodies had been deposited in them. Some of the other coffins likewise had evidently been filled with quick lime before interment. In one instance some remains of linen cloth were noticed, but no sign of human hair in any case. There is no doubt that we dug through the graveyard of the nunnery, and below the bottoms of the graves. We found no remains of walls, only a small portion of a foundation. It is possible that we missed finding other reliques, as the coffins were filled completely with clay, not one of them having the least hollow space within it, and the lids were pressed down very near to the bottom. The position of the bodies was east and west, the head being at the west end of the grave. There can be no doubt that the remains were those of females, from the shape of the crania, the superciliary ridge being less developed than is usual in those of males."

By the kindness of Mr. Hurst, I have been permitted to examine the enamelled cup, an object of highly interesting character, and the other reliques which have been preserved, accompanied by drawings of the remainder. The beads consist of twelve globular pieces of amber, measuring about three eighths of an inch in diameter, and two globular beads of the same material, measuring three quarters of an inch in diameter; also ten oval beads of jet, measuring rather less than half an inch in length. The crucifix found with them is described by Mr. Honeywood as of gold; but it may more probably be of silver gilt: it measures  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch in length; the limbs of the cross have their extremities fleury, to speak heraldically; the workmanship may be of the later part of the fourteenth century, or very possibly later. The gold ring has its head formed with four little knobs, arranged lozenge-wise, each of them set with a little stone, and surrounding a fifth

stone in the centre. The gems are apparently three emeralds and two amethysts. With the beads, crucifix, and ring, was also found a flat ring-brooch of silver, of a type of frequent occurrence in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries; it measures about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter, and appears to have been engraved with certain letters, now illegible. The inscriptions most frequently found on ornaments of this class are, the Angelical Salutation, and the *Titulus*,—*JESVS NAZARENVS*. This brooch appeared to have been placed on the breast of the corpse. Of two of the pewter chalices before mentioned, with their patens, drawings were taken; they present no remarkable peculiarity of form; the chalices, as also the patens, were much decayed; in one grave two skeletons occurred, the chalice having been apparently in the hands of the lower one. A fragment of brass was noticed, which, from its curved shape and perforations resembling those in the cover of a censer, was supposed to have been a portion of such an object; and a small brass fastening was also found, which may have been attached to a narrow girdle, or to the strap serving to close the forel of a book.

The enamelled cup, which has been designated as a chalice, was the relique of greatest interest brought to light in these explorations. Its entire surface had been originally gilded, as I have been assured, both externally and within the bowl. It is to be regretted that the gilding has been wholly renewed, which detracts materially from the authentic appearance and originality of this remarkable vessel. It measures in height  $5\frac{3}{16}$  inches; the diameter of the bowl, as also of the foot, is  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches; the weight of the cup is  $14\frac{3}{4}$  oz. The date to which it may be assigned is the later half of the twelfth century. The form of the cup and the details of the enamelled ornament have been skilfully reproduced by Mr. Kell in the accompanying illustration. The design of the figures, more especially of that intended to portray our Lord, on the bowl of the chalice, is somewhat rude and unartistic; but the enamel colours, applied by the mode of art technically termed *champlevé*, namely, in shallow casements or cavities chased out on the surface of the metal, are bright and used with considerable skill. These are not less than ten shades of colour:—an opaque red, resembling the hue of *rosso antico*; dark blue;

lapis-lazuli blue; turquoise blue of very beautiful quality; pale blue, or blue and white mottled, used in the shading; white; purple black; pale lilac, used for the flesh tints; grass green, and yellow. On the bowl are introduced demi-figures of the Saviour and three angels: the former has a cruciform nimb, the right hand raised in benediction, the left wrapped in the blue mantle, and holding a red clasped book. On the foot are four demi-figures holding closed books, and doubtless intended to represent evangelists. The features, however, of all of them are youthful, the gesture slightly varied, and all are without beards. The woodcut here given



shows the design of these angelic figures. The nimbs claim special notice, the radiance of that around the head of our Lord being expressed by four circles of colour, commencing with red, nearest to the hair, then blue, green, and yellow. The distinctness with which these tints are preserved, without any intervening fillets of metal, is remarkable. At first sight it might be supposed that the angels and evangelists have cruciform nimbs; the slight fillets of metal, however, which suggest such a deviation from the rules of symbolism, were probably not introduced with such intention, and, when the work was fresh, may have been scarcely perceptible. The pommel, or knop, in the stem is formed with six ribs; it may deserve observation that this portion of the chalice is very frequently hexagonal, formed with six facets, enriched with niello, enamel, or chased ornament. I am not aware whether

any motive has been suggested for the preference of that number.

I have been induced to describe minutely the details of this remarkable example of Middle Age art, not only on account of the rare occurrence of any enamelled works of so early a date, discovered in this country, but in consideration of the peculiar character of the enamel, which is in most remarkable preservation. No example, moreover, of a chalice wholly of base metal, thus decorated, has to my knowledge been noticed. Exceptions to the general rule, however, doubtless occurred. The chalice of St. Ludger, preserved in the Abbey of Verden, founded by him in the diocese of Munster, in 796, is described as of "*bronze doré.*" It is figured in the *Voyage Littéraire de deux Benedictins*, part ii. p. 234. By the inscriptions which it bears it appears to have been actually intended to be used as a chalice. On careful examination of the Rusper cup, it is apparent to any one conversant with the peculiarities of twelfth century enamels, that the art differs in certain minute features from that usually attributed to the school of Limoges. I had for a moment inclined to the supposition that this cup might have been produced in our own country, by some artist under influence of the traditions of Byzantine arts. Whilst, however, it is difficult to form any decided opinion amidst the obscurities by which the history of the beautiful art of enamel is still surrounded, I incline to the notion that this may be a production of the early German school, the "*Ecole rhénane*" of the classification by M. Labarte, in his able *Recherches sur la Peinture en Email*. The introduction of *champlevé* enamel on a plain gold ground is a feature of uncommon occurrence, unknown, as far as I have had occasion to observe, in works attributed to Limoges. An example of this plain ground, contemporary with the chalice under consideration, and with the enamel applied in like manner to a curved surface, is supplied by a reliquary in Prince Soltykoff's collection. It has been figured by M. Labarte, in his beautiful work above cited, plate F. Another specimen, probably of German work, is the little plate representing Melchizedec, figured in my memoir on the Art of Enamel, *Archæol. Journal*, vol. ii. p. 168.

It has been regarded as doubtful whether the cup found at Rusper had actually been a chalice, on account of the absence



of evidence that such sacred vessels were deposited with the bodies of any persons not ecclesiastics, whilst all the remains disinterred were confidently supposed to have been those of the Benedictine sisters. Moreover, the cup is wholly of copper, in direct opposition to recognised usage, and to the well-known decree of the Council of Rheims, A.D. 847—" Ut calix Domini cum patena, si non ex auro, omnino ex argento fiat. Si quis autem tam pauper est saltem vel stanneum calicem habeat. *De ære aut aurichalco non fiat calix, quia ob vini virtutem eruginem parit, que vomitum provocat. Nullus autem in ligneo aut vitreo calice presumat missam cantare.*" It is to be regretted that no examination appears to have been made by any one competent to give any decided opinion in regard to the remains being those of females. At the same time, it must be remembered that no mention has been made of a *cranium* or any portions of a skeleton accompanying the chalice, and upon which a conclusion might have been formed in regard to the sex of the defunct, there interred. I am informed by Mr. Blaauw that on submitting the facts, with a drawing of the cup, to Dr. Rock, he acquiesced in its being a chalice, but suggested that it must have been deposited in the grave of a chaplain, or of some other ecclesiastic connected with the place, since none but priests were interred with chalices. He thought it possible also that the enamelled chalice had been given up for such mortuary purpose, because it was considered old-fashioned and not prized. It may have been because the gilding which had lined the cup, and which in middle-age metal-work is sometimes so thickly laid as to amount almost to plating with precious metal, had decayed ("ob vini virtutem"), and the base metal become apparent beneath, rendering the vessel no longer fit for the sacred use to which it had been destined. It is not unworthy of consideration, that towards the very period to which this relique of mediæval art must be attributed, numerous sacred vessels of precious metal, throughout England, had been sacrificed to supply the ransom of Richard Cœur de Lion, in 1193. Alianore his mother had sought in vain to raise the 100,000 pounds of silver, by repeated exactions and appeals to the loyalty of his subjects: "Postremo ut nulla vacaret occasio, ad vasa sacra et utensilia ecclesie ventum est. Itaque per omnem Anglici regni latitudinem sacri calices

exactoribus regiis traduntur, vel paulo infra pondus redimuntur.”—Brompton, col. 1256. On return from his captivity, the King hastened to make good the loss: “Advertens etiam Rex nonnullas ecclesiarum campestrium argenteis calicibus carere, cum didicisset eos sua redemptione occasione sublatos, sibi tanquam reo imputans, ac culta divina minus digne in hac parte celebrari, calices quamplurimos per loca diversa jussit fieri, eosque ecclesiis indigentibus distribui sine mora.”—*Ibid.*, col. 1258; see also Knighton, col. 2408.

In regard to the usage of depositing a chalice and paten, more commonly of tin or pewter, with the corpse of a priest, I may here refer to the observations given in my memoir in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. iii. p. 136, where representations of several chalices found in tombs may be seen. Many instances might be cited in addition to those which have been there enumerated. The occurrence of a chalice of precious metal in a tomb is comparatively rare, but some remarkable silver chalices have been found in Chichester Cathedral, and are still there preserved. They have occurred at Exeter, Wells, and in a few other instances. In primitive times the use of base white metal, in cases of necessity, was permitted, as we learn from the Pastoral Epistle of Ælfric to Archbishop Wulstan, enjoining that every chalice be of molten material, of gold or of silver, of glass or of tin (glæsen odde tinen), not of horn, especially not of wood, doubtless because it might absorb the sacred element.—*Ancient Laws and Institutes*, vol. ii. p. 385. Archbishop Wethershed, c. 1229, enjoins that no bishop thenceforth should give the benediction to a chalice of tin: “Ne stanneum calicem aliquis episcopus amodo benedicat interdicimus.”—Lyndwood, *Provinciale*, p. 234, edit. 1679. It is admitted, however, as appears likewise by the decree of the Council of Rheims, before cited, that, according to the canons, the use of such vessels was admissible, *propter paupertatem*.—*Ibid.*, p. 9, note c. They were forbidden by Pope Leo. IV., in his injunctions *De cura pastoralis*.

In addition to the notices of the Prioresses of Ruser, given formerly (*Sussex Archæol. Collections*, Vol. V. p. 249), Mr. Blaauw has sent me extracts from the Court Rolls of the Manor of Prestwode, Sussex, held by the priory, preserved at the Chapter House, Westminster, in which mention occurs of

Agnes Baset, prioress in 1403 and subsequent years until 1439.

“Prestwode. Curia tēnt Agnē Baset Priorisse de Rousperre, tēnt ibidem xx. die mensis Marci, anno regni regis Henrici IV. post conquestum quarto.” (A.D. 1403.)

Similar entries occur in the records of courts held 23 July, 7 Hen. IV. (1406); on the feast of St. Hilary, 8 Henry IV. (1407); 19 May, 9 Hen. IV. (1408); and in the year following. Possibly, however, this prioress may be identical with the “Agnes Barrett, sister of William Barrett, of London, merchant, prioress of Rouspour 12 Hen. IV.,” given in my former list of prioresses, on the authority of a note in the Burrell MS. 5686. I must here correct an error, inadvertently there committed, in regard to the date of that regnal year: the twelfth year of Henry IV. was 1410-11. In the same Court Rolls Agnes Snokeshill occurs as prioress, 26 Hen. VI. 1448, as also in 1449 and 1450.

Giraldus Cambrensis, in his life of Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester about the middle of the twelfth century, relates that having heard that the parish priests throughout his diocese persisted in the use of chalices of tin (*stagneis*) notwithstanding frequent injunctions to provide vessels of silver, convened them all on the pretext of soliciting a subsidy, having shortly before supplied Henry II. with 500 marks for the expedition to take possession of Toulouse (in 1159), and requested that the loan should be brought in the form of silver chalices. The clergy readily complied; from some churches more than one was even brought. The bishop forthwith consecrated the whole, and sent the priests back with a severe reproof that they should have withheld from the service of God what they were so ready to give to propitiate their diocesan.—*Anglia Sacra*, vol. ii. p. 422.

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SOME NOTICES OF THE FAMILY OF NEWTON, OF  
EAST MASCALLS IN LINDFIELD, AND SOUTH-  
OVER PRIORY, NEAR LEWES; AND OF  
NEWTON, AND POWNALL HALL, IN CHESHIRE:

WITH A

SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE MANORS AND RECTORY OF LINDFIELD.

BY T. HERBERT NOYES, JUN., ESQ.

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A YOUNGER branch of the ancient Cheshire family of Newton, from which the great Sir Isaac himself claimed to be descended,<sup>1</sup> settled in Sussex upwards of three centuries ago, and its heirs have inherited since that period, with other considerable property in the county, the two curious specimens of ancient architecture, East Mascalls, and Southover Priory, of which woodcuts are annexed to this paper. Its connection with this county is therefore of sufficient antiquity to warrant some notice in our *Archæological Collections*—more especially as it has already been the subject of some very erroneous notices in other publications connected with the county history.

It was about the year 1543 that William Newton, a grandson of Humphrey Newton, of Pownall Hall, in Cheshire

<sup>1</sup> Sir David Brewster, in his admirable *Life of Newton*, attempts to discredit the pedigree which Sir Isaac had registered at the Heralds' College, and adduces some very questionable evidence to show that he himself afterwards claimed descent from a Scotch family. Sir David, however, could scarcely have been aware that in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1772 (vol. xlii. page 520) Sir Isaac's pedigree was republished from a draft copy in his own handwriting, which contained directions for searching the parish register of Westby, Bitchfield, and Colsterworth, in order to make it more complete. This draft tallied,

as far as it went, with the registered pedigree; and when it was completed, apparently after Sir Isaac's decease, by a thorough search of the registers which he had indicated, its accuracy was fully established. The paper alluded to in the *Gentleman's Magazine* contains very full particulars; but if any further proof were needed, it is now supplied by the Subsidy Rolls which I have consulted, and which not only incidentally confirm the evidence of registers, but prove that the family was not so meanly off as has been generally supposed. An income valued for the Subsidy of 1524 at £24. 4s. was far above the



34 & 35 Hen. VIII. (1544), as of Southover, where, it is noted in the Visitation, that he settled at the Priory of St. Pancras, and married a daughter and coheires of Erley, or, as some of the Visitations have it, Earnley, of Brighton. The date of his marriage is fixed as prior to 1552, by a fine, in which his eldest son Nicholas was plaintiff, passed in the year 1573, when he must have been of age, of one-fourth part of the manor of Erlyes, in the parishes of Brighton, Lewes, and Edburton. The rest of this manor probably belonged to him at that time, as his mother's heir; for the whole was sold in 1630 (June 1, 6 Car. I.), for £1106, by George Newton, of East Mascalls, to Abraham Edwards, of Portslade, in whose family it remained till about 1686, when it was sold to the possessors of some of the other Brighton manors, in which it probably soon merged, for it is now lost, though one of its court-books, of the date of 1686, still remains in the custody of Mr. Hoper, at Lewes.<sup>2</sup> There is another conclusion to be drawn from this fine, in which Jeffrey Poole<sup>3</sup> and Katherine his wife, and Francis Cotton and Mary his wife, were deforciant— which is, that the said Mary and Katherine were probably the other coheires; and, as the Pooles were also a Cheshire family, this connection may have been the cause of William Newton's settlement in Sussex. There were two other intermarriages, which, as they appear to have some bearing on this point, shall be mentioned here.<sup>4</sup> Richard de la Chambre, of Radmill, near Lewes, married, about 1560, Margery, aunt of Sir George Booth, of Denham, co. Chester, while Katherine, a first cousin of William Newton, had mar-

<sup>2</sup> The family of Ernley is said to have been originally Erley, and to have derived its name from the village of Ernley or *Erley*, so called from Er-lege, the eagle's nest. The origin of this manor of Erleyes at Brighton appears from a fine passed in 1197 for Sussex and Berks, between Matilda daughter of Robert de Erlege, deforciant (petitioner), and John de Erlege, plaintiff (tenant), of 2 hides of land in Herlege, Rading, and Sunning, for which the said John has granted to the said Matilda a capital messuage in Brietlmeston, and 7 virges of land in the said vill, of which 1 verge is now in the occupation of William, 1 verge of Serodus, 1 of John Ruffus, 1 of Ketere, 1 of Alfstan and Wulwin, and

the 2 virges which the said John holds in his demesne, et 3 "coterias," with all liberties and free customs appertaining to the half of his whole fief, *i. e.* manor, in the said vill, in the land, in the sea, and in all places, to be held of him and his heirs by the service of 24s. yearly, to revert to the heirs of the said John failing heirs of the body of the said Matilda.

<sup>3</sup> See the names of Jeffrey Pole and Richard Erneley on the list of Sussex magistrates suspected by the Bishop of Chichester of being Papists in 1576. *Sussex Coll.* III. p. 20; and the *Calendar to State Papers* of Elizabeth's reign, &c., lately published.

<sup>4</sup> See the *Visitation of Sussex* of 1634.

ried John Booth of this family, about twenty years before, in Cheshire; and, in 1620, another Richard de la Chambre married Anne Newton, a grand-daughter of William Newton, of Southover.

This incidental evidence of the Cheshire descent is satisfactory, though it was not necessary; for in the Newton Pedigree, entered at the Visitation of Sussex in 1634, it is noted that William Newton exhibited a certificate under the hand of Sir George Calverley, Knt., testifying his coat and descent from Cheshire. The coat is Argent, a Lion rampant Sa., on the shoulder a cross patée of the field, as in the Cheshire Visitation. The connecting link of the genealogies entered at the Visitations of the two counties, will appear by the annexed Pedigree; and it therefore may not be very irregular to introduce a few illustrations of the earlier history of the family, derived from a curious MS. lately found among some old muniments at Rivington Hall, in Lancashire, the seat of Robert Andrews, Esq., to whose courtesy, and that of his relative Thomas Dorning Hibbert, Esq., we are indebted for an opportunity of transcribing it. It is apparently a fragment of a family cartulary, and though much injured by damp, and mutilated by other accidents, still contains, in some sixty closely written folio pages, a transcript of a large number of early charters and settlements of the Newtons, and the families to which they were heirs, with contemporary annotations on many of them, and other curious details. It was apparently compiled in the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, by Humphrey Newton, of Pownall, and transcribed, with some additions, by his eldest son, William; the greater portion, however, is of too documentary a character for these pages, and but few extracts will therefore be quoted. It may be as well to mention here, that besides this MS. and the Visitations, a great variety of public records have been consulted, as well as all the earliest relevant wills at Doctors' Commons, the parish registers of Lindfield and Southover from the earliest date, and a long series of deeds and family papers, which have descended with East Mascalls, ranging from 1550 to the present time:—sources, it is to be presumed, of sufficient authority to overrule any of the errors before alluded to.

With so much by way of preface, it will be convenient to

proceed at once, in chronological order, with the earliest notices of the family.

The name of Newton was undoubtedly of local origin, derived from the possession of the manor of that name; and there was, at a very early period, a controversy as to the original name of the family which assumed it. It had been usually considered that the Newtons were a branch of the old knightly family of Davenport, and this assertion has been repeated so recently as in the Pedigree of the Davenports, printed in Ormerod's magnificent *History of Cheshire*; but this theory was refuted by the compilers of the old MS., as will presently appear; for "about three generations before the year 1300 (*i. e.* about 1150)," the manor of Newton was divided in three portions, between Treverthus de Hopehall, Thomas de Norbury, and Robtus Clericus, son of Mathew. Thomas de Norbury had issue, Ric. de Alforde, who gave half of Newton to William, son of William, son of Treverthus de Hopehall, which William was called William de Newton, and had issue William de Newton juxta Butley (as appears from a deed at Adlington), who gave half of Newton to Robert Hide, to whom Richard de Norberia gave the other half; so that Richard Hide, the son of Robert, was seized of the whole of the Vill de Newton, who gave it to Robert de Hide, his elder brother, to be held by the service of a pair of white gloves. This Robert gave the said lands of Newton to Robert Davenport, who died *s. p.*; from whom they passed to Roger, and then to Thomas de Davenport, the third brother, who was seized of the whole manor of Newton, and he gave it in frank-marriage with his daughter Sybyll to Thomas de Newton, son of William de Newton, in the year 1302. The original deed, in Latin, is preserved in the MS., and, as it is the earliest charter of the direct male line, it may be as well to give an abstract of it:—

"Be it known to all men, now and hereafter, that I, Thomas de Davenport, have granted, &c., and by this present charter do confirm, to Thomas de Neuton, de Neuton, son of William de Neuton, all my lands in Newton, with Sibella, my daughter, to have and to hold, to himself and his heirs, for ever, of the chief lords of the fee, by the accustomed services. And I, the sd Thomas, for myself and my heirs, warrant the sd lands to



the sd Thos. de Newton and Sibella *his wife*, and their heirs, against all men. In witness whereof I have set my seal to this present charter, in the presence of Henry de Davenport,<sup>5</sup> Adam Byron, &c., on the feast of St. Blastus, 30 Edw. R.”

It will be observed that this was a post-nuptial settlement, for Sibella is mentioned as already the wife of Thomas de Newton; and accordingly we find that only four years later the same Thomas, by a deed also enrolled in the cartulary, grants to Richard, his son, all the said lands, dated 34 Edw. I. (1306). On which deed Humphrey Newton makes the following observations:—

“This Thomas de Neuton, it is supposed that he was cousin and heir to William de Neuton; howbeit it has been said that the ancestors of Newton should be called Davenport of Newton, of right, notwithstanding. I cannot perceive *that* by no writing, that ever there was any of the name of Dampport<sup>6</sup> that in his stile called himself Dampport of Newton; and this is of truth long time or ever any of the Davenports had any interest in Newton. There was one William de Neuton, the son of William, gave half the town of Newton to Robert de Hyde, except  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres; which  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres, it is supposed, descended with other to this aforesaid Thomas de Neuton, as cousin and heir to him. And after, one Richard, the son of the said Robert Hyde, gave all the town of Newton to Robert, his brother; which Robert, the son of Robert, gave all his land in Newton to Robert Davenport, unto whom Roger was heir; and gave all his title and claim in Newton to Thomas Davenport, his brother, which gave certain lands (minutely described) to William, son of William de Foxwist; and in all those grants he never called him Davenport of Neuton, but Thomas Davenport. Wherefore it is supposed, by this reservation of acres, and that he called him Thomas Davenport, and not of Newton, that this William and Thomas de Neuton, de Neuton, have been so named time out of mind as freeholders in the same, notwithstanding the particular grants; ‘howbeit, if there were any advantage, it might be said their name was changed.’”

<sup>5</sup> These Davenports descended from Ormus de Davenport, *temp.* William I., whose son Richard married Amabilia, daughter of Gilbert Venables, Baron of Kinderton, whose descendants held the

highest offices in the palatinate, and were master sergeants of Macclesfield.

<sup>6</sup> The Cheshire pronunciation of Davenport.

The last-mentioned Richard de Newton married Fenella daughter of — Worth, of Titherington, an old knightly family, whose pedigree is recorded by Ormerod; and, by a charter, dated in 1335 (8th Edw. III.) entailed the same lands in Newton, and those which formerly belonged to Robert de Hyde in Newton juxta Widford, on his son Richard and his heirs male, with remainder to his younger sons, Nicholas and Peter. Which Peter, says the MS., was a freeholder in Pexhull and Macclesfield, and had issue John, who had issue Joyce, who had no legitimate issue; so that the heirs of Newton ought to have Pexhull. “Also here it appears that the arms of Newton were three popinjays with a cheveron, and the seal a popinjay: howbeit a question is, whether is more authoritie to bear azure, three popinjays between a cheveron gould, after the picture; or gould a popinjay vert after the seal; or a tunne of silver in sable after the name, because it may be seen formost of all colours and metals; or three tunnes, because of *Newton*, *Milton*, and *Phitonn*, to whom I am heir; or azure, a tunne of gould, because the worthiest of all metall and colours; or silver, three cheverons gules, as *Neuton Longdendales’* heirs.

“Also I did see a deed, sealed with a popinjay looking to the left, as if it sate on the right hand of the man, which was the seal of Olyver Neuton, with which seal Thomas Neuton, his grandfather, sealed the deede of Neuton, which ringe was of gould; and when the said Olyver was dead, their seal was a popinjay, and then there was dynged,<sup>7</sup> and then Humphrey graved a tunne in it.”<sup>8</sup>

“Mem. There was a Ryme by one Hechin Newton which was the first Richard whose sonne called Richard was married to one Sibill the daughter of William Downes, and after were lawfullie divorced which Richard the son after was married to one Joane Barton the daughter of Olyver Barton of Irlam and hadd yssue Olyver Newton.

‘Sometime there was in Neuton a *hipping Hechin*<sup>9</sup>  
Hee hadd oxen and Kye and Corn for the Maistrie

<sup>7</sup> A Lancashire word, signifying to knock out. They say, that dyng’s me, *i.e.* that beats me.

<sup>8</sup> From this account of the family coats

it would seem probable that the *Lion sa*, afterwards borne, was assumed on the marriage with the heiress of Pownall.

<sup>9</sup> Cheshire, a *limping Richard*.

Fatt Boars in thee Stye whiles that they might stand  
 Good Steeds in his Stall well I astande  
 Now there is come to this towne a lorde  
*Sebott*<sup>10</sup> with her loude cry  
 Shee wakens me so earlie  
 That under of the day  
 that I noe Sleepe may.' ”

This is unfortunately the only fragment of the “Ryme” which has been preserved. Its author died in 1336 (9th Edw. III.).<sup>11</sup> His son Richard, according to the cartulary, and other authorities (except one in the Harleian Collection, which reads, William), was the husband of Sibyll Downes, though the long period which elapsed between his father’s death and his own second marriage, might lead one to conjecture the omission of a generation, and a succession of three Richards instead of two. However, according to the cartulary, in 1318, Hugh de Newton, son of Robert, released to Richard de Newton, son of Richard, all his rights in Newton; and again in the year 1390 (13 Ric. II.) the feoffees of Richard

<sup>10</sup> Cheshire—Sibyll.

<sup>11</sup> This Richard was not, however, the only poet, or the best of whom the family can boast. His descendant Thomas Newton (son of Edward Newton of Butley, and Alice his wife, and nephew of William Newton of Southover) enjoyed the reputation of being one of the best poets of his day. He was born in Cheshire, and educated by John Brownsward at King Edward VI.’s Grammar School at Macclesfield, from which he was sent to Trinity College, Oxford, at the age of thirteen, whence he migrated to Queen’s College, Cambridge, where he became so much renowned for his Latin poetry that he was counted by scholars of his time among the

most noted poets in that language. He was himself for some time the master of Macclesfield School; but Queen Elizabeth presented him, in 1583, to the living of Ilford Parva, in Essex, where he died in May, 1607. His biography is given in Wood’s *Athenæ Oxonienses*, and by Chalmers. He was author of a notable *History of the Saracens*, in three books, London, 1575; *Illustrium aliquot Anglorum encomia*, London, 1589, 4to; *Atropoion Delion, or the Death of Delia, with the Tears of her Funeral, a Poetical Discourse of our late Elizabeth*, London, 1603, of which one stanza will perhaps serve as a counterpoise for his ancestor’s bad rhymes:—

“Cease Nymphs with teares to ouercharge your eies  
 For Delia weepes not now, that she hath left ye  
 Comfort yourselves in earth, for she in skies  
 Comforted is by them which late bereft ye.  
 So many yeeres the Gods did let ye keepe her  
 In tender love for to support your peace;  
 But being gone it naught availes to weepe her,  
 She now enjoyes a crowne of longer lease.  
 Let this suffice how loothe she was to part,  
 So long as she had tongue, hand, eyes, or breath.  
 Till when our Quire of Angels tooke her heart,  
 Shee then bid welcome joyes, and farewell earthe,  
 Where once eche soule his Delia’s soule shall see  
 Crownd in another kinde of majestie.”

Pigott conveyed to Richard de Newton and Sibyll his wife, the manor of Butlegh, and other lands in Newton; and in 1394, the divorce above mentioned took place. The original deed is given, dated Feb. 9, 18 Ric. II., with the note:—  
“This Divorce was made by assent of both parties, forasmuch as they were ‘sibb’ very neare within degrees of marriage, and were married together before they knew of it, howbeit they were sorrie to depart, but that the lawe at those days would not suffer them.” (17 Ric. II., 1394.)

By two deeds dated in the same year, the divorced Sibyll released all claim that she might have on any lands in Newton juxta Mottram and elsewhere, and any rights of action, &c., to Richard, son of Richard de Newton.

But, notwithstanding the sorrow of the said Richard for the loss of Sybyll his wife, he does not appear to have remained long unconsolable, for we find a settlement dated in 1396 (19 Ric. II.) of all his lands in Newton juxta Widford, made by his feoffees, on Richard, son of Richard de Neuton, and Joan his wife, daughter of Roger Barton of Irlam, and their heirs male, with remainder to his natural children, John, Thomas, Edmund, with remainder to John, son of Peter, and to the right heirs of Richard; on which deed it is noted that the said natural children were supposed to be by Sibell his former wife. If so, their case was a hard one; for though placed in remainder to what should have been their inheritance, they were not destined to derive any benefit from the reversion, for Joan had two children—Olyver and Ralph—though her husband must have died at an advanced age, within two years of her marriage; he was buried at Prestbury, as was his wife Joan, who died at Deane House, Mottram, many years afterwards, for she was living in 1447, when she entered into a bond to abide by the arbitration of Sir Robert Booth, and Robert Leigh, Esq., of Adlington, in certain matters of dispute with her son Olyver, concerning lands in Newton juxta Widford; the deed of award was dated 25th Henry VI.; a fragment only remains. Her son Oliver Newton had married, in 7th Hen. VI., Alice, the daughter and coheirress of William de Milton, by Cecilia his wife, daughter of Hugh de Arderne, of Aldford, by Cecilia his wife, daughter of Ralph de Hyde, ancestor of Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon. He

was lineally descended from Pagan de Milton, a son of Hugh Kevelioc, fifth Earl of Chester, by a daughter of Meredith, Lord of Hynley, which Hugh Kevelioc was fourth in descent from a sister of William the Conqueror. By this marriage, Oliver Newton acquired considerable estates at Cleyley, Milneton, and Hanlegh, &c., of which very early charters are preserved in the cartulary. Olyver died of the plague in Holborn, and was buried in St. Andrew's, Holborn, 31 Hen. VI., 1453. A deed dated in the same year, 31 Hen. VI., witnesses that Alice *his widow* delivered to Robert Leigh of Adlington, the title-deeds of certain property, which he had purchased at Newcastle-on-Tyne. She afterwards married Lawrence Lowe, of Denby Manor, in the county of Derby, and died in 1492. Her eldest son, Richard de Neuton, who was born March 14, 1430, married Jane, daughter of Jeffery Lowe, of Denby (son of Lawrence); and in the 7th Edward IV., enfeoffed Ralph Davenport and others, of all his lands in the county of Chester, for the purpose of creating an entail; which document was duly inscribed on the cartulary, but has unfortunately perished. He died in 1497, and the next evidence extant finds Humphrey Newton, his son, in possession, in the year 1500; in which year he purchased from the Willots, half of Newton Heath, and Foxwist Heath, in Lancashire. This Humphrey seems to have been the compiler of the cartulary, and the author of many of the notes on the earlier deeds. The very minute details of the transactions in which he was himself concerned, sufficiently bespeak his methodical character: as, for instance, in the purchase of the half of Foxwist Heath, his note informs us that "Reginald Willot delyvered the said Humphrey possession in the hole which is a meire dytch between the gate at the Harp-post Wood and the Mosse-pits between the waie to Widford and the way to Foxwist about 12 roods from any hedge," &c.

Again in 1501 there was a deed of release from Elin Leigh, widow of Robert Leigh, of Adlington, Esq., of all her claims in Neuton and Foxwist Heath, &c., to Humphrey Newton, on which he observes:—"Forasmuch as there were dyvers differences between Thos. Leigh, of Adlington, Reynold Leigh, his brother, and the vicar of Prestbury, Reynold came to me the sd Humphrey for counsell to help him out of trouble; hee

said if hee could do me a pleasure, he would gladly; and I desired him to get his mother to seal me a release of Newton Heath and other lands as appears by the deed, and he said he would; so I wrote a release and gave him, and he brought it to me from her with special tokens sealed, and she asked wherefore it was made; and the said Reynold answered again and said, "for dread lest the said Thomas should claim ought of Humphrey Newton or put him to trouble, because he troubleth Willots for their lands." He adds numerous depositions, &c., in proof of the signature of the said Elin Leigh, which appears to have been duly disputed, in course of time, by the said litigious Thomas. There is here, unfortunately, another hiatus in the MS., for the next deed bears date in 1564. Meanwhile, Humphrey had married, April 7, 1490, Ellen, the daughter and coheir of Thomas Fitton, of Pownall Hall;<sup>12</sup> and dying in 1537,<sup>13</sup> March 22nd, had been succeeded by his eldest son, William Newton of Pownall, who by deed of entail, dated January 8, 6 Elizabeth (1564), settled all his manors, lands, &c., in Erdswick, Pownall, Bolin, Wrenbury, Mynshull Vernon, Church Mynshull, Aston, Olton, &c., formerly the property of Thos. Fitton, of Pownall, deceased, in strict tail male, on his son William Newton the younger, with remainder to Humphrey Newton, of Gawsworth, son of Francis Newton the elder, of Moberley; then to the said Francis Newton and his issue; then to the issue male of Humphrey Newton the elder, of Fulshawe, by Ethelred his wife; then to the sons of Hugh Newton, late of Lostock, deceased, with remainder to the right heirs of Humphrey Newton, of Gawsworth."

This is the latest deed transcribed in the MS.; but the Visitations show that the heirs male of this William succeeded for three generations to the Pownall property, when the line ended in coheirresses, through whom the representation of this elder branch has again passed to the Davenports, who are said to possess to this day a most valuable collection of Newton muniments.

<sup>12</sup> By this marriage his descendants become representatives and quarter the arms of Massey, of Dunham Massey, Pownall, Olton, Leighton, Wrenbury, Aldelym, and Cradock; all families of great distinction in the palatinate.

<sup>13</sup> An etching of his tomb, now much mutilated, in Wilmslow Church, is preserved in the Harleian MSS. The head of his recumbent effigy reposes on "three tummes" (*vide supra*, p. 318); his wife's on a garb.

The line of the descendants of Humphrey Newton the elder, of Fulshawe, is that from which the Sussex Newtons derive. He was the second son of the first Humphrey Newton, of Pownall, and had married Ethelred, daughter and coheir of Lawrence Starkey, by Anne his wife, also an heiress, as appears by the records of a Chancery suit in the archives of the Duchy of Lancaster, in which her maiden name is unfortunately obliterated; but by the *Inquis. p. Mortem* of Lawrence Starkey, it seems that she had brought him property at Henley-on-Thames. So she must have been a Southern. By this marriage, Humphrey Newton acquired extensive property in York, Lancaster, Chester, and Stafford, which was probably the reason for his being postponed in the entail of the Pownall property to his younger brother Francis. The date of his death is somewhat uncertain; but it appears from the records of the suit before mentioned with the Wilfrid Banaster, the representative of Margaret Starkey, his sister-in-law, and a fine passed at Fulshawe in 1567, that he was living in that year. His second son, William, who was probably born about 1520, and his younger son, Lawrence, both went into Sussex, and settled at Lewes, where the latter frequently held civil offices from 1573 to 1593, as appears by the Borough Records. In the Notes of Fines for Trinity Term, 32 Eliz. (1590) his name appears as purchaser of a house in Lewes from his nephew, Nicholas Newton, and Alice his wife; and the will of Thomas Pelland, of Hamsey, dated March, 1603, mentions his sister as the "widow" of Lawrence Newton. Three of his children—Edward, Elizabeth, and Honor—are legatees in the will of his brother William, in 1590; but he is not named in the *Visitation of Sussex*, and there is no further record of his descendants. We therefore return to William Newton, of Southover, whose first marriage with an heiress of Ernley has been already mentioned. She must have died before 1563, as William, his son by his second wife, Alice Pelham, was born in 1564. Prior to this he had purchased East Mascalls, in 1560, from Thomas Middleton and Ursula his wife (a Lewknor), who had acquired it ten years before from Thomas and Eleanor Mascall, whose ancestors had been settled there for many generations prior to the reign of Edward IV. It is noted in the *Visitation* that he gave East Mascalls to

his eldest son, Nicholas, in his lifetime ; and as an old pane of stained glass, still remaining in one of the windows, bears with the name and arms, differenced by a crescent, the badge of a second son, or a second branch (William Newton, of Southover, was the second son of a second son), the date 1578, it is probable that Nicholas went to live there in that year. There is no evidence of the house having been built at that time ; but as the same style of architecture was very prevalent in Cheshire, where the old seat of the Davenports is said to have been of the same type, and as the old timber framework of the house, to this day, bears evident marks of having been used in another building, and the quantity of cut stone used for the foundations of the numerous farm buildings and walls about the premises affords strong evidence of an older house having occupied the same site, it is by no means improbable that he pulled down and rebuilt the old seat of the Mascalls.



East Mascalls.

But whatever doubt may exist on this point, there is none as to the fact of his having built the house which is now called Southover Priory, where his initials W.N., and the date, 1572, may be seen carved in stone over the fireplace in the dining-room. This date throws also some light on the period of the destruction of the remains of the old Priory of St. Pancras.



There can be no doubt that the note in the Visitation is correct which states that he lived in this old priory when he first settled in the county; and the tradition which has been handed down to Mrs. Mabbott, that the lord gave her ancestors permission to take from its ruins sufficient to build them a "comfortable" house, is some evidence that it was at that time in a very dilapidated state, and there can be little doubt that its materials were used simultaneously in the construction of Mr. Newton's "comfortable" house and the Lord's Place, which probably, while it stood, was generally known by the name of "the Priory"; and this appellation I take to be the only portion of the materials of the Lord's Place which, on its destruction by fire in the latter part of the seventeenth century, reverted to Mr. Newton;<sup>14</sup> at any rate the present priory had been built nearly a century before. The gift of its materials indicates a very close connection at that period with the Dorset family; and it is not improbable that he, as well as his son, in subsequent years transacted much of the business connected with their extensive estates in the county. But his own property was also considerable, as sufficiently appears by his contribution of £25 towards the defence of the country at the time of the panic caused by the Spanish Armada in 1588 (see Vol. I. p. 34), and his numerous purchases of land, among which were the tithes, glebe lands, and other property within the village and hamlets

<sup>14</sup> The account given in Mr. Horsfield's *History of Lewes* appears to be based on the letter of a Rev. Mr. Austin in Sir W. Burrell's MS., which contains all the information which he could procure on the subject. Mr. Austin's letter, dated in 1772, is as follows:—"The priory was inhabited by the Earl of Dorset, from whence it took its present denomination of the Lord's Place. This house was consumed by fire, but at what time it is difficult to ascertain. Mr. Newton hath showed me a picture which the family have been always told was the portrait of the last

earl\* that resided at the priory, in whose time the accident happened. There is the Dorset arms, with an earl's coronet on the one side, and the date when the picture was drawn, 1608, on the other. William Newton, one of Mr. Newton's ancestors, was steward to the Earl of Dorset, by whom this picture was probably preserved. He died 1648, ætat. 84, and is said to have built part of the manor-house of Caen stone taken from the ruins of the priory. Men don't often build at an advanced age, but nothing can be gathered from hence with certainty."

\* "He appears in the dress of the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the present time or the Lord High Steward with the staff of office—a large round hat, laced band, cuffs, &c.—which affords strong ground to believe this portrait was designed for Thomas Earl of Dorset, who was constituted Lord High Treasurer 15 May, 1593, and died in that office 19 April,

1608, at which period his son Robert was about forty-seven. In a lease of certain lands from Richard Earl of Dorset, who died 1624, it is covenanted that the rent shall be paid yearly within the hall of the mansion-house of the said earl situate within the parish of Southover, sometimes called the *Priory of Lewes*."

of Moulscombe in Patcham, near Brighton, purchased in the same year as East Mascalls, from Thomas Myddleton of Barwyck, and Edward his son and heir, to whom they had been granted by letters patent of the 9th of May preceding (2nd Elizabeth). In the deed enrolled in Chancery, he is styled William Newton of Southover. His will was dated in 1588, at which time he had two daughters, whom the Visitation does not notice: Joan, married to Peter Crane, Esq., lord of the manor of Kingston next Lewes (son of Richard Crane, whose *Inq. p. M.* is dated 2 and 3 Ph. and Mary (1556), at which time Peter was only three years old; and Elizabeth, married to Thomas Elphick, ancestor of William Courthope, Esq., Somerset Herald, for whose valuable assistance I may take this opportunity of expressing my obligations. William Newton died probably in his own new house, and was buried in Southover Church, April 20, 1590; Alice Newton his widow, survived him till Feb. 10, 1600. He bequeathed all his property at Southover and Kingston next Lewes to his second son William, the eldest, Nicholas, having been already provided for. Not that he remained in peaceable possession of East Mascalls, for one John Mascall, son of Thomas Mascall the vendor, had laid claim to the estate, on the ground that an entail created by his ancestor, Richard Michelborne otherwise Mascall, in the reign of Edward IV., had never been properly barred, and that there was no power to alienate it. The decree of the Court of Chancery, which recites the pedigree put forward by John Mascall, and the title of Nicholas Newton, was given in favour of Nicholas, Nov. 15, 1597, and forms one of the earliest title-deeds of East Mascalls. It may be of some interest to note, that though the Mascall pedigree there recited and declared not proven, does not quite agree with that entered at the Visitation, as it omits two generations, it so far coincides with it as to show that the two earliest mentioned Richard Mascalls were styled Michelborne alias Mascall.

Nicholas Newton died shortly after the termination of his Chancery suit, his wife Alice, the daughter of John Vickery, or Vicarye, of Barcombe, and a cousin of the Chaloners, having predeceased him in January, 1596. He was buried at Lindfield, Oct. 12th, 1601, having by his will, proved at Doctors' Commons, entailed East Mascall son his second son, William, for whom he had also purchased a property at Barcombe, from

his brother-in-law, Thomas Elphick. His eldest son, George, had married Lucy, daughter of Thomas Board, Esq., of Paxhill, and succeeded, apparently under settlement, to the manor-house of Ernley, at Brighton, and another property at Barcombe and elsewhere, &c. ; but, preferring East Mascalls to Barcombe, he very shortly after effected an exchange with his brother William, the particulars of which appear from the fines passed on the occasion. William had married Elizabeth, the daughter of Joseph Yong, of Southwark, who died, with four of her children, within a few weeks of each other, in 1614. Two children survived—Francis, of whom presently, and Mary, who afterwards married the Rev. John Killingworth, lord of the manor of Gravetye. By his second wife, Joan, the widow of Abraham Allen, serjeant-chirurgeon to King James, he had no issue. In 1618, William and his nephew Nicholas, son of George, were joint purchasers of the manors of South Malling, Lindfield, together with the rectory, and the advowson of the vicarage, and other lands there and at Worth, Wivelsfield, Ardingleigh, Hothleigh, and Colman's Hatch. As this property, formerly the possessions of South Malling College, was held *in capite* of the Crown, full particulars of the various transactions of which it was the subject are recorded in the Memoranda Rolls, the richest sources of information for all property of that description. Accordingly, it appears that as soon as the fine which recorded the transfer had passed, William and Nicholas were summoned to show cause why the aforesaid manors should not be forfeited to the Crown, by reason of their alienation without the royal license. In answer to which summons, they put in their title, which is recited on the rolls, and, having paid a fine, were allowed to do homage for the property.

From the peculiar tenure of the advowson of Lindfield, its history has escaped the researches of the county historians. It will, therefore, be as well to take this opportunity of giving some account of it.

Lindfield (anciently written Lyndeskeld, Lyndefeud, Lyngfylde, Lynfelde, &c.) was at a very early period one of the peculiars of the see of Canterbury, and was among those granted by Theobald the Archbishop to the College of South Malling, in 1150, when the more ancient College of Malling,

whose canons were named in *Domesday*, was removed to South Malling, and newly chartered by that prelate. About this period, the lordship of Lindeskeld appears to have belonged to the Bardolfs (from whom it was frequently called Lyndfeld Bardolf), for in 1244 (38 H. III.) William Bardolf, son of Beatrix, daughter of William de Warenne, obtained a charter for free warren in his lordships of Lindeskelde and Wyvelfelde. He died in 1276, when William, his son and heir, had *livery* of seizin of *all his lands*,<sup>15</sup> which, on the forfeiture of his descendant Thomas Lord Bardolf, were granted, in 1410, to Sir Thomas Beaufort, Lord Chancellor.

The value of its ecclesiastical property, at various early periods, is recorded in different documents. In 1291, the prebend of the Dean of South Malling, with the rectory of Lyndefeud, was taxed at £30.<sup>16</sup> In 1342 (15 Edw. III.), the value of the great and small tithes of Lyndefeld is recorded in the *Nonæ* Rolls at £20. In 1535 (26 Hen. VIII.), shortly before the dissolution of the Monasteries, the *Valor Eccl.* returns the annual value of the farm of the rectory of Lynfeild, in the tenure of William Nash (who must have made a good thing of it), at £14, and the rents and profits of the college lands there at £3. 16s. 2½*d.*

South Malling College was dissolved 10th March, 1545, and its possessions granted, in 1546, to Sir Thomas Palmer, who held a court for the manors Oct. 15th of that year, and on April 5, 1 Edw. VI., granted a ninety-nine years' lease of the rectory, advowson of the vicarage, the manors, and certain glebe lands of Lindfield and St. Peter's, with the Dean's water-mill there, to Richard Carrell, who covenanted to "repair, maintain, and keep all and any the reparations of the Chancel of Lyndfeild, &c. &c., and to fynde one honeste priest to serve the cure of Lyndfeild, of his own proper cost and charge, from the feast of St. Michael next ensueing," the reserved rent being £26. 8s. 4*d.* This lease is enrolled among the private records of the Land Revenue Office.

In 1550, Sir Thomas Palmer made an exchange with the King, by which he surrendered all his possessions at Lindfield to the Crown; and Queen Mary, who had already passed an

<sup>15</sup> *Vide* Fine Rolls, 4 Edward I. m. 19; Patent Rolls, 11 Hen. IV. m. 11 and 17.

<sup>16</sup> *Vide* Pope Nicholas' *Valor Eccl.*

act,<sup>17</sup> by virtue of which, all the revenues of her rectories, vicarages, and benefices inappropriate, had been surrendered to the legate Cardinal Pole, to be dealt with for the augmentation of poor livings, with the reservation of the right of patronage only, by letters patent, dated 12th Nov. 1558 (which recited the execution of the provisions of this act, a free gift of £7000 by the Cardinal to her Majesty, out of the revenues in question, the lamentable condition of very many of the vicarages, and her Majesty's desire to be relieved of the onus of their charge, and her resolve to make them over to the ordinary of each diocese, to whom such charge most properly belonged), granted, as a free gift, to John, Bishop of Chichester, and his successors in the see, for ever, all her rights of patronage and advowsons, within his diocese, of her vicarages, rectories, and churches of Walberton, Brighton, Kingston next Lewes, Patcham, Rotingdeane, Iford, Pedinghowe (Piddinghoe), Ditchling, Falmer, West Hothleigh, Fletching, Alfriston, Bosham, Chidham, Rigewyke, Little Hampton, Mid-Lavant, Boxgrove, Wivelsfield, and "Lynfeld."

But unfortunately one of the first acts in the next reign (1st Eliz. cap. iv.), which re-established "First Fruits," and repealed the 2nd and 3rd Ph. and Mary, cap. iv., contained a clause (§ 2) which restored to the crown all advowsons, &c., alienated in pursuance of that act.

Lindfield therefore again became the private property of the crown. But, in 1574, all the crown land there, *not* comprised in Rich. Carrell's lease, was granted by patent to the Earl of Leicester, who conveyed it, the same year, to Francis Chalenor, Esq.; and, in 1588, the fee-simple of the remainder, manors, rectory, and vicarage, comprised in that lease, passed, by letters patent, dated 30th May, 30 Elizabeth, to Sir Moyle Fynche and John Awdley, with the reservation of a rent of £26. *8s. 4d.* In 1594, it was conveyed by Sir Moyle Fynche, by indenture dated August 9, 36 Eliz., for the sum of £1320. *16s. 8d.*, to Sir Thomas Palmer, late of Angmering, and Edward Essex, of Reigate, subject to the same rent of £26. *8s. 4d.* to the Crown; and from Sir Thomas Palmer it passed, by indenture dated Nov. 20, 1602, 45 Elizabeth, to Thomas Sackville Lord Buckhurst, whose successor, Richard Earl of Dorset, by indenture

<sup>17</sup> 2nd and 3rd Philip and Mary, cap. iv., "An Act to extinguish First Fruits," &c.

dated 13 James I., April 22, 1615, conveyed the said manors, rectory, and vicarage to John Packer and Philippa his wife, who, on Feb. 16, 15 James I., conveyed them to William and Nicholas Newton.

Meanwhile, Richard Caryll's interest in the lease seems to have passed to Francis Challenor, who held his first court in 6 Edw. VI., and his last court May 19, 34 Eliz., in which year, on September 25, Thomas Chalenor, Esq., held his court. He died in possession, on March 31, 2-3 James I., when Francis Chalenor, his son and heir, was *ætat.* 22. Courts were held by Anne Chaloner, widow, till July 14, 6 James I. On the 20th July, 9 James I., William Newton, Esq., held his first court; and it is, therefore, probable that he had shortly before purchased the Challoners' interest in the lease, so that, on his purchase of the fee-simple in 1617, the lease would have merged.

The property, however, did not remain long undivided, for, in 1632, he sold the manors to Thomas Chaloner of Kenwards, in whose family they continued till 1689, when John Chaloner, Esq., sold them to Joseph Studley, whose son Joseph alienated them to Henry Pelham, Esq., who, dying *s.p.* 1725, June 1, was succeeded by his brother and heir, Thomas Pelham, Esq., ancestor of the present possessor, the Earl of Chichester.

But to return to the lay rectory. On the death of William Newton, who, in 1638, was buried in Lindfield Church,<sup>18</sup> the impropriation, now severed from the manors, passed to his son Francis, who, by his will proved at Doctors' Commons, Feb. 1, 1643, bequeathed it to his cousin, Thos. Newton of Stoke next Guildford, son of his uncle, Nicholas Newton of Southwark, and his heirs male in strict tail, with remainder to William Newton of Southover. This Thomas Newton, who had acquired considerable property in Surrey, and entered his pedigree in the visitation of that county, passed a fine in Trinity Term, 1665, in which he was joined by the Rev. John Killingworth, and Mary his wife, sister of Francis Newton, and

<sup>18</sup> On a brass in Lindfield Church, to the memory of William Newton and his second wife, there is the following legend:—"Here lyeth interred the body of Joane Love, daughter of John Love, of Bishop's Basinge, in the County of Southampton, Esq., first wife of Abraham Allen, of Lon-

don, Esq., Serjeant-Chirurgeon to King James, but died the relict of William Newton, of this parish, gent., who was the impropriator of this church, and lyeth buried by her. She deceased the 9th day of September, anno Dom. 1655, aged 81."

William Killingworth, their son, and Elizabeth his wife, and Thomas Chamberlayne, Esq., and Mary his wife, who was probably an only daughter of Francis Newton, and so barred the entail; and he appears to have surrendered one-third of the advowson to the Chamberlaynes, to induce them to join; for this one-third passed to Richard Matthews, the second husband of Mary Chamberlayne, who disposed of it to one John Lilly, Feb. 20, 1690, from whom Thomas Newton repurchased it on June 3rd, 1690; and so, being possessed of the whole at his death, *s. p.* Jan. 15, 169 $\frac{1}{2}$ , bequeathed it by will to his niece Mary Reading, the wife of Nicholas Smith, of East Greenwich, and her son, Newton Smith. The latter died a bachelor in Sept. 1743, and left his sister, Grace, wife of John Neale of Deptford, his heir. Her son, John Neale, succeeded her, and died intestate, Nov. 22, 1779, leaving by his wife, Anna, an only daughter and heiress, Anna Neale, married in 1780 to John Nainby. She was buried at St. Saviour's, Southwark, Sept. 29, 1813, leaving one son, John Henry Nainby, the late rector of Lindfield, who died a bachelor at the house of his solicitor, W. Mosson Kearns, in London, Sept. 21, 1854, and was buried at Highgate. He gave all his property at Lindfield, by will, to Kearns, in whose possession it now remains. The representatives of this branch of the Newtons, deriving from Nicholas, third son of Nicholas Newton, of East Mascalls, became extinct on the death of Maria Williamson, only sister of John Henry Nainby, on October 24, 1854, *s. p. v.* The vicarage so often named in the documents quoted in the preceding account, has long fallen into desuetude, and the impropiators for the last century have evaded any contribution towards the support of "an honeste prieste," beyond an ill-paid stipend of £30 a year. But this abuse appears to be of no older date. Sir William Burrell mentions Richard Felton as vicar of the parish in 1595, and then gives a list of his successors,<sup>19</sup> regu-

<sup>19</sup> This is the list referred to: Burrell . . . Citizen, ind. 1661.  
MSS. No. 5698:— . . . Salisbury, ind. 1664.  
Roger Chaloner, ind. . . ; bu. 16 May, 1580. Rob. Neve, ind. 1667.  
Fr. Killingback, ind. Wm. Bridgen, A.M., ind. 1718.  
Rich. Felton, ind. 1591, 1595. . . . Bean, ind.  
John Grove, ind. 1599; bu. 2 Aug., 1615. Jeremiah Dyson, ind. ; bu. 20 Oct. 1749.  
Hen. Chauntler, ind. 1615; bu. 1620. CURATES.  
Humphrey Everynden, ind. 1621; 1628. 1645. Bartholomew Safford.  
Joseph Biggs, ind. 1628; 1641. 1667. John Taylor. 1676. Nath. Keith.  
Geo. Bladworth, ind. 1642. 1750 to 1762. Marmaduke Lewis.  
Jas. Belgrave, ind. 1642, March 16. 1777. Thomas Jackson.

larly inducted till 1749, Oct. 20, when the last was buried; and there seems to have been since that time no induction to the cure. It appears from the records in Lambeth Palace, that in the year 1758, the then curate, in reply to a circular sent by the archbishop to all his peculiars, stated that he was allowed only £20 a year, though the annual value of the tithes was then £120 (it is now £600); and he prayed the archbishop to take measures to have his stipend increased; but the archbishop does not appear to have taken any proceedings thereupon. It seems to be, however, sufficiently clear, that the impropiators were under more than a moral obligation to have made a proper provision for the clergy of the parish; and there is reason to hope that some transactions now in progress will enable future historians of the parish to record that the living has been again placed under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction, from which it has been too long practically exempt, and that the tithes have been devoted to the purpose for which they were originally designed.

Having thus traced the descent of the representatives of the second line of the eldest branch of the Newtons of East Mascalls, we must return to the first line—deriving from George, the eldest son of the Nicholas who died in 1601.

George Newton of East Mascalls married, for his first wife, Lucy, daughter of Thomas Board, Esq., who died 1611, Aug. 31, by whom he had six children, of whom three only lived to grow up; and for his second wife, Mary, sister of Sir Richard Michelbourne. He died in the year 1637, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Nicholas, who had also two wives: Mary Seaman, who died 1643; and 2ndly, Jane Polhill, by whom he had an only daughter, Jane, who died an infant. This Nicholas Newton lived chiefly on an estate at Burwash; and by his will, dated October 16, 1648, he bequeathed a legacy of £100 to each of the children of his sister Margaret by Mr. Brice, and left his landed property at Burwash, Lindfield, &c., to his wife Jane for her life, with remainder to his daughter Jane, with remainder to his brother Edmund. His widow, however, long survived Edmund, who died in the year 1672, leaving, by Dorothy his wife, three surviving children, of whom one was a daughter, who died unmarried; another, William, married his cousin, Mary Brett, and died childless; and George, the eldest, married to Mary Rowland



of Stoke, near Guildford, sister-in-law of Admiral Sir George Matthews, M.P. for Middlesex, who succeeded to East Mascalls in the year 1694 on the death of his aunt Jane (then married to her third husband the Rev. Richard Weller), upon which he paid the legacies charged on that property to William Noyes, as representative of Mr. Brice. He died of smallpox, in Somersetshire, while visiting in that county, about 1720, having had by his wife Mary nine children, who all died unmarried. His eldest son, George, the last survivor, was a captain in the service of the Hon. East India Company; and his portrait, with many of the curiosities which he brought from the East, are now preserved at Southover Priory. On his death in 1740, he was, with one exception, the last surviving representative of three generations of large families; and his cousin William Newton, of Southover, took possession of East Mascalls and of his estates at Twickenham, Battle, Burwash, and elsewhere, as his heir. But the real heir was the representative of Margaret Brice, who had been first married to John Edwards of Portslade, by whom she had only one son, who was drowned at school; 2ndly, to a Mr. Elliott, by whom she had no child; and 3rdly, to the Rev. William Brice, rector of St. Mildred, Bread Street, and afterwards of Bray and Hendley, in Berkshire: he was turned out of Hendley because he would not conform, and afterwards lived at Maidenhead till his death in the year 1682. Margaret Brice was buried at Cookham Oct. 22, 1686, leaving a daughter and heiress, Ann, married to John Clarke of Horton and Egham, whose only daughter and heiress, Margaret, married at Bridge-water, in 1695, William Noyes of Reading (fourth son, but eventually representative of Peter Noyes, Esq., of Trunkwell House, Shinfield, whose pedigree was entered in the Visitation of Berks) by Winifred his wife, grand-daughter of Martin White, Esq., of Fittleford, whose mother, a coheiress of the Martins of Athelbampston, was a niece of Nicholas Wadham, the founder of Wadham College, and lineal descendant of Martin of Tours, Baron of Kemeys, whose wife was of the blood royal of the Saxon kings). William Noyes had died in 1734, and his eldest son, William, had predeceased him in 1728; and Mrs. Margaret Noyes, then a widow, was living at Egham in 1740, and apparently did not hear of Captain George Newton's

death till William Newton, of Southover, had taken possession of East Mascalls. The correspondence which passed between her and her children, when the intelligence reached Egham, has been preserved, and contains a detailed account of the family pedigree, and, among other things, mentions the state of the Sussex roads at that period to have been such that Mr. Peter Noyes' first journey to East Mascalls was a subject of considerable anxiety to his family. The journey was, however, successfully performed, and Mrs. Margaret Noyes' claim as heir-at-law to Captain George Newton fully established at the East Grinstead assizes, July 24, 1741. She, however, continued to reside at Egham till her death in 1755, when she bequeathed East Mascalls and the Battle property to her daughter Ann; her grandson Thomas Herbert Noyes, son of her eldest son, William, having inherited the estates of his mother, Martha, the heiress of Thomas Herbert, Esq., in Warwick, Oxford, and Herts. He resided at Berkhamsted, and was chairman of the quarter sessions and deputy lieutenant for Herts, where he had married, in 1756, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Charles Halsey, Esq., M.P. for the county, of the kin of William of Wickham, and a descendant of Gundrada, daughter of William I. He died at the early age of forty-nine, leaving a voluminous Universal History and numerous other works in many MS. volumes, which, however, were never published. He was succeeded by his eldest son, T. H. Noyes (a student of Christ Church), who was brought up as heir to his uncle, Thomas Halsey of Gaddesden, but who, on Mr. Halsey's marriage late in life, took orders and the Christ Church living of Bath Easton, in Somersetshire, in 1797. He succeeded to the Sussex property on the 5th November, 1800, on the death of his aunt, Miss Anne Noyes, at the age of ninety-two. The Vicar of Bath Easton died August 8, 1812, leaving by his wife Maria, daughter of B. J. Littlehales, Esq., of Moulsey Park, sister of Colonel Sir Ed. B. Baker, Bart., of Ranston, co. Dorset, two sons, of whom the eldest, Thomas Herbert Noyes, Esq., is now of East Mascalls, and representative of the eldest branch of the Sussex Newtons.

Having thus traced all the descendants of Nicholas, the eldest son of William Newton of Southover, by his first wife, the heiress of Ernley, we return to the representatives of his

second son, William, by his second wife, Alice, the daughter of Pelham, according to the Visitation, though, from an examination of some of the early wills, it would seem that her name was Pelland, of which family there are many early wills in the Lewes Registry; but as one of them, in 1607, is entered as Thomas Pelland alias *Pelham*, of Cuckfield, it may be only a curious variation of the old name of Pelham.

Her son, William Newton, born in 1564, was a "counsellor" and an "ancient" of Gray's Inn. His portrait, as an old man with a very white beard, in a curious dark costume, with a large frilled ruffle round his neck, still hangs in the dining-room of Southover Priory (where it is said to have frequently attracted the notice of George IV., who, when Prince of Wales, was often the guest of the late Colonel Newton, from its strong resemblance to a bearded specimen of the fair sex). He married for his first wife, Jane, daughter of John Apsley, of Thakeham, Esq., who died in 1627, Nov. 27; and secondly, Mrs. Standsfield, the grandmother of John Evelyn of the *Silva*. Having sided with the Parliament in the Civil Wars,<sup>20</sup> he was made one of the commissioners for managing Sussex, March 1, 1644. He died 1648, May 21, *ætat.* 84, leaving, with several daughters, an only son, William, born in 1598, married to Dorothy, daughter of Sir John Rivers, Bart., of Chaford, in Kent. He died on Oct. 12, 1658, leaving two sons: William, who died *s.p.* in 1686; and Apsley, who was born May 11, 1639, admitted of Gray's Inn in 1659, and died at Southover, April 29, 1718, *ætat.* 79, leaving, by Elizabeth his wife (daughter of Richard Caldecott, Esq.), who died 1725, December 25, *ætat.* 81, two daughters, Grace and Philadelphia, a son, Apsley, who all died *s.p.*,<sup>21</sup> and a son William, who was born 1665, and having married Ann, daughter of Richard Payne, Esq., M.P. for Lewes, died April 5, 1706, leaving, besides two younger sons who died unmarried, an elder son, William, born in 1691, who, in 1740, laid claim to East Mascalls on the death of Captain George Newton, and died at Southover, *s.p.* Oct. 31, 1775, *ætat.* 84; a second son, Apsley,<sup>21</sup> who was the grandfather of the late Colonel William Newton of Southover, and George Neville Newton,<sup>21</sup> born in 1696, the grandfather of

<sup>20</sup> *Vide* vol. v. *Civil War in Sussex*.

<sup>21</sup> Their portraits exist at Southover.

Elizabeth Newton, the wife of Wm. Courthope Mabbott, Esq. who, on the death of Elizabeth, widow of Col. Newton, in 1837 succeeded to the estates of her ancestors, and is the present hospitable possessor of Southover Priory.

This sketch of the family history, deduced from the most remote period to the present time, can scarcely be better concluded than in the words which Thomas Newton, the poet, prefixed in 1576 to a translation of Ossorius's *Discourse of Civil and Christian Nobilitie* :—

“ Magna est Nobilibus laus esse parentibus ortum,  
 E studiis majus stemma decusque fluit :  
 Maxima sed Pietas, et vera insignia laudis  
 Vindicat, haud una concelebranda chely.  
 Qui tribus his claret titulis, ter maximus ille  
 Ter merito felix, ter venerandus erit.”

which may be less worthily rendered in an English garb :

From honoured house 'tis honour to have sprung,  
 Greater to tread where honour points the way,  
 To Heav'n's behests and virtue to have clung,  
 How far the greatest, abler pen must say.  
 He whose proud title to all these is known,  
 How trebly honoured ! let the wide world own.



Southover Priory.

CHESHIRE NEWTONS.—*Fide* Harl. 1535, & 2142.

WILLIAM DE NEWTON,  
of Newton, in Cheshire.

*ante* 1302.  
Thomas de Newton = Sibella, da. and heiress of Thomas de Davenport,  
of Newton and Wydford.

Richard de Newton, = Fenella, da. of . . . Worth,  
of Titherington.  
ob. 1336.

Ist. 1395. 2nd.  
Milla, da. of Wm. Downes, = Richard de Newton, = Jane, da. of Roger Barton,  
divorced Feb. 9, 1394. bu. at Prestbury, 1396-7 of Irlam. Peter. Nicholas.

1 1429.  
Thomas. Edward. Oliver Newton; died of the = Alice, da. and coheirss of = 2nd. Lawrence Lowe,  
plague, and was buried at William de Milton: of Denby, Esq.  
St. Andrew's, Holborn, 1453. ob. 1492.

*ante* 1466.  
2. Robert. 1. Richard Newton; = Jane, da. of Jeffery Lowe.  
3. Thomas. born March 14, 1430; died 1497. of Denby Manor, co. Derby; ob. 1498.

April 7, 1490.  
5 daughters. Humphrey Newton; = Ellen, da. and coheirss of  
born Oct. 3, 1466; Thomas Fitton, Esq., of  
died March 22, 1537. Pownall Hall: ob. May 3, 1537.  
*Inq. P.M.*

1 May 12, 1523. 3 4 2  
Maud, &c. William Newton, = Katherine, Hugh, = Francis, Humphrey = Ethelred, da.  
Margaret; Anne; da. of Pownall and da. of Sir John of Lostock. = of Mober- of Newton, and coheir of  
arnell; Frances. Newton; Manwaring, of Peover; ley. of Fulshaw Lawrence  
born 1496, Jan. 30. died 1529. liv. in 1567. Starkey, and  
ob. 1574, May 4. *Inq. P.M.* 18 Eliz. Anne his wife.

1 3 4 = 6 5 2  
John = John William = Parnella, = Wm. Humphrey. = Kate, da. Hugh. Ed- = Alice. Nicho- Law- Wil-  
Booth. Newton of John Daven- Mere de phrey. of Ryley. ward, las. rence, liam,  
Pownall; John port. Mere de Robert, of Ellen, da. Hugh. of of of South-  
liv. 1568; John Mere 2nd Fulshaw. = Ellen, da. of Butley. Alice. Nicho- of Lewes. over.  
ob. *ante* husband. = Ellen, da. of Browns- of . . . of . . . See  
*patrem.* William = da. of Henry Howard, of Congleton. ward. las. Pel- Pel- next  
land. land. page.

Humphrey. William Newton, of Pownall; = Margaret, Rev. Thomas Edward. Eliz. Honor.  
John. living 1596; et. 8, 17 Eliz.; daughter of Newton, William,  
Randall. heir to his grandfather; John Mere Poet and Divine, bapt. at  
ob. 18 May, 1597. de Mere; Rector of Southover,  
*Inq. P.M.* 39 Eliz. living 1596. Ilford, Essex; 1563, Aug 1.  
obit. 1607, May.

John; William Newton, of Pownall; = Margery, da. of  
ob. *s. p.* et. 10 in 1597; ob. 1620, Lawrence Wright;  
*ante* 1620. May 21. *Inq. P.M.* ob. 1628 (of Nantwich).

1 4 1 2 3  
William. Katherine, et. at. 12. Margaret, et. at. 28. Margerie, et. at. 18. Anna, et. 15, in 1621.  
*Inq. P.M.* Peter Manwaring, Jun. John Wad. Richard Kelsall. Anthony Rudeard



## NEWTONS OF LINDFIELD.

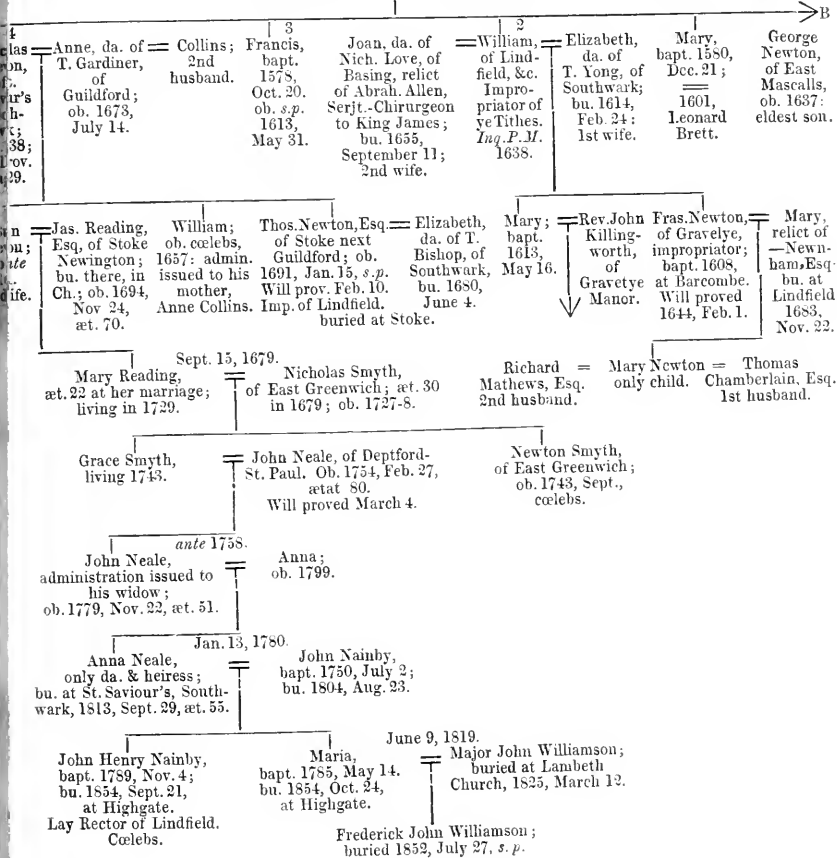


Newton, of Pownall and Southover.

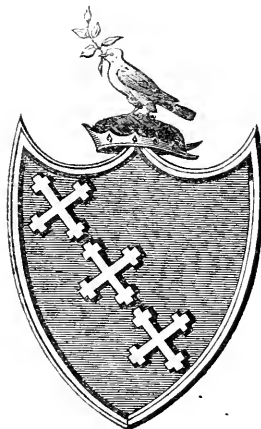
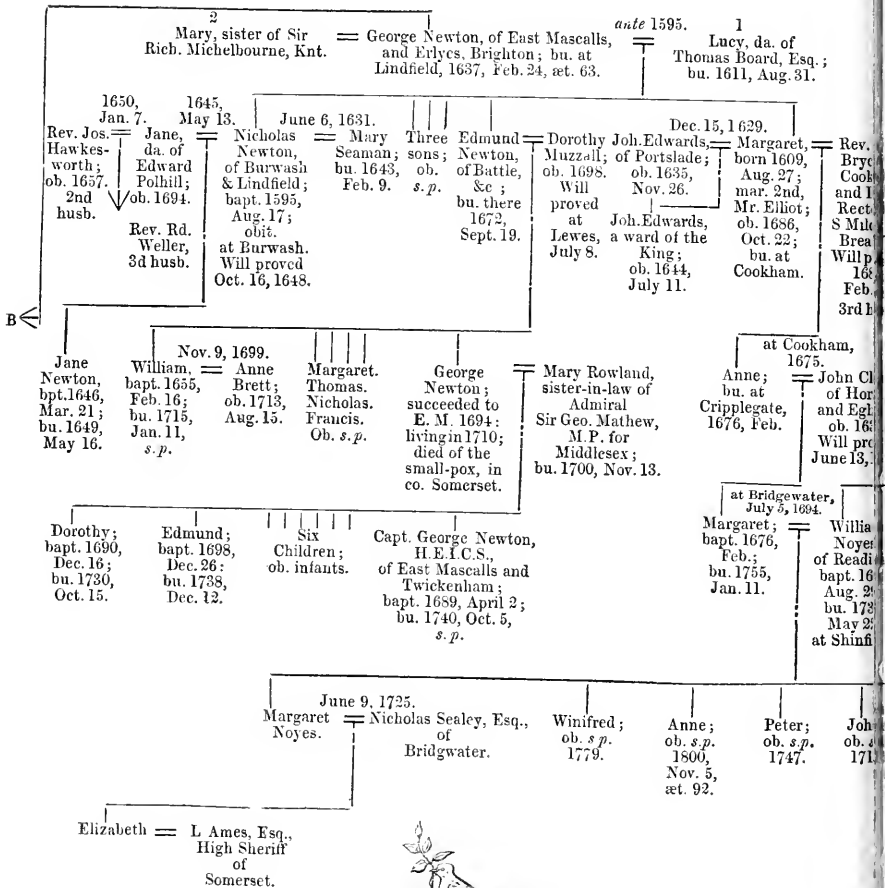
Nicholas Newton,  
of East Mascalls;  
bur. at Lindfield,  
1601, Oct. 12:  
eldest son.

*ante 1575.*

Alice, da. of  
J. Vickery,  
of Barcombe;  
bur. at Lindfield,  
1696, Jan. 22.



NEWTONS OF EAST MASCALLS.—Cf. Harl. MS. 6164.



Noyes, of Trunkwell and East Mascalls.



NOYES OF EAST MASCALLS.—Cf. Harl. MS. 1483, 1532.

Richard Noyes, of Fulsham. Will proved at Oxford, 1565. Agnes. Will proved at Oxford, 1555.

Peter Noyes, of Blissimore Hall, Weyhill, co. Hants. Living in 1575; cousin of Wm. Noyes, Lay Prebend of Erchfont, co. Wilts, in 1540.

Edith; buried at Weyhill, 1554, Jan. 17.

John Noyes, of Trunkwell House, Shinfield, co. Berks. Contributed £25 for ye Defence of the Country, in 1585. Will proved at D.C. 1607.

Sept. 20, 1581. n, da. and heiress of Nicholas Bacon, Esq. P.M. 1631. Oct. 16.

William, of Ram-ridge House.

Peter Noyes, of Andover and Weyhill; obit at Reading, 1647.

1590. Agnes Noyes, da. and coheiress; living in 1631. See "Fines."

Rev. Robert Wilde, D.D. = Joyce, bpt. 1607, Nov. 27. 1 John, ob. inf. 3 Michael.

William. Peter Noyes, of Andover & Trunkwell House; bpt. Sept. 2; ob. at Trunkwell, 1645.

1621. Eleanor, d. of Adr. Kirby, of Basing, Esq.; waged a Chanc. Suit with her father-in-law, in 1646.

6 Anne, da. of Robert Noyes, Esq., Lord of ye Manor of Hatherden Regis, near Andover; son of Robert Noyes, Prebend of Erchfont.

Anne; 1622. Eleanor; bpt. 1623. John; bpt. 1629; ob. 1668.

Peter Noyes, of Trunkwell and Weyhill; bpt. 1625; ob. 1666, Nov. 29.

1653. Winifred, da. of John White, of ye Inner Temple Esq., 2nd son of Martin White, of Fittleford, co. Dorset. Esq.; ob. 1702, at Reading, June 21.

2 John; ob. 1718, s.p. Peter Noyes, of Trunkwell House; bpt. 1654; bu. at Shinfield, 1711, Dec. 31. Sold ye estate at Weyhill & Andover.

1674. Mary; living, a widow, in 1715.

Rev. Samuel Noyes, D.D., Prebend of Winchester, Rector of North Church, Chaplain to the Duke of Marlborough's Forces in the Low Countries till 1705, of which Campaign his Journal is extant; ob. 1740, et. 79, celebs.

Susan = John King; ob. 1694, Nov. 22.

Kathe. = . . . Walter. rine.

At St. Paul's, June 28, 1726. Noyes, one of ye ts in Chancery; 1795, April 11; at Horsepath; dest son.

Martha, da. and heiress of Thos. Herbert, Esq., of Berkhamstead, Stretton, and Horsepath; bu. 1762, March 5.

Elizabeth Noyes, bpt. 1675; ob. 1695, Feb. s.p.

= Joseph Kiffin, brother of William Kiffin, of Bexfield, co. Essex, Esq.; ob. s.p. ante 1715.

Thomas Herbert Noyes, P., D.L., and Chairman of n. Sessions for Herts; of Berkhamstead St. Peter's; pt. 1727; ob. 1776, Dec. 15.

Dec. 17, 1756. Elizabeth, eld. of C. Halsey, Esq., M.P., of Gaddesden Park, Herts; ob. 1803, Apr. 30, et. 69, at Gaddesden.

William Herbert; bu. 1746, Nov. 25, s.p.

Rev. Thos. Herbert Noyes, Student of Ch. Ch., and Vicar of Bath Easton; ob. 1812, Aug. 8.

April 23, 1798, at Caversham. Maria Littlehales, sister of Col. Sir E. B. Baker, Bart., Secretary at War for Ireland; living 1857.

Elizabeth; ob. 1829, s.p.

Bendall; Peter Charles Ada bo. 1832; Macdonald Maria ob. 1855. Lockhart.

as Herbert Noyes, F.R.S.L. & S., J.P. for Sussex; B.A. of ; of East Mascalls, & 32. Dover London; born Aug. 31, 1800.

Sept. 26, 1826. Mary Elizabeth, eld. da. of J. Thompson Halsey, Esq., M.P., of Gaddesden Park, Herts; brother of Richard Wateley, Archbishop of Dublin.

Bendall Frederick. = Sophia Franklin.

2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3
Edward Herbert; bpt. at William Lindfield, July 23, 1835.	Kenna-way Herbert; Oct. 15, 1838.	Lionel Herbert; Oct. 15, 1838.	Frederick Robt. Halsey Herbert; bpt. Nov. 29, 1839.	Hamilton Herbert; bpt. Aug. 24, 1841; ob. inf. 1848.	Philip Algernon Herbert; bpt. Aug. 21, 1843.	Charlotte Elizabeth Herbert.	Alice Herbert.	Fanny Herbert.
						4	5	
						Mary Blanche Herbert.	Sybil Evelyn Herbert.	
Licut. 55th Lt. Int.								

*Blazon of the Arms of the Families referred to in the preceding pages, which are quartered by THOMAS HERBERT NOYES, of East Mascalls.*

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1. Noyes . . . . Azure, 3 cross Crosslets in Bend, Argent.
2. Clarke . . . . Argent, 3 Ogresses ppr., two and one.
3. Brice . . . . Sable, a Griffin passant, Or.
4. Newton, of Southover. { Argent, a Lion rampant, Sable, armed Gules, tail forked, on the shoulder a Cross patée of the field; a Crescent for difference.
5. Newton, of Newton } Argent, a Chevron, Sable, between 3 Popinjays Vert, beaked and membered, Gules.
6. Davenport . Argent, a Chevron between 3 cross Crosslets fitchée, Sable.
7. Milton . . . . Argent, a Cross engrailed, Azure, charged with 5 Garbs, Or.
8. Grafton . . . Per Saltire, Sable and Ermine, a Lion rampant, Or.
9. Fitton . . . { Argent, a Canton Gules, over all a Bend, Azure, charged with 3 Garbs, Or; Crescent for difference.
10. Massey, of Dunham Massey. } Quarterly, Gules and Or in 1st quarter, a Lion passant, Ar.
11. Pownall . . . Argent, a Lion rampant, Sable, langued Gules.
12. Olton . . . . Quarterly, Gules and Argent, over all a Lion rampant, Ar.
13. Leighton . . Argent, 3 Eagles' Heads, Sable, beaked, and erased, Or.
14. Wrenbury . . Argent, a Chevron, Sable, between 3 Wrens, Gules.
15. Aldelym . . . Gules, 3 Boars' Heads, Ermine.
16. Cradock . . . Argent, a Chevron, Azure, charged with 3 Garbs, Or.
17. Starkey . . . Argent, a Stork, Sable, membered Gules.
18. Erneley . . { Argent, a Bend, Sable, charged with 3 Eagles displayed of the field.
19. Herbert . . { Per Pale, Azure and Gules, 3 Lions rampant, Argent; a Mullet for difference.

*Of these, Nos. 4 to 17 are also quartered by Mrs. MABBOTT, of Southover Priory, with the additional Coats of*

- 15<sup>a</sup>, . Apsley . . Argent, 3 Bars, Gules; a Canton, Ermine.
- 16<sup>a</sup>, . Caldecott { Per Pale, Or and Azure, on a chief Gules, 3 Leopards' faces of the first.
- 17<sup>a</sup>, . Gear . . { Gules, 2 Bars, Or, on each 3 Mascles, Azure; on a Canton of the second, a Leopard's Head of the third.





ECHINGHAM CHURCH.

From the North-east

# ECHINGHAM CHURCH.

BY WILLIAM SLATER, ESQ.

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READ AT THE BODIAM MEETING, JULY 10, 1856, AND SINCE REVISED AND EXTENDED.

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THE village of Echingham is in the rape of Hastings, and hundred of Henhurst. The situation of the church is very beautiful, in the centre of a vale surrounded by wooded hills, and near the river Rother, about four miles above Robertsbridge. Until lately it was a secluded spot; but the railway from Tunbridge to Hastings, which now passes near the church, has made it easy of access; and, as few village churches in this division of the county have excited so much general interest, the lovers of architecture and antiquity may be congratulated on this facility.

Doubtless the site has been occupied by a church from very early times; but of the original church or its history we know but little. The present was erected by Sir William de Echingham, who died in 1388, or, according to the modern computation, in 1389.

The family had been long distinguished in the county. The first whose name is found on record is a William de Echingham, who witnessed a grant by Henry Earl of Ewe to the Abbey of Robertsbridge, in the reign of Henry II. He, and also his son and grandson, presently mentioned, were probably vassals of the Earls of Ewe, until their possessions in this country came to the crown. To those earls belonged the rape and castle of Hastings; and the stewardship of that rape is said to have been hereditary in the family of Echingham; but if so, this was not clearly the case in the time of King John, for the claim to it by Simon, the son of the above-named William, was disputed by a Robert de Hastings, who alleged that his father, William de Hastings, died seized of that stewardship, and a

jury of knights was summoned, in 9 John, to try the question. The result is not known; but, as the Echinghams are generally reputed to have been hereditary stewards, it was, most likely, in Simon's favour. He married in 1183 Alicia, a daughter of Joscelyn Fitz-Reinfrid. King John took offence at his fortifying his house; and, in the third year of his reign, there was a precept to the sheriff of Sussex, directing him to take with him the *posse comitatus* and go and demolish it, as it had been fortified without license, after the peace between the King and his barons (*Rot. Lit., Claus. i.* page 404 *b*). Whether this command was carried into effect, is not recorded. The time of his death does not appear; but his widow may have been the Ala (probably for Alicia) de Echingham against whom we find, in the *Abbreviatio Placitorum*, p. 69, a writ of attachment was issued respecting certain sea-walls between Seaford and Lewes, in the reign of King John. He probably left a son Simon, whose son William succeeded him and married, in 1246, Margaret or Margery, a daughter and coheir of William de Montacute, son, it should seem, of Drogo de Montacute, ancestor of the Earls of Salisbury of that name; but dying without issue, in 1252, his brother Simon was his heir. This Simon is said to have been sheriff of Sussex in 1235 and 1236, which is hardly correct; for, if he were thirty-five years of age (as the Inquisition states) in 37 Henry III. (1253), he was, at the time of such shrievalty, only seventeen or eighteen years old. That sheriff, therefore, was probably a cousin. The Simon de Echingham who succeeded his brother William died, it is considered, about 1268, leaving his son William his heir; who in that year had a grant of free warren on his several manors, as well in Sussex as elsewhere, and a market at Salehurst. He married Eva, daughter and coheir of Ralph de Stopeham; and was assessor and collector for the county of the thirtieth granted by the southern counties, at Northampton, in 11 Edw. I. (1283), a conservator of the peace under the statute of Winton, and a knight of the shire in 1290. He died in 22 Edw. I. (1293), and was succeeded by his son William, then aged twenty-eight, under whom the family attained its greatest influence and importance. He and his consort (whose name is not given), and also his brother Robert and his consort (also unnamed), were invited to attend the

coronation of Edward II. and his Queen, in 1308. He was a commissioner of array and conservator of the peace for the county. The various writs, summoning him to military duties, show that in all probability he served both in Gascony and against the Scots, as well as supported the crown against the insurgent barons under Thomas Earl of Lancaster. He is said to have been present at their defeat in the battle of Boroughbridge. After attending two Parliaments as knight of the shire, he was summoned as a baron to that of 1311, and thenceforth to the several Parliaments till his death, in 20 Edward II. (1326). Sir Robert de Echingham, most likely his brother and heir, succeeded him; though some writers say he left issue.—(See Banks' *Baronia Concentrata*, i. p. 198.) He was also knight of the shire in 1315, 1321, and 1322, and is stated by Dugdale to have been summoned to Parliament as a baron in 1 Edw. III., but this appears to be an error. He was also captain and chief commissioner of array for the counties of Sussex and Surrey. In 2 Edw. III. (1328), he died without issue, leaving his brother Simon his heir, whom the records exhibit chiefly in a state of litigation. The time of his death is not stated, but in or before 1333 he should seem to have been succeeded by his nephew, Sir James de Echingham, son of his brother Richard. In 1348, Sir James petitioned the King for the removal of an obstruction of the Rother at Knellesflete, by which ships and boats (*niefs et bateaux*) were prevented from coming into his manor of Echingham, and [the trade of] the town of Salehurst, and also his market there, were destroyed.—(*Rot. Parl.*, ii. p. 211.) He died in the 23 Edw. III. (1349), seized of Echingham and several other manors in Sussex, and leaving two sons, William and Robert. The name of his wife has not been discovered. William, the elder son and heir, was then, as the Inquisition states, sixteen years of age and upwards (a common phrase in those documents, importing but a small excess), so that he may be assumed to have been born about 1333. To him, as has been mentioned, we owe the rebuilding of the church which forms the subject of this paper.<sup>1</sup> Few other acts are recorded of him, but this alone amply suffices to give him a claim to

<sup>1</sup> In the preparation of the preceding brief notice of Sir William's ancestors, assistance has been derived from Mr.

Spencer Hall's *Echyngham of Echyngham*, pp. 22, London, 1850, where some other particulars of the family may be found.

honourable mention. He married a lady with the Christian name of Elizabeth, but neither her parentage nor her maiden surname has been discovered, except as it is indicated by the arms of Shoyeswell having been impaled with those of Echingham on the brass to his memory. Shoyeswell was the name of a family at Echingham, and is still the name of a house there, and also of a hundred in the rape of Hastings. Some have supposed it to be a corruption of the French name Choiseul. In what manner she or her husband was connected with Sir Nicholas Criol of Kent does not appear, though, according to the note of his will, given in the *Testamenta Vetusta*, p. 103, he bequeathed 20 marcs to Elizabeth Echingham, and appointed Sir William Echingham, Robert Echingham, and Thomas Brokhull, his executors. This will was dated in September, 1379. The arms of Sir Nicholas Criol were *or* two cheveronels and a canton *gu.*; and a coat corresponding with them formerly existed on a brass to the memory of Sir William's son and grandson, which I shall have occasion to notice. It has been supposed, if there be not a tradition, that it was at Sir William's house at Echingham that Queen Philippa and her ladies anxiously waited for the return of King Edward and the Black Prince, when they went with the English fleet to engage the Spanish off Winchelsea. Froissart describes the battle, and states that it was witnessed by the Queen's attendants from the hills of the coast. After the victory, the King, the Prince, and others put back to Rye and Winchelsea, and, arriving there soon after nightfall, they took horses, says the chronicler, in the town, and rode to the mansion where the Queen was, scarcely two English leagues distant.<sup>2</sup> Froissart might easily err as to the distance; a greater difficulty in the way of accepting this tradition, if such it be, as regards Echingham is, that this engagement took place in 1350, when the young lord of Echingham was little more than seventeen years old. Still, whoever had the wardship of him under the King may have entertained the Queen at his manor. The death of this Sir William has been mentioned. The brass to his memory yet exists in the floor of the chancel, though somewhat mutilated, with two inscriptions, one in French and the other in Latin. From the former we learn that he died

<sup>2</sup> Johnes' Translation, i. p. 389, Additions from Hafod MSS.

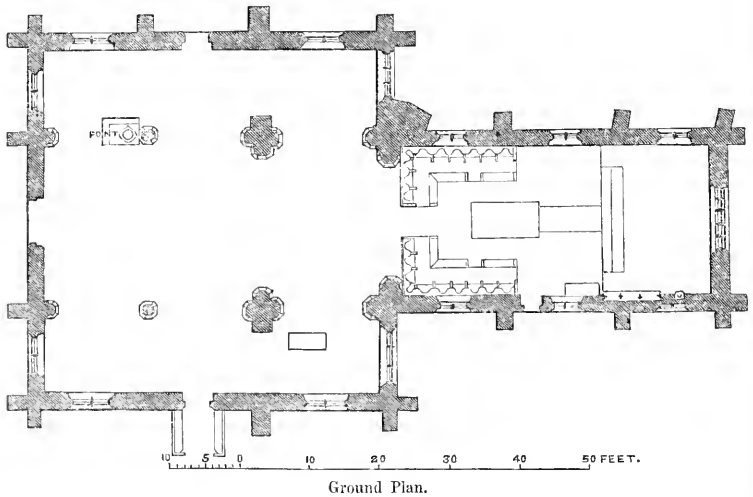


18th January, 1388-9, and, as it is stated with unusual precision, about midnight; and from the other, that he caused the church to be rebuilt (*de novo re-edificari*), in honour of God and the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Nicholas. At the time the re-erection was commenced, Adam de Foxle was probably "parson."

The Latin inscription above mentioned, and hereafter given at length, affords evidence of the existence of a previous church; but we have the most conclusive proof of this in a doorway, now walled up, distinct in its features, and evidently of about the time of King John. This doorway is in the south side of the present chancel: it has a pointed trefoil head, and was probably built into the new work in its former position. It will occur to most persons at all familiar with our ancient churches, that many instances exist in which a principal door of early date has been retained as the only remnant of a demolished church, and been made to fulfil its original duty in an edifice of a later style of medieval art; but it is not a common instance to find one of the kind under consideration. In addition to this doorway we have also the font—clearly of earlier date than the present church.

Echingham Church is particularly valuable and interesting, not only for the boldness and beauty of its outline and proportions, and the elegance and variety of its details, but also for the peculiarities in their form and style, and for its height, which, for a village church of its dimensions, is unusually great in proportion to its length and breadth, and for the completeness of the design, which is all of one date, excepting only the door before referred to. There is altogether, in the whole design and also in the tracery and details, a tendency to the style of our continental neighbours, which has led some to think that it may have been the work of a foreign architect—an opinion that may be supposed to receive some sanction from the French inscription on Sir William's brass, at a period when that language had ceased to be generally used for sepulchral memorials. No evidence has been met with of his having been in France; but, as a knight of that period in the vigour of manhood, it is not improbable that he was engaged in the French wars under Edward III. or the Black Prince. However that may be, the value of the church as an architectural example is especially enhanced by the accuracy with which its

date is ascertained. It consists, as the plan here given and the view and section show, of a chancel of somewhat unusual length in proportion to the other parts, and a nave with two

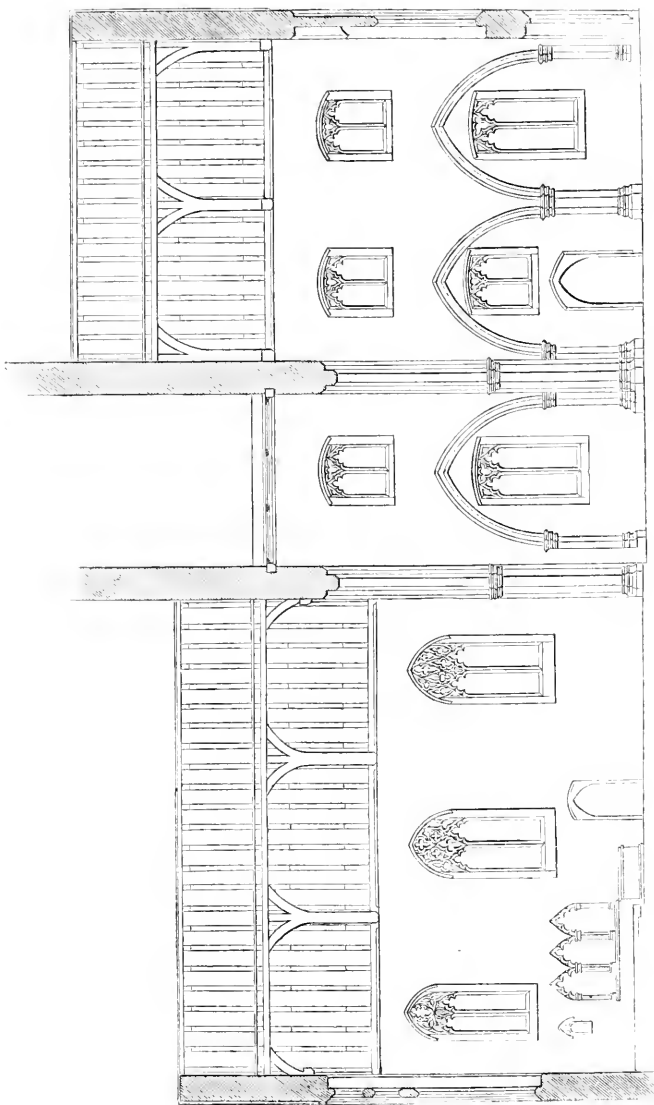


aisles, the east end in both aisles being dedicated as chantries, and preserving to this day, in some respects, the distinctive character of those appendages. The nave has a clerestory, and the tower is a central one. The south aisle has attached to it a very small wooden porch. So far the church remains, save as to sad dilapidations of time and neglect, in the state in which it was completed by its designer, wanting only what appears to have been a sacristy or vestry attached to the north side of the chancel, of which only a few corbel stones outside the chancel wall, and other slight traces, remain.<sup>3</sup>

The chancel measures 43 feet 3 inches by 21 feet, and is divided in length into three bays, each bay being provided with a two-light window on each side, the six windows exhibiting varieties of flowing tracery, which commences below the springing of the window arches. The east window is one

<sup>3</sup> Very recently, in the course of the work now in progress, some excavations for drainage on the north side of the chancel brought to light foundations of considerable extent, showing that not only a sacristy or vestry, but also a chantry chapel in all probability once existed there. A stone coffin, with a lid having a cross incised upon it, but wanting a small portion

at the top, was also discovered in what should seem to have been its original position, within the site of the chantry. The cross was floriated, and no doubt once filled with brass: the upper half is missing. Judging from what remains, it was probably of quite the latter part of the fourteenth century, or somewhat later.



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SECTION OF THE CHURCH

From East to West.



of great beauty, and nearly unique; but it is curious that the church at Lindfield, in the centre of the county, has a window identical in design, though Lindfield Church does not possess any other feature at all of the foreign type so strongly marked in the tracery of this window. The Lindfield window is drawn in Brandon's *Analysis of Gothic Architecture*. There are sedilia and a piscina on the south side. The trefoil-headed door in the same side of early date has been already referred to. The chancel roof is well pitched, and of the ordinary tie-beam and king-post kind of Kent and Sussex, but was not originally plastered as it is now, the timbers having been at first exposed to view.

The nave and aisles, with their chantries, are of equal length, viz., 47 feet 2 inches; the total width from north to south being 49 feet 6 inches. The north aisle is slightly wider than the south, the difference being only ten inches; so slight, that it is difficult to assign a reason for so trifling a variation from uniformity. The nave, like the chancel, is divided in length, into three bays, and over the eastern one is the tower, carried on four simple arches, and, rising above the nave roof: it terminates with a plain parapet, and low pyramidal roof, having on its apex the original vane.

A vane of the latter part of the fourteenth century is so rare, that a wood-cut of this is given in the margin.—It is of copper, banner-shaped, about 1 ft. 7½ inches, by 1 ft. 1½ inch, somewhat irregular in outline, and with an ornamented top. It is about  $\frac{1}{16}$  of an inch in thickness, and pierced so as to display an escutcheon fretty of six pieces for the arms of Echingham. Thus it resembles the banner of Sir William, except that a banner would have had the arms on the banner itself



as the field, and not on an escutcheon. In each of the lower spandrels is a pointed trefoil. The clips or hinges, which are of iron, are  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch in bore, and fastened on with rivets. They are probably at least the third set. There are some vacant rivet-holes on both the longer sides, and also at the bottom. Those near the present clips were no doubt used for fastening former ones; but the holes on the opposite side and at the bottom may have served to attach slight ornamental appendages, such as are sometimes represented on early vanes.—(See an example, *Glossary of Architecture*, i. p. 395.) It turns on an iron spindle, passing through all the clips, and is supported on a shoulder at the bottom. The clips and spindle were probably always of iron, and hence the more frequent need of their renewal. The staff is 3 feet 10 inches from the apex of the roof to the lower side of the vane.

The aisle windows are of two lights in the sides and west end, and of three lights in the east end, all having flat segmental heads arched in one curve; and the tracery is very peculiar in its treatment. Besides the south entrance, there is a western door in the centre of the end of the nave. The west window over the door is small, though of three lights, and with tracery of very uncommon design, commencing, as that in the chancel windows, below the springing. In many churches of Sussex the reduced size of the west window is observable; probably this was on account of its exposure to the south-westerly storms. In Old Shoreham Church the window is altogether omitted; in New Shoreham Church there is a very small one. Of course there are exceptions to this rule, as in the church at Ticehurst, the adjoining parish to Echingham, where the west window of the tower is unusually large. The nave roof is of the tie-beam kind, well pitched; and the clerestory of good height, with windows similar to those of the aisles. The roofs are all covered with tiles.

The pleasing and picturesque effect of the church in outline derives increased beauty from the fine grey colour that time has given to the native sandstone, of which the walls are constructed; and, notwithstanding the admiration which cannot fail to be excited, it will be observed that the greatest simplicity of construction is used: so much so, that the upper roofs are finished without any coping-stones, or other finish at the ends than such as is afforded by the tile covering.

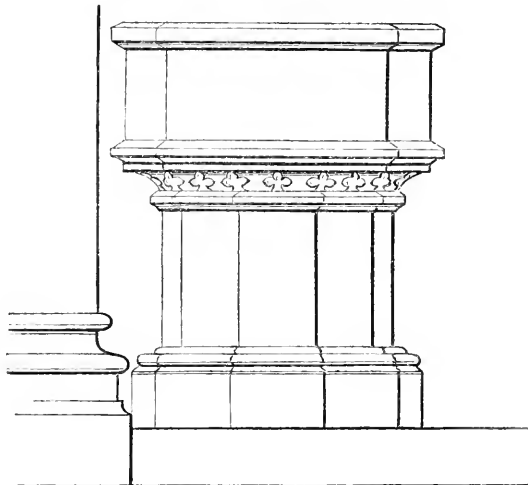




CHANCEL STALLS,  
With Stairs to the Tower.



In the interior the effect is much marred by the obvious want of care, which has permitted a considerable amount of disrepair, and has disfigured the walls and masonry with whitewash; besides that, the painted glass, which once distributed its glowing shades from every window, has now perished, leaving a few mere shreds and fragments. Still, there is preserved much of value to the archæologist and architect which is wanting in most of our churches once possessed of such objects. In the chancel, the original stalls and the chancel screen remain in such a state as to give a perfect idea of their original conditions: they are beautifully carved, and exhibit peculiarities in design corresponding with the character of the church. The chancel floor, too, is rich in encaustic tiles, exhibiting considerable variety of design and great beauty: they have been much disturbed in their arrangement, but fortunately the original design is preserved sufficiently to afford the means of ascertaining distinctly what it was. Few churches retain so completely as this does, their ancient ritual dispositions. Here it is nearly complete, even



Font.

the steps of the floor being the original ones. In the nave, modern pews have taken the place of the benches, which must have at first filled this part of the church. The font (of which a woodcut is here given) deserves attention; it is attached to

the west side of the single shaft on the north side of the nave. As before observed, it is of earlier date than the existing church; and probably may be assigned to the thirteenth century. It is of sandstone, with Purbeck marble shafts, and is octagonal in plan.

Of the memorials of the dead, the most remarkable, as might be expected, is that of the rebuildier. It is a brass representing him in armour, and placed in the floor, immediately before the altar, outside of the rails.<sup>4</sup> The hands are in an attitude of devotion, and at the feet is a lion couchant. The head was missing before 1788, and the escutcheons of arms before 1776. They are said to have been two: viz., on the right side of the figure, fretty of six pieces for Echingham; and on the left the same, impaling on a bend three horseshoes for Shoyeswell. Over the head, on a circular plate of brass that is now attached to the wall over the altar tomb presently mentioned, was the following inscription:—

Iste Will'm's fecit ista' eccl'iam de nobo  
restituari in honore' Dei et Assu'pc'o'is Beate  
Marie et S'e'i Nich'i, qui qu'd'm fuit  
filius Jacobi de Echingham militis.

At the foot is the following in four lines:—

De terre fu fet & fourme,  
Et en terre fu retourne:  
William de Eching'm estoic nome,  
Dieu de malme eic; pitee:  
Et vous qi par ici passez  
Pur l'alme de moy pur Dieu priez:  
Qi de Januere le xbiij jo'  
De cy passai lan n're Seignour,  
Mill' trois centz quat' vintz oept,  
Come Dieu volait ento' my noct.

According to Hayley, some years ago, on taking up the slab to which the brass is affixed, the deceased was found to have been interred in a stone coffin, to which it was the lid or cover.—(*Additional MSS.* No. 6358, fo. 1.)

<sup>4</sup> The places which this and the brasses floor are shown in the ground-plan, p. subsequently mentioned occupy on the 348.

The pious and munificent person, the record of whose noble example it is hoped may yet endure to invite to worthy emulation a distant posterity, was, as we have seen, the representative of a long line of distinguished ancestors; and in his male descendants the family was further continued for several generations. Some of these have also been interred in this church.

On a stone in the chancel, a little westward of the preceding memorial, is a large brass, representing two knights in armour and a lady between them, under a triple canopy; their hands are in an attitude of prayer. At the feet of each knight is a lion, and at the lady's feet a dog. Below is the following inscription:—

**Hic jacent Will'mus Echyngham miles, D'n's de Echyngham, qui obiit xx<sup>o</sup> die mensis Martii Anno D'ni Mil'mo cccc<sup>o</sup>.xii<sup>o</sup>; Et D'na Johanna consors sua, que obiit primo die mensis Septembris Anno Domini Mil'mo cccc<sup>o</sup> quarto; Et Thomas Echyngham miles, D'n's etiam de Echyngham, filius eor', qui obiit xv<sup>o</sup> die Octobr' A<sup>o</sup> D'ni Mil'mo cccc<sup>o</sup> xliiii<sup>o</sup>; q'r' a'i'ab; p'piciet<sup>r</sup> Deus. Amen.**

Most of the escutcheons have disappeared. There were formerly nine, viz., one on each of the four principal pinnacles, and over the lady's head another; and below the inscription four more. According to Hayley, on the middle one of the five (that over the lady's head) was quarterly 1st and 4th, a lion rampant (for Fitzalan), 2nd and 3rd, fretty of six pieces (for Maltravers). On the two outside ones was fretty of six (for Echingham); and on the two others the same, impaling the quarterly coat just mentioned. The escutcheons below the inscription were—1. fretty of six pieces, Echingham, impaling a bend within a bordure engrailed (probably for Knivet); 2. Echingham as before, impaling 2 chevronels and a canton or quarter (probably for Criol); 3. Echingham as before, impaling on a bend three horseshoes (for Shoyeswell); 4. Echingham as before, impaling quarterly 1st and 4th, three crescents and a canton (for Stopeham,<sup>5</sup> though not the coat

<sup>5</sup> This coat is one of four, in cross point to point, on a seal of Sir William de IX.

Echingham, who died 22 Edward I., or of his son of that name, which is given in

ascribed to the family of that name in West Sussex), 2nd and 3rd, three birds. The last coat has not been identified; the birds appear to be aquatic, and have some resemblance to geese; the beaks and legs are hardly long enough for storks or cranes. Of the four escutcheons below there now remains only the last, which is of white metal, and has been supposed by some to have replaced a former one. Of the upper ones there is left only the sinister half of that which was on the second pinnacle, being the coats of Fitzalan and Maltravers quarterly.<sup>6</sup> In the last century this stone was taken up, and replaced after the interment there of a rector of Echingham, named John Latham. The Sir William Echingham commemorated by it, was the son of the rebuildier of the church, and married Joan, daughter of John Arundel, Lord Maltravers, the lady mentioned and portrayed on it. Sir Thomas Echingham, their son, also named in the inscription, married, first, Agnes Shoyeswell, and secondly, Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Knivet, of Norfolk.<sup>7</sup> The coat of Echingham impaling Criol is not accounted for; most likely some ancestor of Sir William married a Criol. The will of Sir Nicholas Criol, which has been mentioned, sanctions this supposition, and leads to an inference that such ancestor was not a remote one.

Against the south wall, between the sedilia and the chancel door, was a monument which, when Hayley wrote in 1776, had fallen down. Under it was the altar tomb which is shown in the plan and section of the church. Hayley says, "On the fragments of which monument fallen down there appears to have been a portraiture inlaid in brass, and four brass escutcheons; which (portraiture) together with three of the escutcheons are lost out; on the remaining one is quarterly 1st and 4th, *gu.* a lion rampant between six cross crosslets *or*, 2nd and 3rd, *az.* three leopards' heads jessant fleurs-de-lis *or*;" for De la Warr and West respectively (see *Roll t. Ric. II.*).

the title-page of Hall's *Echyngham*. The others are—1. Echingham; 2. on a chief two mullets (St. John); 3. Lozeny (perhaps for Ferrers). The pedigree does not account for the association of Echingham with either of the three additional coats on that seal except Stopelham.

<sup>6</sup> Grimm's drawing of this monument is evidently not to be relied on for the heraldry. Of the five upper escutcheons only half of the second remained when Hayley made his notes in 1776.

<sup>7</sup> The order of these marriages is doubtful.

He then mentions a brass plate, which still remains, on which is the following inscription:—

Hic jacet D'n's Thomas Echyngh'm miles,  
D'n's de Echyngham, qui obiit xx<sup>o</sup> die mensis  
Januarii A<sup>o</sup> D'ni mil'mo cccc<sup>o</sup> lxxxij<sup>o</sup>; cuius  
Anime p'piciet<sup>r</sup> Deus. Am'n.

This Thomas was the son of the Thomas last mentioned. He married Margaret, daughter of Reginald West, Lord de la Warr, and left two daughters. Whether this Thomas was the last male descendant of Sir William is not quite clear;<sup>8</sup> but shortly after his death we find Echingham and several other manors, which had been his, in the possession of Sir Goddard Oxenbridge, who married one of his daughters. (See Vol. VIII. of these *Collections*, p. 219.)

On the floor of the east end of the south aisle of the nave is a small brass, representing two ladies kneeling face to face, their hands in an attitude of prayer. Below are these inscriptions:—

Hic jacet Elizabeth Echyngham, filia  
primogenita Thome et Margarete  
Echyngham, que obiit tercio die  
Decembris A<sup>o</sup> D'ni M<sup>o</sup> cccc<sup>o</sup> liij<sup>o</sup>

Hic jacet Agnes Oxenbrigg, filia Roberti  
Oxenbrigg, q<sup>e</sup> obiit iiii<sup>o</sup> die Augusti  
A<sup>o</sup> D'ni M<sup>o</sup> cccc<sup>o</sup> lxxx<sup>o</sup> quor'  
animabus p'picietur Deus. Amen.

Agnes Oxenbrigg is represented as the larger of the two; she was probably an aunt of Sir Goddard Oxenbridge, whose grandfather was Robert. Elizabeth Echingham died so long before her father, that she was most likely but a child. The daughter, who survived and married Sir Goddard, was also named Elizabeth.

Of all the damage which time, neglect, or something worse, has inflicted on this interesting and venerable fabric, serious as it is in other respects, there is none so greatly to be deplored and so irreparable as the destruction of the painted glass, with which every window was filled by the munificent re-builder. Doubtless it had previously lost much of its beauty, but in 1784 it was such that Grimm made drawings of four of the windows in the chancel with coats of arms in them. It is remarkable however, that the glass appears to have undergone some rearrangement, if not some attempted restora-

<sup>8</sup> See Banks' *Baronia Concentrata*, i. p. 190.

tion also, shortly before Grimm's visit, unless he has used more than an artist's licence (which seems more probable); for his drawings are, as to the heraldry, and even as to the places that the various coats occupied, to a great extent irreconcilable with the minute description of the arms in the windows as given by Hayley only eight years previous. That apparently trustworthy observer of heraldry has left notes, not only of the arms in the chancel windows, but also of those in the nave; and these are now the best evidence, it is believed, of what arms were originally in the windows, and of the places which they occupied. These notes are to be found in the British Museum, *Add. MSS.*, No. 6358. As they may assist in identifying the few coats which remain, the substance of them, for the most part in Hayley's own words, with some explanatory remarks, is subjoined; a little abbreviation having been made, to avoid repetition, as he has a scheme showing what he supposed were the missing coats, and where they were placed. First as regards the chancel:—

In the great east window towards the top, in a row, were at that time these arms in the tracery, viz. :—

1. *Az.* semy of lis *or*, quartering *gu.* 3 lions passant guardant in pale *or*, having in chief over all a label *arg.*; for the Black Prince.

2. The same without the label; for King Edward III.

3. The same with a label *erm.*; for John Duke of Lancaster.

4. *Erm.*; or *arg.* 10 ermine spots *sa.*; for John Duke of Brittany, son-in-law of Edward III.

“The lower part of the east window consists of five lights, which have been now glazed,” says Hayley, “with plain glass; only at a little distance from the bottom of the middle one, is worked in this escutcheon of arms: Paly wavy of six *gu.* and *or.*,” (probably for Moleyns, and may have been taken from some window in the nave).

In the first south window at the very top, *az.* fretty of 6 *arg.*, Sir William Echingham, who rebuilt the church. In one part or panel at the bottom, France and England quarterly as before, with a label *arg.* charged with 9 torteaux; for Edmund of Langley, Earl of Cambridge.

In the first north window at the top, *or*, on a bend, *sa.* 3 horseshoes *arg.*, Shoyeswell, wife of Sir William Echingham.

In the second south window at the top, *gu.* 3 human legs and thighs, the thighs all joined at the fess point, and the legs flexed at the knees *arg.* (Isle of Man), quartering *arg.* 3 fusils conjoined in fess *gu.* (Montacute); for William de Montacute, King of Man and Earl of Salisbury. A little lower, *or* 3 torteaux and a label *az.*; for Hugh Courtenay, Earl of Devon. At the bottom in one part, *gu.* [a lion rampant] *or* (Fitzalan), quartering chequy *or* and *az.* (Warenne); for Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel: in the other part, Mortimer; for Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March.

In the second north window at the top, *gu.* 3 lions passant guardant in pale *or*, within a bordure *arg.*; for Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent. A little lower, *gu.* a chevron *or*, "thus for certain by mistake painted for *or* a chevron *gu.*;" for Hugh de Stafford, Earl of Stafford.

In the third south window at the top, *sa.* a cross engrailed *or*; for William de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk. At the bottom in one part, *gu.* a fess between 6 cross crosslets *or*; for Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick: and in the other, barry of 6, as in the 1st quarter, but as in the 4th of 8, *az.* and *arg.* 8 birds in orle *gu.* (Valence), quartering *gu.* . . . . .<sup>9</sup> for John Hastings, Earl of Pembroke.

In the third north window at the top, chequy *or* and *az.*, Warenne. At the bottom in one part, quarterly *gu.* and *or*, in the first quarter a mullet *arg.*; for Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford.

"The lower lights of the first and second north windows," Hayley says, "are now, in part, built up with stone, on account, I suppose, of a chapel or chancel added there and since demolished." It does not appear what was the condition of the lower part of the first south window, or of the third north window, that in each only one coat is mentioned as being there.

These are all the arms given by him as in the chancel when he took his notes. Judging from the remains of the painted glass given in Grimm's drawings, the plan of the subjects in the two-lighted windows was, in each light a saint under a

<sup>9</sup> This coat was unquestionably for Hastings—*or* a maunch *gu.* Hayley seems to have been aware of this; yet it is remarkable that he should have given the

field as *gu.* Most likely a fragment only remained; and either the painting was originally erroneous, or a piece of the maunch had been leaded into the field.

canopy, and below them a square panel, within which was a coat of arms on a medallion without a shield; while in the tracery was one or sometimes two coats. It will be observed that only in the middle window on each side were there, in Hayley's time, two coats near the top. This was owing to a difference in the tracery of those windows. Now, Grimm has drawn four out of the six side windows; of these he calls two "south windows"; the situations of the other two are not specified; but, as each of these had two coats in the tracery, they were most likely the middle window on each side. He says nothing of the order of these windows, but, taking them as they come in his drawings, he represents the arms then in them as follows:—1. Echingham above, and Fitzalan and Warenne quarterly, and De Vere below. 2. Ufford above, and Beauchamp, and Valence and Hastings quarterly below. 3. Echingham above, Shoyeswell a little lower, and Stafford and De Coucy Duke of Bedford below. 4. Man and Montague quarterly above, Courtenay a little lower, and Mortimer and Hastings below. Here we find Echingham twice, which Hayley gives but once; and Hastings alone, and De Coucy, neither of which Hayley gives; while the quarter of Hastings with Valence is given quite brilliant and perfect as *or* a maunch *gu.*, and Stafford is also given correct, though Hayley says the tinctures were reversed; and Fitzalan has the lion rampant, but the field is *az.* instead of *gu.*: add to this, that it will be observed that several of the arms are not in the same windows in which Hayley states them to have been, but seem to have been wholly rearranged. It is just possible, that De Coucy and Hastings alone (which, if they then existed as they are given by Grimm, could hardly have been overlooked by Hayley) may have been in some way concealed from observation. The second Echingham may have come from the nave. It is remarkable, that in the drawings all the coats appear surrounded by plain white glass; which is not likely to have been really the case.

To return to Hayley's notes: in the top of each of the windows, both of the two aisles and the nave, was a shield of arms set up by the rebuilder, viz. :—

In the three south windows of the south aisle—1. *Az.* fretty of six *arg.* in chief over all a label *or*, Echingham (probably



for Sir William's eldest son); 2. *Az.* a sun in his splendour *or*, St. Clere; 3. *Gu.* a fess *erm.*, Wallis or Waleys.

And in the west window of that aisle, *or* on a bend *sa.* 3 horseshoes *arg.*, Shoyeswell.

In the three north windows of the north aisle—1. *Az.* fretty of six *arg.*, upon the *az.* above the fess point an annulet *arg.* or perhaps *or*, Echingham (probably a younger son or a brother of Sir William); 2. *Erm.* a cross engrailed *gu.*, Northwode; 3. *Arg.* a cross engrailed *gu.* Dalingrugge.

And in the west window of this aisle, *az.* fretty of six *arg.*, Echingham.

In the three windows of the body of the church on high (meaning no doubt the clerestory) towards the south—1. . . . . (implying either missing or unintelligible); 2. the remains of *az.* a cross patonce *or* (probably for Warde); 3. . . . . In the three windows towards the north—1. *az.* 3 ducal crowns *or*; 2. *az.* . . . . . *or*; 3. *gu.* 3 roundles, "one of the roundles is quite clear glass, and the other two appear tinged with yellow, and seem to have some blind lines upon them, as if they had been charged with something, and perhaps all within a border *arg.*"

At the top of the (middle) west window—*az.* fretty of six *arg.*, Echingham.

All this heraldry may enable us to approximate a little nearer to the exact date of this church. Hayley referred it to the end of the reign of Edward III.; and the arms in the chancel, as given by him, would suit very well with 1376. At that time Queen Philippa was dead: the Black Prince lived till June in that year. De Coucy, who was King Edward's son-in-law, and whose arms Grimm has given, had not then attached himself to France, and finally separated himself from his wife. The glazing of the nave might be expected to be a little later, and such would seem to have been the fact; for, beside that it shows Sir William Echingham, who appears to have been born about 1333, had then a son and heir apparent bearing arms, the other differenced coat of Echingham may have been that of a younger son; and if so, it would be reasonable to suppose that the father was something more than forty-three years of age. If then we assume 1380 as the

time when this church was completed, probably that would not be five years from the actual date.<sup>10</sup>

When, on the occasion of the Bodiam Meeting, in July, 1856, many members of the Society visited this church, the necessity of some measures being taken to prevent a further dilapidation of so interesting a structure, was brought to their notice; and to this may be attributed, in great measure, the facility with which so desirable an object has been put in a fair way of being accomplished. The walls were found to be in part in a most critical situation, some of the higher portions of the nave being not only as much as fourteen inches out of the perpendicular, thrust out from the decay of roof-timbers, but also shattered and broken by settlements. The reparation of these defects, in the most solid and substantial manner, but on the most strictly conservative principles, is now in progress, so that we may well hope to have preserved, to future ages, the noble gift of Sir William de Echyngham, which our generation have received in trust for the benefit of themselves and posterity.

<sup>10</sup> In extending this memoir I have been much indebted to W. H. Blaauw, Esq., and W. S. Walford, Esq., for valuable as-

sistance in the genealogical and heraldic portions.

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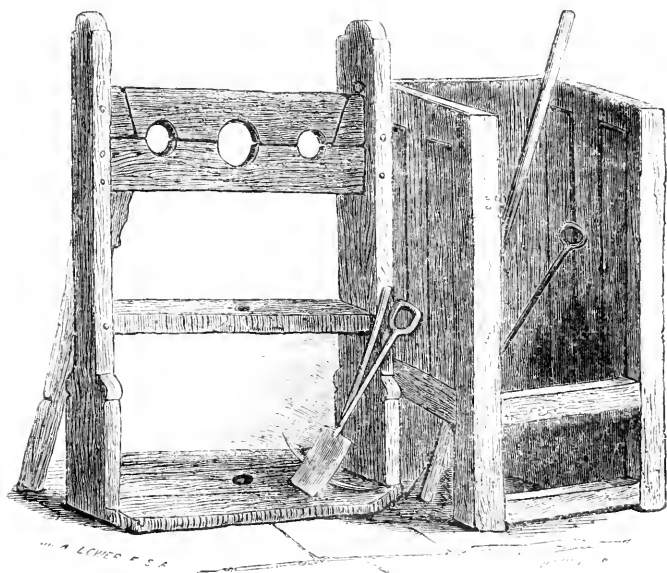
# SUSSEX NOTES AND QUERIES.

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### 1. Pillory and Cucking-Stool in Rye Church.

In the month of June, 1856, I made a sketch (from which the subjoined woodcut has been copied) of the pillory and cucking-stool then remaining,



amidst much useless lumber, in the disused portion of Rye Church. Some six months later, on visiting the church, I found that the stool had disappeared, and on inquiries being made, by my friend Charles Hicks, Esq., not only was it not forthcoming, but the fact of its having ever existed was positively denied!

The truth is, that the destroyers did not know what a cucking-stool was, and treated as so much firewood what was doubtless the last remaining instrument of torture of this kind in Sussex. The pillory was better understood, and was therefore preserved.

This latter machine, which measures about six feet in height by four in width, is in a fair state of preservation. It consists of two upright posts firmly affixed to a platform, and has two transverse rails, the upper one of which is divided horizontally, and has a hinge to admit of the higher portion being lifted so as to allow of the introduction of the culprit's head and hands. Through the platform and the lower rail there are round perforations, into which, when the instrument was in requisition, an upright bar, probably of iron, was introduced, so as to allow the pillory with its unfortunate tenant to be turned bodily round at pleasure.

The cucking-stool was a strong square frame-work of wood, one side being left open for the introduction of the offender, who was secured by one or more cross bars, of which some traces of the fastenings were discernible. Unfortunately, I did not examine this "curule chair" (as Butler has it in *Hudibras*) with sufficient care to ascertain how it was affixed to the lever, by which the occupant when duly installed was "ducked" into the pool or river, over which it was suspended.

The pillory is a punishment of very ancient date, and it has continued in use for some offences down to the present century. Indeed, I believe that the last implement of this species used in Sussex was constructed at Lewes scarcely fifty years ago, for the punishment of a person or persons who had aided the escape of a prisoner of war. If I am correctly informed, it was employed upon Fairlight Down. Throughout the middle ages, the pillory was used in all corporate towns for the punishment of men who broke the assize of bread and beer, and committed such-like small acts of injustice against the commonweal. It was constantly associated with the cucking-stool, which, when the culprit was a woman, was always resorted to. The curious poem on the times of Edward II. printed in Wright's *Political Songs*, (p. 345) concludes with the couplet—

"But bi seint Jame of Galicé that many man hath souht!  
The pillory and the cucking-stol beth i-mad for noht."

The cucking-stool was also used as a punishment for scolds. Gay, in his *Pastorals*, styles it—

"That stool, the dread of every scolding quean."

Perhaps one of the latest records of its employment is that contained in the *Evening Post* of April 27-30, 1745:—"Last week a woman that keeps the Queen's Head alehouse at Kingston in Surrey, was ordered by the court to be ducked for scolding, and was accordingly placed in the chair and ducked in

the river Thames, under Kingston Bridge, in the presence of 2000 or 3000 people." (Brande's *Pop. Antiq.*, edit. 1842, iii. 5:.) The cucking-stool, with its companion the pillory, is frequently mentioned in the corporation records of Seaford. (*Sussex Arch. Coll.*, Vol. VII. p. 100, &c.)

Several cucking-stools of different forms are still in existence, as at Leominster in Herefordshire, at St. Mary's Church, Warwick, and at the Custom-house, Ipswich. The last, with its *modus operandi*, is engraved in *Gent. Mag.*, Jan. 1831, p. 42. Much very curious information on the subject is also to be found in Brande's *Popular Antiquities*, and in Mr. Way's valuable *Promptorium Parcutorum*, pp. 107, 281, 167.

MARK ANTONY LOWER, F.S.A.

## 2. *Jeu d'Esprit of temp. King Edward VI.*

A Sussex knight, having spent a great estate at court, and reduced himself to one park and a fine house in it, was yet ambitious to entertain the King (Edward VI.). For that purpose he new painted his gates, with a coat of arms and this motto over them, in large golden letters—

OIA VANITAS.

Sir Anthony Cooke offering to read it, desired to know of the gentleman what he meant by OIA, who told him it stood for *Omnia*. "I wonder," replied he, "that, having made your *Omnia* so little as you have, you should yet make your *Vanitas* so large."

*Query*.—What is the source of this anecdote, and who was the vain but imprudent knight referred to?

J. G. NICHOLS, F.S.A.

From *Chalmers's Biographical Dictionary*:—"Edward VI., in 1552, went from Guildford to Petworth, Cowdray, Rolvenden (?) Warblington, Waltham, Portsmouth."

## 3. *Oxford Matriculations, 1615—1640.*

*Aedes Christi.*

Nov. 8, 1616.—Hallus Ravenscroft, Sussexiensis armigeri filius natu max<sup>us</sup> annos nat. 16.

Nov. 29, 1621.—Johes. Byne, Suthsexie. Eq. fil. 2<sup>dus</sup> an. nat. 18.

Feb. 7, 1627-8.—Rob. Randall, Southsex. fil. Roberti Randall de Chichester in com. p'd. pleb. an. natus 24.

Feb. 24, 1631-2.—Robtus. Moonk, Sussex. fil. Roberti Moonk de Steuing in com. p'd. sacer. an. nat. 18.

Nov. 3, 1637.—Johes. Sackuill, Sussex. fil. 1<sup>us</sup> Dni. Thomæ Sackuill de Sels Combe in com. p'd. Militis Balnej. an. nat. 17.

Thomas Sackuill, Sussex. fil. 2<sup>us</sup> Dni. Thomæ Sackuill de Sels Combe in com. p'd. Militis Balnej. an. nat. 15.

Thomas Summers: Sussex. fil. Ægidij Summers de Sels Combe in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 19.

- Dec. 10, 1641.—Thomas Ffarnfould, Sussex. fil. 2<sup>us</sup> Tho. Ffarnfould de Stenning in com. p'd. Equitis an. nat. 15.  
 Apr. 21, 1642.—Tho. Palmar, Sussex. fil. Guil. Palmar de Burgham in com. p'd. Gen. an. nat. 16.

*Coll. Magdalenense.*

- Jan. 26, 1615 (16).—Richardus Wardour, Sussexiensis, plebei filius annos natus 19.  
 Aprilis 26, 1616.—Gualterus Bucklande, Sussexiensis, Armigeri fil. nat. max. an. nat. 17.  
 Nov. 10, 1621.—Johes. Turner, Suthsex. pleb. fil. an. nat. 19.  
 Mar. 18, 1624-5.—Nicholaus Burton, Sussexiensis, filius Edvardj Burton de Borne in com. p'd. Militis an. nat. 20.  
 Nov. 2, 1627.—Tho. Russell, Suthsex. fil. Richj. Russell de Hellinglec in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 19.  
     Alex. Rogers, Suthsex. fil. Henr. Rogers de Selmiston in com. p'd. sacerd. an. nat. 18.  
 Mar. 2, 1631.—Johes. Gallett, Sussex. fil. Guliel. Gallett de Mayfeild in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 19.  
 Octob. 12, 1632.—Mauricius Rowlands, Sussex. fil. Maur. Rowl. de Bersthead in com. p'd. sacerd. an. nat. 16.  
 June 28, 1633.—Guliel. Pelham, Suthsex. fil. Johis. Pelham de Arlingto. in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 16.  
     Guliel. Beecher, Sussex. fil. Gul. Beecher de Wadhurst in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 17.  
 Oct. 10, 1634.—Guliel. Stamer, Sussex. fil. Gul. Stamer de Yapton in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 19.  
 May 8, 1635.—Gualt. Tomlinson, Suthsex. fil. Rob. Tomlinson de Trotton in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 18.  
 Nov. 18, 1636.—Daniel Prichard, Sussex. fil. Johis. Prichard de Sellam in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 18.  
 July 7, 1637.—Robtus. Alwin, Sussexianus, fil. Gul. Alwyn de Traford in com. p'd. Gen. an. nat. 14.  
 Octob. 20, 1637.—Richus. Baskett, Sussex. fil. Petri Baskett de Chichester in com. p'd. Gen. an. nat. 14.  
 Oct. 16, 1640.—Richus. Lewis, Sussex. fil. Richj. Lewis de Parham in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 18.  
 Nov. 27.—Richus. Turner, Sussex. fil. Richj. Turner de Ffletching in com. p'd. pleb. an. nat. 17.

REV. PHILIP BLISS, D.D.

#### 4. *Sussex Crusaders.*

That splendidly embellished work, Dansey's *Crusaders*, professes to collect a list of all the Crusaders of England: amongst them the following Sussex men occur. They are taken from "A Roll of the Names and Arms of Knights who were at the Siege of Acre, under Richard the First," a copy of which is

in the Ashmolean Museum, the original being in the Library at Surrenden-  
Dering, in Kent:—

ROBERT DE PIERREPOINT, who bore *Azure, a chief chequy Or and Gules.*

SIMON DE PIERREPOINT, who bore *chequy Or and Gules a chief Azure.*

[The cross-legged effigy in the south transept of Hurstpierpoint Church is doubtless intended for one of these.]

WILLIAM DE BODIAM, who bore *Gules, an escotcheon Argent within an orle of bezants.*

BARTHOLOMEW (? Bertram) DE ESBORNHAM, who bore *Gules, a fess, in chief three mullets Argent.*

NICHOLAS DE CRIELL, who bore *party per fesse Or and Gules.* The arms subsequently borne by this family were two chevrons and a canton. Robert de Criol was owner of Ashburnham at the Domesday Survey; a century afterwards, the family is met with in Leicestershire; and from the time of Henry III., flourished for some generations, in great splendour, in Kent.

— DE COVERT, who bore *a fess Ermine between three mullets Or.* [The cross-legged effigy of one of this family in Sullington Church, engraved in Cartwright's *Bramber*, represents this individual.]

RALPH DE STOPHAM, who bore *Argent three crescents Gules, a canton of the last.* [According to Harleian MS. 4031, p. 162, a similar coat was borne by the family of Battersford of East Sussex, viz., Argent, three crescents Gules, a canton Sable; and the same charges were borne by Cooke of Rustington.]

By the following extract from the *Abbreviatio Placitorum, temp. John* (pp. 26, 30), it appears, HENRY TURPIN, a Sussex landowner, accompanied Richard I. to the Holy Land:—

“Inquisitores dicunt quod Rex Henricus dedit Henrico Turpin, qui tunc fuit ejus Camerarius, terram de Strethampton, qui illam tenuit totam vitam suam, et quousque Rex Ricardus iter arripuit versus Jerusalem, et Henricus iter arripuit cum rege Ricardo, et tunc venit Gaufridus filius Aci, et Agnes uxor ejus, et clamaverunt terram illam, et pro defectu Henrici, qui tunc fuit cum rege Ricardo, recuperaverunt terram illam; et tunc misit Willielmus Turpin filius Henrici ad regem apud Meschines, et recuperavit per brevem Regis seisinam suam sicut hæres predicti Henrici, et tenuit illam tempore Regis Ricardi, quousque Comes Willielmus de Arundel cum disseisivit per violentiam quia, scivit quod Rex Ricardus malevolentiam habuit versus eundem Willielmum. Willielmus Turpin habeat seisinam quam,” &c.

A Mathew Turpin is mentioned in the same record, *temp. John*, in the county of Wilts; and a Mathew occurs frequently in the next reign, for the same county, in the *Testa de Nevill*.

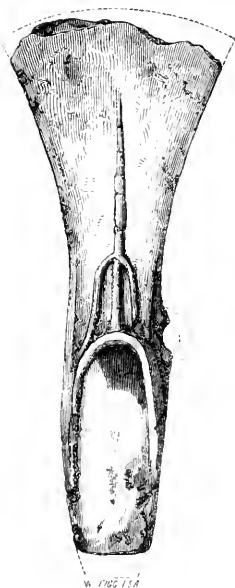
A.D. 1166, Silvester de Alisi (Alisay, near Rouen) held half a knight's fee in Yorkshire, for the heirs of — Turpin (*Liber Niger*).

Du Chesne, in his *Histoire de la Maison de Montmorenci*, mentions a family of Turpin who bore *lozengy* for arms. This was the bearing of the ancient Counts of Angoulême, one of whom, named Turpion, lived in the ninth or tenth century—doubtless the patriarch of the family.

The Sussex family of Tuppen were probably descended from the family of Henry Turpin the Crusader.

*Hurstpierpoint.*

W. S. ELLIS.

5. *Discovery of Five Bronze Celts at Waldron.*

In the course of last year, five bronze celts were found in close proximity to each other on the farm called Little London, in the parish of Waldron. They are evidently the products of the same mould, as they agree in every particular; and they are nearly equal as to the state of preservation. I had some difficulty in procuring this one from the finder, as he was inclined to have it fixed to a handle, in order to have the honour of being the possessor of the "*oldest weeding-spu'd in Sussex*"! The engraving is reduced one half. The celts are all in my possession.

W. HARVEY, F.S.A.

6. *Excavations at Hastings.*

In the autumn of last year, the Countess of Waldegrave and her tenant, Mr. Waters, kindly allowed me to dig on the East Hill at Hastings. My motive for making the request was, that some ten years back I had seen a map of Sussex in the library of Chichester Cathedral, of very ancient date, where on the East Hill was depicted what appeared to be a tower. I had often desired to excavate the spot, and last autumn I set to work; but I am sorry to say that I was disappointed, not having found anything to throw light upon the probable date.

The building appears to have stood east and west, if I may judge from the foundations of a wall opened by me for about 100 feet, which terminated, at the western end, in an angular bend towards the south to the cliff.

I cut trenches across the hill within the wall, and the first day came to a cist or coffin, roughly built of Caen stone, covered with two slabs of Tilgate stone, but it contained no remains. After this, human bones were continually thrown out at the depth of eighteen inches and two feet, but no more remains of coffins. At the west end in the curved portion, the bodies had been laid very close, so as almost to have touched each other. These were very perfect, and lay about two feet beneath the surface; lower still, about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 feet, I found several bodies, each on a layer of charcoal of about two inches in depth, running the whole length of the body, and by the right ribs of each were what



appeared to be iron rivets, having a head at each end about the size of a half-penny, in number about five or six, besides several large-headed nails roughly made. Under the head of each was an oyster-shell, on which the scull appeared to rest. Three of the sculls rested on a hollow boulder from the seashore, neatly paved round with small pieces of sand-rock, also from the seashore (being perforated with shellfish); and these seemed to have undergone the action of fire in that spot, but the skeletons had not. Two or three of the jawbones appear to have been divided by a sharp instrument. These I have preserved, together with a scull of extraordinary thickness, the bone being  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch in the section. The number of skeletons brought to light could not be less than forty, and there remain one or two more near the edge of the cliff, resting on a layer of charcoal, which I have not disturbed. A small flint arrow-head was found within the wall. The two or three coins found are of modern date, and were near the surface. Part of the splay of a window (Caen stone) I have also with me.

Our town drainage has brought little to light, except a great number of coins, apparently from the Continent. The men take too great care of the silver and gold ones, fearing that the corporation would keep them, if shown to any one, without reward. They have come across some very strong masonry in George Street, at some distance outside the old wall. I have had a drawing made, and as they progress I visit daily, and hope to be able to discover what it was intended for. I think at present it is the remains of the draw-bridge abutments.

A seal has been lately found, six or seven feet below the surface of Church Street, Hastings, in digging for the drainage. I fancy the design on it, engraved both on the flat top of the handle, and again below, may be a merchant's mark, and, being found on the spot where the silk-mercens of Hastings carried on their manufactory, I think it not improbable that it may have belonged to one of them. The name on it seems to be Jervis Sterenberch. The hole through the centre of the stem seems to denote that it was attached to something. The metal appears to be brass.

One fine gold coin, weighing 3 dwts. 10 grs., has been brought to me as being Chinese or Indian, dug up near Hastings. It is clearly British, of the period immediately succeeding Cæsar's invasion, rudely imitating the Roman coins, which exhibit a horse and chariot on one side, and the Emperor's head on the other. It very nearly resembles one found near Worthing, belonging to the late Mr. Dixon, and described by him at p. 26, Vol. I. of *Sussex Archaeol. Coll.*, where see figs. 7 and 9.

Feb. 13, 1857.

THOMAS ROSS, *Mayor of Hastings.*

7. *Brass of John Wybarne*, Vol. VIII. pp. 22, 27, 28.

De Profundis, not a mass; which may not be said at any hour by night as well as by day. De Profundis is the 130th Psalm. Except on the night of Christmas Eve, mass is never allowed to be said, or at least commenced, after midday.

The Very Rev. M. A. TIERNEY, F.S.A.

8. *Roman Urn found near Seaford.*

Having been a member of the Sussex Archæological Society from its commencement, when we were few in number, although now to be counted by hundreds, I trust I may be excused if I now state the facts with respect to the finding of a Roman urn, or vase, under the following circumstances; though they have previously been brought to the notice of a few of our members.



On a fine day last summer, a young lad from Alfriston, went on a pleasurable excursion to the seaside, near that place, viz., to the mouth of the Cuckmere river, where by accident he observed the object herein described.

On the western side of the river, and at a short distance from it, there had been a recent fall of the chalky cliff with the superincumbent mould (which extends there to several feet in thickness), in a portion of which the subject of this detail was partially exposed to view.

The young man at first sight was in the hope that he had found a "crock of money," and in his haste to obtain a view of the supposed hidden treasure, broke the vase into several pieces; however, not finding it to contain what he expected, an afterthought occurred to him, that the crock itself was something curious and belonging to the "olden time," so, instead of giving way to despair, he set about collecting the fragments, which he afterwards took home with him, and they next came into my possession, when I, without much difficulty, restored the relic to its pristine appearance. It measures  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches high.

I send a drawing of the object alluded to. On an ancient Greek coin of the isle of Thasos, the same identical form of an urn occurs.

I will not attempt to account for the deposition of the urn on the spot where it was found, nor am I disposed to conclude, with Mr. Verrall, that the city of Anderida was in this locality (see Horsfield's Hist i. 51); yet, from the number of urns and coins (see Vol. VII., page 74, *Sussex Arch. Coll.*) which have been discovered, together with the encampment on the cliff between Seaford and Cuckmere, it was evidently a site of some importance in the time of the Romans.

*Milton Court, Feb. 11.*

CHARLES ADE.

9. *Unappropriated Arms at Robertsbridge Abbey.*

In Vol. VIII. page 172, there is mention made of "a carved fragment of a stone shield, bearing *two fleurs-de-lis above a leopard's face*," as having formerly existed among the monumental remains of this abbey. This coat of arms was also formerly—*i. e.* at the time of Philpot and Owen's Visitation of Sussex, A.D. 1634, who recorded them (Cartwright's

*Bramber Rape*, p. 354), with others, in the east window of Horsham Church. The 14th and last on the list is:—Quarterly, of 4; 1 and 4, Gules a lion's (leopard's) face Or in base, and two fleurs-de-lis Or in chief; 2 and 3, Argent, three leopards' faces sable. The 12th is Argent a chevron engrailed between three leopards' faces Gules, the coat of Halsham, of which family, with these bearings, there are two brass monuments in Western Sussex, where they were settled as early as 19 Edward II. or III., at which period Andrew Peverel, by charter, made a grant of land to Robert de Halsham, whose seal, a chevron engrailed between three leopards' faces *jessant de lis*, is appended (Add. Charters, Brit Mus., No. 8826). There is no evidence for the statement in Cartwright, that Hailsham in Sussex furnished this family with their name; it is more probably a branch of the Lincolnshire race, whose name was variously spelt Helsham, Halsam, &c., who bore the same and similar armorial bearings, and who took their family designation from Ellesham, in that county. The three leopards' faces *quartered* in the coat in Horsham Church, and the separate coat of two fleurs-de-lis and a leopard's face in the same window, were probably *variations* borne by different branches of this family; and the existence of the latter in Robertsbridge Abbey may be accounted for from the fact of an intermarriage which took place between the Halshams and Combes, which latter were benefactors to the abbey.

*Hurstpierpoint.*

W. S. ELLIS.

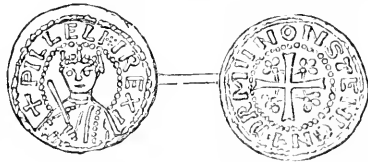
### 10. *John Browne, Gent.*

In 1780 appeared a work in two respectable 8vo volumes, entitled *A New and Complete Abstract of the History of England*; London, J. Wade, Fleet Street. The list of subscribers contains a very large proportion of Sussex names, and the Dedication is dated from "Newham, near Steyning, Oct. 1, 1780," and signed "John Browne." As I have found it a very handy book of reference, I am anxious to know something of the author, his history, position in life, &c.

MARK ANTONY LOWER, F.S.A.

### 11. *Local Mintages.*

On the obverse of this coin, which is now in my possession, and in very fine condition, is PILLELM REXI. "The Saxon P is used for W. The I at the end of the King's name does not indicate a numeral, but a portion of the letter A for Anglie." (Hawkins, p. 78). The type is known to collectors as Ruding, plate 1, No. 13, and Hawkins, No. 243. It is considered somewhat rare. The place of mintage renders this coin of great interest, particularly to the Sussex Archaeologist, *Stening* not having hitherto been known to have possessed that privilege. The Sussex mints recorded by Ruding are those at Chichester, Hastings, Lewes, Pevensey, and Winchelsea. The mint at *Chichester* is first mentioned A.D. 928; and coins of the following monarchs struck there are still in existence, viz.:



Ethelred the Second, Cnut, Harold the First, Edward the Confessor, Harold the Second, William the First, Henry the First, and Stephen.

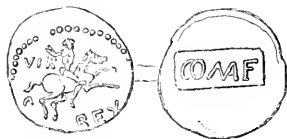
*Hastings*.—One moneyer was allowed to this town by Athelstan, and coins remain of Cnut, Edward the Confessor, Harold the Second, William the Second, and Henry the First.

*Leves* must have been a place of considerable note in the reign of Athelstan, who allowed to it two moneyers; but none of his coins of this mintage are now known. Specimens exist of Eadgar, Edward the Martyr, Æthelred the Second, Cnut, Edward the Confessor, Harold the Second, William the First, William the Second, Henry the First, and Stephen.

*Pevensey*.—William the Conqueror.

*Winchelsea*.—Eadgar.

Coin of Virius, same as Berious, mentioned by Dion Cassius; purchased at the sale of Augustus Langdon, Esq.



Among the coins of the Conquest, mentioned in *Archæol.* xxvi. p. 14, is one STNIG, another STENI. These are referred to Stepney. The moneyer's name is DVRBEN. The paper is by Mr. Hawkins.

The privileges of these mints appear to have ceased in the reign of Henry the Third, and there are no coins of them extant later than the reign of Stephen.

*Godalming*.

RICHARD WHITBOURN.

### 12. *Sir Giles de Braose* (VIII. p. 102).

Sir Giles de Braose, obiit. 1305. His effigy lies in the belfry of Horton Church, co. Dorset, where he had property. The arms on his shield are, "crusilly, a lion rampant charged on the shoulder with a fleur de lis," agreeing with those ascribed to him in the Roll t. Edw. II. He left a son, Thomas, then a child, who probably died young and issueless.

### 13. *Kent and Sussex Posts*, 1666.

In the *London Gazette*, No. 93, for October, 1666, is a notice, in consequence of the great fire of London, that the Kent and Sussex Post Office, formerly kept at the round-house in Love Lane, was removed to the house of Mr. John Dyne, in the passage to and from Tower Hill, near the pump in Crutched Friars.

WM. DURRANT COOPER.

### 14. *Brass at Nuthurst Church*.

A brass has lately been discovered in this church. It consists of a plate imbedded in a slab of Petworth marble, measuring about five feet in length, and three in breadth. There are indents of a chalice and paten, but the metal is gone. The inscription is as follows:—

Hic jacet Thom(a)s ffrenshe, quo(n)dam Rector isti(us)  
ceel(es)ie qui obiit x die mensis Septembris anno d(omi)ni  
Mill(es)imo cccclxxxvj. Cujus anime propicietur deus.  
Amc(n).

JAMES G. SMITHER.

15. *Brambletye Manor and Chapel.*

In addition to the notices already given (*ante*, p. 140), it may be stated, that the chapel existed as early as Edward I., when the manor and right of patronage to the chapel were vested in the Aldham family. The first of that family was Baldwin de Aldham, who succeeded to his Surrey estates as heir to his mother Isabella de la Haye, who was heir of William de Montacute. On Baldwin's death, his widow, Nicholaia, held the hamlet and patronage of the chapel, with knights' fees in Buckhurst, Burton, and Burne. (*Close Roll*, 21 Edw. I. m. 6 dors, &c.) Francis Aldham forfeited his property in 15th Edw. II. (1322); and Brambletye, Laverty, and other property, were granted on 15th April, 1326, to Pancius, of Controne, the King's physician, for life, to secure his annuity of £100 per annum so long as he should stay in this country; and he must have been an especial favourite with Edward III. as well, since it appears, by the accounts of the Knights Hospitallers (*Camd. Soc.*, pp. 193-213), that he was also physician to that king, and in 1338 occupied the appropriate church of Templeguyting, Gloucestershire, and the manors of Gutying and of Broadwell (Oxon), worth 200 mares, which had belonged to the Templars, and had not come into the hands of the Hospitallers. For the following evidence of the grant of Brambletye, our Society is indebted to the Rev. Lambert B. Larking, M.A., of Ryarsh.

“Rex omnibus<sup>1</sup> ad quos, &c., salutem. Sciatis quod cum nuper concesserimus dilecto clerico et medico nostro magistro Pancio de Controne, centum libras ad scaccarium nostrum annuatim percipiendas quamdiu moram faceret in regno nostro; et nos postmodum, secundo die Julii, anno regni nostri quintodecimo (1322), in allocationem dictarum centum librarum annuarum, et pro bono servicio quod prefatus magister Pancius nobis impenderat et extunc impenderet in futurum, dederimus ei et concesserimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris manerium de Chiselbergh, cum pertinentiis in Comitatu Somerset, et manerium de Brembelteigh et Lavertie, cum pertinentiis in Comitatu Sussexie, quæ fuerunt Francisci de Aldham nuper inimici et rebellis nostri, et manerium de Plescis, cum pertinentiis in comitatu Hartford, quod fuit Bartholomei de Badesmere nuper similiter inimici et rebellis nostri, et quæ per forisfacturas eorundem Francisci et Bartholomei ad manus nostras tanquam esceata nostra devenerunt. Habenda et tenenda eidem magistro Pancio, ad totam vitam suam, de nobis et heredibus nostris ac aliis capitalibus dominis feodorum illorum, per servicia quæ de eisdem maneriis debebantur antequam ad manus nostras devenerunt. Ita quod si maneria prædicta, cum pertinentiis, ad valorem annum centum librarum excedant, tunc idem magister Pancius id quod illam summam excesserint nobis et heredibus nostris ad scaccarium nostrum solvat annuatim. Ita etiam quod maneria prædicta post mortem prædicti Pancii ad nos et heredes nostros integre revertantur, pront, in literis nostris patentibus inde confectis, plenius continetur. Nos, volentes eidem magistro Pancio uberiorem gratiam facere, in hac parte, concessimus eidem magistro Pancio omnia feoda militaria ad maneria prædicta pertinentia habenda et tenenda ad totam vitam suam, una cum wardis, maritagiis, releviis, proficiis quæ de dictis feodis post prædictum secundum diem Julii acciderunt. Ita quod de exitibus et proficiis inde provenientibus nobis

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Fin. 19 Edw. II. m. 5.

respondeant ad scaccarium nostrum. In cujus, &c.—T. R. apud Kenilworth, xv die Aprilis (1326) per ipsum Regem.”

From Palgrave's *Parliamentary Writs* (vol. ii. part 1, pp. 291-294), we learn that two men of note in Sussex, Francis de Aldham (whom Fabian calls Waldenham) and Bartholomew de Assheburnham, were, with the Earls of Lincoln and Hereford, at the battle of Boroughbridge, 16th March, 1322, and there taken prisoners. Having attacked the King's troops, Aldham was sentenced at Windsor, and Ashburnham at Canterbury, to be drawn for the acts of treason, and hanged for the homicides and robberies, committed by them. This sentence was executed on Aldham at Windsor, and on Ashburnham at Canterbury. Bartholomew de Badlesmere, of Leeds Castle, was with the barons up to the burning of Burton-upon-Trent, on 10th March. He fled, but was captured, and sentenced, at Canterbury, to be drawn for the treason, to be hanged for the robberies and homicides, and further, to be beheaded for his flight; and, inasmuch as he was the King's seneschal, it was the King's will that his head should be spiked upon the gate of the city of Canterbury, as a warning to others.

WM. DURRANT COOPER.

### 16. *Scarcity of Husbands in Sussex in 1700.*

The following letter from Sir John Pelham to Charles Montague, afterwards Earl of Halifax, presents rather a sombre picture of Sussex society. Sir John was at the ripe age of 78, and the lady in whose favour he interested himself was his grand-daughter Lucy, the eldest daughter of Edward Montague, of Horton, Northampton (Lord Halifax's brother), and of Sir John's eldest daughter, Elizabeth. The original is in the Egerton MS. 929, fol. 30.

“ Sir,

“ Nov. ye 2<sup>d</sup>, 1700.

“ I should be much at a losse to find an excuse for giving you this trouble, had I not something more then the desire of begging your favour to be some time in your thoughts for my plea. You have often appeared forward in shewing your kindnes to your neeces, and particularly to Lucy M., that is now with me; what I have now to request of you is purely my own private thoughts, without the knowledge (of) any body. We are here in a barren part of England for husbands, which you may judge by there not being any proposall made to one, who I think deserves very well. If you meet with any that you judge fit for her, tho' the fortune be but moderate, you would by it ad one more to your many kind and gracious actions already taken notice of by

“ Sir,

“ Your most obedient servant,

“ To the Honble. Charles Montagu, Esq.,

“ J. PELHAM.

Auditor of the Exchequer, Westminster.”

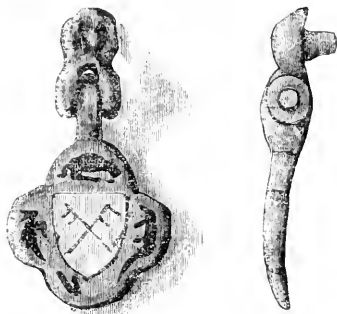
When this considerate suggestion was made, the lady had not attained her twenty-second year, having been born on 15th May, 1679. Nor did she long pine in single blessedness; for, though it was then so “barren a part of England for husbands,” Sussex could boast of one fit for a lady who “deserved so well.” She married, in 1702, John Morley Trevor, of Glynde Place, and presented him with three sons and nine daughters, from one of whom, Gertrude, the present owner of Glynde Place is descended.

WM. DURRANT COOPER.

17. *Objects found at Lewes and Ringmer.*

No. 1, is a small armorial escutcheon found in the excavations in the Priory of St. Pancras, at Lewes, in the year 1845: it is of copper, and the face has been covered with silver; the dark portions are deep blue enamel; the shield Gules, two keys in saltire Argent: these arms I am unable to appropriate. It is now in my possession.

Similar escutcheons were exhibited to the Archaeological Institute, and are engraved in the 3rd volume of the *Journal*, p. 79. Two are described as having been found in the remains of Newark Priory, Surrey; several as having been in the collection of the Dean of St. Patrick; two in the collection of M. Sauvageot, at Paris; a curious example in the possession of the Rev. Walter Sneyd; and it is stated that "enamelled escutcheons, of this fashion and dimensions, are appended to the consecrated Rose presented to the Count of Neufchâtel by the Pope, in the thirteenth century, now in the possession of Colonel Theubet."



"These ornaments appear, however, to have been appended to the trappings or harness of horses. In a MS. preserved in Trinity College, Cambridge, there is a drawing which represents a charger thus caparisoned; the peytrell, or breastband, has a row of these scutcheons appended to it all round the horse's breast."

In the third volume of the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, p. 133, are engravings of somewhat similar escutcheons, found at Salisbury, in illustration of a letter from W. S. Walford, Esq., to Sir Henry Ellis, read Dec. 21, 1854.

No. 2, is a ring of very pure gold, found in the autumn of last year, in the parish of Ringmer, near Lewes. It weighs 5 dwts. 6 grs., and is now in the possession of John Tattersal Auckland, Esq., F.S.A.

Among the objects found in Cuedale, in May, 1840, are several articles of very similar make; and in a paper by Albert Way, Esq., in the sixth volume of the *Journal of the Archaeological Institute*, on "Ancient Armillæ of Gold, recently found in Buckinghamshire and in North Britain; with Notices of Ornaments of Gold discovered in the British Islands," opposite page 58, are representations of rings of the same description of workmanship.



WILLIAM FIGG, F.S.A.

18. *Corrigenda, Vol. VIII.*

- Page 129, l. 8, *for* virginals, *read* gittern.  
 „ 211, note 26, *for* Thomas Allen, *read* John Allin.  
 „ 214, note 34, *for* 1593-6, *read* 1493-6; and for 1549-40, *read*  
 1549-50.  
 „ 233, l. 11, *for* Hooper, *read* Forster.  
 „ 251, l. 16, *for* Worplesham, *read* don.  
 „ — l. 25, *dele* after *μελετηματα*, *Iter*, or insert *or*.  
 „ 258, note 21, *quotat.* altered from Horat. Epist. l. iv. end.  
 „ 322, l. 7 from bottom, *for* 1759, *read* 1793.  
 „ 336, l. 3 — *for* Geo. II. in 1427, *read* 1727.



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IN THE

COUNTY OF SUSSEX,

WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE

CHURCH AND SACKVILLE CHAPEL.

BY THE HON. AND REV.

REGINALD W. SACKVILLE-WEST.

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