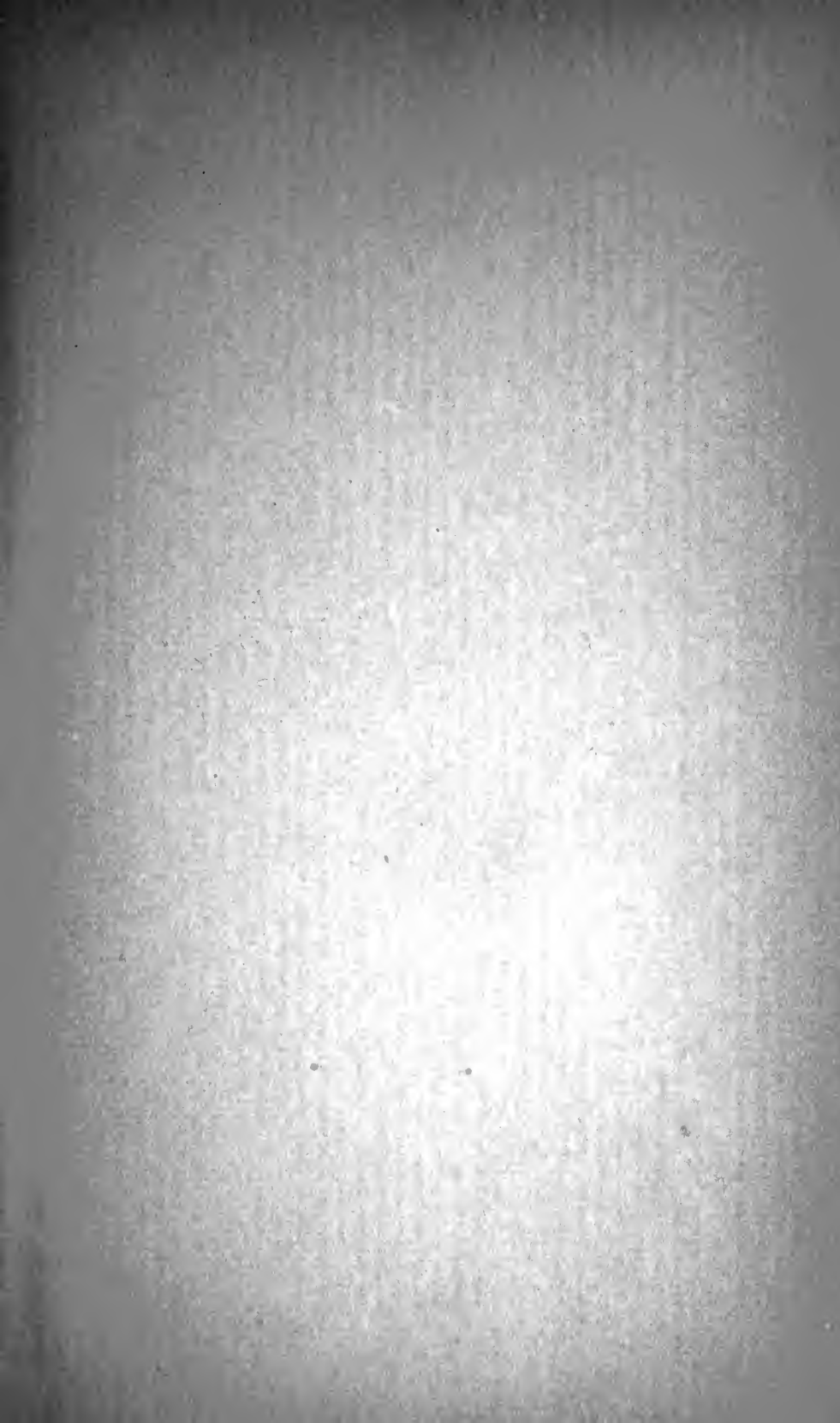


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COUNTY RECORDS

OF THE

SURNAMES OF FRANCUS, FRANCEIS, FRENCH, IN ENGLAND

A.D. 1100-1350

BY

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GEORGE H. ELLIS.

PREFACE.

The solicitation of friends in the Old World as well as here, together with the favorable reception of my previous volumes, has induced me again to appear in print on the same subject as my last work relating to Scotland, but, in this instance, confined to the counties of England.

The authorities consulted were the cartularies, public archives, published records, and some county histories; while the records given in this volume are mainly translations of these ancient documents. The period covered embraces an early era of the rule of the Norman sovereigns and of their descendants, Kings of England, including the reigns of the first three Edwards.

Although the work is purely antiquarian, while the genealogical features are incidental, it is possible that, besides the records of the surnames, some of the documents may be considered of general historical importance; while others, illustrative of former customs, may be received with favor.

In regard to the early use of these surnames, some remarks seem appropriate in this place. From the Latin word "Francus," with the addition of the suffixes, we have the following compound words,— "Franc-ensis," "Franc-iscus," and "Franci-gena."

The change of Francensis to the modern Français is not only interesting as regards the changes of a word in the language of France, but also of some value as bearing on the commencement and continued use of these surnames.

The suffix *ensis* in Franc-ensis implies nationality in Latin. And M. Brachet, commenting on the changes in France, says that by reducing the *ns* in this suffix to *s* came Francēsis, then Francis in the seventh century, Francēis in the tenth century,—at its end *ēi* becomes *ōi*, and we have Françōis, by the end of the twelfth century *ōi* becomes *ōe*; and we have Françōes, then Françōés, and in France, finally, Français.

Franciscus is found synonymous with Franceis in the Coldingham charters.

M. Binckmeier and M. Bain translate Franciscus as French. Their opinions have the confirmation of M. Du Cange, who gives the following illustrations: "Franciscus habitus, Cuspis Franciscus, Miles Franciscus, Franciscus mos, and Francisca lingua."

As regards Francigena and Franceis being identical, we have the record of the parson of Caldbeck, in Cumberland, who is mentioned in 1231-33 as Johannes Francigena, and again in this same period as Johannes Le Franceis. M. Stapleton evidently took this view, as his French translation of Walterus Francigena, who is mentioned in the Norman Roll of 1203, was Walter Le Franceis.

France gives a quota of surnames derived from Francus. Among those beginning with Franc, are derived the following compound names: Franc-ia, Franc-terre, Fran(c)-chesnay, Franc-lieu, Franc-ville, Franc-homme, Fran(c)-coeur, etc.; while Germany continues with its illustrations of Franck, Franken, Franken-burg, Franken-land, Franken-stein, in which country the letter "c" is frequently omitted.

The surname of Franc, so common in France, is phonetically the same as Frank or Franck in Germany, which names orthographically succeeded the French cognomen at its anglicization in Angle-land, or England.

As this surname of Frank numerically increased in England with the changes in its language, which began in the reign of King Henry III., it may be accounted for by the increase in families, by adoption, and possibly by the influx of Germans of this patronymic name.

The ancient archives of England show but few instances of the French surname of Franc. Orthographically, its nearest approach, of which there are numerous records, was Franc̄. This mark of abbreviation indicates a contraction for Francus, Fran̄ceis, etc.

In England the primitive surname of Franceis, etc., did not respond to the changes in the language of France already noticed, but continued down to a much later date than in the land of its origin; while François, its successor in that country, is rare among the surnames in the ancient English archives. The modern French surname of Français is unusual in England; and, if found, it is probably borne by natives of France or their descendants.

At the anglicization period in English history, according to the earlier records, the surname of Franceis took, in many instances, the form of French; but the original name of Franceis, with some slight variations, existed for decades of years after that period, until, finally, this patronymic name became in most instances, by the omission of the letter "e," the modern English surname of Francis. The derivatives of the Latin word "Franc-us" have also given place-names in several of the counties in our mother country, namely; in County Chester, Frank-by; County

Devon, Franka-borough; County Dorset, France; County Durham, Frank-land; County Hants, Frenchmore and Frensh-am; County Hereford, France; County Kent, Francks; County Norfolk, Frank-fort, Fransh-am and Frense; County Salop, Franck-ton or Frank-ton; County Surrey, Frensh-am; County Sussex, Franch-is; County Warwick, Frank-ton; County Wilts, Frankley; County Worcester, Frank-by.

To those unfamiliar with the writings of the early chroniclers, it is well to draw their attention to the fact that these learned men or scribes were generally governed in giving surnames by their phonetic or articulate sounds, which accounts for the many orthographical variations of the same cognomen, some of which changes are even found in the same document. A like system seems to have been the rule with the place-names.

As regards this latter subject, it is well to state that the ancient place-names are generally preserved in these records, while their modern substitutes are given as their different headings.

Concerning the translations of the documents made for this volume, it may be observed that the names of individuals have been preserved "verbatim et literatim" according to the original Latin text, the exceptions being the references to same and the translated

documents taken from the printed works in which the editors have given the modern names instead of those found in the original records, which accounts for the appearance in those documents of some modern English names before their introduction.

Continuing, it will be noticed that the first appearance of the surname of Franceis is at the very dawn of the twelfth century; and from this time evidence of the name is carried down to the year 1300, the last quarter of these two hundred years being specially interesting as showing what may be considered as the beginning of the anglicization of surnames in England.

The earliest notice of the surname of French is not later than the year 1252, and is found in the Wiltshire records, in which are the names of Osbertus and Galfridus Frense; and from this time documentary data are given of this surname to about the middle of the fourteenth century.

As some of the following records are of the time of King Henry I., the statutes and customs of whose reign had so marked an influence on early English civilization, it is well to dwell for a few moments on his great charter of liberties, given to his subjects, in the first year of his reign, A.D. 1101. The historical importance of these early franchises, accompanied

with the allusion to this charter in the present volume, seems a sufficient reason to give in this place a translation of this document, made from the earliest charter given in the "Statutes of the Realm":—

In the year of the incarnation of the Lord MCI., Henry, son of King William, after the death of William, his brother, by the grace of God, king of the English, to all faithful, greeting. Know ye that I, by the mercy of God and the common council of the barons of the realm of England, am crowned king of the same. And, because the realm was oppressed by unjust exactions, I, with respect for God and the love I have for you, in the first place make God's holy church free, so that I will neither sell nor farm out, nor, after the death of an archbishop, bishop, or abbot, will accept any of the property of the church or of its men (*homines*), until a successor has entered into the same. And I banish all the evil usages with which the kingdom of England has been unjustly oppressed, part of which evil usages I here set down.

If any one of my barons, earls, or others, who hold of me, should die, his heir shall not redeem his land, as he did in the time of my brother; but he shall relieve the same by a just and legitimate relief. In the same way the men of my barons shall relieve their lands of their lords by a just and legitimate relief.

And, if any of my barons or others, my men, will

give his daughter in marriage, or sister, or niece, or relation, let him treat with me; but I will neither accept anything from him for this license nor prohibit his giving her away, except if he would give her to my enemy. And if, on the death of a baron, or any other of my men, a daughter should remain his heir, I will give her away with the advice of my barons, together with her lands; and if, on the death of a husband, his wife should survive without children, she shall have her dower and marriage-portion, and I will not give her to a husband without her consent. But, if the wife should survive with children, she shall have a certain dower and marriage-portion whilst she shall keep her body in chastity; and I shall not give her away except by her consent. And either the wife, or some other relation, who will deal justly, shall be the guardian of the land and children; and I command that my barons act in the same manner in regard to the sons, daughters, or wives of their men.

The common mintage money which was taken by the cities and counties, and was not used in the time of King Edward, I absolutely forbid to be taken hereafter. If any minter, or other person, be taken with false money, let right justice be done to him. All fines and all debts due to my brother I condone (pardon), except my right farms, and except those things which were settled for the inheritance of others, or those which more justly concerned others; and, if any one has pledged his inheritance, I condone

it, with all bargains contracted for the right of inheritance.

And, if any of my barons or men shall lie ill, so that he dispose of or give his money, I will that such disposition remain; but, if he, prevented by war or infirmity, shall not give or dispose of his property, his wife, or children, or parents, or his lawful men, may divide it for him as shall seem best to them.

If any one forfeits, he shall not give a pledge for the whole of his possessions, as he did in the time of my father or brother; but according to the measure of the forfeit shall he be fined, in such manner as fines were laid on under those my predecessors who reigned before my father and brother. But, if he shall be convicted of perfidy or criminality, let him make amendments as shall seem just.

Also all murders committed before my coronation I condone, and those afterwards shall be dealt with according to the law of King Edward.

I have, with the consent of my barons, retained all forests to myself, as my father held them.

To the knights who defend their lands by their "loricas," I grant of my own gift that their demesne land shall be free from all gelds (taxes) and all work, so that, eased of so great a burden, they may the better provide themselves with horses and arms for my service and for the defence of the kingdom.

I establish firm peace in all my realm, and command that it be kept hereafter.

I restore to you the laws of King Edward, together with those amendments made by my father with the advice of his barons.

If any one has taken anything from me or from any other person after the death of King William, my brother, he shall immediately restore it without correction; and, if any one retains such things, he upon whom it is found shall make strict satisfaction to me. T(estibus), M(auricio Londoniense) Ep(iscop)o, Gundulfo Ep(iscop)o, Willelmo electo (Wintoniense) Ep(iscop)o, Henrico Comite (of Warwick), Simone Comite (of Huntingdon, etc.), Walt(ero) Giffardo, Rodb(er)to de Montford, Rogero Bigoto, et Henrico de Portu, apud Londoniam quando fui coronatus.

In conclusion, I must gratefully acknowledge the valuable documents bearing on the subject, received from Miss Emma M. Walford, of London, the result of her searches among the archives of England.

A. D. WELD FRENCH.

160 STATE ST., BOSTON, MASS., U.S.

May 15, 1896.

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ENGLAND.



BEDFORDSHIRE.

As reference to the inquisition for the taxation of the ninth is mentioned first in the beginning of these county records, it may be interesting to some readers, before giving the regular records, to introduce the succeeding documents bearing on this subject.

Mortimer states "that on the 21st of February, 1340, King Edward III. issued writs for assembling a new parliament at Westminster on the 29th of March following." The Parliament assembled under these writs granted a subsidy to the king of the ninth lamb, the ninth fleece, and the ninth sheaf, for the king's wars, of which we have the succeeding records:

The grants, releases, and pardons of the [said] chattels of felons and fugitives, and many other things [underwritten] which the king hath granted to the prelates, earls, barons, and all the commons of his realm, for the ease of them perpetually to endure, the said prelates, earls, barons, and all the commons of the realm, willingly of one assent and good will, having regard to the will that the king their liege lord hath towards them, and to the great travels that he hath made and sustained as well in his wars of Scotland as against the parts of France and

other places, and to the good will which he hath to travail to keep his realm, and maintain his wars, and to purchase his rights; they have granted to him the ninth lamb, the ninth fleece, and the ninth sheaf, to be taken by two years then next to come. And of cities and boroughs the very ninth part of all their goods and chattels, to be taken and levied by lawful and reasonable tax by the same two years, in aid of the good keeping of his realm, as well by land as by sea, and of his wars, as well against the parts of Scotland, the parts of France, Gascoigne, and elsewhere. And in right of merchants foreign, which dwell not in the cities nor boroughs, and also of other people that dwell in forests and wastes, and all other that live not of their [gain nor store], by the good advice of them which shall be deputed taxers, shall be set lawfully at the value of the fifteens, without being unreasonably charged; and it is not the intent of the king, nor of other great men, nor the commons, that by this grant made to the king of fifteens the poor [borail people], nor other that live of their bodily travel, shall be comprised within the tax of the said fifteens, but shall be discharged by the advice of them which be deputed taxers, and of the great men which he deputed surveyors.

Statute the Second.

Edward, by the grace of God [etc. to all them, etc.],
Greeting. Know ye that, whereas the prelates, earls,
barons, and commons of our realm of England, in
our present Parliament holden at Westminster the
Wednesday next after the Sunday of Middle Lent,
the fourteenth year of our reign of England and the
first of France, have granted to us of their good gree
and good will, in aid of the speed of our great business
which we have to do, as well on this side the sea
as beyond, the ninth sheaf, the ninth fleece, and
the ninth lamb, to be taken by two years next com-
ing after the making of the same, and the [cities]
and the burgesses of boroughs the very ninth part
of all their goods; and the foreign merchants, and
other which live not of [gain] nor of store of sheep,
the fifteenth of their goods lawfully to the value: We,
willing to provide for the indemnity of the said pre-
lates, earls, barons, and other of the communalty,
and also of citizens, burgesses, and merchants
aforesaid, will and grant for us and our heirs, to the
same prelates, earls, barons, and commons, citizens,
burgesses, and merchants, that the same grant which
is so chargeable shall not another time [be had]
in example, nor fall to their prejudice in time to
come; nor that they be from henceforth charged nor
grieved to make [any] aid, or to sustain charge, if
it be not by the common assent of the prelates,

earls, barons, and other great men, and commons of our said realm of England, and that in the Parliament; and that all the profits rising of the said aid, and of wards and marriages, customs and escheats, and other profits rising of the said realm of England, shall be put and spent upon the maintenance [and] the safeguard of our said realm of England, and of our wars in Scotland, France, and Gascoigne, and in no places elsewhere during the said wars.

This subsidy granted to the king, Edward III., so identified with the complications arising from his assuming the title of King of France, which additional title well pleased his subjects, although they had at the same time considerable anxiety as to the effect it would have on the supremacy of the kingdom of England, and for that reason they presented in Parliament to King Edward an address, the nature of which seems to be embodied in a royal charter, which, although somewhat departing from the subject of this taxation and even the title of this volume, it seems of sufficient historic interest to make an innovation, and revive it again in our memories, to wit:—

[Edward, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to all those which these Letters shall hear or see:] Greeting. Know

ye that, whereas some people do think that by reason that the realm of France is devolved to us as right heir of the same and forasmuch as we be King of France, our realm of England should be put in subjection of the king and of the realm of France in time to come: We, having regard to the estate of our realm of England, and, namely, that it never was nor ought to be in subjection, nor in the obeisance of the kings of France, which for the time have been, nor of the realm of France, and willing to provide for the surety and defence of the realm of England, and of our liege people of the same, will and grant and establish for us and for our heirs and successors, by assent of the prelates, earls, barons, and commons of our realm of England, in this our present Parliament summoned at Westminster the Wednesday next after the Sunday in Middle Lent, the fourteenth year of our said reign of our realm of England, and the first of France, that by the cause or colour of that, that we be King of France, and that the said realm to us pertaineth, as afore is said, or that we cause us to be named King of France in our style, or that we have changed our [seal] or our arms, nor for the commandments which we have made or from henceforth shall make as King of France, our said realm of England, nor the people of the same of what estate or condition they be, shall not in any time to come be put in subjection

nor in obeisance of us, nor of our heirs nor successors as kings of France, [as afore is said, nor be subject] nor obedient, but shall be free and quit of all manner of subjection and obeisance aforesaid, as they were wont to be in the time of our progenitors, kings of England, forever. In witness of which things [etc.]. Dated at Westminster on the sixteenth day of April, in the years of our reign of England and France aforesaid.

GENERAL.

At the pleas in the King's Court in three weeks of Easter, 9th of May, 1199, Johannes de Carum essoins himself by *Ricardus Franceis* in a placitum homagii versus Willelmus de Lohering.

BEDFORD CITY.

In the sixth year of the reign of King Richard I. (1194-95) *Baldwinus Fransigena* was amerced for being absent from an assize, in this city, and he was in frankpledge.

Willelmus le Fraunceis has a grant from King Henry III., in the forty-sixth year of his reign (1261-62), of a yearly rental of 100s., which he owes Isaac, son of Isaac of Bedford.

A.D. 1309.—Pardon to John, son of Richard de Bodenho, for the death of *Edmund le Freynch*, as it appears by the records of Nicholas Fermbaud and John de Mutford, justices of gaol delivery for Bedford, that he killed him in self-defence. Dated at Langley on the 26th of January.

BARFORD HUNDRED.

RAVENS DEN.

Circa A.D. 1240.—Among those holding in this place of the barony of Willelmus de Bello Campo were *Willelmus Franceys* and Hugo Picot, who held two virgates of land for the twenty-sixth part of a knight's fee, de veteri feoffamento.

BIGGLESWADE HUNDRED.

BIGGLESWADE.

A.D. 1340-42.—Inquisition for the taxation of the ninth of lamb, fleece, and sheaf in this place.

Willelmus de Blount, Johannes de Maldone, Hugo de Bodeho, Edmundus Palgrave, Willelmus le Child, Robertus Melnho, Johannes le Salt'e, Galfridus Lowys, Jurdanus le Smyth, Willelmus Sampsonn, Rober-

tus Hankyn, Rogerus Swetebon, Johannes de Wretton, Ricardus le Clerk, Johannes Warde, Thomas de Holm, *Willelmus le Freynsch*, and Thomas Davy, parochians of Byckeleswade, say upon their oath that the valuation of ninth is 34 marks, 18s. 8d., and not more, because some commodities and profits in this parish are not included in their inquisition,—viz., the tithe of hay, mortuaries, rents of assizes, *etc.*, worth 14 marks, 9s. 9d. per annum; and the vicarage is worth yearly 15*l.* 10s. 3d. There are besides merchants in this parish who live partly by agriculture; and the fifteenth taxed of their merchandise would be 38s. 9d., which is included in the aforesaid 34 marks, 18s. 9d.

SUTTON.

A.D. 1212-13.—An assize came to make recognition if *Willelmus le Franceis* and several others had disseized Henricus de Braibroch of his free tenement in Sutton.

WRESTLINGWORTH.

Prob. 13th century.—To all faithful in Christ to whom, *etc.*, *Willelmus ffranceys*, greeting. Know that I have given and granted, and by this my charter have confirmed to God, the church of Wrestlingworth, and the patrons of this church, some land, nine perches and four feet in length and five perches and

four feet in breadth, lying between the croft of Hervicus and that of the said church, in exchange for so much land of a croft belonging to this church, which lies near by the croft of Godice. To have in perpetuity, etc., freely and quietly, honorably and in peace. And I, etc.

CLIFTON HUNDRED.

STOTFOLD.

A.D. 1340-42.—Inquisition for the taxation of the ninth of lamb, fleece, and sheaf in this place.

Edmundus Saman, *Ricardus le French*, Ricardus atte Touneshende, Ricardus Aunsel, Willelmus Humfrey, and *Rogerus le Frensch*, parochians of Stotfold, say upon their oath that the ninth of this parish, including that of the prior of Newenham, is worth 12 marks, 11s. 4d., and not more, because there is land and meadow which is in dower of the church, while there are besides many acres which are sowed with flax and hemp; and the tithe of greater and lesser offerings and mortuaries belong to the church; and the sheep and lambs died, while those remaining have not their former value.

MANSHEAD HUNDRED.

DUNSTABLE.

In the twelfth regnal year of King Henry III. (1227-28) *Robert le Franceis* was attorney of William, prior of Grave, in a plea against Ralph de Esseng and John de Medhell, concerning cattle.

In the year 1236 the Annals of the Abbey of Dunstable show that Simon Cavegom was convicted for the murder of *Galfridus Franceis*; but, as he was not found, he was outlawed with his brother Ricardus, and his pledges were amerced.

There is a charter without date, but evidently of a later period in this thirteenth century, wherein *Robert*, son of *Robert Fraunceys* of Dunstable, grants to Adam Rufus, of the same place, land in the field of Kensworthe, near by, in the hundred of Dacorum, County Hertford.

In the year 1286, in opposition to the Dominicans enlarging their bounds in this place, the Abbey of Dunstable arranged with Thomas, their janitor, to purchase the messuage formerly belonging to *Robertus Franceis* in Dunstable, the nearest area of the said Dominicans; and the abbey took feoffment of the aforesaid tenement from the said Thomas, and the chirograph made between the said Thomas and the seller of this messuage was delivered in the King's Court.

In the year 1291 this abbey paid to Willelmus de Turvyll, sheriff of Bedfordshire, half a mark for the aforesaid Thomas, now deceased, by the hands of Sybilla, his wife, and Walterus de Parco, for a fine made in the King's Court, for levying a chirograph between him (Thomas) and Petrus de Pakenham and Christina, his wife, of the message of *Robertus Fraunceys* in Dunstable.

STODDEN HUNDRED.

MELCHBOURNE.

A. D. 1340-42.—Inquisition for the taxation of the ninth of lamb, fleece, and sheaf in this place.

Johannes de Molton, Johannes Stoch', *Johannes French*, Galfridus Tekes, Johannes Baker, and Walterus Slecare, parochians of Melcheburn', say upon their oath that the ninth is worth 8½ marks, and not more, because to the church belongs land in dower, while the tithe of hay and other minor things, offerings, and mortuaries, are excluded from this taxation.

MILTON ERNEST.

At an inquisition made in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) the jurors say that Johannes, son of Rogerus Hervis', holds two

hides and a half and one virgate of land in the vill of Middelton of the Hospital of Jerusalem, and the Hospital holds it of the king.

The same Johannes holds one hide and a half and half a virgate in this vill in capite of Henricus Grey, and Henricus holds it of the Earl of Leicester (Edward Crouchback) of the honor of Leicester, and this earl of the king.

Among the free tenants of this Johannes in Middelton was *Willelmus Franceys*, holding half a virgate of land for 4s.

WILLEY HUNDRED.

RADWELL.

A. D. 1278-79.—Robertus de Radewelle, lord of this vill, holds here seven hides and a half of land in capite of Radulphus Perot, and Radulphus holds it of Almaricus de Sancto Edmundo, of the barony of Cayho, and Almaricus of the king.

Among the free tenants of Robertus de Radewelle appears the name of *Willelmus Frense*, who holds half a virgate of land for 2s. per annum with suit and hearth-money.

Johannes le Wolf holds in same vill, of the fee of said Robertus de Radewelle, nine virgates of land, of which he has three virgates in demesne with Johannes his son. Among those in free tenancy is *Willelmus le Franceys*, who holds half a virgate for hearth-money.

WAHULLE.

A. D. 1278-79.— Johannes de Wahulle, lord of the vill of Wahulle, and patron and advowee of the church, holds this vill of the barony of Wahulle, which is held in capite of the king.

Among the free tenants of the fee of Johannes de Wahulle is *Isabella la Franceys*, with her small tenants, holding one virgate of land for 12*d.* per annum.



BERKSHIRE.

GENERAL.

At the pleas on the twenty-seventh day of October, 1199, the day is given in three weeks to *Johannes Franceis*, and others, appellees, and Petrus de Brideport, appellant, in a plea concerning the king's peace; and they have leave to agree.

BRAY HUNDRED.

MAIDENHEAD.

A.D. 1327.—*Roger Ffrenssh* is mentioned in this year. In 1333 Helena le Hosebund unjustly retained a horse belonging to him. Two years later *Margaret* is mentioned as the wife of *Roger Ffrenssh*. He died in 1335, seized of a messuage held at 5s. per annum, when *John Ffrench* his son and heir paid for his relief 5s.

Emma Ffrenshe is mentioned in 1333, and again in the following year as relict of *Walter Ffrenshe*.

Reginald Ffrensche is mentioned in 1338. He died in 1350, when *Alice* is mentioned as his relict as

well as guardian of *Reginald*, his son and heir. She gave to the lord 8*d.* for suit of court.

GANFIELD HUNDRED.

STANFORD.

A.D. 1341.—Willelmus Wermunstre and *Ricardus le Frenshe*, of Stanford, and Reginaldus Benet and Willelmus Est, of Goseye, jurors at the inquisition held at Wanetyng before the prior of Walyngford and his associates, assessors and venditors of the ninth part of sheaves, lambs, and fleece, say upon their oath that the ninth of sheaves, lambs, and fleece, in the parish of Stanford, is worth 31 marks, 3*s.* 6*d.*, and not more, because the tithe of hay and other small tithes are worth 11*li.* 8*s.* 10*d.* Also the ninth sheaf on the land of the abbot of Abyndon, in the vill of Goseye, in this parish, is worth 20*s.*, and not more, because he has neither sheep nor fleece. In testimony of which the aforesaid prior and jurors have appended their seal.

KINTBURY EAGLE HUNDRED.

BENHAM.

At the Nova Placita et Novae Conventiones in the fifth year of the reign of Henry II. (1158-59) the sheriff of this county renders an account of the land of *Willelmus Francesius* of Benham. He paid it into the treasury, and is quit.

CHILDREY.

A.D. 1318, 12th of April.—Grant by Margaret, late wife of Richard de Polhamtone, to Walter de Hamme and Euginia, his wife, for their lives, of lands, etc., in Chelreye, with the reversion of a tenement which *William le Freynche* and *Cristiana*, his wife, hold for the latter's life in the same place by the demise of Geoffrey de Okhangre except a meadow in "le Dolmede." The said lands to revert to Margaret if Euginia after Walter's death recover dower in lands in Hamme, Mordone, and Botermere, which the said Walter and Euginia had granted to Margaret. Dated at Baltestone.

LETCOMBE.

5 Edward I. (1276-77).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by John de Bath against *Andrew le Fraunceys*, touching meadow in Ledecumb.

A.D. 1341.—Thomas Westebrok, *Willelmus le Frensch*, Willelmus le Bous, Willelmus Holte, Johannes Tedbald, Rogerus Pettewyk, and Thomas Benham, parishioners of the church of Ledccombe Regis, jurors at the inquisition before the prior of Walyngford and his associates, collectors and assessors in the county of Berks of the ninth of sheaves, fleece, and lambs, granted to the king, say upon their oath that the aforesaid ninth is worth 43½ marks for this year, and not more. In testimony of which the jurors have appended their seal.

MORETON HUNDRED.

BASSILDON.

A.D. 1272, 26th of June.—At this date was the following plea before the king at Woodstock: Margery, the wife of Peter de Anesy, by attorney, and Matthew de Anesey, appeared against Richard de Vernon (2d), *Gilbert le Fraunceys*, and William de Warre, in a plea that whereas, on account of the transgressions

committed by Richard during the disturbances in the kingdom, the king had given the lands and tenements in Basteldene and Ashamstede to Peter de Anesy, to hold according to the form of the Dictum de Kenilworth (A.D. 1266), and the said Peter, being lately seized of them, had left by will half of them to Margaret, and the other half to Matthew, the said Richard and the others had ejected the plaintiffs *vi et armis*, in the middle of the night, and had done other malicious injuries and damage to them. The sheriff had been ordered to attach the said Richard and the others, and to have their bodies before the king at this term; and they did not appear. Their pledges are therefore in *misericordia*; and the sheriff is ordered to distrain them, etc., and to produce them at the Octaves of Michaelmas.

A.D. 1279. Hilary term.—The jurors said that *Gilbertus le Fraunceis* did not hold the manors of Basteldene and Ashamstede, neither of Willelmus de Bello Campo, Earl of Warwick, nor of Christiana de Marisco, the land being worth 16 lib. per annum; and he had never made homage nor fealty neither to the said earl nor to the said Christiana, but the said manors are held of the king in capite.

A.D. 1280, 6th of January.—Royal grant to William Garlaund of the custody of the lands late of *Gilbert le Fraunceis*, deceased, in Bastelden', and of that of the manor of Nettlebuddle, all in the king's hands; also 10*l.* a year paid to the king by Alice, late wife of

Henry Dyne, deceased, for the custody of the lands late of the said Henry, which has been granted to her by the king during the minority of the heirs of the said Henry. All to be held by the said William during the minority of the heirs of the said *Gilbert* and Henry, and of the heirs of the said manor. Dated at Winchester.

WALLINGFORD.

The first record observed of the surname of *Fraunceys* identified with this borough is that of *Puce la Fraunceise*, who made a grant of land here to the priory of Wallingford.

A.D. 1231.—Roll of the fifteenth year of Henry III., *Clement* and *Robert le Franceis* being provosts or reeves. On the reverse of this roll is an entry in Latin, somewhat mutilated, of which the following is a part: "Delivered by *Robert le Franceis*. For parchment, 2*d*. To Henry, the Clerk, for his service, 5*s*. At the visit of the lord the King, on the day of the Epiphany, to the serjeants of the market, 4*d*. For hens for a present which was made to the Earl and the Bishop of Cardoil [Walter Mauclerk, Bishop of Carlisle], . . . 4*d*. For repairing the pillory and trebuchet [cucking-stool], 16½*d*. To the prebend of the lord the King, 7*s*. 8¼*d*. [? For repairing] the wall before the door of James, the Chaplain, 1*d*. At the coming of the lord the King to Walingford, . . . for

hay and oats, 8*d.* At the first coming of the Countess [Isabel, who had been married the year before], providing in her behalf, from John. . . . To the Mayor, when he went to London, on the matter of Craumerse. . . . For the first journey, when *Robert le Franceis* went to Burchamstede, [for one horse hired] 6*d.*, to the carrier [indistinct] 2*d.*, for expenses 8½*d.* For the second journey, for one horse hired 6*d.*, for the carrier, . . . when Alexander Dublet went with him, 21½*d.* For putting an edging on the robe of. . . . For a present sent to the Lord Bishop of Cardul [Carlisle] at Huntercumb, 5*s.* 1*d.* To the clerk. . . ." The Bishop of Carlisle was at this time Lord Treasurer, but soon afterwards he lost the office.

A.D. 1232.—Burghmote Roll for the 16 Henry III. "*Robert le Franceis* makes plaint against William de Radelee that he came to his land and made a certain ditch there, and cursed him, the loss by which he would not have had for 12*d.*, or the shame for 2*s.*; and he now brings, etc. The matter is put in respite until this day fortnight."

As we find *Robert le Franceis* and Henry, the clerk, named in the year 1231, while the former is mentioned again in 1232, and as both these names appear as witnesses to the following charter, it is inferred that its execution must have been about this period.

Roger de la Grene Lane, of Henley, with the

assent of Alice, his wife, grants to John Hentelune, of Wallingford, the messuage which Godwin Lange-wain some time held in the parish of St. Leonard, and one acre in Chalfmore, between the land of William Fitz-Simon and that which belonged to Cristina Dudde; he rendering the yearly service due to the lords of the fees, and to him, Roger, one pair of white gloves, value one half-penny, at Easter; he having received forty shillings sterling beforehand. Witnesses: Peter Pekoc, mayor, etc.; *Robert le Franceis*; Henry, the clerk; and the whole Burghmote of Walingford.

The roll of the Burghmote of this place held on Thursday after the feast of St. Vincent in the year 1275 ends with a plaint by *John le Franceys* against Osbert de Miller, to the effect that he sold to the said Osbert one acre and a half of land for forty shillings sterling, and that. . . .

READING HUNDRED.

SOUTHCOT.

A.D. 1286. 26th of April.— Protection with clause volumus for one year for *Hugh le Fraunceys*, of Suthcote, going beyond seas with King Edward I., who about this time went on a mission to make peace between Alphonso, King of Arragon, and Philip the Fair, King of France.

RIPPLESMERE HUNDRED.

WINDSOR CASTLE.

In 1355 John de Alkeshull and *William Frenshe* were ordered to provide timber, stone, tiles, and other necessaries for Windsor Castle, as well as for the palace of Westminster and the town of Calais.

About the ninth or tenth year of Richard II. (1385-87) *Giles Frenssh* was the warden of the wardrobe in the castle of Wyndesore.

THEALE HUNDRED.

SULHAM.

A.D. 1341.—*Willelmus le French*, Willelmus ate Bour, Alar' de Solham, and Gilbertus ate Welle, jurors, say upon their oath that the ninth part of sheaves, fleece, and lambs, granted to the king is worth $7\frac{1}{2}$ marks with "la Hide de sancto Philiberto," which is without the extent of the church of Solham, and is valued at half a mark.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1203-4.—At the pleas in the King's Court at Westminster in fifteen days after Holy Trinity in the fifth year of the reign of King John, between Muriel filia Willielmi, plaintiff, and Hugo de Pitebrigg and Matilda, his wife, defendants, concerning one carucate of land with its appurtenances in Pitebrigg', the defendants called to warrant Hiemicus, Master of the Knights' Temple, who made *Robertus le Franceis* his attorney.

A.D. 1290.—Bogo de Clare was attached to answer to Johannes le Waleys, clerk, because when this Johannes, on the Sunday in the feast of Holy Trinity last, in the king's peace and for the Archbishop of Canterbury went into the house of the said Bogo, in the city of London, and there delivered a certain writ of summons, some persons of the household of the said Bogo, by force and against his will, made this Johannes chew this writ, and also the appended seal; and they imprisoned him there, beat, and ill-treated him against the peace of the king to a damage to this Johannes of 20*l.*, and also 1,000*l.* in

contempt of the king. And therefore he had brought this suit.

And Bogo came and defended himself against the accusation and the contempt to the king and his peace, and said that it does not appear to him that he should be answerable for this complaint, as Johannes says in his accusation that certain persons of the household of Bogo had committed the transgression without giving their names, as is the custom in the court; and, as Johannes in his complaint does not say that Bogo was the transgressor, or that he ordered it, he begs judgment.

And Johannes, when asked if Bogo had made the transgression or ordered the same, said no, but that it was some of his household, of whose names he was ignorant.

But for the contempt for the holy church and the king, and for being a bad example for the future, and as the transgression was made within Bogo's doors and by his domestic servants, and because it was testified that certain persons of his household — viz., Henricus de Braban and five others — were the principal doers in this transgression, Bogo is commanded to have them and the others of his family before the king in fifteen days of Holy Trinity to do and accept what should be ordained by the king and his council.

On which day the aforesaid Bogo came before the king and his council with all his family, except

the said Henricus and the five others, who had departed and disappeared. And the jurors said that the aforesaid Henricus and the others made the transgression without the order and assent of Bogo, who did not know anything about it until after it was done; and it was decided that Bogo should be released at present without any day being given for a further hearing. And the said Johannes le Waleys, if it seems to him best, may follow the suit against the principal perpetrators.

And, further, Thomas de Turbervill of co. Hereford, Walterus de Molesworth of co. Huntingdon, Willelmus de Melkesham of co. York, Simon de Ludgate of co. Somerset, David le Grant of co. Hertford, and *Willelmus Fraunceys of co. Buckingham*, became the manucaptors of the aforesaid Bogo, for his appearing before the king to answer in case the aforesaid perpetrators were convicted and the king should desire his attendance.

ASHENDON HUNDRED.

ASTON AND ILMER.

A.D. 1328, 18th of February.—Commission of oyer and terminer to Robert de Ardern and others on complaint by John Blaket that Maurice Drauswerd, Matilda, late the wife of William Beausamys, Thomas

Beausamys, William de Clynton, *Roger le Frensh*, William Hosebond, John de Poghele, William Jordan, and others broke his houses at Aston and Ilmere in this hundred, and Adynton, in Buckingham hundred, took away twenty horses, twenty mares, sixty oxen, forty bullocks, forty cows, and two hundred swine, worth 200 marks, and felled and carried away his trees.

BORSTALE.

A.D. 1213.—Walter Borstard by a charter granted to Sir John Fitz-Nigel half a hide of land in Borstall for a yearly rent of ten shillings and one mark of silver in hand. Among the witnesses was *Thomas le Franceys*.

BRILL.

A.D. 1254-55.—Among the jurors of the royal manor of Brehull was *Galfridus le Franceys*.

PITCHOT.

This manor is of special interest to the surnames of Fraunceys and Vernon. William de Vernon, Lord of Harlaston, held in the year 1234 one fee in this place of the honor of Wallingford, and, in 1235, paid 20s. scutage for one knight's fee and a half.

He married the heiress of Stockport toward the

end of the reign of King John, which, we infer, is the period of the following charter, made in their favor, by her brother, Robert de Stockport. A printed copy of this document is given by the Rev. John Watson, from which the translation is made. This grant shows that her name was Margery; but the assize of which we give an ensuing record, taken from the Staffordshire Historical Collections, shows the great-grandmother of Richard de Vernon (the great-grandson of William de Vernon) was Matilda, which was the same prænomen as borne by the mother of Robert de Stockport, the grantor of this charter.

Know all, as well those present as those to come, that I, Robertus de Stokeport, have granted and conceded, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to Willielmus de Vernon, and Margeria, his wife, for his homage and service, as the right and inheritance of the aforesaid Margeria, my sister, all the land of "Marpel et Wibereslee," with all the appurtenances, in wood and plain, in waters and pastures, and in all other places and liberties,—viz., within these boundaries, as I ascend from Hiderlektop in Mersee to Guit, and from Guit to Wibberlektop, and from Wibberlektop to the highway, and as I descend from the highway to Kartelacke, and from Kartelacke to Huiderlektop, and from Huiderlektop to Mersee. To have and to hold to him and his heirs of me and my heirs, free and quit of all services and exactions,

by finding one forester in the forest of my lord, the Earl of Chester,—viz., Maklesfeld; saving for my lord, the Earl of Chester, the right of hunting with hawks, falcons, and sparrow-hawks. Hiis testibus, Philippo de Orrebi tunc Justiciario Cestrie, Hugone Disp(ensar)y, Rogero de Meinewaring, Willielmo de Venables, Ricardo Phitum, Jord. de Bredburi, Benedicto de Wurth, Rogero de Dunes, et multis aliis.

An assize of the fourth regnal year of King Edward II. (1310-11), of last presentation to the church of Pychecote, the advowson of which the prior of Great Malverne claimed against Richard de Vernon, 3d; and he stated that his predecessor, William de Ledbury, formerly prior, had presented to the church one John de Teynton, who had been admitted and instituted in the reign of King Edward I.

Richard (de Vernon, 3d) stated that he was seized of the manor of Pychecote, to which the advowson of the church was appurtenant, and that one Matilda de Vernon, his great-grandmother (proavia), and whose heir he is, was formerly seized of it, and had presented to the church one William de Pychecote, her clerk, who had been admitted and instituted in the time of King John, and from the said Matilda the right descended to one Richard (de Vernon, 2d) as her son and heir, and from Richard who died s. p. to one Robert (de Vernon) as brother and heir, and from Robert it descended to one Hawys, as daughter and

heir, and from Hawyse to Richard de Vernon (3d), who now sues as her son and heir; and he stated that when the prior's predecessors made the two first presentations, which had been detailed, he, the said Richard (2d), was under age, and that, at the time the prior's predecessor presented William de la Lade, one *Gilbert Fraunceys*, formerly husband of the said Hawyse, held the manor of Pychecote by courtesy of England, and, at the time William de Wykkewane was presented to the church, Hawys was under the power (sub potestatem) of *Gilbert (le Fraunceys)*, her husband, and, at the time of the two previous presentations, the said Richard (de Vernon), son of Matilda, the great-uncle of the defendant, was under age, and all this he was prepared to prove. A jury found in favor of Richard de Vernon (3d), and gave him 10 marks for damages, the value of the half year of the church, the tempus semestre not having elapsed.

AYLESBURY HUNDRED.

BLEDLOW.

A.D. 1292, April 8.—At this date there is a record of *Isabella*, daughter of *Willelmus le Fraunceys* of Bledelawe.

COTTESLOE HUNDRED.

LINSLADE.

A.D. 1340-42.—The value of the ninth in the parish of Linchelade, by the statement of Rogerus Ambroys, *Hugo le Frenssche*, Hugo Michel, Johannes le Waryner, Johannes in le Hurne, and Ricardus le Clerk, is 10 marks, and not more, as two hundred acres of land in this parish lie uncultivated on account of the poorness of the soil, and the glebe of the church together with the meadow and pasture, which is not included in this account, is worth 40s. this year.

DESBOROUGH HUNDRED.

GREAT MARLOW AND HAMBLEDON.

A.D. 1254-55.—The jurors state that the Earl of Gloucester (Richard de Clare IV.) has, and his ancestors always had, view of frankpledge in Merlawe and Hamelden. They also found that *Gvydo le Franceis* was among those in default.

HIGH WYCOMBE.

A.D. 1347, 13th of September.—John de Haveryngdoun, of Wycombe, grants to Robert Beneyt and

Emma, his wife, a pightel of meadow in the street Bynuthebrugge, running down to the rivulet. No consideration is mentioned. Among the witnesses are John de Sandwelle, Mayor, and *Geoffrey le Freynche*.

HUGHENDON.

A.D. 1340-42.—The value of the ninth in the parish of Huchendene, by the statement of Gilbertus le Serjeant, Symon le Smyth, Johannes ate Coumbe, *Ricardus le Frenssche*, Galfridus Taillefer, Alexander de Coleshull, junior, and Alexander le Cok, is 23 marks, and not more, as three hundred acres of land and more lie uncultivated, partly from the poorness of the soil and partly because of the poverty of the parochians, who have no animals for ploughing or seed for sowing, and to the glebe of the church of this place belong fifteen acres of arable land with meadow: the sheep died with their lambs. There are no merchants or catallarii in the parish.

NEWPORT HUNDRED.

HANSLOPE.

At an inquisition made in this county in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) the jurors say that Lord Willelmus de Bello Campo (IV.), Earl of Warwick, holds the entire manor of Hamslap, with the advowson of the church, in capite of the king by the service of one knight's fee and two serjeanties.

Among the free tenants of this Earl of Warwick in this place was *Robertus le Franceys*, who held eighteen acres of land, rendering for the same to the said earl 12*d.* per annum, and scutage when assessed.

STOKE HUNDRED.

LANGLEY CUM WYRARDISBURY.

A.D. 1340-42.—The value of the ninth in the parish of Langeley cum Wyrardisbury, by the statement of Willelmus Martal, Willelmus le Prestwyk, *Johannes le Frenssche*, Johannes in le Hale, Johannes ate Pleystowe, and Ricardus le Hertrugge, is 49 marks, and not more, because eighty acres of land lie uncultivated which formerly were ploughed and sowed, and there are no merchants or catallarii in the parish.

UPTON.

A.D. 1340-42.—The value of the ninth in this parish, according to the statement of Johannes de Keynes, Nicholaus le Forester, Walterus de Tappelowe, *Johannes le Frenssche*, Symon le Clerk, and Ricardus Sywet, is 20 marks and not more, because the belongings of the church of this place are not in this account, and there are no merchants or catallarii.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1241-42.—Among the free tenants of the Bishop of Ely, in the bailiwick of Gervas' in this county, were *Willielmus Fraunceys* and Thomas de Morwode, who hold half a virgate of land for half a mark.

CAMBRIDGE CITY.

A.D. 1199, 9th of May.—Essoins, etc., in three weeks of Easter. Ricardus de Munfichet essoins himself by Willielmus de la Hage and *Johannes Franceis* in a plea versus the Jews of Cambridge, concerning service due the lord the duke.

A.D. 1273-75.—*Ricardus le Fraunceys* was one of the jurors in a plea between the king's mother and the Bishop of Ely, in regard to the Hospital of St. John at Cambridge.

A.D. 1278-79.—Verdict of the jurors of the borough of Cambridge.

Johannes le Franceys and *Margaret*, his wife, hold for their lifetime one messuage on which they dwell,

in the parish of Saint Edward, as a gift of the abbot and convent of Teleteye (Tiltey). The abbot and convent held it, however, as a gift of the before-mentioned *Johannes* and *Margaret* by a chirograph levied in the lord's court. *Margaret* held the said messuage as lawful heiress after her deceased mother, Alicia Scolice, and Alicia held it by lawful inheritance after the decease of her ancestors; and they, *Johannes* and *Margaret*, render yearly to the bailiffs of Cambridge, who have the said vill in fee farm, a hagabulum (tax) of *1d.*, by the assignation of the abbot and convent.

The said *Johannes* and *Margaret*, his wife, hold also one messuage in the parish of Saint Mary of Cambridge, which messuage the said *Margaret* had purchased of Robertus de Houton, who had inherited it after the decease of Robertus de Houton, his father, who held it by ancient purchase (de antiquo perquisito); and they, *Johannes* and *Margaret*, pay for the same yearly *7s.* to the heirs of the said Robertus de Houton.

Johannes and *Margaret* hold also in the same parish a vacant lot of ground which the said *Margaret* purchased of Master Thomas de Sancto Edmundo, who had it as a gift from Walterus, his father, who held it by inheritance from his ancestors. *Johannes* and *Margaret* pay yearly for the same half a mark to Lucas de Sancto Edmundo.

Johannes and *Margaret* hold also in the parish of

Saint Andrew one messuage, which descended to the said *Margaret* by lawful inheritance after the death of Alicia Scolice, her mother, and the said Alicia held it by inheritance after the decease of Matilda Scolice, her mother, who held it by inheritance from her ancestors; and *Margaret* gives yearly for the same 18*d.* to the Bishop of Ely, but the jurors do not know by what warrant the bishop collects the rent.

Johannes and *Margaret*, his wife, hold in the parish of Holy Trinity one messuage, which descended to the said *Margaret* by inheritance after the decease of Alicia, her mother, who inherited it from her parents; and they, *Johannes* and *Margaret*, give yearly for the same 16*d.* to the heirs of Robertus de Houton, and a tax of 1*d.* to the bailiffs of Cambridge, who hold the said vill in fee farm. And they give a hagebulum.

A.D. 1340-42.—The Inquisitiones Nonarum show that *Jacobus Frenssh* of the Warda de Foro was assessed for 6*d.*

CHESTERTON HUNDRED.

CHESTERTON.

A.D. 1279-80.—At an inquisition made in the eighth year of the reign of King Edward I. the jurors testified that the lord the king has no demesne manor in

his hands in the hundred of Cestreton; but they assert that King John had the vill of Cestreton with its appurtenances, but in the first year of his reign (1199-1200), he had given the demesne manor of Cestreton, with rent, homage, and custom, to the prior and convent of Bernewell (Barnwell) in Cambridge.

Jacobus de Hyston holds one acre of land, by charter, of *Robertus le Franceis*, giving him for the same 1*d.* per annum.

The scholars of Mertone hold one messuage, twenty-four acres of arable land, and three acres of meadow, of the fee of Harvey Dunnyng, giving yearly to the prior of Bernwell, for the said tenement and its appurtenances, 6*d.*, etc.

Robertus le Franceis holds from ancient time one messuage and twenty-one acres of land, giving to the prior of Bernewell 3*s.*, to the rector 6*d.*, and to the scholars of Merton 18*d.*

Johannes de Wyke and *Agnes le Franceis* hold, as customary tenants, one messuage and ten acres of land, giving to the aforesaid prior 26½*d.*

Walterus Beine and Bartholomeus Mercator hold, as customary tenants, one messuage and four acres of land, giving yearly 14*d.* to the said prior; and the said Bartholomeus holds half an acre, by charter, giving yearly 1*d.* to *Robertus le Franceis*.

CHILFORD HUNDRED.

CAMPS.

A.D. 1278-80.—*Johannes Fraunceys* holds one messuage, containing one rood of land, and three acres of land in Campes, for a rental of 3*s.* per annum, and in scutage one hen and five eggs. Otherwise the arrangement is the same as that of *Isabella Tatrix*, of whom we gather no information.

Robertus de Vere, Earl of Oxford, holds in Campes in capite of the king, by barony; and he has in this place free warren, view of frankpledge, and tumbrel.

Robertus le Franceis is among the customary tenants of this *Robertus de Vere*; and he holds fifteen acres of land with messuage, and gives yearly 5*s.*, and he has to provide two men for five days' harvest work, which is valued at 10*d.*, and he must assist at hay time, which is valued at a half-penny.

FLENDISH HUNDRED.

TEVERSHAM.

A.D. 1278-80.—The jury found that *Willelmus de Swafham*, formerly rector of the church of *Thevesham*, had encroached on a certain way, called *La Barre*, one foot in breadth and twelve perticas in

length. They also found that *Willelmus Franceys* had encroached on the common road one foot in breadth and three perticas in length; and they further stated that *Robertus Franceys* had encroached upon the royal road one foot in breadth and six perticas in length.

Thomas de Warbilton holds in capite of the king sixteen virgates and eight acres of land in Theversham, by serjeanty. A Walrafuns de Muirteus held half of the aforesaid land of the said Thomas, which tenement Thomas Peferel now holds, but the jurors do not know for what service.

Alicia Franceys holds of the said Thomas Peferel eleven acres of land, giving weekly two days' work from the feast of St. Michael until Hokeday (Hockday), and from Hokeday until the feast of St. Michael four days' work weekly; and she gives also two hens per annum, one at Christmas and the other at Easter, besides ten eggs.

The fee of Richmond, in Teversham.

Willelmus de Swafham holds six acres of land of *Willelmus Franceys* for a rent of 6*d.* per annum.

LONGSTOW HUNDRED.

EVERSDEN.

A.D. 1278-80.—The recognitors said that Lord Robertus de Ho holds one knight's fee in the vill of Eversdon, of the honor of West Wardone, of Willielmus de Henner, and this Lord Willielmus holds in capite of the king.

Rogerus Franceys holds three acres of land of Robertus de Ho.

STOW AND HATLEY.

A.D. 1278-80.—The recognitors said that Willelmus de Stowe holds here one messuage, containing five acres, and one carucate of land, and the dower of his mother, containing one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he inherited after his father, who held it of the abbot of Ramsey, and this lord abbot holds it in capite of the king.

Elyas Franceys is a customary tenant of aforesaid Willelmus de Stowe, and holds of him one messuage and twenty acres of land, for which he has to give three days' work weekly, when summoned, excepting eight days at Christmas, eight days at Easter, and eight days at Pentecost. And he shall harrow one day in winter (hiems) and one in Lent, having on both days a meal. And he shall give a great loaf

of bread at Christmas, besides three hens and one cock; and *Elyas* himself, his wife, and one of his servants shall have a meal (prandium) once on one day (semil in una die). In the harvest he shall give two days' work with two men, and a third day with all his family that can work, except his wife, who has to take charge of her house; and all of them shall have meals for the whole day. He shall be provost (praepositus) if the lord will so, who can tax (talliare) him after his own will. He cannot give his daughter in marriage without the consent of his lord. And this *Elyas* and three other customary tenants belong by inheritance to the aforesaid *Willelmus de Stowe*.

Elyas Franceys holds one acre of land of the serjeanty of the aforesaid *Willelmus de Stowe*, giving for the same *1d.* per annum.

NORTH STOW HUNDRED.

GIRTON.

A.D. 1239-40.—*Willelmus Franciscus* holds half a virgate of land in Gretthone, of the abbot of Ramsey, by services.

MADINGLEY.

A.D. 1278-80.—*Rogerus Wendut* holds half an acre of land of *Willelmus le Franceis*, of the fee of the Templars, for *1d.* per annum.

Johannes filius Simonis holds half an acre of land of *Robertus le Franceis*, of the fee of the prior of Barnwell, for 3*d.* per annum.

In the records of the last-mentioned year, most probably in Maddingley, we find that Nicholaus Alexander holds one rood of land of *Willelmus Franceis*, of the fee of the prior of Bernewelle, for 1½*d.* per annum.

STANTON.

A.D. 1278–80.—At an inquisition held at Cambridge it is found that Henricus de Cheney holds half a knight's fee in demesne in the vill of Stanton, both land and meadow, of Willelmus de Latimer. It belongs to the barony of Westnardon, and Willelmus de Latimer holds it in capite of the king.

Among the villani of the aforesaid Henricus de Cheney is *Walterus Fraunceys*, who holds fifteen acres of arable land and meadow, giving yearly 4*s.* to the said Henricus.

Walterus Fraunceys shall also, after the festival of St. Michael, thrash for one day in his lord's barn, receiving his food.

If he has a daughter to give in marriage, she cannot marry without the consent of the lord; and he shall give leyrwyte.

And, if he has a young horse or a young ox which has worked, he is not allowed to sell them without

license of the lord; but, if they have not been used for work, he is allowed to sell them without permission.

If his son works outside, he shall give to the lord two capons per annum as recognition of the lord. Also, if he has sheep of his own or belonging to his sons, he shall bring them to the lord's cattle-court with hurdles, to remain there from Michaelmas until Christmas; and it is valued at *1d.*

He shall also give two hens to his lord at Christmas, and they are valued at *2d.*

He shall also give ten eggs to his lord at Easter, and they are valued at a farthing.

He, with his after-named companions, shall weed the lord's corn at their cost; and it is valued at three farthings.

And he, together with his companions, shall mow the lord's meadow, collect the hay, put it into cocks, and cover it; and they receive for this work half an acre of meadow, which is called Denhalveker, and on the day when they cover it two men shall receive a bread at "nona" (about 2 P.M.), with two herrings or cheese, and the work is valued at *1d.*

He shall gather his lord's corn (*bladum*) during three harvest days with two men daily, without food of the lord; and every day's work is valued at *2d.*

He, with his companions, shall transport his lord's corn to be sold at "Cantebrugiam" or at Swavesheye, and this work is valued at a half-penny.

He shall carry his lord's corn or straw at the harvest, on one day, with one companion, when they shall receive food of the lord; and the work is valued at 3*d.*

He shall carry, at his own cost, to the lord's home wood and fuel from whichever place it may be bought in the county of Cambridge (Cantebrugia); and it is valued at a half-penny.

He shall harvest during three days with two men, each workman receiving food of the lord. During the first two days they shall have fish, cheese, and bread, without saltpetre (salvistrum); and on the third day they shall have bread, meat, cheese, and saltpetre. . . . Said villani of the said Henricus de Cheney have to perform these services and conform to the customs formerly accorded to Lord Aylbrede, namely: *Walterus Fraunceys* shall thrash oats during one day with one man, having a meal at the ninth hour (ad horam nonam) of the day; and he shall plough half an acre once for sowing, and another half-acre four times. He shall harrow to cover the seed with one man and one horse, and it is valued at 4*d.* He shall also carry off the stubble after the harvest, and shall then have bread with "companagium" (anything eaten with bread). He shall plough the land for planting the lord's flax (linum) after the ninth hour (post nonam horam) on one day, weed it, and cock it up. And fifteen other villani, holding tenements with land and meadow, give the same days' work of equal value as the afore-said *Walterus Fraunceys*.

PAPWORTH HUNDRED.

GRAVELEY.

A.D. 1278-80.—The abbot of Ramsey holds one demesne manor in this vill, with one hide and a half of land, and the advowson of the church. He also holds in tenancy two virgates of land, which he bought at the time of war from Lord Robertus de Comtone; and the abbot granted it to several persons for their lifetime, one of whom is *Robertus Franceys*, who holds of the said abbot seventeen acres of land, giving him for the same 30s. per annum, and 7*d.* in sheriff's aid.

PAPWORTH ST. EVERARD.

A.D. 1278-80.—In this place *Gilbertus Franceys* and *Rogerus Franceys* were customary tenants of Lady Juliana de Beche, holding each half a virgate and paying each 10s. per annum.

SWAVESEY.

A.D. 1278-80.—Elena, widow of Alan le Zuche, and grand-daughter of Alan, Lord of Galloway, holds, as her dower, the vill of Swavese, by socage. It was an ancient franchise of the Zuches, Earls of Brittany.

Elena holds four virgates and a half of sokeland in the same vill of Swavese, of which Willelmus Milde and *Matheus Fraunceys* hold one virgate, giving to the said Elena yearly 54*s.* 1*d.*, and two days of harvest work, appraised at 2*d.*, besides carrying the lady's corn, etc.

STAINED HUNDRED.

GREAT WILBRAHAM.

A.D. 1278-80.—Lord Rogerus Loveday holds of the king in the vill of Magna Wilburham a tenement with its appurtenances, which had been held by serjeanty for the custody of a sparrow-hawk by a person named Pikot.

Among the free tenants of this Lord Rogerus Loveday was *Ricardus le Franceys*, of whom there is a record that he holds half an acre and one rood of land.

Nel de Chaunberlain gave a portion of his part of the vill of Magna Wilburham, which he held in capite of the king, to Robertus de Insula as a dower with one of his daughters, which tenement consisted of two hundred acres of land of the honor of Brittany, with ten customary tenants, each of them holding twenty acres of land and giving yearly work. This tenement, with its appurtenances, went by inheritance to a Robertus de Insula.

Among the free tenants of this Robertus de Insula is *Ricardus Franceys*, who holds two acres of land for a service of 13*d.*

SWAFFHAM PRIOR.

A.D. 1278–80.—Reginaldus de Eylesham holds in Swapham Prior the homage which formerly belonged to *Lord Eborardus Franceys*. This *Eborardus* held once in demesne one hundred acres of land of the honor of Richmond, but of this hundred acres he sold sixty in free and perpetual alms to the prior of Anglesey.

STAPLOE HUNDRED.

BADLINGHAM.

In a charter of 54 Henry III. (1269–70) the king grants to *Alanus de Franceis* free warren in Bodelingham, as well as land at Fencotes, in Yorkshire.

At an inquisition held in the seventh or eighth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278–80) it is found that *Alanus le Franceys* holds the whole manor of Badlingham for two knights' fees of the honor of Richmond, paying 20*s.* toward the "wardagium" of Richmond; and he makes one suit to the court of Badburham, and gives scutage.

The free tenants of *Alanus le Franceys* are the following:—

Earl Marescallus holds in this place forty acres of land and meadow for 12*d.* per annum.

Adam de Morle holds two acres of meadow for 4*s.* per annum.

Alanus Torel holds one messuage with fifteen acres of land for 2*s.* per annum.

Robertus Overhe holds one messuage with fifteen acres of land for 4*s.* per annum.

Nicholaus de Marham holds six acres and a half of land for 3*s.* per annum.

Adam del Cheshus holds three acres of land for 4*s.* per annum.

Thomas filius Nicholai holds one messuage with thirty acres of land for 6*d.* per annum.

The abbot of Sybeton (in Suffolk) holds one messuage with one hundred acres of land in pure and perpetual alms, a gift of the ancestors of the said *Alanus*, with foldage.

The abbot of Waledene (in Essex) holds nine acres of land in pure and perpetual alms, a gift of the ancestors of said *Alanus*.

Alanus le Franceys has in same vill thirteen customary tenants, holding each one messuage with fifteen acres of land, giving 12*d.*, with fifty-six days' work each per annum; and each tenant has to till twenty acres of land, carry goods in wagon twelve leagues, and give the eighth part of the brewing and

one-fourth of the oats, besides three hens and ten eggs, and mowing one day, having food of the lord.

Alanus le Franceys has in same vill three cotarii, holding each one messuage with two acres of land, and giving yearly 4*d.*, with forty-eight days' work, two hens, five eggs, and carrying goods in wagons two leagues.

In Fordham, near Badlingham, *Alanus Franceys* holds of the honor of Richmond.

The following are his tenants:—

Symon Breuston holds one messuage with fifteen acres of land for 10*s.* per annum and suit at the court.

Henricus Stolle holds one messuage with one acre and a half of land for 3*s.* 4*d.*

Willelmus le Spencer holds two acres of land for 3*s.* 4*d.*

Henricus, the son, holds three messuages with one acre and a half of land for 8*s.* per annum.

Willelmus ad Ecclesiam holds one messuage with five acres of land for 15*d.* per annum.

Everardus Calmyn holds one messuage with three acres of land for 3*s.* 4*d.*

Henricus Hare holds one messuage with fifteen acres for 10*s.* per annum.

Adam Breton holds one messuage with one acre of land for 3*s.* per annum.

Andreas Toly holds one messuage with one acre of land for 3*s.* per annum.

Commission for the assessment and collection of the thirtieth (for the war in Wales), which had been granted by the knights, "Liberi Homenes," and "Communitas" of the county, upon condition that the "Magnates" should also grant the same. Teste Rege apud Rhuddlan, 28th of February, 1283.

Alanus le Fraunceys was an assessor and collector in this county.

A.D. 1286, 30th of April.—At the perambulation held at this date of the metes and bounds between the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon *Alanus le Fraunceys* and Henricus de Lacy were among the jurors elected in the county of Cambridge.

A.D. 1287, 20th of January.—Commission to *Alan le Fraunceys* and Henry de Lacy in the county of Cambridge to enforce the articles of the statutes made at Winchester [Statute of Winton, 13 Edw. I.] for the preservation of the peace, which, as it appears by the complaint of divers persons, are not observed. This commission is issued because the justices appointed to take assizes in divers parts of the realm do not go every year as often as was ordained, whereby defaults in the execution of the statute cannot be presented. The above commissioners are to receive such presentations and otherwise attend to the execution of the said statute until the king's return, or until further order is made touching the said justices; and they are to certify the king, or

Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, supplying his place in England, at Westminster, in three weeks after Easter. Tested at Westminster.

A.D. 1290, 14th of June.—Writ of election addressed to the sheriff of Cambridge.

Three knights to appear at Westminster in three weeks of St. John the Baptist, 15th of July, with full powers for themselves and the "Communitas" of the shire, to consent to what should be then and there ordained by the earls, barons, and certain others of the "Proceres" of the kingdom. Tested at Westminster.

Alanus de Fraunceys, Henricus de Lacy, and Radulphus Fitz-Fulk were elected for Cambridge to this Parliament.

A.D. 1297, 28th of August.—A writ was addressed to *Alanus Fraunceys*, commanding him, "in fide et dilectione," to appear at Rochester on Sunday, the Nativity of the Virgin (8th of September), with horses and arms, to hold a "colloquium" with "Edward" (the king's son, then lieutenant in England) and his council, on certain affairs concerning the king and kingdom, and to perform what should be then and there enjoined upon him. Tested at Tunbridge, 28th of August, 1297.

A.D. 1297.—After the battle of Stirling and the recovery of Berwick, Wallace, with his Scotch forces, marched into the northern counties of England. This resulted in a series of military summons, on the

part of the English king, for the defence of his kingdom, of which the following may be given as an illustration, viz.:—

That to *Alanus Fraunceys* recites that the Scots, in defiance of their homage and fidelity, have invaded England, committing depredations and other acts of violence, in consequence whereof the king had required the earls, barons, and the other "Magnates" and lieges of the kingdom to muster at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on the feast of St. Nicholas (6th of December) under "Edward," the king's son, and lieutenant in England, for the purpose of repressing the malice and rebellion of the said enemies. "*Alanus Fraunceys*" is therefore "affectionately requested" to appear in person, with horses and arms, etc., at the above-mentioned time and place, prepared and ready to proceed against the Scots. Witness, Edward, the king's son, at Westminster, 21st of October, 1297.

The knights elected for this county to attend at the Parliament at York on the twenty-fifth day of May, 1298, were Robertus de Hoo and *Alanus Franceys*.

A.D. 1300.—*Alanus le Fraunceys*, knight, of this shire, obtains his writ de expensis for attendance at the Parliament at Westminster on the second Sunday in Lent (6th of March). Tested at Westminster, 20th of March, 28 Edward I.

In the following year *Alanus le Fraunceys* is returned for this county to the Parliament held at Lincoln.

BURWELL.

A.D. 1273-74.— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Benedict*, son of *Herlewin Fraunceis*, against Alice, daughter of Radulph, son of Alexander de Bureswell', touching land in Bureswell.

ISLEHAM.

A.D. 1278-80.— Master Egidius de Briddeport holds the manor of Iselham Magna of Rosia, formerly wife of Walterus de Dunstanevile, which manor was formerly in the hands of the king, who granted it to Willelmus, son of Alanus, Lord of Meleham, for service of serjeanty, who gave it to Petronilla, his daughter, on her marriage to Walterus de Dunstanevile, senior.

Among the free tenants of Walterus de Dunstanevile in this vill is *Robertus Franceys*, who holds one messuage with fifteen acres of land for 20s., with suit to the court twice a year.

THRILOW HUNDRED.

A.D. 1278-80.— Johannes filius Walteri holds one messuage, with a garden containing three acres, one

hundred acres of land and seven acres of meadow, of Lord Baldewinus de Sancto George for knight's service; and this Baldewinus holds of Lord Ricardus Mussegros, and the jurors do not know from whom Ricardus holds it. It is of the fee of Peverel; and the said Johannes gives scutage and 12*d.* in sheriff's aid, and he gives 18*d.* to the bailiff for view of frankpledge, and half a mark for three years toward the warden of the castle of Cambridge.

Thomas Mercator holds of Johannes filius Walteri one messuage containing half an acre and five acres of land for a service of 2*s.* 4*d.*; and he makes three days' harvest work, each day with two men, appraised at 6*d.*; and he shall mow the lord's fern, appraised at 1*d.*; and collect it, appraised at 2*d.*; and thrash two quarters of corn and make malt, appraised at 7*d.*; and he gives three hens and one cock, appraised at 4*d.*

Robertus Frances and six others are holders of land, each having a tenement with the same duties as Thomas Mercator.

FOXTON.

A.D. 1275-76.—The jurors reported that *Johannes le Fraunceys*, of Foxton, and some others, freemen of Ely, were accustomed to attend the king's leet through the county, but had withdrawn from such attendance.

A.D. 1278-80.—The recognitors said that Lord Willelmus de Mortuomari holds in Foxton half a knight's fee of Lord Symon de Furnes for service of 5*s.* per annum and scutage. Simon holds it of the Earl of Brittany, and the earl of the king in capite; and Mortuomari has view of frankpledge with the bailiffs of Brittany.

Johannes Fraunces is a free tenant of Willelmus de Mortuomari, and holds three roods of land and five roods of meadow for 12*d.*

The recognitors said that Lord Willelmus de la Haie holds land in Foxton of the master of the Hospital of Saint John, in fee farm; and this master holds it in pure and perpetual alms, a gift of the Earl of Maundewill, who holds of the king.

Among the free tenants of Willelmus de la Haie is *Johannes Fraunces*, who holds sixteen acres of land with two messuages for 8*s.* 6*d.*

The recognitors said that the abbess of Chateriz holds land in Foxton, in pure and perpetual alms, of the Bishop of Ely.

Among the free tenants of the abbess is *Johannes Frances*, who holds ten acres of land with messuage for 4*s.* 2*d.*, and six capons, appraised at 9*d.*

GREAT SHELFORD.

A.D. 1278-80.—Among the cotarii of Lord Ricardus de Frevil, of Scelford Magna, is *Philippus Frances*,

who holds one rood of land and one messuage for service of 2s. 4d.

Lady Agnes de Valence holds in Magna Scelford one messuage, with a garden containing three acres, one hundred and sixty acres of land and seven acres of meadow, in capite of the king, by serjeanty. She neither pays tax, makes suit, nor gives aid to the sheriff.

Among the villani of Agnes de Valence is *Johannes Fraunces*, holding a tenement for service of 2s. and two hens.

NEWTON.

A.D. 1278-80.—The prior of Ely holds the manor of Neuton and land in the field of Neuton and Haukeston. Among the cotarii here of this prior is *Quinciwe France*.

WETHERLEY HUNDRED.

COMBERTON.

A.D. 1279-80.—The jurors stated that Johannes de Merk holds two carucates of land in the vill of Comerton in capite of his lord the king, by the serjeanty of tending two falcons and one dog in the service of the king from Michaelmas until Candlemas.

The jurors further show that of the said serjeanty

nine acres of land were alienated to the Hospital of Schenegeya (Shengay) in this county, in tenancy of which *Willelmus le Franceys* holds five acres for 8*d.* per annum.

The jurors stated that the prior of Bernewelle holds seventy acres of land, of the serjeanty of Alexander Heved, for which the prior pays to the king a yearly rent of half a mark.

Among the prior's free tenants in this place is *Willelmus le Franceys*, who holds twelve acres, by charter, for 4*s.* per annum.

A.D. 1279-80.—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by John, son of Walter de Cumberton, against *William le Fraunceis*, touching land in Comberton.

COTON.

Circa A.D. 1200.—Appearances, assizes, pleas of land, etc.

The assisa de ultima presentatione of the church of Cotes, between Ricardus Engaine, plaintiff, and Gaufridus de Berges, is postponed until three weeks after the feast of Saint Michael for defective recognizance, because *Ricardus Franceis* and two others excused themselves by essoiners; and others, including Osbertus, the archbishop, neither came nor essoined themselves. Therefore, they were attached to be present at Westminster on the aforesaid day.

GRANTCHESTER.

A.D. 1279-80.—The Earl of Lincoln (Henry de Lacy) holds in the vill of Grantecete one knight's fee in capite of the king.

He has among his free tenants *Dionisia*, daughter of *Gilbertus* and *Gosse le Fraunceys*, who holds nine acres and a half of land for 4s. 3d. per annum.

HARLTON.

A.D. 1279-80.—Lady Ysabella de Pauntone holds, as marriage portion, in the vill of Harletone, one knight's fee of Lord Willelmus de Huntingfeld, and this Willelmus of the Earl of Gloucester, who holds of the king in capite.

Free tenants of Lady Ysabella de Pauntone.

Lord Johannes de Folkesworthe holds by the law of England (per legem Angliæ) two hundred and forty acres of land, and renders scutage.

Radulphus Lovel holds the third part of a knight's fee, and renders scutage.

Among the free tenants of Lord Johannes de Folkesworthe is *Ricardus Fraunceys*, holding thirty acres of land, the marriage portion of his wife, for 9d. per annum.

Radulphus Lovel has among his free tenants *Johannes Fraunceys*, who holds ten acres of land for 2s. 6d. per annum.

Alexander Maudut, of Harletone, holds in the same vill half a knight's fee of the barony of Gilbertus de Pecche, by mesne of Rogerus de Pereres, of Norfolk, and owes suit to the county and hundred, and 12*d.* in sheriff's aid, per annum, and is geldable to the king, and pays scutage to G. Pecche.

Among the free tenants of Alexander Magaunt is *Johannes Fraunceys*, who holds six acres of land for 2*s.* 5*d.* per annum.

The recognitors said that Lord Edwardus, son of the king (afterwards Edward II.), holds the third part of a knight's fee in Harleton and Wytewell, of the honor of Leicester, a gift of the king; and he has view of frankpledge, assisa panis et cerevisiæ, and gives scutage.

Among the villani of Lord Edwardus is *Johannes Fraunceys*, who holds seven acres of land; and his work for the same is valued at 6*s.* 3*d.* per annum.

ORWELL.

A.D. 1279–80.—Lord Johannes de Cameys holds in Orewelle one knight's fee of the heirs of the Earl of Winchester, and this earl of the Earl of Gloucester, who held in capite of the king.

Johannes Fraunceys is among the free tenants of the manor of Orewelle, holding ten acres of land, by charter, for 2*s.* per annum. Eborardus de Orewelle is

another free tenant, holding one acre of land for 8*d.* per annum.

In this same place and hundred Eborardus de Orwelle holds one hide, containing one hundred and twenty acres of land and meadow, geldable to the king; and he holds by socage of Lord Henricus de Bokeswore, who holds of Ricardus de Frevile, who holds in capite of the king.

Among the free tenants of Eborardus de Orewelle is *Johannes Fraunceys*, who holds four acres for 2*s.* 6*d.*

WIMPOLE.

In this place *Willelmus le Franceys* held half a knight's fee of the barony of Cristiana Ledet, and paid into the treasury in 1246-47 20*s.* toward the scutage of Gascogne. His successor in this place appears to have been *Ricardus le Franceys*, of whom we have the following records:—

A.D. 1278-79.—Verdict before the king's justices at Cambridge by *Willelmus de la Haye*, knight, *Ricardus le Franceys* of Wynepol, and others, jurors.

Ricardus le Franceys defends in Wynepol half a knight's fee of the barony of Ledeth. He gives 12*d.* in sheriff's aid, 12*d.* for view of frankpledge, scutage when assessed, and is geldable to the king.

The free tenants of *Ricardus le Franceys* are the following:—

Stephanus le Fraunceys holds one messuage, containing half an acre, and ten acres of land for a half-penny per annum.

Alanus Franceys holds one messuage and five acres of land for $5\frac{1}{2}d.$

Johannes Freeman holds one messuage and half an acre of land for $2d.$ and one pound of cumin.

Henricus de la Grene holds one messuage and ten acres of land in villanage, and his work is valued at $9s.$ per annum.

The coterelli of *Ricardus le Fraunceys* are:—

Henricus Palmarius, holding a cottage for $3s.$

Matilda ad le Slow, who holds a cottage for $19d.$

Rogerus Alvered and Walterus Taylur, holding two messuages and giving $5s.$ per annum.

Thomas Molendinarius, who holds one croft for $9s.$

Johannes Wycher holds a cottage for $3s.$

Ricardus de Kinardeby holds ten acres for $2s.$

A.D. 1278-79.—Willelmus de Bancys defends half a knight's fee of Willelmus de Mortuomari, and this Willelmus of G. de Pecche; and Willelmus de Bancys gives $12d.$ in sheriff's aid, $12d.$ for view of frankpledge. He owes one suit to the county and hundred, and ward to the castle, besides scutage.

Among the free tenants of Willelmus de Bancys are:—

Ricardus le Franceys, holding one messuage of half an acre and four acres of land for $4d.$

Alanus Franceys, who holds one croft and ten acres for $1d.$

A.D. 1278-79.—Johannes de Wratteworth holds land here of the Hospital of Schenegeya, belonging to the fee of Baldwinus de Bassingburn. He holds also of Robertus le Chaust and of Willielmus de Mortuomari, who both hold of the said hospital.

Johannes de Wratteworth has among his tenants *Johannes le Franceys*, who holds one acre for *id.*

A.D. 1287-88.—The king to the sheriff of Huntingdon, greeting. Walterus de la Sale of Parva Stotton has shown that he in our court recovered seizin against *Ricardus le Fraunceys*, of Wynepol, and *Isabella*, his wife, of five acres of land with its appurtenances in Alkemundebury, in Huntingdonshire.



CHESHIRE.

BROXTON HUNDRED.

CODDINGTON.

In the fifth year of the reign of King Edward III. (1331-32) a fine was made between John de Codyngton, clerk, and *John le Frenshe*, of Codyngton, and *Sibyl*, his wife, concerning tenements in Codyngton.

MALPAS.

In the Recognizance Rolls of Chester, under the date of June 28, 1329, it is found that a *John Frensh* and Roger le Keng' gave to David de Eggerton recognizance for 10s. The latter, with some others, gave to Master John de Turvill, parson of the moiety of the church of Malpas, in Broxton hundred, recognizance for 100*l*.

MACCLESFIELD HUNDRED.

HANDFORTH.

In 1360 Edward, Prince of Wales, Earl of Chester, grants a pardon to William, the son of John de Hide,

John, the son of William de Hide, and *Hugh Frenshie*, servant of Sir John de Hide, Knight, on the payment of a fine of 200 marks by the said Sir John de Hide, Knight, on account of the death of Geoffrey, the son of John de Honford.

MARPLE.

As this place came by inheritance to *Gilbert le Fraunceys* through the Vernons and Stockports, it seems appropriate to give the following confirmation charter of Randolph de Blondeville, Earl of Chester, to Robert de Stockport, whose sister married William de Vernon. A copy of the original charter from which this translation is made is given by Rev. John Watson in his "Memoirs of the Ancient Earls of Warren and Surrey"; and we judge its execution was some time anterior to the year 1210 from the fact that Philip de Orreby, the first witness, does not sign himself as justiciary of Chester, in which capacity he is found as a witness to charters after that date.

Ranulfus, Earl of Chester, to his constable, steward, justiciars, sheriffs, barons, bailiffs, and all his men, greeting. Know ye that I have conceded and granted and by this my charter have confirmed to Robertus, son of Robertus de Stokeport, as his right and inheritance, "Merpel et Wibreslegam," with all their appurtenances, in bosc and plain, in meadows and pastures, in roads and paths, in waters and marches,

and in all things belonging to these lands, and the land which Walterus held of aforesaid Robertus in Uptona, and one burgage in Macclefeld. To have and to hold to the said Robertus and his heirs of me and my heirs, in fee and free inheritance, quietly and entirely, by the service of forester, for all service; saving to me and my heirs the right of hunting with hawks, sparrow-hawks, and falcons, in the woods belonging to the aforesaid lands. And the aforesaid Robertus and his heirs, and their men, shall have the necessaries from the said woods without the wasting and destruction of my forest. Hiis testibus, Philippo de Orreby, Roberto Patt., Thoma Dispensatore, Warino de Vernon, Rogero de Mesnilwaring, Petro Clerico, Ricardo Phitun, David de Malo passu, Herberto de Orrebi, Jörd. de Bredbiry, Johanne Phitun, Ricardo Davenport, Rogero de Dunes, Willelmo de Stanlega, Ricardo Sutton, et multis aliis. Apud Macclefeld.

6 Edward I. (1277-78).—Guntelinus de Badelesmere, justice of Chester, is commanded to take into the king's hands all the lands and tenements of which *Gilbertus le Fraunceis*, who held of the king in capite, died seized.

A.D. 1278.—In this year the Rotuli Parliamentorum furnish a memorandum that Robertus de Stokeport, Lord of Pointon, had formerly conferred certain lands and tenements belonging to the manor of Pointon, namely, Merpil and Wibberslege, in free marriage

portion with his sister to Lord William de Vernum; of which lands and tenements *Gilbertus le Fraunceys*, lately deceased, was possessed and seized as heir of the aforesaid Willelmus de Vernum; and Lord Johannes de Monte Alto claims the ward of these lands, according to the laws and customs of Cheshire, as of his fee and belonging to his manor of Poinnton; which manor with all its appurtenances this Johannes holds as the dower of his wife; and, as the queen has taken the lands in her own hands, the said Johannes de Monte Alto asks the lord the king's favor for the same.

Response.— He may come before Nicholas de Stapelton and W. de Seyham.

SUTTON.

In the twenty-second year of the reign of King Richard II. (1388–89) *Willelmus le French* is mentioned, of Sutton Downes, within the forest of Macclesfield, as fifty years of age.

NORTHWICH HUNDRED.

MIDDLEWICK.

In the year 1300, while this town was in the hands of the crown, *Willelmus Franceis* grants premises here to Willelmus Golde.

CORNWALL.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1201.—*Adam Franceis* gives three marks to the king for his passage over the sea. He holds one knight's fee of Johannes de Monte Acuto, of the honor of Moreton.

Circa 1250.—Among the free tenants of the Bishop of Exeter, in the county of Cornwall, was *Nicholaus Francigena*, who held half an acre for 12*d.*, half a sheep, and ploughing the sixth part of an English acre, and giving aid at draining.

PENWITH HUNDRED.

ST. MICHAEL'S MOUNT.

Nicholas Franciscus (Farnigot) was elected abbot in 1271, and died on the 12th of March, 1279.

POWDER HUNDRED.

TREGONY.

At the valuation of the land and tenements of Lord Henricus de la Pomeray in Tregony, in Corn-

wall, made at Tregony on Sunday next after the feast of St. Gregory, in the twenty-first year of the reign of King Edward I. (1293), upon the oath of twelve jurors, it is found that among the free tenants of the same manor, holding for knight's service, was *Odo Fraunceys*, who holds one messuage, rendering 6*d.* at the feast of St. Michael.

TRURO.

Thirteenth century.— Release by *Richard Franceis* of Truveru to Drew de Penhal of a messuage in Truveru, situate as described. Witnesses, Bernard Keustock, Robert Keustock, Drew de Truverbicham, Philip Eliot, Deui de Truveru, and others.



CUMBERLAND.

ALLERDALE WARD, ABOVE DERWENT.

BRAITHWAITE.

On the 26th of May, 1256, Nicholas de Moristeby, Nicholaus le Englays, *Nicholas le Fraunceys*, John Lanlauerd, and Adam de le Hou, of Braythweyt, Husacre, and Bottermere, held by feudal tenure under Alan de Moleton and Alicia, his wife.

ALLERDALE WARD, BELOW DERWENT.

CALDBECK.

In the early half of the episcopate of Walter Malclerk, Bishop of Carlisle, as the patron of the church of this place, he presented as parson *Johannes Francigena*, his clericus.

“In December, 1231, *John Francigena* gives the king 20 marks, to have for life the close of the border [costra] of Warnel, which the abbot of Holcoltram enclosed and held in hand, and the ten acres of said

wood which the abbot assarted and cultivated by the king's license, for half a mark to be paid to the king annually, as the abbot paid for the same, as fully contained in his charter; and Thomas de Muleton is commanded, after taking security, to give him seizin."

"On Dec. 26, 1231, the king grants to the church of the Blessed Kentigern of Caldebec, and *John Francigena*, parson thereof, and his successors, the close of the 'costera' of Warnel, which the abbot of Holmcoltram, by the king's license, enclosed and held during pleasure, paying half a mark to Exchequer annually."

"In the 16th year of the reign of King Henry the 3d (1231-32) Walter, Bishop of Carlisle (Thomas fitz John for him), renders his account: *John Francigena* accounts for 20 marks to have in perpetuity a close of the 'costera' of Warnelle, which the abbot of Holcoltram enclosed and held in hand, and to have ten acres of same wood which the said abbot cleared and cultivated by the king's license, for half a mark to be paid to the king annually, as the said abbot paid for these acres and close, as more fully contained in the king's charters, and in his own charter thereof, a transcript of which is attached to the 'Originale' of the 17th year, bearing that the said close and ten acres of land shall forever remain with the said John and his successors, parsons of the church of the Blessed Kentegern of Kaldebec. He has paid it into the treasury, and is quit."

A.D. 1232, 12th of May.—Charter of King Henry III. confirming the donation of *Johannes Francigena* of the “costra” of Warnel to the monks of Holmcoltram.

Henry, by the grace of God King of England, etc., to the archbishops, bishops, etc., greeting. We have inspected the charter of *Johannes Francigena*, parson of the church of Caldebec, as follows: Be it known to all, present and future, that I, *Johannes Francigena*, parson of the church of Caldebec, with the assent and will of the venerable Father W. (alter), by the grace of God Bishop of Carlisle, my ordinary and patron of the aforesaid church, and also with the consent of the prior and convent of Carlisle, for me and my successors have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed to God, the blessed Mary, the house of Holmcoltram, and the monks serving God there, the moiety of the close of the “costra” of Warnel, except the cultivated land which lies near the moiety of the said monks,—namely, between the hedge above the ditch which divided the land of the aforesaid monks from the king’s forest, which is called Gresgartgil, toward the west,—which said close of the “costra” of Warnel the lord the king before had granted to the said monks to hold during his pleasure,—and the ditch called Wrothelegil, toward the east, as the “fossatum” of the said monks is extended from one ditch to the other, and the said cultivated land toward the north,

which I held in my hands for me and my successors, which said moiety I have given to them,—namely, that moiety which is toward the west, according to the division made between me and the said monks. To be held by the said house of Holm and the monks there serving God, in perpetuity of me and my successors and of the church of Caldebec, as freely and quietly as I hold the said moiety of the lord the King of England, rendering for the same yearly to me and my successors and the church of Caldebec 40*l.* for all service; so that neither I nor any of my successors, or our men, at any time shall have any commons, ingress or egress in the close of the moiety of the said monks. And, that this my donation may forever remain valid, I have appended my seal to this present charter. Hiis testibus, domino W(altero Malclerk) Karliolensi episcopi, R(adulfo) priore Karliolensi, G(ervase) de Louthir archdiacono ejusdem loci, W. priore de Wedirhale, et aliis. Therefore, for the greater firmness of this donation and grant of the aforesaid *Johannes*, we, for us and our heirs, concede it to the aforesaid monks, and confirm it by our seal. Hiis testibus, J. Bathon, W. Oxon., et H. Roff., episcopis, H. de Burgo comite Kancie, etc. Given by the hand of the venerable Father Radulfus, Bishop of Chichester, our chancellor, at Rading, on the twelfth day of May, in the sixteenth year of our reign.

On the 10th of February, 1233, Thomas de Mule-

ton of Egremund is commanded to take in the king's hand the ten acres of the border of the king's wood of Warnel and the close which the abbot of Holcoltram held (and the king afterwards gave by charter to *Johannes le Franceis*, parson of Caldebec), and hold them till further orders. Westminster.

Johannes Francigena, in 24 Henry III. (1239-40), owed half a mark to the king for the ten acres of land in the wood of Warnel.

A.D. 1244.—Papal dispensation to *Johannes dictus "Lefranceys,"* rector of Caldebec, in the diocese of Carlisle, to hold an additional benefice. Lyons, 19 Kal. of January.

A.D. 1247.—Innocentius IV. to *Johannes dictus Francigena*, rector of the church of Caldebec, in the diocese of Carlisle.

On account of the praise accorded you for literary attainments, a pure life, and exemplary manners, and, as a further mark of our special favor and grace, besides the benefice already conferred upon you, we give you authority to receive an additional benefice for cure of souls in Scotland or Ireland, with the full belief you will not be neglectful of your duties in the cure of souls. Given at Lyons, the 5 Kal. of September, in the fifth year of our Pontificate.

A.D. 1249.—Innocentius, etc., to *Johannes dictus Francigena*, clericus of the King of England.

Special grace to our dear son in Christ, on the solicitation of the illustrious King of England, as well

as for the merits attributed to you, we therefore resolve that, albeit you have been granted a dispensation to hold an additional benefice in Scotland or Ireland, we will also that, besides this benefice granted with the cure of souls, you may also receive another, if granted in England, retaining those already given you. Dated at Lyons, on the 8th Idus of June, in the sixth year.

A.D. 1250.—Innocentius IV. to the Archbishop of York.

We consider that our beloved son in Christ, *Johannes dictus Francigena*, clericus of the illustrious King of England, whose life is adorned by honesty, by literary attainments, exemplary manners, and recognition at the apostolic see, deserves special grace, so that we command, notwithstanding his impaired sight and defect in one eye, that no hindrance be given to his promotion to superior orders, and that he may keep his benefices, without scandal, for cure of souls. Dated at Lyons, 8 Kal. of October.

The previous mandates of Pope Innocent IV. are a sufficient recognition of the esteem with which *Johannes Francigena* was held at the papal see. According to Robert de Chansey, Bishop of Carlisle, *Johannes le Fraunceys* died as parson of Caldebeck. This must have been soon after the year 1250, as Alan was parson of Caldebeck before the year 1257. How long Alan remained parson is uncertain; but the rectorship was vacant in 1267–68, when an in-

quisition was held in regard to the presentation and advowson of the church of Caldebeck.

HOLMCULTRAM.

Circa 1275.—By the following deed John, son of John de Ireby, quitclaimed to the lord abbot and the monks of Holmcultram all the right he had in the lands of Gillecruce, which William, his father's uncle and the son of Orim, gave to that house.

To all faithful in Christ who shall see or hear this charter, Johannes, son of Johannes de Yreby, greeting in the Lord. Know ye that I, for myself and my heirs, have quitclaimed to the lord abbot and the monks of Holmcultram all the right and claim I had or may have in the land with its appurtenances which Willielmus, son of Orim, my father's uncle, gave and by his charter confirmed to them, in free and pure alms, in the territory of Gillecruce. And also know that I have quitclaimed so that neither I nor any of my heirs, or any one else on my part, can have any claim or right in the said land or its appurtenances. In testimony of which I have appended my seal to this present charter. Hiis testibus, Domino Waltero de Ulvesby archidiacono Carleoli, Domino Gilberto de feritate persona de Bounes, Th. de Morisceby persona de Ulvedale, Roberto vicario de Gillecruce decano de allerd', *Willielmo francigena*, Waltero Bonekil, et aliis.

CUMBERLAND WARD.

ROCKCLIFF.

The manor of this place was anciently held of the barony of Burgh upon Sands. As to the time when this manor came into the possession of the family of *Fraunceys* appears somewhat obscure. *Johannes le Fraunceys*, however, evidently held it as early at least as the thirty-third year of the reign of King Henry III. (1248-49). This *Johannes le Fraunceys* was the baron of the Exchequer, who held possessions in this county at the time of his death, which took place about the fifty-second year of the reign of King Henry III. (1267-78), at which date his executors gave surety.

Soon after the demise of *Johannes le Fraunceys*, the manor of Roccliffe was held by one of his kinsmen, a record showing that in the fifty-fourth year of the reign of Henry III. (1269-70) the manor of Roccliffe was held by *Gilbertus le Fraunceys*, who paid yearly 2s. or one sparrow-hawk (the customary consideration to the fee of Burgh) to the granddaughter of Hugo de Morville, who formerly held the barony of Burgh. She was the late Hellewisa, widow of a Ricardus de Vernon.

This *Gilbertus le Fraunceys*, the son of *Ricardus le Fraunceys*, 1st, married *Hawisia* de Vernon, said to have been a descendant from the baronial family,

the Vernons of Shipbrook. However, it is known that she was the daughter of Robertus de Vernon, and heir presumptive to her uncle Ricardus de Vernon, 2d, who died without issue. Her grandmother was Matilda, or Margeria, de Stockport; and her grandfather, Willelmus de Vernon, who was chief justice of Chester in 1229-32. He was by descent Lord of Harlaston, in Staffordshire, which place, according to the Staffordshire Historical Collections, was given to Walter de Vernon (said to have been the ancestor of William de Vernon) by Matilda, widow of Randolph "de Gernon," Earl of Chester.

The *Calendarium Inquisitionem post Mortem* shows the extended possessions of *Gilbertus le Fraunceys* in the counties of Chester, Cumberland, Derby, and Westmoreland. Those of Chester and Derby, at least, must have been largely owing to his marriage with the heiress of Vernon. By Hawise de Vernon, his wife, he left children. *Ricardus*, the eldest son, was born in the forty-sixth year of the reign of King Henry III. (1261-62); and there is also record of a daughter.

This *Ricardus le Fraunceys*, 2d, appears to have ultimately inherited his mother's share of the Vernon's possessions; and he assumed the surname of her family. He was affianced to the daughter of Michael de Harcla before the death of his father, and afterwards, as a minor, married her.

In the forty-third year of the reign of Henry III.

(A.D. 1259) *Gilbertus*, son of *Ricardus le Franceys*, 1st, gives half a mark for an assize of novel disseisin held before Petrus de Percy. And the sheriff of Cumberland is commanded, etc.

“On the 18th of August 1268, *Gilbert le Fraunceys* is among the belted knights who were, with others, on the inquest held at the castle of Maidens in the king’s forest of Engilwode, before Roger de Lancastre, then seneschal of the king’s forests ultra Trent, and William de Dacre, then sheriff of Cumberland, and others of the king’s lieges, in regard to certain rights of King Henry III. in Cumberland.”

The death of *Gilbertus le Fraunceys* is indicated by the following record of the sixth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1277-78), when Thomas de Normanvill, senescallus of the king, is commanded to take into the king’s hands all the lands and tenements of which *Gilbertus le Fraunceis*, who held of the king in capite, died seized.

Among the Escheats of this year it is found that *Gilbertus le Franceys* held Neuland, near by Sourby, with pasture there, and the vills of Rothcliffe and Caldebeck, in this county.

A.D. 1278.—Thomas de Multon of Gillesland informs the lord the king that *Gilbertus le Fraunceys* held the manor of Boneclyve of himself and his barony, which he holds in capite, and therefore desires the custody of the son of the said *Gilbertus* until he is of age.

A.D. 1280, August 18.—The king granted to William de Garland the custody of the lands and tenements late of *Gilbertus le Fraunceis*, deceased, in Routheclyve, during the minority of his heirs.

Among the executors of *Gilbertus le Fraunceys* was *Adam le Fraunceys*.

LEATH WARD.

KIRKOSWALD.

At the inquisition held at York on the 26th of July, 1269, *Uctred le Franceys*, of Kirkoswald, was one of the twelve jurors from the county of Cumberland.

A.D. 1275, 10th of June.—Inquisition made at Carlisle before Philip de Wylghoby, the king's escheator ultra Trent, by *Uctred Franciscus*, of Kircosuwald, and others, who found that Robert de Warthewyc, sub-escheator in the county of Cumberland, had ejected Sir Robert de Brus and Christiana (de Ireby), his wife, from certain lands in Gamelesby and Glassonby, and afterwards delivered five parts of the same to others, which Sir Robert and Christiana afterwards recovered.

DERBYSHIRE.

GENERAL.

In the seventeenth year of the reign of Henry II. (1170-71) *Willilemus Franceis* seems to be an outlaw, as the sheriff of this county renders an account of 5s. 9d. for his goods.

In the Revenue Rolls of the twenty-ninth year of the reign of Henry II. (1182-83), under the heading of Nova Placita, is a record of *Arnulfus Franceis*.

In the tenth or eleventh year of the reign of King John (1208-10) *Ricardus Franceis* and Robertus de Stockport are found in the same rolls, under the Pleas of the Forests.

The Nova Oblata of the Exchequer were old debts of which the sheriff levied something during the current year of his account, or those which were found in the originals and esteemed clear debts. Anciently from the estreats of this Oblata and from the roll of the preceding year was made the Annual Pipe Roll.

In the Nova Oblata of the twelfth year of King John (1210-11) is the name of *Robertus Franceis*.

22 Henry III. (1237-38).—The records of this year give the name of *Willelmus le Franceis* de Archelastre.

25 Henry III. (1240-41).—The name of *Willelmus de Franceis* appears on the Exchequer Rolls of this year.

A.D. 1279[-80].—Commission to hear a case between Margery de Pentrich and *Hugh Fraunceys*. Given at Derley (Darley), Derbyshire, 11 Kal. April.

20 Edward I. (1291-92).—*Robertus le Franceis* was a debtor to the crown in this year.

APPLETREE HUNDRED.

BENTLEY.

A.D. 1293-94.—Escheats of the twenty-second year of the reign of Edward I.

One messuage and one bovate of land in Benteleggh, held by *Johannes le Fraunceys*, are taken into the king's hands.

OSMASTON.

A.D. 1282.—Hugh de Gurneye, dwelling in Bolton by Derby, with the consent of his lords Robert de Saucheverel and Robert de Dethek, grants all his lands and tenements in Bolton and Alwaston to the abbot and convent of Parco Stanley in this county.

Witnesses: *William le Fraunceys* de Osmundeston and others. At Derby, in the Vigil of St. James the Apostle.

The printed pedigree of the family of *Fraunceys*, specially identified with this county, indicates that *William le Fraunceys*, of Osmundeston, the witness to the previous record of the year 1282, was the ancestor of the *Fraunceys* of Foremark. It gives his father as *John le Fraunceys*, his grandfather as *William le Fraunceys*, both of Osmundeston, and his great-grandfather as *Robertus de Osmundeston, alias le Franceys*, of Osmundeston.

The pedigree shows that *William le Fraunceys*, of Osmundeston, the witness named, married *Agnes*, daughter and coheir of Radulphus de Tykenhall, and that their son, *John le Fraunceys*, was called of Osmundeston and Tykenhall, and that he married *Margeria*, daughter and heir of William Beaufoy, of Trusley, in this county.

27 Edward I. (1298-99).—*Galfridus Franceis* de Osmundeston appears to be a debtor to the crown in this year.

HIGH PEAK HUNDRED.

HADDON, OR NETHER HADDON.

William de Avenel held this place by knight's service. He had two daughters, coheiresses; namely,

Elizabeth, the eldest, who married Simon Basset, second feudal lord of Sapcote, County Leicester, and Avicia, the younger, who married Richard de Vernon, 1st, of Harlaston.

Among the grants in this hundred which were given to the church was that of One Ash, called in Domesday survey Aneise. This grange was given to the monks of Roche Abbey, in Yorkshire, soon after its foundation, by William Avenel, Lord of Haddon, and was included among the possessions of this abbey, which had the confirmation of Pope Urban III. about the year 1185.

Richard de Vernon, 1st, with the consent of Avicia, his wife, and of William, his son and heir, confirmed all the land and pasture of his fee in this place which William Avenel gave; and William Basset, grandson of William Avenel, confirmed the same.

This Richard de Vernon, 1st, had a license to fortify his house in Haddon with a wall, in the time of King Richard I., by John, Earl of Mortain, the brother of the king.

William de Vernon, Lord of Harlaston, the son of Richard de Vernon, 1st, previously named, had a son, Richard de Vernon, 2d, who confirmed the above grant, as well as what the monks held in Sterndale, they paying him and his heirs 15*s.* per annum at his manor of Haddon.

In 37 Henry III. (1236-37) Richard de Vernon, 2d,

held one fee in Haddon and Basselaw of William de Ferrars, Earl of Derby.

In 53 Henry III. (1268-69) there are recognizances by *Gilbert Fraunceys* and Richard de Vernon, 2d, of debt to Alienor (Eleanor of Castile), wife of Prince Edward, the king's son.

1 Edward I. (1272-73).—“Appointment of two justices to take an assize arraigned by *Gilbert le Fraunceis* against Simon Basset touching common of pasture in Nether Haddon,” which had formerly belonged to William Avenel, and which Gilbert claimed on behalf of his wife, Hawyse, the niece of Richard de Vernon, 2d.

At an inquisition made at Derby in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1275) the jurors say that the villata of Eyum, the moiety of the vill of Netherhaddon, belonging to *Gilbertus le Fraunceys*, has assize of bread and ale, but they do not know by what authority.

The inquisition after the death of *Gilbertus le Franceys*, held in the sixth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1277-78), shows that he held the manor of Haddon, the hamlets of Roulesley (Rowsley), Basselawe (Baslow), and Bubenhull (Bubnell), in this county.

6 Edward I. (1277-78).—Mandate of the king concerning the lands of *G(ilbert) de Fraunceis*, deceased, in Haddon, Bubbinghull, and Roulisleghe, to be delivered to Edmund “Crouchback,” Earl of Lancas-

ter, of whose fee these lands and tenements are held. They formerly were parcel of the barony of Johannes le Viscunt in Northumberland.

A.D. 1278.— Letters close directing the steward to deliver to Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, all the lands and tenements of *Gilbert le Franceis*, deceased, a tenant-in-chief, which are of the fee of the said Edmund, and had been seized into the king's hands by his mandate, believing them to have been holden of the king in capite ut de corona, together with the mesne profits. Westminster, 1278, 4th of May.

A.D. 1279.— Grant to Edmund, the king's brother, "hac vice," of the custody of the lands and tenements lately held by *Gilbert le Fraunceys*, deceased, holding of the king in chief, during the minority of the heirs of said *Gilbert*, saving to the king the custody of the said lands, etc., when it shall otherwise fall in. Woodstock, 16th of February, 7 Edward I.

This grant appears to have been cancelled from the following memorandum in the margin: "Vacat quia restituta fui littera et cancellata."

A.D. 1279[–80].— Litterae Communes to the dean of Baukwell concerning the will of *Gilbert le Fraunceys*. Wlstaneston, 16 Kal. Aug.

A.D. 1280.— Surrender and grant to Edmund, the king's brother, as his right, of the custody of the lands of *Gilbert le Fraunceis*, held by him of the said Edmund by knight-service, the king having previously granted to the said Edmund the custody of

all the lands and tenements of the said *Gilbert*, including those lands, during the minority of the heirs of the said *Gilbert*, as he understood that the said *Gilbert* held all his lands and tenements of himself by such service that the custody of all of them pertained of right to the king, provided that, if any land should hereafter come to the heirs of the aforesaid *Gilbert* by inheritance or otherwise, the privilege of the crown as to such custodies hitherto accustomed should remain intact. Westminster, 26th of November.

In 11 Edward I. (1282-83) *Gulielmus le Fran-ceys* held half the manor of Nether Haddon, with its members Basselow, Bobenhull, and Rowsley.

In 30 Edward I. (1301-2) Ricardus le Vernon, 3d, held one fee in Haddon and Basselowe.

PEAK CASTLE.

The surname of Vernon seems to have been early associated with this castle, as we find from John Leyland's work on "The Peak," in which he states that "Richard de Vernon, the first possessor of the name, was high steward of the Peak forest and constable of the castle." He married one of the Avenel heiresses. This assertion gives additional force to the usually doubtful authority of Burke, who states positively "that in the thirty-seventh year of the reign of King

Henry III. (1252-53) Richard de Vernon," (2d, who was grandson of Richard de Vernon, 1st) "had a grant of this castle." This announcement has with it a certain amount of credibility from the fact that the nephew of Richard de Vernon, 2d, had an indemnity when he rendered up the castle, as is found in the following record of the Close Rolls of the reign of King Henry III.

Ratification of Edward the king's son's grant of indemnity to *Gilbert le Fraunceys* when he rendered up the Castle of Peak to him.

SCARSDALE HUNDRED.

CHESTERFIELD.

A.D. 1250-70.—Grant to Rufford Abbey of a toft which Roger fil. Aluine gave with his daughter to Ranulf de Garthorpe, and the toft which Jordan de la Green and *Thomas Franceis* and Peter Fox formerly held.

A.D. 1294.—"To all faithful Christians by whom this present writing shall be seen or heard, John Wake, Lord of Lidel and of Chesterfield, health eternal in the Lord. Be it known to all men that I have granted and by this my present charter have confirmed for myself and my heirs forever to my men of Chesterfield, who of myself or of my heirs or

assigns hold or will hold burgage (tenures) in the town of Chesterfield, that they, their heirs or assigns, shall have and hold of myself and my heirs or assigns the same liberties and free customs within and without the town of Chesterfield, and in all places and for all things, which they had by the gift and concession of William Brewer, the elder, my predecessor, and by the confirmation of the Lord King Henry, father of our Lord Edward the king, and besides by a certain final concord, sealed with the seal of William Brewer, the younger; that is to say, that they, the said burgesses and their heirs or assigns shall have all the same liberties and free customs in all places and for all things which the borough of Nottingham has, and that they are free burgesses forever and quit of taxations and reliefs forever, and of suit of court [an erasure here, probably shires], wapentakes, and of costs, charges, and expenses of all kinds and taxations: this only excepted, that they shall be taxed whenever the lord king shall tax his boroughs, and then reasonably taxed, and this likewise by the precept of the lord the king; and their eldest sons shall have the same liberties and free customs, although they have not burgage tenures, whilst their ancestors and fathers, tenants of the same burgage of which they are the heirs, are living; and the other children, whether sons or daughters of burgesses, shall have liberties and free customs if they wish to become merchants, and shall give me and my heirs

annually three pence for having the privileges until each one shall acquire to himself a burgess part, and then shall, upon entering upon it, give me and my heirs four pennies, and to the bedel one penny, and to the clerk one penny for placing his name on the roll, and afterwards they shall not give any more three pence per annum. And all tenants residing in the town shall come twice a year to my court and to the court of my heirs, and shall present and answer concerning articles touching the peace of our lord the king, except money coiners (?) and spillers of blood (assaults) and hue and cry, which are not to be presented. And they shall come there and not go elsewhere for the peace of the lord the king, and shall have reasonable summons (raconales sumonicoes), and shall come to the court whenever the brief of the lord the king is in court, and for discovering (indicting) robbers, if there should be necessity, by reasonable summons of fifteen days; and any one of the burgesses shall essoin another to the court without challenge whenever they should be absent, and no one having liberties or who is a burgess shall be amerced in any cause for more than three pence, these cases only excepted: brewers (?) twice per annum, if they are not able to acquit themselves that they have not sold contrary to the assize of the lord the king; and bakers, if they bake and sell bread contrary to the assize of the lord the king; and also those who spill blood, if these are convicted

upon complaint, and not otherwise; and also those who are guilty of contempt against me or to my heirs or assigns or our bailiffs, if upon this they are convicted. And if other burgesses are convicted of other offences besides these four, according to the gravity of the wrong, they are to be fined by their fellows. No strangers shall enter upon a burgess part or have seizin before that they satisfy myself or my heirs or my bailiffs and the burgesses according to the ancient manner; and, if the sons or daughters of burgesses giving three pence annually for their liberties shall acquire a burgage part to themselves, either by gift, legacy, by purchase or by right or in any other manner, they shall not give any more three pence per annum for their liberties. And, if the daughters holding burgess parts wish to marry, then the husbands of the daughters shall come at the next court and pay to me or to my heirs four pence, and one penny to the bedel and one penny to the clerk as aforesaid, and their children will be burgesses; and the husbands of the daughters burgage tenants will be burgesses by the law (curtesy) of England after the death of their wives for the whole of their lives, and the heirs of the said women and their sons and daughters shall have the said liberties forever. And, if the husband acquires a burgess part during the life of his wife, he and his heirs will be burgesses forever. None other besides burgesses shall measure, cut up, or sell cloth, linen or woollen, hides or

skins, fresh, raw, cooled, or salted, bought in the market or within the town of Chesterfield; and, if they do, they shall lose the cloth, cut off or remnants, hides or skins; and the cloth, remnants, and hides and skins so purchased shall forthwith be taken for the use of the merchants of the town by any one of the market in the town, without the bailiffs, as they did from the time aforesaid and after they were enfeoffed, except during eight days at the time of the fair of Chesterfield. And the burgesses shall have their own merchant guild, with all things to the said guild pertaining; and no forestallers or regrators shall buy in the market on the Saturday anything of the kind of victual or provender before prime has struck, lest the magnates and honest men of the country and the burgesses are hindered in buying these necessaries in the market before the hour of prime. And, if any one should do this, then he shall lose all the purchase of things of which he is convicted of buying; and all things bought and which he is so convicted shall be attached for the benefit of the merchants of the town, and notwithstanding (besides) they shall make good amends to me and to my heirs as the custom is. And widows being endowed of goods, their second husbands during the whole life of the widow holding the burgage in dower, shall be burgesses, as before is said of the husbands of daughters; but the husbands of such widows shall not retain such liberties after the deaths of their wives, unless

in the mean time they acquire for themselves burgess rights, and have their own pasture, their own common rights, and their own hand-mills (?) in their own burgess part, and the choice in their own right with their coburgesses, as in inquisitions and assizes, without any impediment, as from ancient days and as they are accustomed to have after they are enfeoffed. And also (they shall have) ovens for baking their own proper bread except malted bread, which of all kinds ought to be baked at my oven and the oven of my heirs. And no one shall be (tinctor) painter or tanner, or skin tanner or cutter, who is not a burgess or who is not willing to make satisfaction to me and my heirs and the burgesses. And no one, except he be a burgess, shall cut up meat or loaves within the town of Chesterfield, and bakers selling corn within the town or having corn for baking bread for selling to any one are not expected to grind their corn at my mill and at the mill of my heirs, except for one day and one night, unless by the free will of the miller; and, if it happens that the miller cannot work, they shall carry their corn to what mill they please and bake bread for selling where they will, and, when sold, how much and where they please, except malted bread, as aforesaid. And I, John Wake, and my heirs or my bailiffs, will not put any burgess to the oath unless by their free will, but by the precept of the king, except twice a year. No one shall have lot or scot with the burgesses in buying merchandise for

himself or for any other within the town of Chesterfield unless they are burgesses. But these burgesses or their servants shall have lot and scot in their own places with all others, as they are allowed by custom and antiquity. And the burgesses shall set down and affix their stalls where they will in the market, without the license of myself, my heirs, or my bailiffs, as they are accustomed to do from ancient days without any gift. And I, John, and my heirs shall have all their stalls which they hold of me and of my heirs during the fair if I desire; and all who hold in capite of myself or my heirs from ancient days and now hold, and besides shall hold in future, shall have the aforesaid liberties. And, if they shall sell a burgage part or rent which is paid each year for a burgage part to me and my heirs, or is accustomed to be paid or should be paid, the purchasers, if they desire, shall pay to me and to my heirs three pennies per year for having their liberties. And, if any are taken upon suspicion of robbery or for robbery by my bailiffs or those of my heirs without the assent of the burgesses, then they are in custody and at the peril of the bailiffs, and not of myself or my heirs saving the custody, until in due course they are tried or sent to the gaol of the lord the king; and, if they are taken with the consent of the bailiff and the burgesses, then are they in the custody of the burgesses, and at their peril they shall keep them in my prison and that of my heirs until they are tried, as before

said, and taken to the gaol of the lord king out of the custody of the burgesses, and the burgesses shall give nothing for allowance for my prison or my stocks (chains). And the burgesses shall have and hold all other liberties and free customs in all things and places which the burgesses of Nottingham have; and, if any bailiffs are placed in the said town who act contrary to these liberties and customs as before written, they shall be corrected, and the said burgesses and their heirs or assigns shall have and hold of me and my heirs or my assigns all the said liberties and free customs aforesaid, freely, quietly, fully, in peace, in right, in fee and inheritance for ever, without any impediment or reservation. In testimony whereof I, John Wake, for myself and my heirs to this present writing indented after the manner of chierographs and in power of the said burgesses and their heirs to remain, have appended my seal before these witnesses: Lord John Bigot, brother of the Earl Marshall, Lord Ralph Fitz William, Baldwin Picot, Thomas de Chaworth, Walter de Gousel, Roger le Bret, Kts., Willo le Bret, John de Eyncourt, Roger le Breton, William de Somerville, *William Fraunces*, and many others. Given at Kirkeby Moorhead, the third kalend. of June, in the year of the reign of King Edward, the son of King Henry, the twenty-second."

DEVONSHIRE.

GENERAL.

14 Henry II. (1167-68).— *Robertus Franceis*, sheriff of this county, was amerced 20s. for hanging a robber unjustly. He pays 10s. into the treasury, and owes 10s.

In 15 Henry II. (1168-69) he pays the remaining 10s. into the treasury, and is quit.

3 John (1201-2).— *Gilbertus Franceis* paid 4 marks by the sheriff for license to agree.

A.D. 1267.— *Galfridus Fraunceys* and *Wimarca*, his wife, give half a mark for an assize held before *Henricus de Bratton'*; and the sheriff of Devon is commanded, etc.

EXETER CITY.

A.D. 1285.— Commission to *Oliver de Dynham* and *Henry de Baley* to associate themselves in a commission of oyer and terminer with the mayor and bailiffs of Lym, touching the case of *Walter le Fraunceys* of Exeter, who, having bought eighty tuns of wine of one *Geoffrey le Mareschal* beyond seas at

Ganes, the said Geoffrey with the said *Walter's* assent, delivered the same to Hereward de Lemynistre, his servant, to take to the port of Topesham, at the risk of the said Geoffrey to deliver these to the said *Walter*; but the said Hereward, passing by that port, took the said wine to Lym, and sold it there as his own. Whereupon the said *Walter* sued by the king's writ to do swift justice in the matter, directed to Thomas de Pyn, Hugh le Pruz, and Master Hamo Parlebyen; but, nothing having been as yet done in the matter, the present commission is issued. Overton, September 25.

BLACK TORRINGTON HUNDRED.

OAKHAMPTON.

Hugh Courteney, of Oakhampton, father of the first Earl of Devon of that surname, on the 10th of August, 13 Edward I. (1285), made an agreement in favor of Oliver de Dynham, of Hertland, in this county, for the wardship of the heirs of Richard de Hidon. Among the witnesses to this document is the name of *Thomas le Franceys*.

This *Thomas le Franceys* may have been the same person who is mentioned as a juror in 3 Edward I. (1274-75), of Torrington, in Fremington hundred, not far from Oakhampton and Hartland.

In 3 Edward I. (1274-75) there is an appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by a *Thomas Fraunceys*, against the prior of Launceston (Cornwall), touching a messuage and land in Tottesden, in this county.

BUDLEIGH, EAST, HUNDRED.

WOODBURY.

A.D. 1280.—Know present and future that I, Willemus de Aumarle, Lord of Wodebyria, have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed to Lord Elyas de Cyrencestria and his associates, the vicars of the church of St. Peter in Exeter, and their successors, Johannes le Breghe, my serf (nativus), with all his family (sequela) and cattle, so that the said Johannes, with his family and cattle, shall remain their man, quiet and free from all demand by me and my heirs forever. But for this donation, grant, and confirmation, the aforesaid Elyas and his associates have given into my hands 2 marks as recognition. In testimony whereof I have appended my seal to this present writing. Hiis testibus, *Waltero Fraunceys* et aliis. Dated at Wodebiria, Sunday, on the morrow of Saint Bartholomew, 8 Edward I. (25th of August, 1280).

BUDLEIGH, WEST, HUNDRED.

STOKELEIGH.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Ranulf le Fraunceis* against *Richard le Fraunceis* and others, touching a tenement in Stockleigh.

At an earlier date *Ricardus Franceis* held two-thirds of a fee in Stokelegh, in Hele, and in Kolllegh of Ricardus, Earl of Cornwall.

COLERIDGE HUNDRED.

STOKE FLEMING.

13th century.— Grant by William de Grovesende to Richard Coleman of a tenement in Dertemuth, which he had of *John Franceis*, of Stokes, located between the tenement of Athenylda, late the wife of William, son of Gormylde, and that of Huthelina Huppahille.

FREMINGTON HUNDRED.

GREAT TORRINGTON.

A.D. 1283, 26th of December.— Know present and future that I, *Walterus le Frenisha*, have given, granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed to *Henricus*, my son, and *Margeria de Yunstapel*, all the tenements in “Villa de Chepingtoritone,” which lie in Caluastrete (Calf Street): one of which lies in the northern part of said vill, between the tenement of *Willelmus de Dodecote* and that formerly belonging to *Arnulfus Cotel*; the other, in the southern part of said vill, between the tenement of *Walterus Bynorthwode* and that of *Henricus de Cornwalle*. And I have also given and granted to the aforesaid *Henricus* and *Margeria* four pieces of land lying in the eastern part of the vill of Chepingtoritone, namely: one lying in Wyteleye, between the land of *Walterus Gater* and that of *Henricus de prustecote*; and the other at Panca Crosse, between the land of *Robertus aurifaber* and that of *Henricus de prustecote*; and the third piece lies on the northern side of the way toward Caluisforde, between the land of *Henricus de prustecote* and that of *Robertus Mabeli*; and a fourth piece of land which is called le Hyllelond. To hold and have all the aforesaid tenements, with the four pieces of land, to the said *Henricus* and *Margeria* and the heirs of their

bodies, of the chief lords, freely, quietly, peaceably, wholly, and in lawful inheritance, forever; the aforesaid *Henricus* and *Margeria* giving annually to the said chief lords for the tenements and lands all services due and accustomed. And, if the aforesaid *Henricus* and *Margeria* should die without issue of their bodies, all the said tenement shall revert to me and my heirs. And I, the aforesaid *Walterus*, and my heirs and assigns, will warrant all the aforesaid tenements and lands to the said *Henricus* and *Margeria* against all mortals. In testimony whereof I have appended my seal to this charter. Hiis testibus, Henrico Jordan, tunc preposito Burgi de Chepingtoritone, Henrico de prustecote, Willelmo de Dene, Roberto le leche, Willelmo Godman de la More et aliis. Dated at Chepingtoritone, on the feast of Saint Stephen, in the twelfth year of the reign of King Edward I.

HAYTOR HUNDRED.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Among the twelve jurors of this hundred was *Robertus le Franceis*.

LIFTON HUNDRED.

BRADSTONE.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of Martin de Littlebury to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *William le Fraunceys* against Robert de Cruwys ("Crues,") touching common of pasture in Bradeston.

SHEBBEAR HUNDRED.

BIDEFORD.

In 3 Edward I. (1274-75) *Johannes Fraunceys* was among the jurors of the borough of Bidevorde.

Temp. Edward I.— Richard de Greynvile, knight, Lord of Bydiford, with the consent of Bartholomew, his brother, grants to Thomas de Hakewille, and Thomas, son of the said Thomas, and to Alice de Greynvile, mother of the said Thomas (the elder), one messuage and one ferling of land in Westeraboundone, in the manor of Bydiford, which Moyses Gille and Joan, his wife, once held. To hold to them and their heirs in free burgage, pertaining to the borough of Bydiford, "as fully and as well as the common charter of the borough aforesaid purporteth," they rendering one silver penny yearly for all services. Sealed with his seal and that of Bartholomew,

his brother. Witnesses, *Reginald le Frenche*, then reeve of the borough aforesaid, and others.

TEIGNBRIDGE HUNDRED.

ASHBURTON.

In 3 Edward I. (1274-75) among the jurors of this place appears the name of *Michael Franceys*.

WONFORD HUNDRED.

SOWTON.

5 Edward I. (1276-77).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Robert le Fraunceis* against Joan, late wife of David de Sotheton, and others, touching common of pasture in Sotheton.

DORSETSHIRE.

GENERAL.

Hugo of Warham was vicecomes of this county during the reign of King William I., but was better known as Hugo filius Grip. He died without issue before the year 1084, his widow retaining his barony in her own right. She was recorded in the Domesday survey as Uxor Hugonis filii Grip, holding large possessions in different parts of this county. We presume that she married as her second husband Alured de Lincoln, or, as the French monks called the name, de Nichole. Her estates appear to have passed with this Alured de Lincoln I. to his family.

In the north-eastern part of this county we find in the Domesday Book many of her possessions within a short distance of Upwimborne, among which were included land in Amedesham, Fernham, Hame, Middlesham, Odite, Tarente, and Wimborne.

The location of these possessions is suggestive that *Alured le Franceys* may have held in this locality (afterwards so identified with his surname) under Alured de Lincoln II.

The name of *Franceys* seems to have been per-

petuated in a hamlet of the Mober's fee of Wimborn, which took the name of Frenches.

Aluredus Franceys, appearing in the ensuing records, was probably the husband of *Aelizia*, the daughter of Walterus Mober, who gave her in free marriage, near by Wimburne, one hide of land at Upwimburne, which King William gave him to increase his possessions by fief d'haubert, or servitium militare.

This *Aelizia le Franceys* had a son, *Ricardus le Franceys*, who succeeded to this estate at Upwimburne, which was located in what is now the hundred of Wimborn St. Giles.

Grant of the church of Warmwell: I, Galfridus de Warmewell, with the consent of Alured de Nichole, my lord, and Galfridus, my son and heir, have given and granted the church of St. Warmewell (in Winfrith hundred) to God, the Blessed Mary, Saints Peter and Paul, and the monks (of Holme) in frankalmoign, to hold and possess forever, which said church is still impersonated by Robert, the Deacon. I also grant that the brethren of Holme may have of my fee three solidates of land free and quit until the said church comes into their possessions. Witnesses, Roberto Germeni, Andrea de Nich', Bardulfo Picot, Wilhelmo de Stafford, Neel de Stafford, *Aluredo ffranceis*, Wlwardo Wider, Rogero Scriptoro, A. de Nich', et multis aliis.

In the record of the survey ordered by King Henry II., preparatory to levying an aid for the marrying of

his eldest daughter, Maud, to Henry, Duke of Saxony, which report was returnable, according to Eyton, on the 17th of March, 1166, we find that Aluredus de Lincolnia, a tenant in capite, holds twenty-five knights' fees in this county de veteri feoffamento. Among those holding of him were Galfridus de Warmewell, who had one knight's fee, and *Aluredus Franceys*, who holds one-fifth of a knight's fee.

The following is an abstract of a charter of land in Gussage, which was located about two miles from Upwinburne. The original was probably executed between the years 1165 and 1189:—

Willelmus de Hucon, with the consent of his heirs, granted and confirmed to Osbertus Anglicus and his heirs or assigns, the whole tenement, with all its appurtenances, which Baldewinus Bubulcarius formerly held of him in the vill of Gessiz, together with some free pasture and pannage, for a yearly rent of one pound of cumin. Hiis testibus, Huberto de Bosleio, Willelmo de Bosleio, Radulpho de Moritonio, Radulpho de Jocio, Ricardo Anglico, Waltero Boterel, *Ricardo Francisco*, et multis aliis.

The following charter of Alicia Anglicus is shown to be of a later date than that preceding it:—

Be it known to those present and those to come that I, Alicia, formerly wife of Osbertus Anglicus, in my legal widowhood have quitclaimed for me and my heirs to Robertus de Wyk', and his heirs, all the right and claim which I had in half a virgate of land in

Gussich Regis, which Osbertus Anglicus, formerly my husband, gave and granted to the said Robert, so that neither I, Alicia, nor any one of my heirs can have any claim in the aforesaid land. But for this quitclaim the aforesaid Robertus has given me beforehand 12s. sterling. In testimony whereof I have appended my seal to this present writing. Hiis testibus, Domino R. de Bosco, Milite; *W. Francisco*, W. de Brochamtone, Clemente Hem, W. de Wyk', Henrico de Karentehame, W. de Karentehame, et multis aliis.

The archives of the first year of the reign of King Richard I. (1189-90) show the ensuing record of this family of *Franceys*, namely: *Ricardus le Franceis* and *Aelizia*, his mother, owe half a mark for disseisin; *Rohesia* and *Azo*, his daughters, owe half a mark for the same.

Apparently about the last-named date or soon after there is another record conveying possessions in Gussage, of which we have the following charter:—

May it be known to present and future that I, Nicholas de la Pentiz, for the welfare of my soul and those of my ancestors and successors, have given and granted, in free and perpetual alms, to the Hospital of Hamtone, which is called "Domus Dei," for the sustenance of the poor dwelling there, the whole virgate of land in Gersiz, which Turstanus held, with this Turstanus (a bondman) and all his family (et tota sequela sua). To hold of me and my heirs freely and

quietly, well and in peace, with all its appurtenances; rendering for the same yearly, at the feast of Saint Michael, to me and my heirs one pound of cumin for all service, saving the service to the lord the king. Hiis testibus, Magistro Rogero de Hamtone, Nicholao Besant, Galfrido Clerico de Gersiz, *Ricardo Franceis*, Radulfo de Dumitune, Willelmo Wipez, Terrico de Molendino, Nicholao de Winburne, Waltero Fortine, Roberto Isembarde, Simone de Sancto Laurentio, Willelmo fratre ejus, Arone filio Benedicti, Roberto Hardewine, Ricardo Leicestria, Bartholomeo de Insula, Roberto Monacho, Goce, et multis aliis.

Circa 1200.—The sheriff stated that he had seized into the king's hands two virgates of land with its appurtenances in Picham and Waleburne, on Tuesday next after Lent, as the result of the view of *Ricardus Franceis* and others.

A.D. 1200-25.—Sibel, who was wife of Reginaldus of Brockhampton (now in Wimborne St. Giles hundred), appeals against Willelmus Wither, Robertus, Walterus, and Petrus, his sons, Richolda, his wife, and Matilda, his daughter, because they, in the king's peace and wickedly, killed Reginaldus, her husband; and this she offers to prove against them, as the court shall consider, as of her sight and hearing. Willelmus, the father, the appellee, is dead. So are Robert, the son, and Richolda, the mother. Walterus and Petrus and Matilda, their sister, come and defend all of it word by word, as the court shall consider. And

Ricardus Francus, serjeant of the hundred, along with the hundred, testifies that, in a hundred court convoked for this purpose before him and the hundred, Petrus confessed that they gave the wound of which Reginald died, and that Petrus said that he would gladly be hanged three times over if thereby Reginaldus might die of that wound. Judgment: let Petrus be hanged because of his confession, and let Walterus and Matilda purge themselves by ordeal of iron. They have waged.

About two miles to the eastward of Upwimborn is Cranborne, with which place Hutchins identifies a *William le Fraunceys*, the same name appearing in the year 1245 as a juror for this county at an inquisition at New Sarum concerning the free chase of Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester.

In the reign of Edward I. a *William le Franceys* was steward of the honor of Cranborne, belonging to the Earl of Gloucester.

Upwimborne, to which allusion has already been made, is in the parish of Wimborn St. Giles, in the hundred of the same name. Identified with this parish is the manor of Wymborn Malemeyns, of which we have the following notice:—

At an inquisition post mortem taken at Schefton, Oct. 3, 1301, the jurors, among which was *Robert Franceys*, made return that Robert de Plecitis held no lands or tenements of the king in capite, etc., in the county of Dorset, but he had the manor of Upwym-

born Malemeys of the Earl of Gloucester for the service of one knight's fee, by the curtesy of England, of the inheritance of Ela, his wife.

BADBURY HUNDRED.

THORNHILL.

A.D. 1226.—Adam de Alta Ripa appointed *Radulphus Franceis* his attorney in a plea against Walterus de Langeford and others, concerning land in Thornhull.

At a plea before the lord the king on the morrow of Saint Martin in the thirty-eighth year of the reign of King Henry III. (1253), it is found that the serjeanty of Rogerus de Langford in Thornhull and Estmordon (in this county), and Chelton (in Somerset), belonging to his manor of Tyderlegh in County Southampton, for finding one mounted soldier to serve in the king's army in England and Wales for forty days on his own expense, is alienated in part.

Willelmus le Fraunceys, of Thornhull, held one marcata of land alienated from the aforesaid serjeanty in Thornhul for 4s. 5d. per annum, and at the arrentation of Robert Passelewe he made an agreement for the same amount.

CERNE, TOTCUMB, AND MODBURY HUNDRED.

CERNE.

A.D. 1206.—John, by the grace of God, king, etc. Know ye that we have granted and by this our present charter have confirmed to Henricus de Stokes all the after-mentioned donations, etc., among which was the donation of Abbot Rogerus and the convent of Cerne of half a hide of land, with mesuage, which *Algarus Franceis* held in Cerne, etc. Given by the hand of Hugo de Welles, at Gillingham, on the thirteenth day of January, in the seventh year of our reign.

COGDEAN HUNDRED.

LICHET MATRAVERS.

Henry, styled of Herdhele, the great-grandson of Paganus Trencardus, succeeded his father Robert in the reign of King John. He was a witness to a grant of William de Redvers, Earl of Devon, to the Abbey of Quarre, of land in his manor of Welved, to which grant Mabel, Countess of Devon, was also a witness, which Mabel died in the eighth year of the reign of King John (1206-7). He was succeeded by his son Henry, a knight, who confirmed to *Walter de Franceis* land in Lingwood, which Henry, his father, formerly granted.

HASLER HUNDRED.

TYNEHAM.

A.D. 1340-41.—*Willielmus le Frensch* and ten others, parishioners of this parish, were jurors at the valuation of the ninth; and they said that the church was taxed at 106s. 8d., and that the ninth part of sheaves, wool, and lambs, was worth 72s. 4d. per annum.

LODERS AND BAUNTON LIBERTY.

UPPER LODERS.

Up-Loders was anciently a manor, now a tithing and hamlet locally about a mile from Lower Loders.

In 15 Edward II. (1321) *John Frenshe* grants to *Robert Frenshe* and *Isabella*, his wife, one messuage in Loders Luttetun, with a curtilage and two acres of arable in the field there; also pasture for two cows with their calves, and for two pigs, quit of herbage and pannage, in the common pasture of Luttetun. Dated at Porstock, on Sunday next after the feast of Saint Dionysius.

In 20 Edward II. (1326-27) *Giles Tonere* grants to the same *Robert Frenshe* and wife a piece of land in the vill of Loder Lutton, between his garden on the west and the messuage of said *Robert* and wife;

also two acres of arable land situated in different parts of the field there, and pasture for two plough horses, two cows "cum exitu unius anni," two pigs, and forty sheep in all the pasture of the said vill, with the like animals of the freemen and villeyns of the same vill.

PIMPERN HUNDRED.

ASHE.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of Martin de Littlebury to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Walter le Fraunceys* against Joan Burdon, touching a messuage and land in Asshe.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Walter le Fraunceis* against Henry Bozun, touching a messuage and land in Essebusoun.

STEEPLETON.

6 Edward I. (1277-78).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by John de Glynchesfeld against *William*, son of *Walter le Frensche*, touching a messuage and land in Stepelton.

ROWBARROW HUNDRED.

WOOLGARSTON.

Woolgarston, or Wolston, in the parish of Corfe Castle, lies a mile and a half east of Corfe.

In 40 Henry III. (1255-56) *William le Fraunceis* released and quitclaimed to Walter le Verner and *Juliana*, his wife, Terry Levet and *Agnes*, his wife, Robert, son of Thomas de Badlington, and *Alice*, his wife, *Christiana*, *Eufemia*, *Matilda*, and *Margaret*, daughters of *Thomas le Fraunceis*, and to the heirs of the said *Juliana*, *Agnes*, *Alice*, *Johanna*, *Christiana*, *Eufemia*, *Matilda*, and *Margaret*, a messuage and seventy-nine acres of land in Wolgareston, one-third of which was then held (probably in dower) by *Johanna*, late wife of *Thomas le Fraunceis*.

SHERBORNE HUNDRED.

LILLINGTON.

A.D. 1340-41.—*Willielmus Freynche* and three others, jurors, and parishioners of Parochia de Nich' Lyllyngton, testify that the church is not taxed; but they say that the ninth part of sheaves, wool, and lambs, is worth 9s. per annum.

UGGESCOMB HUNDRED.

LANGTON HERRING.

In 26 Edward I. (1297-98) *William Fraunceys*, of Langton, granted to *Roger Fraunceys* a moiety of a messuage and carucate of land in Langton juxta Weymouth, to hold to the said *Roger* and the heirs of his body, remainder to *Nicholas, Walter, and John*, brothers of the said *Roger*, successively in tail, remainder to the right heirs of *William*. And at the same time he granted the other moiety of the same premises to the said *Nicholas, Roger, Walter, and John*, successively in tail, with remainder to his own right heirs. Additional information about the same persons is found in Wellow hundred in the county of Somerset.

SWYRE.

In 14 Edward III. (1340-41) *Johannes le Freynssh* was among the jurors of this parish at the valuation of the ninth.

DURHAM.

DARLINGTON WARD.

MERRINGTON.

In 1296 *Simon Fraunceys* was amerced 100s. for contempt against the prior of Durham, his lord. His pledges were Ricardus Faber and Alanus filius Petri. Four acres of land which *Simon Fraunceys* held in Mid-Meryngton were taken into the lord's hands.

In the same roll as the previous record, under Kirke Merington, we find Alice, daughter of Walterus, son of Elwald, receiving from this *Simon Fraunceys* four quarters of wheat in his custody.

SOFTLEY.

Henricus Walensis held the whole vill of Softeley of his lord Philippus de Pictavia, who was Bishop of Durham from 1197 to 1208. After the bishop's death Henricus granted this whole vill, for the safety of the bishop's soul, to the support of the monks of Finchale.

The date of the following charter is approximated by the previous dates:—

To all, etc., Henricus Walensis, greeting. May it be known that I have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to Walterus dispensator, for his homage and service, one toft with croft in the vill of Softelay, which Robertus filius Dorandi held of me in said vill, and fifteen acres of land with its appurtenances which lie in the neighborhood of Catholeake, and seven acres of land with its appurtenances which Alanus le Bon held in same vill, and four acres of land which *Robertus Franceys* held in same vill. To have and hold to him and his heirs of me and my heirs, freely and quietly, in bosc and plain, in land cultivated and uncultivated, in meadow and pasture, in moor and marshland, etc., and in all other easements and liberties belonging to this land in said vill, without any withholding; reserving therefore yearly 7*s.* 6*d.* to me and my heirs, payable in two terms,—namely, the half at Pentecost and the other half at the feast of Saint Martin in the winter,—and making forinsec service as much as belongs to so much land in the said vill, for all service, custom, and demand. And the aforesaid Walterus shall make suit to my mill of Softelay. And I, Henricus, and my heirs will warrant and defend the aforesaid toft with croft, and the said fifteen acres of land with its appurtenances, to the aforesaid Walterus and his heirs against all men in perpetuity. And that this my donation, gift, and confirmation may be firm and stable I have appended my seal. Hiis testibus.

STOCKTON WARD.

HARTLEPOOL.

A.D. 1391-92.—Thomas Gray, Ralph de Eyre, and others were appointed justices of oyer and terminer on complaint of Ralph de Lomley, knight, against *Thomas Franche* and one hundred and eleven others, all of Hartlepool, and two persons of Hert, and other ill-doers unknown, for taking away a boat belonging to the said Ralph at Stranton to Hert, and there destroying the same, removing other property of the said Ralph, ejecting and assaulting his tenants at Stranton.



ESSEX.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1194, November 16.—Hauis de Munfirun essoined himself de malo veniendi, by *Bartholomeus le Franceis*, at an assisa de morte antecessoris versus Ricardus de Munfirun, his brother.

A.D. 1198, April 12.—*Ricardus le Franceis* and *Matilda*, his wife, appeared, on the fourth day, versus Radulphus de Bruele, in a plea of one carucate of land with its appurtenances in A . . . na; but Radulphus neither came nor essoined himself. So it was decided that the land should be taken into the king's hand, and that Radulphus should be summoned to answer at Westminster on Monday next after the feast of Saint George.

Matilda appointed in her place *Ricardus*, her husband, ad lucrandum vel perdendum.

In the records of the pleas on the twenty-seventh day of October it is found that the pledges of Radulphus de Binesle for fifteen marks, to be paid to *Ricardus Franceis* and his wife within two years, were Umfridus Hasteng, who pledged for two marks; Ricardus Wastenell', for two marks; Albinus de Angr',

for two marks; Radulphus Dagemer, for one mark; Gilbertus, son of Mauricius de Lamburn, for one mark; Hugo de Inges, for one mark; Willelmus de Bataille, for two marks; Magister Radulphus de Wichering, for two marks; Radulphus filius Salomonis, for one mark; Radulphus de Haldeg', for one mark; Fulco de Berkiges, for one mark. And, on the morrow of Saint Martin, he should have found pledges for the residue.

BARSTABLE HUNDRED.

CORRINGHAM.

A.D. 1329.—“Indenture of defeasance on a bond from William de Teye to Leonel de Bradenham.

“*Miles le Frenssh*, provided the said William, allows *Johane*, his intended wife, late wife of Mons. William Band, to devise at her death, or himself devise to her, if she survive him, goods, etc., to the value of 200*l.*, allows her during coverture the profit of the manor of Coringham ‘pour sa chambre.’ He shall gain the order of knighthood before Pentecost, and endow Katerine, daughter of the said Johane, on marriage, with 100 marks in land or money. Dated at Colchester, on Saturday after the feast of Saint Peter in Cathedra, in the third year of the reign of King Edward III.”

SHENFIELD.

Extract of the Fines Patentium, etc., of the Chancery of the twenty-seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1298-99):—

Felicia, who has been wife of *Philippus Fraunceys*, junior, has shown in the King's Court at York that she recovered her seisin against Thomas de Wokendon and others, of a third part of a messuage, twenty-four acres of land, and 10s. rent in Shenefeld, in this county.

BECONTREE HUNDRED.

BARKING.

"A.D. 1330-36.—Simon de Leyththone, vicar of Westhamme, and Johannes Duk, vicar of Burstled Magna, grant to King Edward III., among many other lands, four acres of arable land in the east marsh of Berkynge, which *Johannes le Frenyshe* and *Lucia*, his wife, and *Johannes*, their son, hold for the term of their lives for a yearly rent of 6s. Among the witnesses to this deed is John de Poulteney, mayor of London, who was mayor in the years 1330, 1331, 1333, and 1336."

WEST HAM.

A.D. 1259, October 14.—Indenture of agreement whereby Robert, son of John de Glindle and Margaret, his wife, daughter and heir of Solomon de Hodleghe, grant to Reginald, son of Herbert de Berghers, the moiety of all the land of which Solomon de Hodleghe died seised in Westhamme, the cost of securing such land to the said Reginald to be entirely defrayed by him or divided between the parties according to the method adopted. Witnesses, Sir Stephen de Penescestre, knight, Ralph and William de Heavere, *William Franceys*, and others. Dated on the morrow of Saint Edmund the Confessor, in the forty-third year of the reign of King Henry III.

CHELMSFORD HUNDRED.

BADDOW.

In 1198 we find the name of *Osbertus Franceis*, of Badewe, in the hundred of Chelmsford.

LITTLE LEIGHS.

The parish church of this place was a rectory subject to the archdeaconry of Essex and deanery of Chelmsford.

Among its rectors were the following:—

1st. Robertus Kere, cl. 5 Kal. Febr. 1333.

2d. *Johannes French.*

3d. Robertus Beverych, cap. 3 Junii 1387, per mortem *French.*

HARLOW HUNDRED.

GREAT PARNDON.

9 Edward I. (1280–81).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Walter le Fraunceys* against Henry Aucher, touching a tenement in Perendon.

HATFIELD BROAD-OAK.

Hugh de Vere, Earl of Oxford, was hereditary patron of the priory of this place. Among his tenants was Reginald Arsik, the grantor of the following charter, who held two knights' fees in Selverle (in County Cambridge) of the barony of this Hugh de Vere. In the scutage of King Henry III. for the voyage into Gascoigne, in the thirty-first year of his reign (1246–47), Reginald Arsik paid for the same into the treasury 4*l.*

Reginald Arsik to all his men, present and future. Gives to the monks of Hatfeld Regis all tithes of his

windmill in Silverley, in the field called Breche, in frankalmoign. Witnesses, Ralph Arsic his brother, *William Franceis*, Alexander Campiun, Geoffrey the dean, Ralph the clerk Reginald the baker, William Cementarius, Ralph Musca, and many others.

Circa A.D. 1248.—Ysabella de Brus, daughter of Earl David, for her soul, etc., grants to God and the Church of St. Mary, of Haffelde Regis, and the monks there, in frankalmoigne, all the services of Nicholas Bus and his heirs; to wit, in homages, reliefs escheats, rents, suits, tallages, and all customs named and not named, pertaining to her, in which the said Nicholas to the king or to her is bound: to wit, for half a virgate of land with the appurtenances which Alan Bus, father of the said Nicholas, formerly held; and for certain land not hidid,—namely, that which is called terra filsegot; and for an acre of new purpresture with the appurtenances; and for the fourth part of a virgate of land with the appurtenances, formerly of *Stephen le Fraunceis*. And also all services and customs which she or her heirs can claim out of the said lands. Witnesses, Dom. John de Gatesdene, Dom. Peter de Tani, Dom. Robert de Beaumis, Dom. Nicholas de Barentone, knights; Peter Marescall, Hugh clerk, then bailiff of Haffelde, Jordan de Westone, and others.

HINCKFORD HUNDRED.

FELSTEAD.

The manor of Frenches of this place was so called from a family of that surname. It was situated on the great common near the windmill, where the court was formerly held, and was afterward called Frenches at the Fairy.

15 Edward III. (1341-42).—*Galfridus le Frensh* was among the persons taxed in this vill at the inquisitiones nonarum.

Escheat of the forty-third year of the reign of King Edward III., 1369.

Johannes Frenssh, chaplain (probably the recorded rector of Little Leighs who died in 1387), and others (held) for the prior and convent of Lega (Leighs) one hundred and twenty-six acres of land in Felsted, which are seized in the king's hands; but divers lands and tenements in Leghes and Dunmowe remain to the aforesaid *Johannes*.

Morant states that *John French*, chaplain, and *John French*, clerk, had license in 1369 and 1373 to give land in this parish to the priory of Lees.

LEXDEN HUNDRED.

COLCHESTER.

9 Edward I. (1280-81).—Commissions to *Richard le Fraunceis* and others of gaol delivery for Colchester.

ROCHFORD HUNDRED.

RAYLEIGH.

9 Edward I. (1280-81).—Commission to *Richard le Fraunceys* and three others of gaol delivery for Releigh.

This place is in the archdeaconry of Essex, of the diocese of London, and had among its rectors *Gilbert de Frensh* and Nicholas de Horton, of whom we have the following record:—

Gilbert de Frenssh had presentation on the 26th of September, 1353, and was thereupon admitted; for on the 27th of January, 1354, he had license to exchange it for the church of Findon, in the diocese of Chichester, county of Sussex, with Nicholas de Horton.

TRINDEHAY.

Circa A.D. 1199.—The assisa de nova disseisina between *Robertus le Franceis* and *Matilda*, his wife,

plaintiffs, and Robertus les Hese and Radulphus filius Johannis, defendants, touching a free tenement in Trineliee (Trindehay, a manor in the parish of Rawreth), is postponed until the octaves of Holy Trinity for defective recognizance, as some of them came and others neither came nor essoined themselves; and therefore they were attached to be present on the aforesaid octaves of Holy Trinity.

TENDRING HUNDRED.

ARDLEIGH.

A.D. 1222.—It is found by an inquisition of the manor of Ardleigh, made by Theobaldus, Archdeacon of Essex, that Walterus de Mora, together with the nephew and heir of Hamo, hold half a virgate here, paying 2s. 6d. to the Church of St. Paul's, which land had been held by *Robertus Franceis*, who held it of Magister Albericus (who was a witness, in 1162, to the agreement about the Church of St. Mary Magdalen, London, made between the canons of St. Paul's and Bartholomeus filius Galfridi), who held for life of the canons of St. Paul's, London.

King Edward III., in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, A.D. 1350, for 100s. grants to Robertus de Teye, Leonellus de Bradenham, and *Milo de Frensh* that

they may grant the manor of Ardelegh with its appurtenances, etc.; and he grants to Ricardus de Sutton and Anna, his wife, the right to hold the same.

BRADFIELD.

At an inquisition made in the second year of the reign of King Edward I. (1273-74) the jurors said that Bradefeld in the hundred of Tendringe was formerly held of the king in capite, and it is now held by a burgess of Herewyc, whose mesne lord is *Willelmus Franc'*; but they do not know the value of the same or by what tenure it is held.

They also said that *Willelmus Franc'* has royal liberties (libertates) in Bradefelde, but they do not know by what warrant.

In the year 1312 *Willelmus Franc'*, the elder, granted all his manor of Bradfield to Johannes de Brokesburne and Johanna, his wife.

THURSTABLE HUNDRED.

LANGFORD.

In the roll of assizes taken at Stafford in the year 1198 it is found that Eustacius de Langefar' appeared on the fourth day versus Willielmus de Donemow' concerning a free tenement in Langefar', but Williel-

mus neither came nor essoined himself. Judgment: no day of attendance is given to Eustacius, and Willielmus is in misericordia for his non-attendance. His pledges were *Willielmus Francus* and Nicholaus Cocus, who are in misericordia.

It is found that a *Willielmus Francus* was amerced half a mark in this year.

WINSTREE HUNDRED.

FINGRINGHOE.

A.D. 1328.—Commission of oyer and terminer to John de Bousser, Benedict de Cokefeld, and John de Dyne, on complaint by *William Frenshe*, of Fyngryngho, that Walter, prior of Westmersey, Robert Lucas, clerk, Robert Grippel, "the Norman," Adam Bacoun, of Westmersey, and others, broke his houses at Fyngryngho, County Essex, and took away nine horses, one mare, four oxen, one bull, twenty cows, thirty bullocks, eighty sheep, and forty swine, worth 100*l*. Dated at Lincoln, on the 22d of March. Changed because sealed at another time.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GENERAL.

3 John (1201-2).— The sheriff renders an account of half a mark from *Hugo Franceis*.

GLOUCESTER CITY.

A.D. 1249.— *Richard Franceys* held an official position in this city.

Circa A.D. 1270.— Agnes Coperich sold to Thomas de Northfolc a rent of 4s. sterling, which *Ricardus Franceys*, burgess of Gloucester, in his last will bequeathed to her; namely, the land which lies between the land formerly belonging to Radulphus de Tudeham and the entrance to the Bohale (Town Hall) in the "magna platea" of Gloucester.

BRADLEY HUNDRED.

BROCKHAMPTON.

Charter of Robertus Ruphus to *Radulfus le Frances*, of Brockhampton; prob. temp. Edward I.:—

Be it known to those present as well as those to come that I, Robertus Ruphus, of Brochamton, have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to *Radulfus le Frances*, of Brochamton and his heirs, for his service, one messuage with half a virgate of arable land, with meadow and wood and all its appurtenances in and without the vill of Wittewell; namely, that which Willielmus Longus once held in the same vill. To have and hold of me and my heirs to him and his heirs or assigns, freely, quietly, well, and in peace, with hereditary right and in fee, in wood, plain, and in ways, and in all other connected pastures belonging to the vill. And the said *Radulfus* is allowed to sell and grant the aforesaid messuage and land with its appurtenances "tam in egritudine quam in sanitate," and to alienate in whatever way he would like; he and his heirs or assigns rendering yearly for the same to me and my heirs 3s. at four terms—namely, 9d. at the feast of Saint Michael, 9d. at the feast of Saint Andrew, 9d. at the feast of the Blessed Mary in Marcio, and 9d. at the feast of Saint John the Baptist—for all secular services, exactions, and demands, saving the service to the king belonging to this tenement. And I, Robertus, and my heirs will forever warrant and for the aforesaid rent defend the said messuage and half-virgate of land, with all its appurtenances, to the said *Radulfus* and his heirs or assigns against all men and women. For this donation, grant, and warrant the

aforesaid *Radulfus* has given me in my urgent necessity $4\frac{1}{2}$ marks sterling. And that this my charter may remain firm and stable, I have strengthened it with the impression of my seal. Hiis testibus, Guyone domino de Cloppell', Radulfo Musard, Willielmo Libero de Brochamton, Johanne filio Andree, Roberto de Glouveria, Galfrido Stoke, et aliis.

Charter of Deonissia, widow of William Herbert, to *Nicholas le Franceis*, of land in Brockhampton; prob. temp. Edward I.:—

Be it known to all who see or hear this charter that I, Deonissia, widow of Willielmus Herebert, of Brohamton, have remised, granted, and quitclaimed to *Nicholaus le Franceis*, of Brohamton, all the right and claim which I had in the land which I demanded of him as my dower, with all its appurtenances, in the fields of Brohamton; namely, the twelve acres of land which the aforesaid *Nicholaus* once bought of my Lord Willielmus Herbert, with hereditary right in perpetuity. To have and hold of me and all my heirs to the aforesaid *Nicholaus* and his heirs or assigns in perpetuity. But for this remise, grant, and quitclaim the said *Nicholaus* has given me 2s. in silver. And that this my remise, grant, and quitclaim may forever remain firm and stable for me and my heirs or assigns, I have appended my seal to this present writing. Hiis testibus, Willielmo Hodekenas de Brohamton, Hugo Boltusham de eadem, Thoma de Clatar de

Winchecumbe, Galfrido David de Cloppel, Roberto de eadem, Waltero de Sevenhamton, et aliis.

A.D. 1325-26.—Charter of *Nicholaus le ffrense*:—

Be it known to those present as well as to those to come that I, *Nicholaus le ffrense*, of Brochamton, have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to *Willielmus le ffrense*, my brother, one messuage and one acre of land with their appurtenances in Cloppeleye near Sevenhamton, which messuage lies between the messuages of Robertus le Hattere; and the said acre is so divided that half the acre lies at Woldene, between the land of Robertus Brid and that of Henricus Reyner, and the other half-acre lies in Helewelslade, with the land of the said Robertus Brid on one side and that of the Bishop of Hereford on the other. The said tenement and acre of land with its appurtenances to be held to the said *Willielmus* and his heirs and assigns, freely and quietly, wholly and in peace, of the chief lord of the fee for the service due and customary. And I, the said *Nicholaus*, and my heirs will warrant and defend in perpetuity the said messuage and acre to the said *Willielmus*, his heirs and assigns, against all mortals. In testimony of which I have appended my seal to this present charter. Hiis testibus, Roberto Soleres, Johanne Olive, Roberto Oudebi, Luca de Monte, Nicholao de Annesforde, Johanne de Walleye, Johanne le [H]eir, et multis aliis. Dated at Cloppeleye, on the Sunday next after the feast of the Trans-

lation of Saint Martin, in the nineteenth year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward.

This *Nicholaus le ffrense*, of Brochampton, is among the witnesses to an undated charter, wherein Willielmus, son of Galfridus David, of Cloppeleye, grants to Stephanus de Cranebroc two acres of land in the fields of Cloppeleye, half an acre of which land lies in Cloppeleye, between the bishop's land and that of Thomas Capal, and half an acre lies at the end of the former; half an acre lies between the land of Robertus Andreu and that of Willielmus de Calecumbe; half an acre lies in Lindene, near the bishop's land, and it is the chief place; besides half an acre which lies in Ellewelles slade, near the bishop's land.

BRIGHTWELLS BARROW HUNDRED.

ALDSWORTH.

A.D. 1212-42.—Henricus, abbot of the monastery of St. Peter's, Gloucester, grants and confirms to Henricus, son of Radulfus Wyring, of Adlesworthe, seven acres of arable land with all its appurtenances, and one mansion with curtilage, in the vill of Aldesworthe; namely, that which lies between the mansion of *Henricus Fraunceys* and that of Wymundus, which mansion and land this Henricus, son of Radulfus, holds of the aforesaid *Henricus le Fraunceys* by char-

ter and inheritance of the abbot's fee, paying yearly at Michaelmas to the abbot 12*d.* for all service.

A.D. 1212-42.—Henricus, abbot, and the convent of St. Peter's, Gloucester, grant to Nicholaus de Collesburia, for his service, half a hide of land with its appurtenances in Aldesworthe, which *Henricus le Fraunceys* had held of the monastery.

CLEEVE HUNDRED.

GOTHERINGTON.

Pleas of the Crown for this county before Simon, abbot of Reading, and his associates, justices itinerant, in 1221:—

Rogerus forestarius, of Hathirlege, killed Nicholaus de la Grene, and fled. No one else is suspected, and therefore he is to be outlawed. Rogerus was of the mainpast of Henricus de Miners, who is dead. Roger's chattel consists of a chest ("archa") and half a "crannoc" of corn, valued at 12*d.*, for which the heir of Thomas de Rocheford shall answer; and he is in the custody of Ricardus de la Bere.

It is found in the rolls of the coroners that Robertus Bubelepaste fled on account of this death; and therefore he is to be outlawed. The jurors know nothing about him, and did not present his flight, therefore they are in misericordia for concealing;

and the villata of Hetherlee is also in misericordia for concealing pleas. Hugo, brother of this Robertus, was attached by *Johannes le Franceis*, Willelmus de Gudrintone, Ricardus Durel, Gerardus de Gudrintone, Samson le Bedelle, and by the whole tithing of Gudrintone; and he did not come. Therefore, he is to be captured; and the aforesaid pledges are in misericordia.

CROWTHORNE AND MINETY HUNDRED.

AMPNEY.

A.D. 1219.—*Galfridus le Franceis* and *Christiana*, his wife, give half a mark to the lord the king for having a certain pone before the justices against the abbot of Tewkesbury, concerning a mill with its appurtenances in Upamenel. They are granted the writ, and the sheriff of Gloucester is commanded to take surety, etc. Teste Henrico, at Westminster, on the eighth day of November.

DRIFFIELD.

At the Pleas of the Crown for this county before Simon, abbot of Reading, and his associates, justices itinerant, in 1221, Willelmus Flur had appealed *Robertus le Franceis*, Rogerus Constabularius, Willelmus Bucke, Gaufridus le Paumer, and Andreas de

Lattone for breaking the king's peace. Willelmus was dead, and *Robertus* and Andreas did not come. *Robertus* was attached by Walterus, tithing-man of Driffelde, and all his tithing; and Andreas by Willelmus de Cimiterio, tithing-man, and all his tithing of Amene Abbatis, and therefore in misericordia. Rogerus and the others came; and the jurors said that a Willelmus Russel had wounded the aforesaid Willelmus, and all the others assisted him in doing so, and therefore they are to be held in custody. Willelmus Russel is dead; and Rogerus, Willelmus, and Gaufridus made a fine of half a mark each by the surety of the abbot of Cirencester.

MINETY.

A.D. 1281, Hilary.—In a plea at the court of the abbot of Cirencester, in this county, concerning seven acres of land at Mynty, *Adam le Fraunceys* is sine die; and Juliana, who has been wife of Willelmus de Mynty, did not come.

DEERHURST HUNDRED.

DEERHURST.

At an inquisition made in the fourth year of the reign of Edward I. (1275-76) the jurors of this hun-

dred said that *Nicholaus Franceis*, seneschal of the abbot of Westminster, took fines of three sheep thieves and of one whom he charged with theft.

In 14 Edward I. (1286-87) it was shown by the twelve jurors of this hundred that *Nicholaus de Fraunceys*, formerly seneschal of the abbot of Westminster at Derhurst, had taken fines for allowing four sheep thieves to escape. And the sheriff of Gloucester stated that the aforesaid *Nicholaus le Fraunceis* has nothing in this county for which he can be attached. Therefore, the sheriff of Hertford is ordered to make him come before the treasurer and the barons of the Exchequer in one month after the feast of Saint Michael.

WELFORD.

A. D. 1224-28.—Thomas, abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester, and the convent of that place, grant to Ysabella, daughter of Matilda de Dunefelde, the virgate of land which *Radulfus le Fraunceys* and *Margareta*, his wife, held of them; she giving for the same yearly 43*d.* at two terms for all service, saving reasonable aid at the tallage of the lord the king.

DUDSTONE AND KING'S-BARTON HUNDRED.

BROCKWORTH.

A.D. 1243-63.—Laurentius de Chaundos, knight, grants and confirms to Johannes, abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester, and the convent of that place, all his lands in Brocworthe, in the field called Northfelde; namely, that which lies at the new ditch between the land of *Johannes Fraunceys* and that of the prior of Lanthoney, which is extended in length from the way called Rugweye to the water called Horsbere, and in breadth from the said ditch to the opposite church of Brocworthe.

A.D. 1243-63.—Laurentius de Chaundos, knight, granted and confirmed for the welfare of his soul and that of Agnes, his wife, and for the souls of their antecessors and successors, to Johannes, abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester, and the convent of that place, 3s. 6d. annual rent, which *Johannes Fraunceys* was accustomed to give him for land and tenement which the said *Johannes* held of him in the vill of Brocworthe and without.

HARTPURY.

A.D. 1266-67.—*Robertus Fraunceys* holds one mesuage with curtilage in Hardepyrie, of St. Peter's, Gloucester.

HIGHLEADON.

A.D. 1266-67.— *Willelmus le Frenshe* holds, as free tenant of the abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester, one messuage with curtilage at Hynedene, and renders for the same yearly 8*d.* at Michaelmas.

HIGNAM.

A.D. 1266-67.— *Willelmus Fraunceys* holds a messuage with curtilage in Hynehame, of St. Peter's, Gloucester, for performing eight bedripes and collecting hay for three days, which work is valued at 13½*d.*

KING'S BARTON.

A.D. 1266-67.— The manor of Berthona Regis, held of the monastery of St. Peter's, Gloucester, has among its customary tenants *Willelmus Fraunceys*, who holds half a virgate of land, and is due to work four days every second week; and the sum of the said work per annum, for half a virgate of land, is 5*s.* 1¾*d.*

KIFTSGATE HUNDRED.

MEON.

Pleas of the Crown for this county before Simon, abbot of Reading, and his associates, justices itinerant, in 1221.

Rogerus de Mune and Ranulfus Eynolk, his brother, had killed Willelmus filius Henrici; and they fled. Ranulfus was in the frankpledge of Sandulfus de Meone, who is in misericordia. Ranulfus is demanded and outlawed, and so is Rogerus. But afterwards it was testified that Rogerus was not culpable, except that he had been present. Thereafter came Ricardus de Cloptone, and made a fine of 6 marks for having him released on sureties that he will stand to right.

The villata of Meone is in misericordia for default and for concealing the aforesaid Rogerus, about whom they would say nothing.

The villata of Edelmintone concealed the said Rogerus in same manner; and, besides, they had falsely presented the death of Willelmus's wife, Hawisia, who had appealed the said Rogerus and Ranulfus, although they knew she was living, and therefore in misericordia.

Thereafter it was known that they had received Rogerus after the flight, and therefore in misericordia; and Rogerus is to be captured, and so is Hawisia.

Their chattels are worth 3 marks; but it is to be inquired about Rogerus's chattel, for which Hugo de Coillardvilla, one of the coroners, should answer. No Englishry is presented, and therefore it is adjudged murder.

Among the pledges of Rogerus de Menes for standing to right was *Hugo le Franceis*.

ST. BRIAVELL'S HUNDRED.

FOREST OF DEAN.

A.D. 1338, November 30.—At the inquisition made at Mucheldene (Michel-Dean) at this date, before Johannes de Macclesfeld, in regard to the right which the abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester, claimed in the wood of Hopemaleysel (Hope Mansel), and concerning the boundary between this wood and the king's forest of Dene, among the jurors were *Johannes le Frenshe*, and four others, good and free men without the aforesaid forest.

TEWKESBURY HUNDRED.

TEWKESBURY.

In the annals of the Abbey of Tewkesbury, for the year 1249, is a record of a dispute between the bailiffs

of the Earl of Gloucester and Robertus, abbot of Tewkesbury, concerning the right of jurisdiction in the abbot's land in Dorsetshire. The abbot goes to the earl himself to complain; and therefore the earl orders an inquiry to be made into the question of the abbot's right, and among the persons chosen to investigate were Robertus de Lucy and *Willelmus le Franceys*.

BRISTOL CITY.

A.D. 1232.—*Walter le Fraunceis* was mayor.

A.D. 1275.—*Gerard le Franccis* was mayor.

A.D. 1288.—“Wednesday, on the morrow of the feast of Saint Thomas the Apostle, Matilda, relict of Thomas de Lyuns, late burgess of Bristol, releases to Thomas (?) Nas, burgess of Bristol, and his heirs and assigns, all her right, by way of freebench or otherwise, in the tenement in Wynchestret, Bristol, in which the said Thomas de Lyuns lived and died, being between the tenement of the said Walter (?) Nas and the tenement in which Walter, called the Yunge, lived. Witnesses, Richard le Draper, mayor of Bristol; Geoffrey Agodeshalf and Simon de Boritone, prepositi of Bristol; *Walter Franceys*, and others.” (Hist. MSS. Com. App. to 5 Rep.)

A.D. 1289.—*John Franceis* was seneschal.

A.D. 1293.—*Walter Franceis* was mayor.

Prob. A.D. 1250-1300.—Salonius filius Salonii, of Bristol, granted to the Church of St. Peter's, Gloucester.

ter, and the monks there, for the welfare of his soul and those of his ancestors, in free, pure, and perpetual alms, his land in Bristol; namely, that which lies in Radeclivestrete, between the land of Vincentius speciarius and that of Rogerus Gnawepeny. And, also, he granted to the aforesaid monks 4s. which he was accustomed to receive yearly at Hokeday and Michaelmas of the land which *Willelmus le Fraunceys* held of him in fee; namely, that which lies between the stone cross and the bridge of Brihtin (inter crucem lapideam et pontem Brihtine), etc.

A.D. 1299.—*John Franceis* was seneschal.

In the reign of King Edward I. (1272–1307) *Almaricus French* was master of the Collegiate Church and Hospital of the Virgin Mary and St. Mark, called the Guants of Billeswyck, afterwards the Mayor's Chapel.

In 18 Edward III. (1344–45) the mayor and bailiffs of the vill of Bristol are directed to take into the king's hands all the lands, tenements, goods, and chattels of which *Eborardus le Frenshe*, on account of deception and falsification, had been disseised; namely, one tenement in Redeclyvestret and many others in several other streets in the vill of Bristol.

A.D. 1349.—*Reynold French* was bailiff.

In the twenty-fourth year of the reign of King Edward III. (1350–51) the king, for 10 marks paid to him by Johannes Odde of Bristol, Hugo le Proude, Johannes de Ronborwe, Ricardus le Vicorys, Johanna

le Frent, Robertus le Mareschal, *Thomas le Frenssh*, and Robertus Wilymerssh, grants them that they may give and assign six messuages, four shops, one acre of land, and 12s. of rent, with its appurtenances, in a suburb of the vill of Bristol, to two chaplains, to be held by them in mortmain.

In 27 Edward III. (1353-54) *Reginaldus le Frensshe*, of Bristol, was a merchant.

In 1356 and 1358 *Reynald le French* was mayor.

In 1374 *John French* was vicar of the Church of St. Mary-Redcliffe.

Abstract of wills identified with the city of Bristol:

A.D. 1385.—Adam Pountefreyt, of Bristol, in his will gives to Eve, his wife, property consisting of five shops, etc., in the suburb of Bristol, “apud la Barres,” between the king’s way eastward leading to the priory of St. James on the one part, and Wynchelane westward on the other part; also four shops in the afore-said suburb “in la Brodemedede,” situate between the shop of William Pountfreyt and the shops which *Maud le Frensch* held.

Maud le Frensch is mentioned in the will of Walter Derby, burgess, dated on Thursday next before the feast of Simon and Jude, the Apostles, 1385.

A.D. 1393.—Thomas atte Hay, burgess of Bristol, in his will, dated March 27, 1393, gives to Elen Osborne, for her life, a shop “in Brodemedede juxt’ reddit’ *Capellor’ Eborard le ffrensch*.”

A.D. 1393, April 18.—In the testament of Henry Wyvelescombe, he wishes to be buried in the Church of Holy Cross Temple of Bristol, before the altar of Saint James, or wheresoever it shall please God; and he bequeaths as follows: to the use of that church two pairs of vestments, with a chalice, a missal, and other appurtenances, already in the church in a chest before the altar of Saint James, to serve at that altar, etc.; to Sir *Thomas Frenssh*, chaplain, 20s. and my psalter in the chest aforesaid, etc.; to Henry, son of Richard Sydenham, and his lawful heirs, the tenement inhabited by the testator “in vico Templi,” situate between what were formerly the tenements of *John Fraunceys* and Henry Babbecarry, etc.

Adam Frensch, fletcher and burgess, in his will, dated Oct. 12, 1396, orders to be buried in the church of the Friars Minors of Bristol, beside late wife *Maud*. Legacies to the said friars, to the rector and every chaplain accustomed to celebrate in the Church of St. John; to the mother church of Worcester, to the fraternity of Saint John of Jerusalem, to the poor in the Hospital of St. Bartholomew of Bristol, to my poor neighbors. My clothes to be distributed for the good of my soul, etc. To wife, *Alice*, lands, tenements, etc., in the town and suburb of Bristol, for her life, while she keeps herself single: in case of her marriage, the said property to be sold; half the money to be given to the said *Alice*, and the other half to be disposed of for the benefit of the soul of

wife *Maud*, our parents, etc. Residue of goods to wife *Alice*. She, Richard Screven, and Robert Bowyer, executors, to each of whom 6s. 8d.

Proved before Thomas Wybbe, clerk, Jan. 22, 1397; also before the mayor.

John Frensch, burgess, in his will, dated Feb. 22, 1398, requests to be buried in the Church of the Blessed Mary of Redcliff, by the holy font and the tomb of late wife, *Julian*. Legacies to the vicar of that church; to the lame, blind, or leprous lying in the Hospital of St. John the Baptist of Bristol, and such people in the suburb; to Richard Pedewell, Agnes Plomere, Joan Freman, and Juliana Hastyne. To wife, *Joan*, for her life, a tenement in the suburb in "Redeclyuestret," between the rent of Sir Thomas Broke, knight, and the tenement of William Selcok; also, for her life, three shops in Redcliff hill, between the rent of the Blessed Mary of Redcliff and that of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist; the said property to be afterwards sold under the inspection of the procurators of Redcliff church, and the money given to a fit priest to celebrate therein for testator's soul, and the souls of his wives, *Julian* and *Joan*. Wife *Joan*, John Wodle, and Thomas Erle, burgess, of Bristol, executors. "Dat' et act' in hospicio meo."

Proved before Thomas Benet, canon of Wells, June 2, 1399; also before the mayor.

HAMPSHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1207.—Among the many pledges of Rogerus filius Adae, sheriff of Southampton, were *Walterus Franceis*, who pledged for 1 mark, and *Hermanus Franceis*, who pledged for half a mark.

A.D. 1215.—The king to the sheriff of Southampton, greeting. We command you to have Reginaldus de Gosefeld, who is in our prison of Winchester, accused for the death of *Walterus Franceis*, of Heccesford, to immediately renounce our realm of England, and that you peaceably permit him to depart. Teste Rege, at Winchester.

Reginaldus de Gosefeld was pardoned by the king in the same year.

Heckford does not appear in the modern maps of this county; but at the Domesday survey a Heccesford was near Appleford, in the hundred of Bovecome, in the Isle of Wight. There is, however, a Heckfield in the northern part of this county; and its location near a river may have originated a place name of Heckford.

WINCHESTER CITY.

A.D. 1200.— *Ralph Franceis* was mayor.

A.D. 1245.— It appears that Agnes, who had been wife of Rogerus de Aundevert, *Thomas le Fraunceys*, Johannes le Scoy, Stephanus Molendinarius, Johannes Molendinarius, and Eva la Nurice were held in the prison of Winchester for the death of the aforesaid Rogerus, for which the said Agnes and *Thomas* were appealed and the others accused. The sheriff of Southampton is commanded to release them, if they shall find twelve free and loyal men to become their manucaptors, etc. And, also, the sheriff is ordered to take 20 marks of them as surety.

A.D. 1276.— *Ralph Franceis* was mayor.

A.D. 1305.— *Ralph Franceis* was mayor.

A.D. 1311.— Grant by Ingram de Farnham, rector of Nutschullyng, to Sir Robert de Maydenstane, rector of Michelmersh, of tenement in Minster Street, having the tenement of Laurence de Anne on the east. Witnesses, Sir Thomas de Warbelton, sheriff of Southampton; Peter de Notleye, mayor; John de Wight and *John le Frensche*, bailiffs, and others.

Sealed with the common seal of the city and inrolled in the City Court on the morrow of the feast of Saint Simon and Saint Jude, 5 Edward II.

A.D. 1312.— Commission of oyer and terminer to H. Spigurnell and W. de Hardene, touching the

allegation that Peter le Mercer, Nicholas le Orfevre, Robert de Froille, Walter de Sutton, Geoffrey Haute-pas, *John le Frensshe*, John de Wyght, *John Fraunceys*, *Ralph Fraunceys*, with others their confederates, disturbers of the city of Winchester, prevent Peter de Nuttle, mayor of the city of Winchester, and his ministers, as well clerks as laymen, from exercising his office in the city, from doing justice there, from castigating rebels, executing the king's mandates, and keeping the peace; that they hold conventicles and meetings, notwithstanding the prohibition of the mayor as the king's minister, and do not allow themselves to be brought to justice by him or his bailiffs; that they deprive certain citizens of the city of the liberty thereof, and of their own authority, without the assent of the mayor, admit strangers to that liberty; and, further, that they make and impose at their own will upon some of the citizens tallages, which are not only to the prejudice of the mayor, the king's minister, but also in derogation and contempt of the king's mandates, and to the impoverishment of the city of Winchester. Dated at Westminster, on the 8th of September, 1312.

A.D. 1327.—*Johannes le Freynshe* was one of the bailiffs of the honor of Winchester.

BASINGSTOKE HUNDRED.

The De Porth or De Port family was identified as the lords of Basing. M. Delisle, in his "Companions of William at the Conquest of England in 1066," gives the name of Hugue de Port. The Domesday survey shows the lands of Hugo de Porth, including those of Basinges, Chineham, and Sireburne.

"Adam de Port, who became a monk, was the son of Hugh de Port. On the day of the dedication of Newham chapel he gave to the Abbey of St. Vigor at Cerisy, in the Cotentin of Normandy, this chapel, with the tithes of Newham and Maplederwell."

"His brother Henry de Port," who was a witness to King Henry I.'s charter of liberties in the year 1101, "founded the alien priory of Sherborne, with the gift of a great part of that place, which he donated to the same abbey, as is found by his charter, among the witnesses to which were Hadvis, his wife, and William and John, his sons."

"John de Port confirmed the grant of his father, Henry, and added the chapel of St. Michael with the land of the old castle of Basing. Among the witnesses are Matilda, his wife, Adam and Hugh, his sons, Reginald de Port, Henry de Port, and Robert de Port."

"Adam de Port, son of John de Port, evidently before he was accused of treason in 1172, gave to the

monks of St. Vigor the mill-tithes of Sherborne in exchange for the mill of Sherborne Pool, which they had by grant of Henry de Port, his grandfather. Among the witnesses to this grant was his wife, the Countess Sibilla."

Of Adam de Port, Thomas Stapleton gives the following account:—

"This baron appears to have been thrice married, and to have survived to the fifteenth year of the reign of King John. His first wife was Countess Sibilla, widow of Milo, earl of the county of Hereford, and daughter and heiress of Bernard de Novo-mercato, a powerful baron of that county, whose fief Adam de Port reported to the Exchequer, 14 Henry II. (Eyton states returnable on the 17th of March, 1166), with the nomenclature of the knight's fees held of the old and new feoffment; at which date his father, John de Port, Lord of Basing, in the county of Southampton, was still living. Not long after, A.D. 1172, an accusation of treason was brought against him; and, not appearing to the summons to abide his trial, he was banished the realm, when his barony in the county of Hereford escheated to the crown, and ever after continued to be described in the records of this and the following reigns as *feodum Adae de Port fugiti or fugitivi*. By the Countess Sibilla he had no issue, and her property descended through her daughter by her first husband, Berta, wife of Philip de Braose, to William de Braose, who in 1194 paid 22*li.* 13*s.* for

the knight's fees which had belonged to Adam. His second wife was Mabilia (de Aureavalle), for the livery of whose inheritance in Normandy, and also that he might be restored to the king's favor and do his homage, Adam de Port, in 26 Henry II. (1179-80), gave this king 1,000 marks. By this wife Adam de Port had a son, William de Portu, who had possession of the honor of Lithaire in the second year of the reign of King John, and who, eventually inheriting the lands of the family of Sancto Johanne, through descent from Muriel, sister of William and Robert St. John, who had intermarried with his maternal ancestor, de Aureavalle, thereupon assumed that local surname. The third wife of Adam de Port was sister of William de Braose. She was living in 1210, 12th of King John, the year of her brother's rebellion. The cause of the seizure of the land of Adam de Port in the preceding fiscal year (1194), and its committal to ferm in the current year (1195), has not been discovered; but this disgrace was not of long duration, for on the later roll of Richard I. he is a debtor to the crown in 100*l.* for having the firm of Lithaire."

BASINGSTOKE.

From the return made to a mandate issued by King Henry III. on the 21st of May, 1238, by the sheriff of Southampton and Walter de Burgh, the

king's bailiff of Basingstoke, it is found that the jurors say upon their oath that John Fitz-Ace held certain property in the manor of Basingstoke,—namely, one virgate and a half and ten acres of land, besides two tenants, William le Cok and *Robert le Franceys*; and there was due yearly for the same in its entirety 10s. and 4d., and no other customs and burdens annexed to the said property.

Circa A.D. 1250.—Grant in frankalmoign by Clement, prior of Bromholm, to the brethren of the Hospital of St. John of Basinggestoke, of half a mark of yearly rent in the villa of Basingess, which they held by the gift of William de St. John, for the maintenance of a lamp burning day and night before the cross in the church of the said hospital, for the welfare of their souls and the soul of the said William de St. John, and the souls of his ancestors and heirs. With the clause of distraint. Witnesses, Sir Henry de Ferleye, Sir Hamon de Basingge, Richard de London, *Robert le Franceis*, John de Lunde, Anselm de Glanville, and others.

BOUNTISBOROUGH HUNDRED.

SWARRATON.

Circa A.D. 1312.—To all, etc., *John le Frenche* of Swarraton sends greeting. Know ye that I have

granted, released, and for myself and my heirs wholly quitclaimed to God and the Blessed Mary and St. John the Baptist, and the brethren of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, all the right and title which I had, or in any way could have in common, in the wood of those brethren called Bugmore, and in all the pasture and in all the surrounding lands adjacent to the said wood, as far as le Holwey on the west, le Lynche near the Three Thorns on the north, and also in all the "plaisance" which is called La Donne with a certain arable adjoining,—as far as the glebe of the rector of the church of Swarraton on the east, except the pasture of two horses and one ox or one cow in La Donne aforesaid. Witnesses, John de Popham, miles; Richard de Stratton, miles; John de Basing, Robert de Tolford, William le Botiller de Candevere, and others.

A.D. 1341.—*Johannes le Frensh*, Johannes le Mey, Johannes Alayn, and Willelmus Dodde were the jurors appointed in this parish for the inquisitio nonarum.

BUDDLESGATE HUNDRED.

LITTLETON.

A.D. 1265–66.—At the extent of the manor of Lutletone made in the fiftieth year of the reign of Henry III., of the yearly value of the manor, upon

the oath of senior and discreet men of this manor, it is found that *Robertus le Frense* holds half a virgate of land here of the monastery of St. Peter's, Gloucester, and shall make the following work, which is valued at 10s. 3d.:—

He was to plough for the lord twice in a year (value 2d.); he was also on those days to eat with the lord, and to give chirsac according to his portion (value 19d.); to harrow (value 4½d.); to hoe (value 2½d.); to perform operations relating to hay as if he held an entire virgate (value 2d.); to plant beans (value ½d.); to wash and shear the lord's sheep (value ½d.); to make a stack (hayrick) (value ½d.); to perform summage (value 1½d.); to mow, as for one virgate (value 3s. 2½d.); to perform three bedripes (value 3d.); to eat with the lord on those days, and to carry his corn in the autumn (value of such carriage 4s.); or to thrash to the same value; to collect nuts (value ½d.). Sum total of the work, 10s. 3d.

CHUTELY HUNDRED.

MONKS SHERBORNE.

Allusion has already been made in the records of this county to the foundation of the priory of this place by Henry de Port, of whom mention is made in the following undated charter, which was probably

executed in the reign of King Stephen or early in that of King Henry II. : —

Be it known to all, as well those present as those to come, that I, Baldwinus de Porteseia, by the consent and assent of my Lord Johannes de Porteseia, for the souls of Henricus de Porte and Hadewisia, his wife, and for those of my father and mother, as well as for the welfare of my soul and that of Adelide, my wife, give and confirm to the monks of Sireburnia one virgate of land in Froditonia, to hold in free alms forever, as freely and quietly as I held it, with two men — namely, Guillielmus and Ernulfus — living on that land, together with their infants. Witnesses, Radulfus Presbyter de Porteseia, Walterus Brito, Henricus de Maisnelleio, Reinelmus de Borhurst, Robertus de Ranill, Ricardus Clericus nepos Baldwini, Rogerus Praetor de Froditonia, Mattheus de Scuris, Guillelmus de Hetheingedena, Hugo de Braib', Alexander de Monfichet, Guillelmus de Bera, Ruelendus de Mathingeleia, Ricardus et Jacobus filii ejus, *Robertus Franceis*, Jocelinus Cloeth, Magister Osmundus, Guillelmus filius Ansgoti, Alexander Forestarius.

The following charter was probably executed soon after the fifteenth year of the reign of King John (1213-14); for in that year William de St. John gave the king 500 marks for the livery of the land of Adam de Port, his father : —

Know all that I, Willielmus de Sancto Johanne, son and heir of Adam de Port, have granted, and by this my charter have confirmed, to Willielmus, son of Willielmus, the lands of Benetfelda, and that in Chinham, which Adam de Port, my father, and the prior and convent of Shireburne, had given to Willielmus, his father. To have, etc. Hiis testibus, Hasculio de Soleigni, Willielmo de Liuns, Galfrido de Windleshores, Ada de Bera, Ricardo de Warneford, Galfrido de Bono-fossato, militibus; Galfrido de sancto Johanne, Roberto et Ada filiis meis, Roberto de Arundel, Radulpho Wirard, Henrico Taillard, *Willielmo le Franceis*, Willielmo filio Nicholai clerico, praesentis cartae notario, et multis aliis.

The following charter of William de St. John is evidently of a somewhat later date than the preceding one: —

To all to whom this present writing shall come, Willelmus de Sancto Johanne, son of Adam de Port, greeting. Be it known to all that neither I nor my heirs shall claim any right in the custody of the land formerly belonging to *Willelmus le Fronceis*, of Syreburne, which Willelmus, the prior, and the convent of Syreburne, of their free will, after the decease of the aforesaid *Willelmus le Fronceis*, granted to me. And because I will that neither I nor any one of my successors, on account of the prior's, etc., grant, may have any claim in this custody, I have granted, and by my present writing have confirmed, to the house

of Syreburne to have the freedom of the aforesaid custody. Hiis testibus, Gervasio, Priore de Enedewel; Waltero Peverel, Heymerico de Cancell', Willelmo de Arundel, Josep Wastehuse, Nicholas Clerico, et aliis.

A.D. 1278, 3d of July, "die domin. pr. f. SS. Processi et Martiniani," 6 Edward I.—Release from William le Weleys of his right in half a virgate of land in Syrborne Monachorum, which Geoffrey Hude formerly held, about which there was a plea between the said William, claimant, and Thomas de Saunford, defendant, by the king's writ in the court of the prior of Syrburne, confirming to Ralph de Scures and Joan, his wife, a grant of the said land which the said Thomas de Saunford made to them while the suit was pending. Witnesses, William Wastehuse, Nicholas Telbaud, Ralph Wastehuse, John le Waleys, *Robert Franceys*, and others.

WOOTTON.

The following letter of Bishop John of Pontiose was probably executed in 1282 or 1283, soon after his enthronement:—

To all sons of Holy Mother Church to whom this writing may come, John, by divine mercy Bishop of Winchester, sends greeting in the Lord. Seeing that my Lord John, Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of all England, in exercise of his authority as

visitor of the bishopric and diocese of Winchester, which has for a long period lain vacant, on a question of tithes from the lands and tenements of Henry de Waterford, John Clerk, John Balrichare, Anastacia, Hugh de la Putte, Geoffrey Somerfoghel, Peter Notekin, Nicholas le Man, Herbert de Wottone, Robert Archard of Worting le Franceys, Hugh atte Berche, James Ancel, Adam le Engles, Hugh atte Stancrofte, John Trocurator (?), Felicia Ancel, and Fabian de Herdely, hath cited to judgment before himself and certain of his commissaries the prior and convent of Sherborne, who had been accustomed to receive these tithes, and Ralph de Stanford, rector of Wottone, who claimed them as belonging in common law to his church; and seeing that these two parties for some time argued the case before him in person and before his commissaries; and seeing that by reason of certain grievances the said prior and convent appealed to the Apostolical See at Rome, and obtained leave from the Pope to appeal; and seeing that the appeal between the prior and convent and the rector made slow progress,—at length, after diverse inquiries and arguments on either side, the said prior and convent of the one part, and the rector of the other, appearing in due form before us, fully and expressly renounced their quarrels and appeals, and, by the arbitration of my Lord John St. John, patron of the monks, willingly, and from top to toe, submitted to our arrangement of the church of Wot-

tone, and our decision on the said tithes. Thereupon, we, desiring of our pastoral care to guard both parties from injustice, and paying attention to their several rights, have called in legal advice, and have decided to ordain as follows: In God's name, Amen. We, John, etc., in the matter of the aforesaid tithes claimed by the rector of Wottone from the monks of Sherborne, ordain between the parties that the rector of Wottone and his successors shall in future receive in peace the tithes, greater and lesser, arising from the lands and holdings of John Clerk, John Balrichare, Anastacia, Hugh de la Putte, Geoffrey Somerfoghel, Peter Notekin, Nicholas le Man, Herbert de Wottone, Robert Archard, Fabian de Yerdely, as well as from the holding of William Bernard, which tithes the prior and convent have in times past received; and we declare that these tithes belong in common law to him and his church, and we so decide finally. And as to this decision we impose eternal silence on the monks in question. Moreover, we decide that the said prior and convent of Sherborne shall in peace hereafter (as heretofore) enjoy the greater and lesser tithes of the lands and holdings of Henry de Waterford in the domain of Wodegarston, and of the lands and holdings of *Robert le Franceys*, Hugh de Berche, James Ancel, Adam le Engles, Hugh Stancrofte, John Trocurator, and Felicia Ancel; and, also, that the said monks shall be forever free from all claim or exaction from the rector or his successors in the

matter of the tithes arising from the lands and holdings of the aforesaid Henry, *Robert*, James, Adam, Hugh, John, and Felicia. And as to this we impose on the rector and his successors eternal silence. And this ordinance and definition or division the parties have approved, and have taken their oaths faithfully to observe the same. In testimony, etc., we have set our seal, etc.

A.D. 1301.—At the court of Hokeday, held at Wotton on Monday next after Ascension Day, *Felicia*, wife of *Yvo le Frense*, was in misericordia for transgression against *Willelmus Balache*.

CRONDALL HUNDRED.

A.D. 1248.—In the Compotus Roll for the year 1248, containing accounts of twenty-two estates belonging to the priory of St. Swithun at Winchester, the two following records are given by the serjeants and reeves in their account of Crondall, and Sutton, which was then part of the manor of Crondall:—

CRONDALL.

In defection of three acres which *G. Franceis* and *Richard Huldemele* held drown into the demesne, 2s.

SUTTON.

They also render account of 4*d.* from *Walter le Franceis* for power to go and return.

SWANTHORP.

A.D. 1287.—*Gilbertus Franciscus* and Thomas Huldemele hold one virgate of land in Swamdrop of the priory of St. Swithun by rent and service.

EVINGAR HUNDRED.

BAUGHURST.

A.D. 1262–65.—To all, etc., Adam de Penbere, greeting, etc. Know ye one and all that after the quarrel between the Venerable Master, brother Ralph (*i.e.*, Ralph Russell), D.G. prior of St. Swithun, and the convent on one side, and me on the other side, concerning a certain common of pasture of the prior and convent and their men at Baghurst, through intervention of common friends the said quarrel between us was thus appeased, as it ought to be; namely, that I, Adam de Penbere, have surrendered and quitclaimed for myself and my heirs to the said prior and convent and their successors in the church

of Winchester the whole right and claim which I have had, or through any contingent right could have, over lands, pastures, ingress, egress, and commons of the said prior and convent and their men in Bagehurste, without any reclaim or reservation of me and my heirs forever. And for this my surrender and quitclaim the prior and convent have given half a mark of silver. And that this my surrender and quitclaim may obtain the force of firm and perpetual stability I have confirmed this present deed with the impression of my seal. Hiis testibus, Domino Petro de Sacy et Willelmo de Stratton, militibus; Waltero de Berthona, tunc Senescallo Prioratus Wintoniensis; *Nicholao Francisco*, Henrico de Baghurste, et aliis.

KING'S SOMBOURN HUNDRED.

ELDEN.

1 Edward I. (1272-73).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Thomas de Brembleshete and Joan, his wife, against *John le Fraunceys*, etc., touching a tenement in Elleden.

Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Thomas de Brembleshete and Joan, his wife, against *Robert le Fraunceys*, etc., touching a tenement in Eldon.

Besides this there are four additional suits between Thomas de Bremlshete and *Robert le Fraunceys* touching tenement in Elendon, before different justices.

MAINSTONE.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of two justices to take the assise of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Adam le Frenshe* de la More against John de la Salde, etc., touching possessions in Mahenstone and Romsey.

5 Edward I. (1276-77).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Adam le Fraunceys* against Christiana de la Slade and others touching a tenement in Mayhewiston.

MANSBRIDGE HUNDRED.

EASTLEY.

A.D. 1310, October 3.— Enrolment of release from Edmund de Wyntreshull to Walter de Wyntreshull, his brother, of his right in the manor of Estlye, County Southampton, with the advowson of the priory of Sandelford, County Berks; and of his right in the manor of Puttenham, with the hamlet of Radesole, together with rents in Bromlegh, Wogheners, Clاندone, and Catteshull, County Surrey. To have and

hold to the said Walter as fully as William, father of the said Edmund, had them of the gift of Beatrice, mother of the said Edmund, and afterwards of the release of William de Wyntreshull, son and heir of John de Wyntreshull, brother of Edmund. Witnesses, Sir Thomas de Warbleton, sheriff of Southampton; Sir John de Scuris, Sir John de Popham, Sir James de Northone, Sir John de Basinges, Sir Ralph de Stratton, Sir John Dabrenoun, Sir John de Hamme, Sir William de Aumbesas, knights; *William le Freinche*, and others. Dated at Estley, on Monday after the feast of Saint Laurence, 4 Edward II.

PORTSDOWN HUNDRED.

BEDHAMPTON.

In 15 Edward III. (1341). *Johannes le Frenshe* was among the jurors of this parish at the *inquisitio nonarum*.

COSHAM.

Account of serjeanties arrented by Robertus Passelewe in the county of Southampton, in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of King Henry III. (1249-50).

The serjeanty of Petrus de Cosham, in Cosham, for which he was bound to send one mounted soldier

into the castle of Porchester for forty days' service, is alienated in part.

One virgate, thirty-two acres, and one rood of this serjeanty are so alienated that *Thomas le Fraunceys*, Thomas Breilyf, Philippus filius Walteri, Willelmus de Kentey, the prior of Portesdon, Hugo de Forestarius, Rogerus de Cosham, and Willelmus filius Willelmi, hold it for 4s. per annum of said Petrus, who shall make the accustomed service aforesaid.

THORNGATE HUNDRED.

MOTTISFONT.

A.D. 1309-10.—*Willelmus Frenche* grants to the prior of Montifunt one messuage and fifteen acres of land in Netherheldon. It is possible that this is Nether Haddon in Derby, where a *Guilelmus le Franceys* held half the manor in 1282-83.

A.D. 1341.—The records of the parish of Motesfunte show that a *Willelmus le Frenshe* was among its jurors at the inquisitio nonarum.

TYTHERLEY.

A.D. 1226.—Adam de Alta Ripa appointed *Radulphus le Franceis* his attorney in a plea against Walterus de Langeford, and others concerning land in Tuderlegh.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

NEWPORT.

A.D. 1344.— Grant by William atte Hyde to John, called “le Langetaylur,” of a tenement in the street called “Pilstret” in Neuport. Witnesses, *John le Frensche* and Robert de Comptone, bailiffs of that town, and others. Dated on Monday, the morrow of Saint Katherine, 18 Edward II.

A.D. 1345.— Grant by John, called “le Langetaylur,” to Stephen le Tapenir, of a tenement in the street called “Pilstret” in Neuport. Witnesses, *John le Frensche* and Robert de Comptone, bailiffs of the town, and others. Dated on Friday before the Epiphany, 18 Edward II.



HEREFORDSHIRE.

GENERAL.

In the report returnable to the Exchequer on the 17th of March, 1166, Adam de Port gives a list of the knights' fees held by him "de veteri feoffamento" in this county. Among these *Thomas del Franc'* and Radulfus de Baskervill held each one knight's fee, Ricardus de la Folie two, and Walterus del Freisne held three knights' fees.

Charter of confirmation by Johannes Picardus to the Church of St. John the Evangelist, in Brecknock, probably executed in the latter part of the twelfth century:—

Be it known to those present and those to come that I, Johannes Picard, have granted to God and the Church of St. John the Evangelist, in Brecchin, and the monks serving God there, all the donations which Picardus, my grandfather, and Rogerus, my father, have given in land and tithes; namely, land "in valle Stradewy," according to the terms assigned by my grandfather; and two-tenths of the whole of my lordship in Stradewy and Lancefrett, etc. Also I grant and confirm to this Church of St. John in Brec-

chin eight acres of land in "Scom Clineham," which my men have given to this church, etc. Among the witnesses are Radulfus de Baschavilla and *Willelmus Francigena*.

A.D. 1255.—*Rogerus le Fraunceys*, of Cletere, and *Cristiana*, his wife, give half a mark to the king for a "brevi de ingressu ad terminum." Therefore, the sheriff of Hereford is commanded to take, etc.

A.D. 1258.—*Rogerus de Ledwyc'*, *Isabella*, his wife, and *Johannes Le Franceys* give 20s. for an assisa de morte antecessoris held before *Nicholaus de Turri*. And the sheriff of Hereford is commanded to take, etc.

A.D. 1291.—Pardon to *Peter le Fraunceys* and others of their outlawry in the county of Hereford for contumacy in not appearing before the justices of the bench to answer *John de Ebroicis* touching a trespass. Dated at Hereford, on the 2d of November.

A.D. 1315.—*Willelmus de Frome* was one of the two knights elected in this county to attend the Parliament at Westminster in the octaves of Saint Hilary, 20th of January, 1315, to be held upon certain arduous affairs, and particularly concerning the state of Scotland. His mancaptors were *Galfridus de Sanesfeld* and *Willielmus le Frenche*.

GRIMSWORTH HUNDRED.

WELLINGTON.

13th century.—Grant by *Cristiana le Fraunceys*, of Welington, widow of Richard, son of Stephen de Welington, of land in the field of Welington, upon le Nethermersforlonge.

WEBTREE HUNDRED.

BREDWARDINE.

A.D. 1272.—Inspeximus by Margery le Crone, daughter of Hugh de la Hulle, in the parish of Brede-wardine, of the grant in frankalmoign by Hugh, son of William le Crone, of Moccors, to the Abbey of Dore, of land lying next the lands of the said abbey, and of Margery, his mother; also grant of marl, sand, shingle, and a stone quarry, with free ingress and egress; and also of common of pasture. Witnesses, Gilbert Taleboth, *Hukelinus le Franceys*, and others. Dated on Michaelmas Day, 56 Henry III.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Philippus*, son of *Hukelinus le Fraunceis*, against Johannes Appouel, touching a tenement in Bredwardine.

KINGSTON.

The date of the following record is indicated by the time when Hubert Walter was Archbishop of Canterbury. He succeeded to this post in 1193, and died, according to Matthew Paris, on the 3d of July, 1205. During this period he is often recorded as one of the barons of the Exchequer. However, in the tenth year of the reign of Richard I. there are records of tallages of serjeanties in Lincolnshire and in Southampton, the latter being made by Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury. These records may indicate a general tallage of serjeanties, which may have included the following tallage in Herefordshire:—

The sheriff of Hereford and his associates, assigned to take tallage, report to Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of England, that they have inquired about the serjeanties in Herefordshire, according to the form of his command. The following is pertinent to this subject:—

Henricus le Fraunceys and Rogerus de Haya hold two parts of a carucate by serjeanty in Kyngeston, the part of *Henricus* valued at 3*s.* per annum, and that of Rogerus at 5*s.*

Henricus Franciscus holds for summoning the barons.

The following record seems to be about the same date as that preceding:—

Henricus Franciscus holds half a hide, “a con-

questu Angliae," for the service of summoning three barons of the county of Hereford, and conducting the king's treasure to London, at the cost of the king, at Easter and at the feast of Saint Michael.

In continuation the Testa de Nevill gives additional information of a later date, of which record we have the following translation:—

Henricus le Fraunceys held in the vill of Kingston half a hide of land by serjeanty in capite of the lord the king for service valued at 20s., which is alienated as follows: Thomas Amesey and Rosa, his mother, hold eighteen acres, valued at 7s. 6d. per annum; Walterus de Kingeston holds eight acres of aforesaid hide, valued at 3s. 4d.; Walterus Wytside holds four acres and one messuage, the four acres valued at 20d. and the messuage at 12d.; *Hugo le Fraunceys* holds four acres, valued at 20d.; Ricardus de la Barewe holds one acre and a half, valued at 8d.; Willelmus Messor holds half an acre, valued at 3d.; Margeria, sister of the earl (soror com'), holds one acre, valued at 5d.; Adam de Pistrino holds one acre, valued at 6d.; the Abbey of Dore holds four acres of land and one acre of meadow, the four acres valued at 2s., and the meadow at 12d. And, after the alienation of this 20s. of land, *Henricus le Fraunceys*, heir of the aforesaid *Henricus*, holds twenty-eight acres of the said hide, making the service due for the half of the hide of land; and it is valued at 9s. 4d. per annum. And two half-hides are due to carry the king's letters as

often as they may come into the county of Hereford at Clifford, the tenants of one-half hide in one year, and those of the other in the next year.

Henricus le Fraunceys came into the custody of the lord the king; and Emericus de Chaunceus, then sheriff of Hereford (1240-46), took possession of this *Henricus* and his lands on behalf of the king, and sold the wardship of aforesaid *Henricus* and his land to Walterus de Kingeston for 4 marks. And the said Walterus held it in custody during eight years to the maturity of the aforesaid *Henricus*, who then redeemed the land for 4 marks, but it is not known whether the sheriff answered to the king for the same or not; and it was valued at 9s. 4d. per annum, as previously mentioned,—namely, that land which the said Walterus had in ward of the sheriff.

17 Edward I. (1288-89).—An inquisition taken after the death of *Henricus le Fraunceys* shows that he held land, etc., in Kingeston, and, further, that he had enfeoffed land to Magister Walterus Le Mazun, of Hereford.

By an escheat of the forty-fourth year of the reign of King Edward III. (1370-71) it is found that *Rogerus Frenshe* held twenty-eight acres of land in Kyngeston, in Malefeld; and in the same year the king commits to *Henricus Cachepoll*, of Hereford, the custody of twenty-eight acres of land, with its appurtenances, in Kyngeston, in Malefeld, in county Hereford, which belonged to the deceased *Rogerus*

Frenshe, who, etc., to be held until the legal age of the heir, giving to the king 10s. per annum for the same.

WOLPHY HUNDRED.

LAYSTERS.

Circa A.D. 1242-43.—In Lastes are two hides, of which Hugo de Kylpec holds one for knight's service, de veteri feoffamento, of the honor of Bohun. *Rogerus* and *Johannes Franciscus* hold the other, for the eight part of a knight's fee, of Lord Rogerus Pichard, of the honor of the Earl of Hereford.



HERTFORDSHIRE.

HERTFORD CITY.

At the inquisition made at Hertford on Wednesday next after the feast of Saint Nicholas, in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274), before Lord Robertus de Ufford and Radulfus de Sandwyco, the king's inquisitors, *Ricardus Fraunceys*, and other knights of this county, who were jurors, said upon their oath that Willelmus de Walenciis holds the castle of Hertford and the manors of Essenden and Bayford by a grant of King Henry III.; but they do not know by what warrant or for what service or the value of the same.

At the assize held at Hertford on the morrow of All Souls' Day, in the sixth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278), before Johannes de Reygate and his associates, justices itinerant, concerning the liberties of the abbot of Westminster, *Ricardus le Fraunceys*, knight of this county, was among the jurors.

BRAUGHIN HUNDRED.

GILSTON.

At the essoins, etc., taken at Hertford on the octaves of Saint Michael, 6th of October, 1198, Matheus filius Willielmi essoined himself by Alexander filius Matildae in a placitum assisae versus *Willielmus Francus*. Also Peter de Goldinton essoined himself by Rogerus Bataille in a placitum assisae versus *Willielmus Francus*.

A.D. 1199.—An assize came to make recognition if *Robertus*, father of *Willielmus Francus*, had seisin in his demesne as of fee of the eight acres of land with its appurtenances in Gedeleston, on the day when he died, etc., which land Willielmus filius Godefridi holds, who produced a charter of Johannes de la Rokella of this grant, and the confirmation of Willielmus, Earl of Mandville, who was heir the afore-said Johannes, as Willielmus said. The day is given them in the octaves of Holy Trinity for hearing the judgment.

At the pleas on the octaves of the Holy Trinity, 20th of June, 1199, Willielmus filius Godewici essoined himself by Eliot filius Willielmi in a plea of hearing judgment against *Willielmus Francus*.

At the pleas at the term of Saint Michael, 1199, Willielmus filius Godefridi presented himself, on the fourth day, versus *Willielmus Francus* for hearing

the judgment in a plea of eight acres of land with its appurtenances in Godeleston, which *Willielmus Francus* claimed by a writ of the assize against him; but *Willielmus Francus* neither came nor essoined himself. Therefore *Willielmus filius Godefridi* withdrew without any day being assigned for hearing.

BROADWATER HUNDRED.

HATFIELD.

At an inquisition of the manor Hathfeud, made in the twenty-first year of Hugo, Bishop of Ely, A.D. 1277, by Rogerus de Abiton, then steward, it is found that this manor is in the county of Hertford and in the hundred of Bradewater. The advowson and right of presentation belong to the Bishop of Ely, and it is in the bishopric of Lincoln.

Johannes Blundus holds three parts of one virgate in Haneshyda, and *Symon le Franceis* holds the fourth part, for which they pay together 16*d.* per annum, besides two hens at Christmas and ten eggs at Easter; and they shall make two days' work weekly from the feast of Saint Michael to the gules of August, and four days' work weekly from the gules of August to the feast of Saint Michael. Johannes also holds three and a half acres of land for which he gives 7*d.*, and some heath land for which he gives $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* at Mich-

aelmas. Also the said *Simon le Franceis* holds "de Colegraive," for which he gives 3*d.* per annum, besides ½*d.* at Michaelmas.

CASHIO HUNDRED.

ST. ALBANS.

8 Edward I. (1279-80).—Commission to *Richard le Fraunceys* and three others of gaol delivery for St. Albans. He is again mentioned with others in the same capacity for St. Albans in the following year.

A.D. 1352.—Grant by Richard Gardyner of Bishop's Hatfield to *William Fraynshe*, of St. Albans, and *Agnes*, his wife, of a messuage with a curtilage in Sopwellane, St. Albans, abutting on the stream of water running from Halywelle to Sopwelle mill. Witnesses, John de Wynslowe, bailiff of St. Albans, and others named. Dated on Thursday, the Purification, in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of King Edward III.

A.D. 1264.—At the inquisition held at Chipping Barnet on Wednesday, the feast of Philip and James, the Apostles, in the thirty-eighth year of the reign of King Edward III., before Thomas de Frowik, "clericus mercati hospitii domini regis," regarding the liberties of St. Albans, *Johannes Frensshe* was among the jurors.

HITCHIN AND PIRTON HUNDRED.

KIMPTON.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Richard le Franceys* against Robert de Gravele, touching a tenement in Kimpton.



HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

HURSTINGSTONE HUNDRED.

At an inquisition made in the fourth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1275-76) the jurors of the hundred of Hirstinstan said that *Saerus de Frunceis*, sheriff of Huntingdon, and Thomas Huntingdon, his clerk, did not execute the king's command in a writ of novel disseisin, before M. de Lytlebir', between Ricardus de Bruchton and the Bishop of Ely.

COLNE.

In the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) *Radulphus de Franceys* held in Collen, of Johannes de Collen, one messuage, containing one rood, for 6*d.* per annum.

WOOD HURST.

A.D. 1278-79.—*Nicholaus Franceys* holds in Wodehirst one messuage, containing half a rood and three

acres of land, for finding a lamp before the cross in the church of Wodehirst.

LEIGHTONSTONE HUNDRED.

LEIGHTON.

At the inquisition made at Huntingdon in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79), before Willelmus Muschet and others, the jurors of the hundred of Leyttonstone said that Master Robertus de Winchelse, canon of Lincoln, holds the manor of Leyton; and he has in demesne six carucates of land, twenty-four acres of meadow, ten acres of pasture, one detached meadow called Redmad, one garden containing four acres, twenty acres of wood, and one windmill. He has a free tenant, Rogerus le Lord, who defends half a knight's fee for the said Robertus de Winchelse, and holds in demesne two virgates of land and three acres of meadow.

Among the tenants of this Rogerus le Lord is Johannes de Maperton, who holds of him one virgate of land. And among the tenants of this Johannes de Maperton is *Rogerus Fraunceys*, who holds eight acres; and he, with others, shall till with the lord's plough, take care of the lord's oxen, and plough his own land with the lord's plough.

NORMAN CROSS HUNDRED.

CALDECOT.

A.D. 1251, September 4.—At an inquisition made at this date it is found that *Alicia Fraunceys* holds half a virgate in this place, of the abbot of Ramsey, for numerous services.

At an inquisition made in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) it is found that Lord Willelmus de Brus holds the manor and vill of Caldecote of Lord Robertus de Brus for the third part of a knight's fee, and it is of the honor of Huntington. To the said vill belong three and a half hides of land, each hide containing five virgates of land, and each virgate containing twenty-five acres. Of these hides the said lord has in demesne four virgates of land, each virgate containing twenty-five acres with adjacent meadow. The court of the said manor with garden contains two acres. He has also three acres of woodland, detached pasture containing half an acre, and a windmill.

Among the tenants of this Willelmus de Brus was *Alicia Fraunceys*, holding half a virgate here, rendering yearly 20s. for all work and service.

ELTON.

No date.—Grant by Isabel, daughter of Letitia de Ailintone, to Robert, her son, and Matilda, her daughter, of a messuage with a toft and croft in Ailintone, containing forty-four feet by fifty-eight feet, the croft abutting on Rudichway; two acres in Ailinton fields, part on Cleyfurlong, by the highway beneath Michele grove, abutting one end toward Walmisford and the other toward Ogerston (south of Folks-worth), parts by “gores” of Robert, son of Walter, son of Emma, and abutting on Milneweye; four acres and a half that Letitia, her mother, bought of Lady Ysoud, late the wife of Philip, son of Achard de Ailintone, for 47*s.*, part of the tillage called “Longewonge” abutting on the great road from Walmisford to Ogerston, part between Gorewong and Twelveacris, and abutting on Billingbrok, part upon Herdewykbenelond and abutting on Billingbrokfur-long, part between the abbot’s tillage called “Riewong” and Akirmanlond; and one acre and a half, part lying at Buruweye plot between Andrew le Hermite’s land and “le Akirmanislond,” part between “le Furweys,” part by “le Gildengore”: paying 9*d.* yearly. Witnesses, Sir Roger de Cunintone, vicar; Gerald de Wyldebeuf, *Henry Franceys*, and others.

A.D. 1267–85.—Grant by *John*, son of *Henry le Fraunceys*, of Aylington, to Sir William, the abbot, and the convent of Ramsey, in frankalmoign, for

20s., of one acre of land in Aylington, half at Westereston, abutting on Neutoneweeye, and half at Byllingbroc. Witnesses, John, son of John de Aylington, Walter Produme, and others.

A.D. 1267-85.—Grant by John, son of John de Aylinton, to William, the abbot, and the convent of Ramsey, of an annual rent of 2s. issuing from a mesuage with croft in Aylinton, held by Thomas Joute and Matilda, his wife, situate as described. Witnesses, Roger, son of Hugh Brian, *Gilbert Fraunceys*, and *John*, his brother, and others.

A.D. 1267-85.—Grant by William le Freman, of Aylington, to William, the abbot, and the convent of Ramsey, for 16s., of land in Aylinton, situate as described. Witnesses, Sir Robert de Hale, clerk; John de Aylington, *Gilbert Fraunceys*, and others.

A.D. 1275.—Grant by John Cardun, of Wynewik, and Benigna, his wife, to Sir William, the abbot, and the convent of Ramsey, for 17 marks, of land with toft and croft in Aylington that Robert le Rus formerly held of them. Witnesses, Roger, son of Hugh Brian, *Gilbert* and *John Fraunceys*, and others.

A.D. 1275.—Certificate of John Cardun, of Wynewik, and Benigna, his wife, that within the quindene of Easter, 1275, at the mandate of William, abbot of Ramsey, they will at their own expense go before the justices at London, return, and stay there until the abbot or his attorney, at his own cost, has made a chirograph of the land in Aylington that Robert le

Rus formerly held, of which they have made a grant to the abbot. Other covenants specified. Witnesses, Roger, son of Hugh Brian, *Gilbert* and *John Fraunceys*, and others.

No date.—Grant by Geoffry Blundel, of Aylinton, to Thomas Sauvage, burgess of Stanford, for 20s., of land in Aylinton, adjoining the abbot of Ramsey's land called "Akir Manlond" on the south, and abutting eastward on Mersfurlong, and westward on the road called "Riggewey." Witnesses, *John le Fraunceys* and others.

At an inquisition made in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) it is found that the abbot of Ramsey holds the manor and vill of Aylington, with its appurtenances, in capite of the lord the king.

Among his free tenants here was *Johannes Fraunceys*, who held and defended one virgate of land "de conquestu," giving to the said abbot for the same 6s. per annum, and tilling yearly eight acres of land with his own plough, and making two bedripes with all his family, except his wife.

Gilbertus Fraunceis holds two acres and a half of land of the same virgate by charter, giving for the same 4d. to the said *Johannes Fraunceys*.

Matilda Fraunceys holds three acres and one rood of the same virgate by charter, giving to the said *Johannes Fraunceys* 8d.

Robertus Chapman holds two acres and a half of

land, by charter, of the same virgate, giving for it to the said *Johannes Fraunceys* $1\frac{1}{2}d.$

Johannes Fraunceys should make suit at the court of the abbot of Ramesheye, at Brouttone, twice a year, and, if the king's writ came there, "from three weeks to three weeks," and give *8d.* as aid at the feasts of Saint Michael and Easter.

In a record, without date, it is found that *Gilbertus le Fraunceys* and *Robertus filius Evae* should give to the abbot of Ramesey half a quarter of fodder-corn at the feast of Saint Edmund the King and one hen at the feast of All Saints'; and *Gilbertus Fraunceys* should give one hen at Christmas.

A.D. 1291.—Agreement concluded between John de Langetoft and Alice, his wife, on the one part, and Robert de Hale, rector of Aylington, on the other, to end the dispute between them concerning the lands, etc., formerly belonging to William, son of John le Lord, and John, his son and heir, in Aylington and Wermington, whereof Robert was enfeoffed and out of which Alice, mother of the said John, sought reasonable dower. The said Robert, by advice of his friends (named), on Tuesday before Saint Nicholas, 20 Edward I., 1291, in Aylington church, agreed that the aforesaid Alice should be dowered anew with the lands in the greater middle and smaller fields in Aylington, herein accurately specified,—wherewith John and Alice are content for their third part,—and that the residue of the whole tenement of

the said William and John should remain to the said Robert, with the exceptions stated. Robert also agreed that two parts of a capital messuage, whereof they asserted they were enfeoffed for the term of Alice's life, should remain to them at will, subject to their good behavior. Witnesses, John, son of John de Aylington, *Gilbert Fraunceys*, *John*, his brother, and others. Dated at Aylington, the vigil of Saint Thomas the Apostle, 20 Edward I.

At the Great Court, at Broughton, held on Tuesday, the feast of the Translation of Saint Hugh, in the twenty-first year of King Edward, at the beginning of the eighth year of Abbot John (6th of October, 1293), *Johannes Fraunceys*, of Ayllington, and others did not come, wherefore they were distrained.

In the following year (1294), on Tuesday, the octave of Saints Peter and Paul, *Johannes Fraunceys* was among the jurors at an inquest held at the same court.

At the inquisition made at St. Ives on the 17th of March, 1295, before Hugo de Babinton, sheriff of Huntingdon, concerning those who held lands and rents to the yearly value of 40*l.*, *Johannes Fraunceys*, of Aylington, was among the jurors.

A.D. 1301.—*Johannes le Fraunceys* was summoned from the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon to perform military service in person against the Scots.

Writ of military summons addressed to *Johannes le Fraunceys* recites that, the Scots persevering in

their wickedness and malice, the king had determined to march against them after Whitsuntide, when the truce, concluded at the request of the King of France, would expire. He, *Johannes le Fraunceys*, is therefore requested and required to appear at the muster at Berwick-upon-Tweed, on the feast of Saint John the Baptist, 24th of June, with horses and arms, etc., in order to resist in repressing the pride and rebellion of the enemy. Teste Rege, at Northampton, on the twelfth day of March, 1301.

A.D. 1304.—Grant by *John Fraunceys*, of Aylington, to Robert, son of Stephen de Hale, clerk, of land in the fields of Aylington, situate as described. Witnesses, John le Lord of Aylington, Hugh Prest, then the abbot [of Ramsey's] bailiff in Aylinton, and others. Dated at St. Gregory, the Pope's Day, 32 Edward I.

OVERTON WATERVILLE.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).—Among the free tenants of Thomas de Lovetoft in this place was *Willelmus Fraunceys*, who held one virgate of land by charter, giving to Thomas de Lovetoft, heir of Rogerus de Lovetoft, a half-penny per annum.

STIBBINGTON.

This place probably comprises the ancient location of Sybeston. The Domesday survey, however, shows that Stebintone belonged to Sibestun.

At an inquisition held in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) the jurors of Normancross hundred said that the Templars hold one hide and a half of land in Sybeston in perpetual alms by the gift of Willelmus de Merk, who held it of the honor of Bolonie. Of this land they have in demesne two virgates, each containing thirty acres, besides thirteen acres and a half and one rood.

Ascelynus le Flemyng holds three roods of meadow of *Walterus Fraunceys*, belonging to the said thirteen acres and a half and one rood, giving yearly for the same one $\frac{2}{3}$ root of ginger to the said *Walterus Fraunceys*.

Among the free tenants of the Templars in this place was *Walterus le Fraunceys*, who held, by charter, half a virgate of land, one virgate containing thirty acres, giving yearly for the same 4s. Of this half virgate he has in his hands one messuage and three acres of land, and the said Templars hold seven acres of the said half virgate.

TOSELAND HUNDRED.

At an inquisition made in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) it is found that among the free tenants of the fee of Dervergull de Balliol in Toselond hundred was Thomas de Catterworth, among whose three villani was *Willelmus*

Franceys, who held ten acres of land and one rood of meadow in villeinage, giving yearly to the said Thomas 7s. 4d. for service and custom.

CALDECOT.

At an inquisition made in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) in the hundred of Thouleslond the jurors said that Robertus de Totenhall, with his tenants, holds in capite of R. de Brus in the hamlet of Caldecote and in Touleslund one whole knight's fee by homage, forinsec service, and suit; and he has in demesne one hundred acres of arable land and one acre and a half of meadow.

Thomas le Fraunceys holds twenty acres of land of this Robertus de Totenhall, by homage and forinsec service, giving for the same one pound of pepper.

Among the tenants of the prior and convent of St. Neots in this hamlet of Caldecote was *Thomas le Fraunceys*, holding six acres of land, and giving 18d. to the prior for the same.

HEMINGFORD.

A.D. 1209-10.—A final concord was made in the King's Court between Robertus Blay, plaintiff, and Nichola de Hemingford, defendant, touching two hides of land and the third part of three mills, with

appurtenances, in Hemingford. Robertus acknowledged all the aforesaid land and the third part of the said mills to be the right of this Nichola; and for this recognition, fine, and concord Nichola granted to Robertus six virgates of the aforesaid land, with appurtenances, which included the land of *Ricardus Franceis* and others. To have and to hold to the said Robertus and his heirs of Nichola . . . for the service of a fifth part of a knight's fee for all service.

LITTLE PAXTON.

At an inquisition made in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) it is found that Galfridus le Moyne holds and defends half a knight's fee in Parva Paxton, by homage and forinsec service, of Lord Robertus de Brus, of the honor of Huntingdon, and he makes suit at the court of the said Robertus at Huntingdon from month to month; and this Lord Robertus de Brus holds of the King of Scotland, and the King of Scotland of the King of England.

Among the free tenants of this Galfridus le Moyne was *Willelmus Franceys*, holding ten acres and one rood of land with one rood of meadow, giving yearly to the said Galfridus 8s. and one capon.

KENT.

GENERAL.

On the morrow of Saint Andrew, 1st of December, 1194, Adam de Cerring' essoins himself de malo veniendi by *Simon le Franceis* in a placitum terrae versus the Archbishop of Canterbury.

On the 2d of May, 1199, Stephanus Harengot essoins himself by *Gilbertus Franceis* at an assize of mort d'ancestor against Hugo Coffun and Ricardus.

A.D. 1258.—*Ricardus le Fraunceys* and four others give half a mark for an assize held before Nicholaus de Turri. And the sheriff of Kent is commanded, etc.

A.D. 1263.—*Thomas le Fraunceys*, Germanus filius Rogeri, Willelmus and Hugo, his brothers, and Clemens filius Hamonis give half a mark for an assisa de morte antecessoris held before Willelmus de Wylton'. And the sheriff of Kent is commended, etc.

CANTERBURY.

The vigil of Saint Thomas the Apostle in the month of December, 1176.—Controversy between

Roger, the elect of St. Augustine, Canterbury, and the men of Thanet as to whether the latter were entitled to go to the chief court of St. Augustine, Canterbury, to plead their causes and obtain justice or whether they ought only to go to their halmote in Thanet. Witnesses, Johannes de Cardif, Elias de Shilinghelde et Daniel frater ejus, Adam de cheringes et Yvo filius ejus, Gerusasius de Hosprenge et Herueus nepos ejus, Fulco Peisforiere et Ricardus peisforiere, *Osbertus franceis*, Henricus de Marisco, Robertus filius Heilnoth, et multis aliis.

In the time of King Edward I. or II. (1272-1327) the Friars Heremites, of the order of Saint Augustine, obtained a settlement and house in the parish of St. George, by the gift of *Richard French*, baker.

A fine was made at Westminster, in the octave of the Purification of the Virgin, 1331, between *William le ffrensshe*, of Canterbury, plaintiff, and John Lamb, of [San?] denne, and Clemencia, his wife, defendants, of one messuage and ten acres of land, with appurtenances, in the suburbs of Canterbury. John and Clemencia admit it to be the right of *William*, and, for themselves and the heirs of Clemencia, grant it to him and to his heirs, and receive 20 marks for the concession.

A.D. 1332.— A fine was made at Westminster, on the morrow of the Purification of the Virgin, in the sixth year of the reign of King Edward III., between *William ffreynshe*, plaintiff, and *John ffreynshe* and *Sara*,

his wife, defendants, of one messuage with appurtenances in the suburbs of Canterbury. *John* and *Sara* admit it to be the right of *William*, and, for themselves and the heirs of *Sara*, grant it to him and his heirs, and receive 10 marks for the concession.

In the Kent Archæological Society's publications, under the heading of "The Friars-Preachers, or Black Friars of Canterbury," is the following notice of records: "An increase of their homestead was made in 1338, by the addition of a messuage, which was assigned to the friars by *William le Frenshe* and *John atte Brome*, of Canterbury. According to the inquisition taken at Canterbury, Feb. 26, 1337-38, by writ of the 12th, the messuage was held of the archbishop, by service of 15*d.* a year for all services, and was worth 6*s.* 8*d.* over and above the rent. The mortmain license was given April 15 following, for which the friars paid a fine of one mark."

AYLESFORD LATHE.

At an inquisition made in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors of the hundred of Shamele (Shamwell) said that *Willelmus Franceys* had taken 6*d.* of *Johannes filius Philippi* for releasing him from the assize.

FRINDSBURY.

6 Edward I. (1277-78).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by William de la Bruer' against *Roger le Fraunceis* and Humphrey de Dulle, touching a tenement in Frendebir'.

LENHAM.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of Master Richard de Stanes to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Margaret*, late wife of *Richard le Fraunceis*, against William de Hever, etc., touching possessions in Lenham and Middleton.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Margery*, late wife of *Richard le Fraunceys*, against William de Heure and Agnes, his wife, and others, touching possessions in Middleton and Lenham.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).— Appointment of two justices to take an assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Margery*, late wife of *Richard Fraunceis*, against William de Heuere and others, touching messuage, land, and rent in Middleton and Lenham.

MEREWORTH.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by

Matilda Fraunceys against Richard Attebern', touching a tenement in Mareworth.

NORTH FLEET.

A.D. 1290.—At the ordination held in Tenham, on Saturday in Pentecost week, in this year, *Willelmus Fraunceis*, of Northflete, was among those chosen acolytes.

THURNHAM.

Charter to Combwell Priory:—

“Date apparently after 1264, the date of the death of Robert de Mankesey, if we may suppose him to be the same as Robert Gatton.” (Archæologia Cantiana, vol. 5, p. 221.)

William de Say, as superior lord, confirms the prior and convent of Cumbwell in their seisin of land in Thurnham, granted to them by Robert de Mankesey, deceased, which he had by grant from Thomas de Bavelingham and Mabel, his wife. Hiis testibus, Domino Johanne de Say fratre meo, Domino Roberto de Castelon, Willelmo de la Forde, Simone de Bon, Galfrido de Frimingham, *Willelmo Franceis*, Roberto Coc, Brin de War, Willielmo Coco, et multis aliis.

TUNBRIDGE.

A.D. 1279.—Placita de Juratis et Assisis before Johannes de Reygate and his associates, justices itinerant, at Canterbury, in this county, in the octaves of Saint Hilary, in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I.

Gilbertus de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, was summoned to answer to the lord the king by what warrant he claimed to have suit at his banlieue (lucata) of Tonebrigge, in this county, of Willelmus de Parrok, *Simon Fraunceys*, and many others, which suit Ricardus de Clare, father of the said Gilbertus, had withdrawn from King Henry, father of the present king, and the hundred of Brenkesley (Brenchley).

And Willelmus de Gyselyngham, the representative of the king, said that the said King Henry (III.) had the suit of the aforesaid persons, but the earl had withdrawn the same, etc.

ST. AUGUSTINE LATHE.

DOVER.

A.D. 1271.—“Writ ‘de aetate probenda’ to Stephen de Penecester, constable of Dover, to inquire whether Ralph Fitz Bernard, son of John Fitz Bernard, de-

ceased, was of age or not at the escape of four robbers from the prison of Kingesdon, and by consequence whether he or the executors of Imbert Pygeys, deceased, who had custody of his lands during his minority, were liable to the king for the 'redemption' or fine for their escape. Tested at Westminster, on the 28th of August, 55 Henry III."

The inquisition was made before Sir Stephen de Penecester, constable of Dover and justice by appointment, by oath of *Hugh le Franceys*, John de Chimberham, Alan de la Laese, and nine others named.

RICHBOROUGH.

A.D. 1272, June 17.—Johannes Peckham, Archbishop of Canterbury, on this date addressed a letter to the prior of Christchurch, Canterbury, in which he desires him to cease his prosecution of *Willelmus Franceis*, parson of the church of Riseberg, in a secular court.

WOLTONE.

A.D. 1346.—Edward, Prince of Wales, son of King Edward III., commonly called the Black Prince, according to Collins, was knighted on the twelfth day of July, in the twentieth year of his father's reign, when sixteen years and twenty-seven days old. The knighting of the king's eldest son was one of the

three prerogatives of the crown, the ancient laws of England allowing the sovereigns to levy these aids without special consent of their subjects; the limit of each assessment being 40s. for each knight's fee, or those holding their land by that tenure. In the archives of this county we find the following account of this aid for knighting Prince Edward, in which the collectors record that they received of the abbot of St. Augustine, in Canterbury, Johannes de Lydle, Johannes Luns, Rogerus de Garwyntone, *Willelmus le Frienshe*, and their parcenaries, 20s. for half a knight's fee at Woltone, which Johannes de Woltone held near Garwyntone, in (the parish of) Lytlebourn, of the Abbey of St. Augustine in Canterbury, of which the abbot holds an eighth, as is shown by the inquisition.

SCRAY LATHE.

At an inquisition made in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors of the hundred of Faversham, in the lathe of Strawynghope, said that Thomas Andree, formerly bailiff of Strawynghope, had charged *Hugo Franceis* with using his (*Franceis'*) pasture during the time his tenement was in the king's hand, taking from him 8s. 8d. for the same.

The jurors of the hundred of Rulynden (Rolvenden) said that Hugo de Wy, bailiff, for two years

past had taken about 2 marks of several men for releasing them from the assize and putting others in their places. Among those named were *Martinus Francescus*, from whom he took 7*d.*, and *Thomas le Franceis*, from whom he took 6*d.*

They also said that Hugo de Blithe, constable of Rofa (Rochester), in the time of King Henry, by an accuser named Wulbald' unjustly attached six loyal men of the hundred of (Rulyn)dene, among whom was *Willelmus Franceys*.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).—Richard de Esingdene, when coroner of the Seven Hundreds of the Wealds, made answer for his time to the justices. Under the hundred of Chart it is thus recorded: *Henry Franceys*, *Robert*, his brother, and Thomas, son of Richard de Doverdenne, as they were engaged in bathing, were drowned in a certain marlpit (marleria) in the borough of Schirimplingford.

BENNENDEN.

A.D. 1251.—Writ to inquire whether the land of Ralph de Weyte in Benindenn, outlawed for felony, has been in the king's hands for a year and a day or not, and of whom he held, etc. Tested at Windsor, 10th of August, 35 Henry III.

The inquisition was taken by Hereword de More, *William Francois*, Hubert de Rolande, Thomas de Benindenn, *Richard Francois*, and others, who say

upon their oath that the land which was the aforesaid Ralph's was in the king's hands for a year and a day, and that the said Ralph held the said land of the abbot of Robertsbridge and the convent of that place.

NEWINGTON.

A.D. 1214.— The sheriff of Kent is commanded not to claim the misericordia of Robertus Peverel or *Ricardus le Franceis* on account of a novel disseisin, made of the free tenement of Willelmus de Yelsted and Robertus, his son, in Newetun and Yelsted.

WYE.

The Bishop of Hereford (Richard Swinfield, a Kentish man) had license to confer orders, dated at Wingham, 13 Cal. April, 1291[–92].

At the ordination held accordingly by the Bishop of Hereford in the parish church of Wye, in the diocese of Canterbury, on Saturday, *Walterus Fraunceys* was among the persons of the diocese and jurisdiction of Canterbury who were ordained acolytes.

Rentals and customals of the manor of Wye to Battle Abbey in the reign of King Edward I. (1272–1307):—

Willelmus Fraunceys paid 1½*d.*

Adam Fraunceys paid 1½*d.*

Willelmus and *Walterus Fraunceys* paid 6*d.* in Ochholt, or Bocholt.

Thomas Faber paid 2*d.* for *Johannes Fraunceys*, in the same place; and *Johannes Fraunceys* gave two hens.

SHEPWAY LATHE.

ALDINGTON.

A.D. 1320.—A fine was made at Westminster, on the morrow of All Souls' Day, in the fourteenth year of the reign of King Edward II., between *Robert le ffrenshe*, plaintiff, and Thomas Smyth, and Dionisia, his wife, defendants, of one messuage and two acres of land, with appurtenances, in Aldynton', next Smethe. Thomas and Dionisia admit it to be the right of *Robert*; and for themselves and the heirs of Dionisia grant it to him and his heirs, and receive 100*s.* for the concession.

HYPHE.

27 Edward III. (1353).—John, son of John Batswein, of Hethe, grants to Gilbert de Sende, Richard Batswein, Richard Scriveyn, Henry Wace, Peter Espeloun, and Gilbert de Coumbe 2*s.* 2*d.* of yearly rent in Hethe, which he purchased of *Martin le Frenche*, arising from a tenement near the lands of Reginald Miller and of Isabel Bordoun. Witnesses, William Hamptone, bailiff, and others.

In 16 Richard II. (1392-93) *John French* was returned to Parliament for the town and parish of Hythe.

20 Richard II. (1396-97).—Hamon Scriveyn, chaplain, and William Waltone grant to the poor brethren and sisters of the Hospital of St. Bartholomew a piece of land which they had of the gift of John Godyscalk, in the parish of St. Nicholas, and near land of the hospital and of Henry Fysshe. Witnesses, *John Frensshe*, bailiff, John Storm, Henry Browning, and many others.

TREHANSTON.

This ancient place was located in Romney Marsh, and the following notice of a writ and inquisition in regard to it may interest those who have not already seen it in the "Archæologia Cantiana":—

A.D. 1252.—Writ to inquire whether the land of Trehanston, which the brethren of the king's Hospital of Ospring have of the king's bailiwick, be of the king's domain or his escheats, and, if his escheat, why? and how much it is worth, and whether the king can grant it to whom he will. Tested at Canterbury, March 10, 36 Henry III.

The inquisition was taken by Nicholas Jordan, Thomas Jordan, Simon Warman, *James le Franceis*, and others, who say upon their oath that the said land of Tryenestone, immediately after the conquest of

England, was given to a certain knight named Tryan, who held it so long as he lived, and after his decease Hugh Tryan, his son and heir, retained it, and, after the said Hugh, Robert Tryan, son and heir of the said Hugh, retained it. So that the said Trian, Hugh, and Robert held the said land without challenge from the lord William the King, the Bastard, to the time of King John, who took the said land, together with other lands of the Normans, into his own hands, as his escheats, and expelled the said Robert, the last holder, from the kingdom of England, and held it in his own hand for two years, and afterward gave it to Alberic de Marinis, to hold at his pleasure, who held it to the time of our lord, the King Henry that now is. And they say that, because the said Alberic ill-treated the tenants of the said manor, the said tenants came to our lord the king, and complained to him of much wrong inflicted upon them by the said Alberic, so that, owing to the said complaint, our lord the king took away from him the said land, and conferred it on Walter de Burgo; and, after Walter de Burgo, our lord the king gave it to Thomas de Normanvill, to hold during pleasure; and, after the said Thomas, Nicholas de Chanderer held it, of the gift of our lord the king, during pleasure; and afterwards our lord the king conferred it upon Jordan de Monte Martini, to hold during pleasure; and after the said Jordan our lord the king conferred it on the brethren of his Hospital of Os-

preng, who still hold it. The said land is worth yearly, in rents and other issues of land, 100s., the service of the chief lord reserved.

SUTTON AT HONE LATHE.

DARTFORD.

6 Edward I. (1277-78).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Henry de la Hull against *Radulph le Frenshe*, touching a tenement in Derteford.

GREENWICH.

Adam Frenssh, of East Grenwich, paid 1s. 3d. toward the subsidy granted to King Edward III. in the first year of his reign (1327).

WRICKLEMARSH.

In the rental of Writelmarsh, in the hundred of Blackheat, for the twelfth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1283-84), among the tenants paying quit rent to the chief lord was *Alice le French*.

LANCASHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1272.—*Rogerus le Fraunceys* and *Matilda*, his wife, give half a mark for having a writ in this year. And the sheriff of Lancashire is ordered, etc.

LONSDALE HUNDRED.

The period of the execution of the following four charters seems to be indicated by the records found of some of the witnesses, which are recorded between the year 1249 and 1273:—

BOLTON LE SANDS.

To all who see or hear this present writing, Simon de Thorbrondesheued, greeting. Know ye that I have given, remised, and altogether quitclaimed from me and my heirs forever, to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Lancaster, to the prior and monks there serving God, an annual rent of 4*d.*, in which the aforesaid prior and monks are held to me

annually for the lands and tenements which lie in the vill of Bolton, of the gift of Thomas de Coupmanwra, and which the said Thomas had of my gift, and of the gift of my ancestors in the vill of Bolton, so that neither I, Simon, nor my heirs, nor any one in our name can, from henceforth, demand or put forward any right or claim in the aforesaid annual rent of 4*d.*, or in the lands and tenements aforesaid, with their appurtenances, in part or in whole, nor in the homage or service demanded or obtained from the aforesaid lands and tenements, except in participation of the goods which fall to the church aforesaid. And, that this my gift, remise, and quitclaim may remain firm hereafter, I, for myself and my heirs, have sealed this writing with my seal. Hiis testibus, Benedicto Germet, domino Willelmo de Heton, Hormo de Kellet, Johanne de Oxclyve, Johanne de Coupmanwra, Johanne de Parles, *Willelmo ffraunceys*, et multis aliis.

Know present and to come that I, *Willelmus ffraunceys*, of Bolton, have given, granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to Thomas de Coupmanwra a certain part of my land; to wit, three perches in the field which is called Graithwaite, and a perch which extends to the Heaning of Adam, son of Gilbert de Bolton. To have and to hold to him and his heirs or his assigns, freely, quietly, by hereditary right, with all liberties and easements, so far as pertains to so much land within the vill of Bolton and without. And I, the said *Willelmus*, and my heirs,

will warrant, acquit, and defend the said land, with the appurtenances, to the said Thomas and his heirs or assigns, against all men and women forever. In testimony whereof I have set my seal to this writing. Hiis testibus, Alano de Catherton, Johanne de Oxclyve, Gervasio de eadem, Willelmo filio Simonis, Henrico filio Gilberti, et aliis.

Know all that I, *Willelmus ffrauinceys* de Boulton, have remised and altogether quitclaimed from me and my heirs forever, to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary of Lancaster, to the prior and monks there serving God, the whole right and claim which I ever had or could have in all the lands and tenements, with their appurtenances, which the aforesaid prior and monks hold in the vill of Boulton of the gift of Thomas de Coupmanwra, and which the said Thomas had of my gift, and of the gift of my ancestors, so that neither I, *Willelmus ffrauinceys*, nor my heirs, nor any one in our behalf can, from henceforth, demand or lay claim to any right or claim in the aforesaid lands and tenements, or in the homages or services to be demanded or obtained from them, except a participation of the goods which fall to the aforesaid church. And that this my remise and quitclaim may hereafter remain stable I have set my seal to the present writing. Hiis testibus, domino Benedicto Gernet, Johanne Gernet de Caton, domino Willelmo de Heton, Ormo de Kellet, Nicholao de Lee, Johanne de Oxclyve, Johanne de Coupmanwra, et aliis.

LANCASTER.

Know present and to come that I, Ormus filius Haraldi de Lancastre, have given, granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to *Gyleminus ffranciscus*, formerly a servant of the lord the prior of Lancaster, an acre of land in the territory of Lancaster; that, namely, which I bought of Adam, my brother. To hold and to have of me and my heirs, to him and his assigns, freely and quietly, peacefully, and entirely, with all liberties and easements pertaining, within the vill of Lancaster and without. And I, the said Ormus, and my heirs forever will warrant the said acre of land, with the appurtenances, to the aforesaid *Gyleminus* and his assigns, against all men and women, for 3 marks of silver given to me by the aforesaid *Gyleminus* in my necessity. In testimony whereof I, for me and my heirs, have set my seal to this writing. Hiis testibus, Laurencio filio Willielmi tunc tempore Senescallo domini Prioris Lancastrie, Rogero filio Fulconis, Thoma filio Rogeri Conne tunc tempore prepositis Lancastrie, Pagano Nimca (?), Waltero Ruffo, Willelmo clerico, Willelmo filio Johannis, Roberto filio Hugonis, cum tota curia Lancastrie, et aliis.

ULVERSTON.

A.D. 1285.—Charter of Roger de Lancaster:—

Know those present and to come that I, Rogerus

de Lancastre, have granted and quitclaimed forever, for me and my heirs or assigns, what belongs to us, that all my burgesses of Ulverston in Furness and their heirs or assigns be quit and free "ab omni officio camerarii," so that neither they, their heirs, assigns, or successors, can be compelled by me, my heirs, or assigns, to give any restitution or in any other manner be burdened, except by that which belongs to the burgage, and is performed by the burgesses of Kirkby, in Kendale. And I, Rogerus, and my heirs or assigns will forever warrant, acquit, and defend what belongs to us, in the said liberties, to the aforesaid burgesses and their heirs or assigns. In testimony whereof I have appended my seal to this present writing. Hiis testibus, Thomas de M. Orthyngs tunc priore de Conniggesheved, Domino Ricardo Le Fleming, Johanne de Cornubia, Ricardo de Brockton, militibus; Gilberto de Bronolesheved, Domino Hugone Capellano, *Johanne Le Fraunceys*, et aliis multis. Dated at Wytherslake, on the day of Saint Thomas the Martyr, in the thirteenth year of the reign of King Edward.

SALFORD HUNDRED.

WORSLEY.

Memorandum of a charter which was probably executed between the years 1239 and 1275, in which

Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Constable of England, grants to Milo de Bohun, his son, the land which the said earl had in the vill of Werselegh, to hold to the said Milo and the heirs of his body, with remainder to John de Bohun, son of the said earl, and the heirs of his body, remainder to the right heirs of the said earl. Witnesses, Roger le Rus, Nicholas Lupus, Nicholas Peivre, knights; Simon de Herdewyke, Robert de Axemwe, *Richard Fraunceys*, Richard Balehorn.



LEICESTERSHIRE.

GENERAL.

In three weeks of Saint John the Baptist, 15 July 1199, Robertus de Theobaville, being in service of the lord the king on the other side of the sea, essoins himself by *Stephanus Franceis* in a placitum terrae versus Ricardus de Leicester.

LEICESTER CITY.

William Martyn, webster, and *James Frenche*, webster, were found guilty of offences against the rules of their craft during the mayoralty of William Ferrour, who was mayor of Leicester in the years 1373 and 1384.

FRAMLAND HUNDRED.

EDMONDTHORPE

In the year 1297 *Henry Fraunceys*, Richard de la Grene, Roger le Clerk, William Rauglon, Elen atte Goters, William Jurdane, and Thomas super le Grene

held the tenth part of a knight's fee in Thorpe Edmund by homage and suit at court, of the fee of Edmund "Crouchback," late earl of this county.

SAUVEY CASTLE.

This castle was located on the border of County Rutland, near Laund Abbey.

In the fourth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1275-76) the jurors of Framelund hundred said that Alanus de Rodewell, *Osbertus le Franceys*, Henricus de Corby, Johannes de Overton, and Gregorius, servants of Gilbertus de Segrave, Hugo de Tykehull, Rogerus Anbof, Willelmus de Kent, Willelmus Trussel, and Baldewinus de Paunton have damaged the frame-timbers, the locks of the doors, windows, lead-works, etc., in the castle of Sauure, but they do not know to what amount.

THORPE ARNOLD.

William Franceys is mentioned as a vicar of the church of Thorpe Ernald in the year 1278.

WALTHAM ON THE WOLDS.

The succeeding translation of a very early charter, found in Nichols's History, which he gives from Peck's

MSS., has more than special interest as bearing on the surnames under consideration. The grantor was Simon de Sancto Licio, de St. Lize, de Senlis or Silvanectensis. There was a family of Senlis of great antiquity who were designated as Bouteillers of France. Besides, a few miles to the north of Paris the name is perpetuated in a vill where anciently was a royal residence. M. Delisle, in his list of the companions of William in 1066, gives the name of Simon de Senlis. His name does not appear in the Domesday survey, which was finished in 1086; but apparently soon after this date he was created Earl of Huntingdon and Northampton, which earldoms were before held by Waltheof, whose daughter Matilda he married. She was grand-niece of King William I. Simon de Senlis is said to have taken the cross about 1095, becoming a crusader in the following year. He was a witness to King Henry I.'s Charter of Liberties in 1101, after which year Doyle states that he became again a crusader, and died before 1109. This record indicates that the grant was executed somewhere between the years 1086 and 1109, but *Herlewinus Francigena* was probably the holder of the land at Waltham before the year 1100.

Herlewinus, the Christian name of *Francigena*, is rarely found in early English records. It does not appear among the companions of the Conqueror. Very few are found in the Domesday survey bearing surnames. However, Robert, Earl of Morton (half-

brother of King William), had a brother Harduinus, mentioned in this survey, their father being Herlewinus de Conteville.

This charter shows the earliest record the writer has found of one bearing the surname of Francigena, in which is given the location of the land which he held.

Charter of Simon de Senlis I., Earl of Northampton, of four bovates in Waltham : —

Symon, earl, to all faithful as well present as to come, greeting. Know ye that I have granted, and by my present charter have confirmed, to God and the Church of St. Mary of Belveer (Belvoir, in Lincolnshire), and the monks serving God there, for my welfare and that of all my ancestors and heirs, in pure and perpetual alms, four bovates of land in *Waltham*, with all its appurtenances, which *Herlewinus Francigena* held. To hold freely and quietly . . . of all customs and exactions, and of all secular service to the lord the king, and to me, as the charter of . . . countess, my mother, shows. Testibus, Ricardo de Luvetot; Matilda de S. Licio, uxore ejus; Willielmo de Albenio et Rogero fratre ejus; Waltero de Claptuna; Ricardo Frumentio; Rogero de Haer; Radulpho de Luvetot; Rogero filio Humfridi, Willielmo camerario comitis; Gaufrido cyrographista; Rogero clerico, Roberto Frumentio, et Ricardo de Somerville.

GARTREE HUNDRED.

BILLEDON.

Willelmus Franceys, of Bilsdon, gave to the Abbey of St. Mary de Pratis at Leicester one rood of land in Bilsdon; namely, that which lies "super le Breche" and is extended "in Baltresike."

"The abbot and convent of St. Mary de Pratis at Leicester had considerable property in Billesdon, the gift of various benefactors, among whom was *William Franceys*, etc.: all which grants were confirmed by charter of King Henry II. (1154-89)."

In 1234 *William Franceis*, seised of certain lands at Billesdon, conveyed them by deed to Robert de Diggeby.

HUSBANDS BOSWORTH.

In the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) an inquisition was made concerning the knights' fees in Leicestershire before Henricus de Nottingham and Johannes de Arundell, inquisitors on the command of the lord the king, by twelve jurors who say that in Boseworth are twenty-four carucates of land, etc. *Henricus Franceis* and Simon Cocus hold one virgate, etc.

Alexander Franceis, *Henricus Franceis*, and Henricus Ellis hold three virgates of land of the abbot of

Suleby (or Welford, in Northamptonshire) by free service.

GOSCOTE, EAST, HUNDRED.

SKEFFINGTON.

The proximity of this place to Billesdon is suggestive that the *William Fraunceyes* named therein may be the same persons mentioned in the ensuing record.

The abbot and convent of Croxton had here considerable possessions. "The following is an extract from their original register":—

We have, by the donation of *Willielmus Fraunceys*, six roods and half an acre of land; and two butts (seliones); and all the meadow which he held in Rolleston-broc.

Also of this same *Willelmus* all the land which he had in Longedale-lund, in pure alms.

We also have, by the gift of *Willielmus*, son of *Willielmus Fraunceys*, two butts of arable land, with appurtenances.

We have, by the gift of *Willielmus Fraunceys* of Skestington, one cultivated land in the territory of Skestington,—namely, six butts and one "forera," with a certain chief meadow and one piece of meadow; one rood of land with a certain small meadow-island; and two roods of land with two adjoining meadows, in Skestington. And, besides, he has confirmed and

quitclaimed to us one toft in Skestington, in free, pure, and perpetual alms.

Also *Willielmus Fraunceys* has remised for himself and his heirs all the right and claim which he had in all his lands and tenements which were formerly his ancestors'. And he will warrant, etc.

GOSCOTE, WEST, HUNDRED.

HEMINGTON.

In 1222 Bartholomeus Basset, of Heminton, made a fine of 5 marks for having the justices to take an assize against Brianus Forestarius and *Thomas le Franceis*, touching a tenement in Heminton.

In 1279 Robert Balle and *Richard Fraunceys*, of Hemington, were manucaptors for the attendance in Parliament of Sir Thomas de Meignell, who had been elected one of the members of the county.

A.D. 1297.—*Robertus Fraunceys*, of Hemyngton, was a manucaptor of Thomas de Meynel, one of the two knights elected for this county to appear before Edward, the king's son, lieutenant in England, at the Parliament at London, in eight days of Saint Michael, October 6.

OVER SEAL.

The Vernon family had property in Over Seile as early as the reign of King John, in right of the lordship of Appleby Parva; this last having in that reign been given by Robert de Stockport to William de Vernon and his heirs; and by an inquisition taken in 1279 it appears to have been the inheritance of Richard de Vernon, 3d (*le Fraunceys*), who was at that time a ward to Edmund Crouchback, the king's brother, then styled comes de Ferrer, who held it in fee of the king, as part of the honor of Ferrers, by half a knight's fee.

SNIBSTON.

A.D. 1306, June 8.—*Henricus Fraunceys* de Snypes-ton was among the jurors at the inquisition held at Bredon, at this date, before the king's escheators, as to the right of the nuns of Langley to elect a prioress of their own house.

STAUNTON HAROLD.

The date of the following record can only be approximated. Nichols states that Henry, son of Sewal, died about 1165, and that his father died about 1129. On this basis the grant was probably executed between those dates.

Henry, the son of Sewal, grants lands and a house which Richard Sprot held, and the land of the mill, and lands adjoining the mill, which lie between Smethe meadow and Grava in one field, and lands which lie between Broc furlong and Baldwin's Clive in another field, and pasture for four oxen, to maintain a chaplain to pray and to celebrate mass at the altar of Saint Nicholas, built at his (Henry's) charge in the church of Etindon, etc. Witnesses, Willelmus de Bisopeston, Bardulphus de Cestreton, Robertus de Fulrichich, Robertus de Haleford, Thomas de Etindon, *Robertus Francus*, Henricus de Welles, Oliverus le Foun, Serlo de Mungey, Jordanus de Cottona, and many others.

WHATTON.

At the pleas before the Exchequer in the thirty-first year of the reign of King Henry III. (1246-47) it was decided that *Ricardus le Franceys*, of Wanton, shall gain nothing by his writ against Ricardus de Thorp and Johanna, his wife, concerning two parts of two virgates of land in Thorpe (Acre), and against Serlo de Thorp and Sabina, his wife, concerning the third part of the aforesaid virgates of land which *Isolda de Franceys*, paternal aunt of aforesaid *Ricardus*, had demised to Robertus Austrurario.

Richard le Fraunceys, of Wathon, granted, quit-claimed, and confirmed by his writing, to the abbot

and monks of Garendon one virgate of land, with the appurtenances, in the vill of Hawethern (Hathern), with tofts, crofts, etc.

At the court held at Groby on Tuesday next after the feast of the Assumption of the Virgin, in the ninth year of the reign of King Edward II. (1315), Henricus de Norton then being steward, it is stated that the lands of the Abbey of St. Mary of Garendon comprised half a fee in Hawetherne, concerning which Robertus de Meynill, bailiff of that abbey, comes in the full court, and shows two charters which testify that Rogerus, son of Robertus Venator, of Kereby, had feoffed the abbot with one toft and one croft, and one virgate of land in Hawetherne, in free, pure, and perpetual alms; and *Ricardus Fraunceys*, of Watton, had feoffed the said abbot with one toft and croft, and one virgate of land in Hawethern, in free, pure, and perpetual alms. Besides these he, the bailiff, offers a certain charter of quitclaim of Rogerus de Quincy, formerly Earl of Winchester (1235-64), which testified that this Rogerus had quitclaimed to the said abbot and monks the aforesaid two virgates of land in Hawetherne, in pure and perpetual alms.

GUTHLAXTON HUNDRED.

BITTESWELL.

The possessions in this place of the Abbey of St. Mary de Pratis at Leicester, founded in 1143, are thus described in their register; and we infer that the following records apply to the thirteenth century:—

We have the confirmation and quitclaim of *Robertus le Franceys* of that virgate of land which Thomas de Parva Essebia granted us, with toft, croft, and adjacent moor; of which land *Nicholaus*, his son, holds six acres with two “chevichiis” of meadow, giving to us yearly 2*d.* for the same. And Robertus Chapman holds four acres and three roods, and gives 2*d.* Thomas filius Simonis holds two roods, and pays one farthing; and Radulphus Robold de Parva Esseby holds half an acre, rendering yearly a half-penny for the same.

We have there, by the gift of *Nicholaus*, son of *Robertus le Franceys*, of Bitteswell, one house and six acres of land.

We have there, by the gift of Walterus Thurab'n, of Bitteswell, and his wife, a quitclaim of all his right and claim in one half-penny yearly rent of three roods which *Walterus Franciscus* holds of him.

Robertus Serjeant holds two roods of land, formerly belonging to *Ricardus Fraunceys*; and he gives a farthing for the same.

WIGSTON MAGNA.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Gilbert le Franceis* against John Fleming, etc., touching a tenement in Wykingeston.

SPARKENHOE HUNDRED.

APPLEBY PARVA.

Appleby Parva came into the family of Vernon through the marriage, temp. John, of William de Vernon with the heiress of Stockport.

By an inquisition made in the fourth year of the reign of Edward I. (1275-76) it is found that *Gilbertus Franceys* held then one carucate of land in (Ap)pelby (Parva).

GROOBY.

At the probation of the age of Willielmus, son of Willielmus de Ferrariis, lord of this place, made at Groby on the eighth day of November, 1293, Robertus, prior of Ulviscroft, juror, separately examined, stated that the aforesaid Willielmus, son of Willielmus, was born at the manor of Yoxhale, in Offlow hundred, in Staffordshire, on the eve of Saint Bridget

the Virgin, in the fifty-sixth year of the reign of King Henry III. (1271-72), which manor belonged to the Lady the Countess de Ferrariis. *Ricardus Fraunceys* remembered the time of the birth of this Willielmus, because he himself remained with Anna (Joana), the mother of this Willielmus, at the time she was laboring with the birth, when Willielmus de Ferrariis, her husband, came to the hostium (outer chamber) of the said lady; and this *Ricardus*, who was then her chamberlain, opened the hostium that the lord should enter and speak with the aforesaid lady.

THURLASTON.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by Thomas de Bradeston and Avice, his wife, against *Adam Franceis* and *Juli[ana]*, his wife, touching a messuage and land in Thurlston-near-Normanton.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Roger*, son of *Adam le Fraunceys*, against Thomas Attekirke, touching a messuage and land in Croxton.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

GENERAL.

At the pleas of the term of Saint Michael, 13th of October, 1199, *Willielmus Franceis* and Johannes filius Baldewini de London presented themselves, on the fourth day, against Margareta de Ros in a plea concerning 44s. which she owed them. She did not come, and therefore she was attached to be present in fifteen days after the feast of Saint Martin.

LINCOLN CITY.

A.D. 1290.— Appointment of *Andrew Fraunceys*, of Malteby, chaplain, during good behavior, to the custody of the Hospital of the Holy Innocent without Lincoln, which has suffered under the carelessness of former keepers. Dated at Rufford, on the 18th of September.

ASWARDHURN HUNDRED.

At the inquisition made in the wapentake of Asewardthyrne, in Kesteven, in the third year of the

reign of King Edward I. (1274-75), the jurors said that Petrus de Buris and others, at the time they were the king's bailiffs, took great sums of money for releasing persons from the assize and jury. Among these were Johannes Temp' and *Symon Fraunceys* who gave the said Petrus de Buris 18s. for being released from the assize.

HELPRINGHAM.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Simon le Franceis*, of Helpringham, and others, against John de Warrenne, Earl of Surry, and others, touching a tenement in Helpringham.

AVELAND HUNDRED.

Eustacius le Franceys was among the jurors at an inquisition made in the wapentake of Aveland, probably towards the end of the reign of Henry III.

BELTISLOE HUNDRED.

WESTBY.

At the inquisition made at Staunford, in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75), the jurors of the wapentake of Belteslawe said that the prioress of Stikeswaud (Stixwould) holds in Westby two bovates of land, with appurtenances, one by the donation of *Radulphus le Franceis*, and the other by that of Reginaldus le Romayn, and each bovate is worth 10s. per annum; and these were geldable, gave sheriff's aid, common amercement, scutage, and made suit which had been withdrawn to the damage of the king of 12*d.* per annum; but the jurors could not estimate the damage of the king for the other services withdrawn. The land had been feoffed already more than forty years, and was held of the king in capite; but they were unaware as to the time of the king, and by what service and warrant. The said prioress held of *Radulphus le Fraunceis* and of Reginaldus le Romayn, and these, R. and R., of the countess, and she of the king in capite.

In the fourth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1275-76) the jurors of this wapentake said that the prioress of Stikeswaud holds in Westby two bovates of land, the donation of *Radulphus le Fraunceys* and Reginaldus le Romeyn; and each bovate is valued at 10s.

BOOTHBY-GRAFFO HUNDRED.

NORTON DISNEY.

Petrus Fraunceys, of Norton, was a manucaptor of Willielmus Dysny, one of the knights of this county, elected to attend the Parliament to be held at York on the twenty-fifth day of May, 1298.

CALCEWORTH HUNDRED.

BEESBY.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Amice le Guymplere against *Alan le Fraunceis*, touching a tenement in Beesby.

HUTTOFT.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Eudo*, son of *Adam le Fraunceis*, against the prior of Markeby and others, touching a fosse levied in Hotoft.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Richard de Barton and Beatrix, his wife, against *Eudo*, son of *Adam le Fraunceys*.

SUTTON.

A.D. 1196, July 3.—At the final concord made at this date between Isabella de Kanleby, petens, and Muriel de Falestorpe, concerning one bovate of land in Sutton, the fourth part of one bovate in Struttorp, and one in Salina, *Walterus le Franceis* was the attorney of Muriel.

ELLOE HUNDRED.

At the inquisition made in the wapentake of Ellowe, in Holland in this county, in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75), *Nigellus Fraunceys* was among the jurors.

GRANTHAM SOKE HUNDRED.

HOUGHTON.

6 Edward I. (1277-78).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by Th. Haket against Robert ate Gate and *Elena la Fraunceyse*, touching land in Houton.

KIRTON HUNDRED.

BICKER.

A.D. 1283.—“Commission of oyer and terminer to Nicholas de Stapelton and John Bek’, touching an appeal which Matilda, late the wife of John, son of Gerard de Byker, brings in the county of Lincoln against Alan, son of Ranulph, Lambert, son of Alan Heremod, *Walter*, son of *William le Fraunceys*, Ranulph, son of Elias, William, son of Robert son of John de Byker, Thomas, son of Sampson, Ranulph, son of Beatrice, Elias, his brother, Alan Heremod, *William le Fraunceys*, Robert, son of John, and William le Engleis of Byker, for the death of her husband. Dated at Acton Burnell, on the 8th of November.”

LOUTH ESKE HUNDRED.

GRAINTHORPE.

A.D. 1318.—To the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer. Order to allow to John de Nevil, of Stoke, late sheriff of Lincoln, in his account, 108*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* (sic), the value of eighty quarters of wheat, price 64*l.*; seventy quarters of malt, price 31*l.*; twenty quarters of beans and pease, price 9*l.*; and ten quarters of beans and pease, price 4*l.*,—which he delivered, when

sheriff of Lincoln, at Boston, to *Hugh Fraunceys*, master of the ship called "La Blithe," of Gernethorp, to take to Berwick-on-Tweed for munition thereof, as appears by an indenture made between him and *Hugh* in the presence of lawful men of the parts of Boston, in execution of the king's order to provide and send to Berwick eighty quarters of wheat, seventy quarters of malt, and thirty quarters of beans and pease, as it was found, by an inquisition concerning this matter taken at John's petition, that on Monday after the Nativity of Saint Mary, in the ninth year of the king's reign (1315), the said sheriff delivered to *Hugh*, master of the aforesaid ship, eighty quarters of wheat, price 6s. (sic) a quarter, seventy quarters of malt, price 9s. a quarter (sic), twenty quarters of beans and pease, price 9s. a quarter, and ten quarters of beans and pease, price 7s. a quarter, and that the ship on her voyage on the high sea near Scardeburgh was robbed, together with two other ships laden with victuals of merchants at Boston, voyaging to Berwick, by common robbers of three ships of Flanders and Zeland (Seland), of the said corn and of all other goods found in her, and that the mariners in "La Blithe" and in one of the other ships were slain without blame of the said John, and that the third ship so loaded there passed with great peril (maxima pene) to the port of Whelpeshaven, near Scardeburgh and Fyveleye, on Wednesday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, in the aforesaid

year, and that the ship so escaped was of Newcastle-on-Tyne. They are also ordered to allow John for the freightage and carriage of the corn, receiving from him the aforesaid indenture and the king's writ of precept. Dated at Northampton, on the 10th of July, 1318.

MANLEY HUNDRED.

REDBOURNE.

Charter to the Abbey of Selby in Yorkshire, probably executed in the thirteenth century:—

To all, etc., *Reginaldus le Fraunceis*, of Redburn, greeting. Know that I have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed forever, to God, the Church of St. Germanus of Seleby, and the monks serving God there, the pasture of one bovate of land which I hold of the aforesaid monastery of Seleby, in the vill and territory of Redburn, which pasture belongs to my free tenement in the said vill. And I, *Reginaldus*, and my heirs or assigns will acquit and warrant in pure and perpetual alms and forever defend the aforesaid pasture to the said monks; and, if it should happen that I sell or assign the aforesaid tenement, the aforesaid pasture shall be reserved and saved for the said monks. In testimony whereof I have appended my seal. Witness, Robertus de Wasseling.

NESS HUNDRED.

STAMFORD.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Geoffrey Gobaud against William, parson of the Church of St. Andrew of Stamford, and *Advice la Fraunceise*, touching a tenement in Stamford.

SKIRBECK HUNDRED.

BENNINGTON.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by Stephen de Bennington and Ranulph, his brother, against *Richard*, son of *John le Franceis*, touching a messuage and land in Bennington.

WALSHCROFT HUNDRED.

KINGERBY.

At the pleas in the octaves of Saint Andrew, 7th of December, 1194, Elias de Hareines claims 40s. yearly rent in Kinerbi and Barrewe against Joilanus de

Amundevill, which is due annually by an agreement made between the latter and Thomas, father of Elias, in the court of the lord King Henry, father of the present king, for six bovates of land and one mill in Scaletorp, which Agnes de Amundevill holds during her life. It is decided by the court that Joilanus may have these 40s. for surety, and the day is given them in fifteen days after Saint Hilary; and in the mean time they are allowed to agree. Joilanus appoints in his place "ad chirographum suum recipiendum" Hugo de Bobi or *Radulphus le Franceis*, and Elias appoints in his place Galfridus de Hareines.

YARBOROUGH HUNDRED.

LIMBER.

8 Edward I. (1279-80).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Simon*, son of *Adam le Fraunceis*, against Robert Atte Caums, touching a messuage in Limberug'.

STALLINGBOROUGH.

In the time of Thomas, abbot of Selby (1252-62 and 1269-80), there is a record that *Petrus le Fraunceis* formerly held land in the vill of Stallingborough;

and also another record of the same period, wherein it is stated that the aforesaid abbot granted to Rogerus de Stalingburg', clericus, one bovate of land of the fee of Thomas de Bella Aqua, in the east part of the vill of Stalingburg', on the rood to Heling', near by the land of *Petrus le Fraunceis*.

In a charter of Ricardus Crispin, of Kelby, to the Abbey of Selby, the gift is described as a certain meadow in the vill and territory of Stalingburg', situated between the fee of Alanus de Heiling and the meadow of *Johannes le Fraunceis*.

Although the said charter is undated, the approximate period of its execution is somewhat inferred by the date of one of its witnesses,—namely, Lucas de Hanburg', clericus,—whom we find as a witness to two agreements of the year 1261.



MIDDLESEX.

GENERAL.

At the pleas held at Westminster on the 21st of November, 1194, there is a record of a *Robertus Franceis* of this county.

A.D. 1233.— This is the final concord made in the King's Court at Westminster, in the octaves of Saint Michael, in the seventeenth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John, before Willelmus de Ralegh', Robertus de Lexinton, Willelmus de Ebor', Radulphus de Norwic', Willelmus de Insula, Adam filius Willelmi, and Willelmus de Sancto Edmundo, justices, and others faithful of the king, then present there, between Nicholaus de Anna, querent, and *Gwido Le ffranceys* and *Juliana*, his wife, deforciant, for three virgates of land with appurtenances in Hatton (in the parish of Bedfont, in Spelthorne hundred), for which a plea of *Warrantia chartae* was summoned in the said court. The aforesaid *Gwido* and *Juliana* acknowledged all the land with its appurtenances to be the right of Nicholaus, as by their gift, to have and hold to him and his heirs of the said

Gwido and *Juliana*, and the heirs of this *Juliana*, forever, giving for the same yearly one pound of cumin at the feast of Saint Michael, for all service, to *Gwido* and *Juliana* or her heirs. And the aforesaid *Gwido* and *Juliana* and her heirs will warrant to this Nicholas and his heirs all the said land with appurtenances, for this service, against all men forever. And for this recognition, warrant, fine, and concord Nicholas gave them 10 marks sterling.

In the eleventh year of the reign of King Edward III. (1337-38) a fine was made between Nicholas de Shordich and *Thomas le Frenssh* concerning premises in Hese (Hayes, in the hundred of Elthorne) and Harewe (Harrow, in the hundred of Goare).

In the twenty-eighth year of the reign of King Edward III. (1354-55), after the death of the same *Thomas le Frenssh*, a fine was made between the aforesaid Nicholas and John de Cherleton, kinsman and heir of the aforesaid *Thomas*, concerning the same premises.

LONDON.

At the pleas in fifteen days of Easter, April 23 1200, it was decided that Margeria de Ros shall pay to *Willielmus Franceis* and Johannes filius Baldwini 44s. which she acknowledged to owe them.

A.D. 1250.— This is the final concord made in the King's Court at Westminster, in fifteen days from Michaelmas, in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John, before Rogerus de Thurkelby, Johannes de Cobbeham, and Alanus de Wassauud, justices, and others faithful of the lord the king then present there, between *Johannes le ffranceys*, querent, and Cristiana Abhomine, deforciant, for one messuage with appurtenances in London, and twenty acres of land with appurtenances in the suburb of London, for which a plea of charter warrant was summoned. The said Cristiana acknowledged the aforesaid messuage and land with appurtenances to be the right of this *Johannes*, as by her gift, to have and hold to *Johannes* and his heirs of the said Cristiana and her heirs forever, making for the same to the chief lords of the fee, for her and her heirs, all the service belonging to the said messuage and land. And Cristiana and her heirs will, for the said service, warrant the aforesaid messuage and land with appurtenances to *Johannes* and his heirs against all men forever. And for this recognition, warrant,

fine, and concord *Johannes* gave to *Cristiana* 140 marks in silver. And thereafter *Cristiana* conceded, for herself and her heirs, that she should not give, sell, mortgage, or in any other manner alienate, any of the lands or tenements with appurtenances which she held in London and the suburb of London on the day when this concord was made, so that she should have sufficient of tenements with which she could warrant to the aforesaid *Johannes* and his heirs the said messuage and land with appurtenances, which by this fine shall remain to him forever.

A.D. 1252.—A final concord was made in the King's Court at Westminster, in the thirty-sixth year of the reign of King Henry III., before the justices, between *Johannes le fraunceys*, querent, and *Cristiana Bodmen*, deforciant, for one messuage and twenty acres of land with its appurtenances in the suburb of London. Plea of charter warrant was summoned in the said court. *Cristiana* acknowledged the messuage and land to be the right of *Johannes*, as by her gift, to have and hold to him and his heirs of her and her heirs forever. And for this acknowledgment, warrant, fine, and concord *Johannes* gave her seven times twenty mark. The general conditions of the agreement being similar to those found in the preceding final concord.

1 Edward I. (1272-73).—License to *Ebrord le Fraunceys*, merchant of London, to take twenty sacks of wool, which he has in the kingdom, which he

bought for his own use of others than Flemings or Hainaulters, and which he can reasonably show to be his own, to any parts beyond seas, except such as are within the power of the Countess of Flanders, the said merchant having made oath before the king's locum tenentes in England that he will not take out of the kingdom wools or other goods into Flanders or elsewhere within the power of the Countess of Flanders during the contention between the king and the said countess which recently arose between Henry III. and herself, and that he will not sell such wool or other goods to Flemings or others of the power of the said countess, nor make exchange with them thereof, nor deal by art or craft so that the said wools or other goods may come into the hands of the subjects of the said countess, nor receive any money from the Flemings for trading with wools or other merchandise to the behoof of the said Flemings, nor exchange for their goods or those of any other subjects of the said countess, on pain of forfeiture to the king any of their goods found in the kingdom; with a safe conduct to the said merchant in taking the aforesaid twenty sacks out of the kingdom.

A.D. 1327.—Protection and safe conduct, with clause *nolumus*, till Michaelmas, for *Adam Frenche*, master of "la Seyntemaribate," of London, which Stephen Aleyn, citizen and merchant of London, is intending to send laden with victuals and other merchandise to Newcastle-on-Tyne and parts adjacent, for the support of the expedition against Scotland.

A.D. 1337.— In the account of the expenditure of money received from an assessment made in this city about the feast of Saint John the Baptist (June 24), in the eleventh year of the reign of King Edward III., for sending archers in the king's service, by way of Bristol, into Gascoigne, is the following record:—

To *John le Freynshe*, for ten lances, 16s. 8d.

In the list of mayors of the city of London, given by Maitland, *Johan French* appears in this capacity in the year 1394.

ALDGATE WARD.

HOLY TRINITY PRIORY.

A.D. 1252-58.— Release by Felicia, late wife of Robert de Strata, to John, the prior, and the convent of Holy Trinity (which stood on the north side from Aldgate), London, of land in Berkedon (Barksdon, a hamlet in the parish of Aspenden, in the hundred of Edwinstree, in County Hertford), in fields called "Re-feld" and "Meldfeld," and of the land they had from her late husband in Cornee and Wydihale (Widdiall, in same hundred). Witnesses, John de Marins, Milo de Westmelne, Henry de Bracking, *Master John le Fraunceys*, and others.

BILLINGSGATE WARD.

ST. MARGARET PATTENS.

A.D. 1316, March 30, at Langley.—Enrolment of grant from Edward le Blund, son and heir of the late John le Blund, knight, to *Robert le Freynsh*, “carpenter,” citizen of London, of the tenement that the donor has by demise from Robert le Haghham and lady Idonia, his wife, mother of the donor, which they held of his inheritance, in the parish of St. Margaret’s atte Patyns, London, lying between the tenement lately belonging to Roger de Wandlesworth on the north and that of Alfred le Wodere on the south, and between the tenement of John Adrian on the west and the king’s highway on the east, rendering therefore 20s. yearly to Idonia during her life, and to Edward and his heirs after her death. Witnesses, Stephen de Abyndon, mayor of London; Hamo Godchep and William de Bodele, sheriffs of London; Robert de Kelseie, alderman of that ward; John Annore, serjeant of that ward, and others. Dated at London, on Tuesday after the Annunciation, 9 Edward II. (1316).

Maitland states that “the ancient Fraternity of Carpenters was incorporated by Letters Patent of Edward the Third, 7 July Anno 1344, by the style of The Master, Wardens, Assistants, and Commonalty of the Mystery of Freemen of the Carpentry of

the City of London; with a power to make by-laws for their better regulation."

BRIDE WARD WITHIN.

ST. BENNET, GRASSCHURCH.

Among the "bequests of Henry de Thele, skinner, in his will, proved on Monday next before the feast of Saint Edmund the King (20 November), 1308, is a gift to *John*, his servant and adopted son (filiolo filio) of *Matthew le Fraunceys*, hosier, of rent of a tenement at Grascherche, in the parish of St. Benedict."

FARRINGDON WARD.

This designation comprises the present wards of Farringdon within and Farringdon without. Maitland states that "the part of Farringdon ward lying within the walls of London contains the ancient wards of Newgate and Ludgate, in distinction to the other part which was without the walls, or the ancient ward of Fori, or Foris."

"The two wards of Farringdon within and Farringdon without at one time had but one alderman, and that not by election, but by inheritance or purchase,

as more fully appears by the following abstract of a deed of one of its possessors :—

“ Thomas de Ardene, son and heir to Sir Ralph de Ardene, knight, granted to Ralph le Feure, citizen of London, one of the sheriffs in the year 1277, all the aldermanry, with the appurtenances, within the city of London, and suburbs of the same, between Ludgate and Newgate, and also without the same gates; which aldermanry Ankerinus de Averde held during his life, by the grant of the said Thomas de Ardene. To have and to hold unto the said Ralph and to his heirs freely without all challenge; yielding therefore yearly to the said Thomas and his heirs one clove (or slip) of gilliflowers, at the feast of Easter, for all secular service and custom, with warranty unto the said Ralph le Feure and his heirs against all people, Christians and Jews, in consideration of 20 marks, which the said Ralph le Feure did give beforehand, in name of gersum or fine, to the said Thomas, etc. Dated the 5th of Edward I.”

“ After this, John le Feure, son and heir to the said Ralph le Feure, granted to William Farendon, citizen and goldsmith of London, and to his heirs, the said aldermanry, with the appurtenances, for the service thereunto belonging, in the 7th year of Edward I., in the year of Christ 1279.”

From this William Farringdon, who gave his name to this ward, the aldermanry descended to Nicholas, his son, also a goldsmith, and mayor of London in the years 1308, 1313, 1320, and 1323.

This ward, however, was of such considerable extent that King Richard II., in the seventeenth year of his reign (1393-94), legally confirmed a division of it under the names of Farringdon Ward Within and Farringdon Ward Without.

"The Fraternity of Goldsmiths," according to Maitland, "appears to be of great antiquity; for, in the twenty-sixth of Henry II., An. 1180, it was among other Guilds amerced for being Adulterine,—that is, set up without the king's special license."

They appear, besides exercising their usual occupation, to have been employed in the Exchequer with a livery or allowance from the king; for, in the fifth year of the reign of King Stephen, there is a record showing that an allowance of 60s. 10d. was made to the sheriff of London for the livery of the king's goldsmiths and for the coal used by them.

Maitland further states that "Edward III., in consideration of the sum of ten marks, incorporated this company by his Letters Patent, Anno 1327, by the name of The Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Goldsmiths of the City of London, with a privilege of purchasing in mortmain an estate of twenty pounds per annum for the support of their valetudinary members; which, in the year 1394, was confirmed by Richard II. for the sum of twenty marks." And in continuation he says that "the goldsmiths kept their shops and trade in West-Cheap from ancient times, even before the days of King Edward III."

HOLBORN.

A.D. 1235.— This is the final concord made in the King's Court at Westminster, in five weeks from Easter, in the nineteenth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John, before Robertus de Lexington, Oliverus de Vallibus, Adam filius Willielmi, and Robertus de Bello Campo, justices itinerant, and others faithful of the king, then present there, between *Hugo le Franceys*, claimant, and Walterus Cokus, and Matilda, his wife, tenants, for one messuage with appurtenances in Holleburn. Assize of mort d'ancestor was summoned. *Hugo* remised and quitclaimed for himself and his heirs to the aforesaid Walterus and Matilda, and the heirs of this Matilda, all his right and claim in the said messuage with its appurtenances; and for this remise, quitclaim, fine, and concord Walterus and Matilda gave the said *Hugo* one mark in silver.

“ The prebendary of Holborn had the sixth stall on the right side of the choir of St. Paul's Cathedral; and the corps of the prebend lies in the parish of St. Andrew Holborn, in the suburbs, or without the walls of London.”

A.D. 1251.— License from Henricus, dean of St. Paul's and the chapter, to *Johannes le Franceis*, their fellow-canon, to erect an oratory in his court, which he has bought opposite to the Church of St. Andrew, in his prebend of “ Holeburne strate,” and to cele-

brate divine service there so long as he shall be the lord of that prebend and that plot of ground. But it is provided that, if he grant that plot of ground to any other person than his successor in the said prebend, divine service shall not be celebrated there without a new license from the bishop, the dean, and the chapter. Dated on the morrow of the feast of Saint Andrew, 1st of December, 1251.

Towards the end of this same century an examination was made of the treasury of St. Paul's, and among its many possessions we find two articles that had belonged to *Johannes Fraunceys*. One was a cap of red sammet, embroidered with stars and moons, and the other a baldekin, about which we find the following record, which appears under the heading of *Baudekyni*: —

Item XXXI. mediocres. Item VI. alutill. meliores, de quibus II. de dono J. de Chishulle, et unus de dono Almae de Bathonia, et unus de dono Dominae A. Reginae juniores (probably Eleanor, first wife of Prince Edward, afterwards King Edward I.), et unus de funere *J. Fraunceys*, et unus de dono Domini Henrici Regis.

A.D. 1262.— This is the final concord made in the King's Court at Westminster, in the octaves of Saint Martin, in the forty-seventh year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John, before Gilbertus de Preston and Johannes de Wyuill', justices, and others faithful of the lord the king, then present there, be-

tween Alicia, daughter of Petrus le Wodemonger, claimant, and *Johannes Le ffranceys*, tenant, represented by Johannes de Scurescalf', his attorney, for two acres of land with appurtenances in the parish of St. Andrew of Holeburne, concerning which a plea was between them in this court. *Johannes* acknowledged the aforesaid land with appurtenances to be the right of Alicia; and for this acknowledgment, fine, and concord this Alicia, at the instance of the aforesaid *Johannes*, granted to Magister Robertus le Keu the said land with its appurtenances. To have and hold to the said Robertus and his heirs of the aforesaid Alicia and her heirs forever, rendering yearly for the same a half-penny at Easter, for all service, custom, and exaction, to her and her heirs, and making for the same to the chief lords of this fee, for her and her heirs, all other services belonging to this land. And Alicia and her heirs will warrant to Robert and his heirs the aforesaid land with its appurtenances, for the said service, against all men forever, for which Robertus gave the said Alicia 2 marks in silver.

ST. FAITH'S.

“The Church of St. Faith was originally a distinct building, standing near the east end of St. Paul's; but when the old cathedral was enlarged, between the years 1256 and 1312, it was taken down, and an extensive part of the vaults was appropriated to the use

of the parishioners of St. Faith, in lieu of the demolished fabric."

In the deeds of the reign of Henry III. relating to tenements in "Folkemares lane," and "Yvi lane" in the parish of St. Faith, the parties named are the dean and chapter of St. Paul's; Master Richard de Staunford, canon of St. Paul's; Augustine, son of Eustace, the mercer; Laurence del Brok; Robert de Monasterio and Emma, his wife, of Weteringsete, sister and heir of Master William de Sancto Eadmundo, clerk (50 Henry III.); *Master Stephen de Frense*; John ate Chireche of Weteringeste, son and heir of Robert ate Chireche of Westeringsete, by Emma, his wife, sister of Master William de Sancto Eadmundo; Sir Peter de Abedun, chaplain of St. Paul's; William de Craye, proctor of the Hospital of St. Thomas, Southwark, and brethren and sisters of the same place; and Sir Robert called "Senescal," chaplain. From an old indorsement it would appear that Folke-mares Lane was the ancient name of Ivy Lane.

ST. MATTHEW'S FRIDAY STREET.

John de Chichester, goldsmith, in his will, dated at London, on the 14th of May, 1380, bequeaths his tenement in the parish of S. John Zaker' at the corner of Godronlane, together with a shop in Chepe at the corner of Fridaistrete, and solars in the parish of S. Matthew in Fridaistrete, to *John Frenssh*, goldsmith,

in tail; remainder to *Johanna Frenssh*, wife of John Markeby, goldsmith. Also to the said John Markeby and *Johanna*, wife of the same, he leaves a shop in the parish of S. Peter in Westchepe, in tail; remainder over. To Sir Edmund Pencrich, rector of the Church of St. Edmund in Lumbardstrete, and parishioners of the same, certain rents in Westchepe in the parish of S. Vedast, in le Reole in the parish of S. Michael de Paternostercherche, and issuing from a tenement formerly called "le Culver on the hope," and now "le Swan," in Temestrete in the parish of S. Dunstan Est, in trust for maintenance of chantries, torches, etc. To the master, brethren, and sisters of the Hospital of St. Katherine, near the Tower, he leaves all his lands and tenements in Est Smethefeld without Aldgate in the parish of St. Botolph, together with others in the parishes of St. Mary de Abbechurch, St. Edmund in Lumbardestrete, and St. Nicholas Acon, one being called "le Taverne atte Belle," so that they pray for the souls of King Edward and of Philippa, wife of the same, the souls of John de Hermesthorp, clerk, master or warden of the said hospital, the testator, and others. To Alice, his wife, tenements and shops in S. Clement's Lane in the parish of S. Edmund aforesaid, one being called "le Sarezynesheved," and a tenement called "Topfeldes In," in Fletestrete, parish of S. Brigid, for life; remainder as to the last-mentioned tenement to William, his son, and *John Frenssh* aforesaid, in successive

tail. The rest of the above tenements to be sold after the decease of his wife, and the proceeds devoted to pious and charitable uses.

A.D. 1382.—Delivery of Infangthef, in the Guildhall of London, before John Norhamptone, mayor, and the aldermen and sheriffs, and John Charneye, coroner, on the Friday next after the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15th of August), in the sixth year of the reign of King Richard II.

Walter atte Watre, goldsmith, and Nicholas Somersete, of Philip Norton (Norton St. Philip, six miles from Bath), in the county of Somerset, were taken at the suit of *John Frensshe*, of London, goldsmith, with the "mainour" of divers goods and chattels of him, *John Frensshe*; namely, two silver girdles, with red corces in silk, value 46s.; one silver girdle, with a blue corse, 30s.; one other small silver girdle, with green corse, 16s.; one chain of silver gilt, 40s.; one other small silver chain, 5s.; one girdle of red silk, with a bokele, and studded with silver gilt, 16s.; one silver chalice, with paten, 38s.; two sets of phials of silver, their swages (necks) gilt, 20s.; one osculatory of silver gilt, 20s.; two mazer cups, bound with silver gilt, 33s. 4d.; six silver spoons, 14s.; two gold rings, with dyamaundes, 15*l.*; one gold ring with a baleys, 26s. 8d.; three strings of pearls, 70s.; six gold necklaces, 100s.; and other goods and chattels, such as fermails and rings of silver gilt, broken silver, girdles

set with silver, buckles and pendants for girdles, and paternosters, of silver and perls, to the value of 40*l.*: which goods and chattels the same Walter atte Watre and Nicholas Somersete, on the Wednesday next after the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the year aforesaid, feloniously stole by night at the corner of Fridaystrete in Westchepe, in the parish of St. Matthew, in the Ward of Farn-done Within, in London, and then and there feloniously broke into the shop of him, *John Frensshe*, etc.

And also the same Walter atte Watre and Nicholas Somersete were taken at the suite of Thomas Stoke, of London, goldsmith, with the mainour of goods and chattels of him, Thomas Stoke; namely, with one mazer cup, bound with silver gilt, value 10*s.*; one other small mazer cup bound with silver gilt, 5*s.*; three bokeles with three pendants, for silver girdles, 15*s.*; one other bokele and one silver girdle, 6*s.* 8*d.*; and one knife, called a "copegorge" (cut-throat), with one "loket" and one "chape" of silver, 6*s.* 8*d.*; by them stolen at night, on the Wednesday and in the sixth year aforesaid, from the shop of the said *John Frensshe*, goldsmith, in the place, ward, and parish aforesaid, etc.

And the jury, by Henry Markeby and eleven others, declared upon their oath the said Walter atte Watre and Nicholas Somersete to be guilty of the felonies aforesaid.

And because that the said Walter atte Watre and

Nicholas Somersete were clerks, and judgment could not lawfully be proceeded to without the ordinary, etc., they were committed to the prison of Newgate, there in safe custody to be kept until, etc. Chattels they had none.

John Frenssh, goldsmith, previously named, is mentioned, with his wife *Margaret* and son *John Frensshe*, in the following will of Bartholomew Seman, "gold-betere," dated at London on the 25th of July, 1431:—

Bartholomew Seman, in his will, gives to William Byngham, the rector, etc., of the Church of St. John Zakary, certain rents of tenements in this parish for maintaining a chantry in the said church, for the good of his soul, the souls of Katherine, his wife, *John Frenssh*, late goldsmith, *Margaret*, the wife of the same, etc. To his wife Katherine tenements and rents in the parish of St. Sepulchre and St. John Zakary for life; remainder to *John*, son of the above *John Frenssh*, etc.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

The following two charters are given according to rotation. Their execution was made during the time of William, the dean of St. Paul's. According to Newcourt, William was the son of Adeline, the sister of Richard de Belmeis, who was elected Bishop of London in 1108. How early William became a

canon is uncertain; but some time after the year 1103 he became a prebendary at Chiswick (Middlesex County), which had the eighteenth stall on the left side of the choir in this cathedral. He probably became dean of St. Paul's soon after his uncle became bishop, as he is found filling that post in 1111; for on the fourteenth Kal. August of that year William, the dean, and the canons of St. Paul's made a grant to Hugo de Verli, in which conveyance it is noticed that none of the witnesses to it, except possibly Magister Teodoricus, are found in the two following charters; but in another grant of the year 1132, wherein his name appears, ten of the witnesses are found to be the same as in the first charter hereafter given, and seven witnesses are the same as in the second charter. And, as Newcourt states, on the authority of Ralph de Diceto, that this William died in 1138, this summary of evidence seems to be sufficiently conclusive to establish the period of the execution of the two charters between the years 1111 and 1138. Besides the absence of the witnesses in the year 1111, relative to these two charters, with their increased number in the charter of the year 1132, many of whom were living after the year 1138, it seems to point to the conclusion that the execution of the two succeeding charters must have been made during the latter half of the recorded time that this William was dean of St. Paul's.

This is the covenant between the canons of St.

Paul's and Guthmundus concerning the land which Willelmus de Coveleia held of these canons in the market-place. Willelmus, the dean, and the whole assembly granted to the said Guthmundus the aforesaid land in fee and inheritance; but neither he nor his heirs can sell or pledge anything of this fee, except by the license of the chapter, and no one shall inherit the same after his death, except he is his nearest kinsman. But Guthmundus shall give 4*s.* yearly, during his life, for this fee, to the canons; namely, 2*s.* at Easter and 2*s.* at Michaelmas. After the death of Guthmundus his heirs shall give yearly 7*s.*; namely, 18*d.* at Christmas, 2*s.* at Easter, 18*d.* at Midsummer Day, and 2*s.* at Michaelmas. And for this fee Guthmundus has sworn fealty to the canons in their chapter, and given them, for this covenant, 1 mark in silver. At this grant were the following canons present: Willelmus decanus, Hugo filius Alberti, Robertus de Caem, Nicolaus; Gaufridus et Robertus filii Wlfredi, Robertus et Hugo filii Generanni, Radulfus de Langeford, Odo, Hubertus, Teodoricus, Rannulfus. These are witnesses: Robertus filius Gosberti, Willelmus frater ejus, Brungarus, Robertus privignus (stepson) Guthmundi, Gocelinus, Ailredus, *Radulfus Francigena*, Eadwardus, Walterus de Granfort, Willielmus frater ejus.

This is the covenant between the canons of St. Paul's, Robertus, brother of Fulcredus, and Baldricus, his son; namely, that these canons granted to the

said Robertus and Baldricus the land which Walterus Wasderius held, to hold during their lifetimes for a yearly rent of 12s., payable at Easter and Michaelmas. Ad quod sunt testes, Willelmus decanus, Ricardus archidiaconus, Hugo filius Alberti, Robertus filius Wluredi, Rannulfus, Teodoricus juvenis, Nicolaus, Willelmus de Calnia, Walterus filius Episcopi, Magister Radulfus de Langheford, Gaufridus constabularus, Cyprianus archidiaconus, Hugo archidiaconus, Robertus de Auco, Magister Henricus, Gaufridus filius Wluredi, Hubertus, Hugo filius Generanni, Ricardus de Wintonia, *Willelmus Francigena*, Alwinus sacerdos de Bealcamp, Edwinus scriba, Willelmus Camerarius, Picotus Lombardus, Milo filius Teodorici, Hilo de Beluaco, Ricardus de Sancto Odmero, Brichmarus bordarius, Robertus Peverel, Ricardus dapifer decani.

The name of *Willelmus Francigena* is again found as a witness to two documents during the time of Radulfus de Langford, the succeeding dean of St. Paul's, which could not have been of later date than the year 1152.

ST. SEPULCHRE.

In the year 1235, in this ward, under the heading of Holborn, we have already referred to a *Hugo le Franceys*, whom we take to be the same person as mentioned in this parish. So we judge that the gift

of *Hugo le Franceys*, to which allusion is made in the following record, must have been made some time about the above-named period.

Among the donations to Leicester Abbey, as found in the list of its possessions, is the following relating to a charter and memorandum:—

We have, of the gift of *Hugo le Franceys* and *Dionisia*, his wife, his tenement which he had in the city of London, and without; namely, his capital mesuage with all its appurtenances in the parish of St. Sepulchre, without the gate of Newgate, rendering yearly 25s., as stated in the charter.

We have, of the gift of Johannes Woburn, 13s. annual rent, which he used to receive of the aforesaid tenement of *Hugo le Franceys*.

Memorandum, that we have granted, demised, and by our charter confirmed, to *Cristiana*, daughter of *Radulphus Faber*, of Newgate, London, all our land with the houses thereon which we have of the gift of *Hugo Franciscus, baker* (pistor), in the parish of St. Sepulchre without Newgate, which lies between the cemetery of St. Sepulchre and the land which belonged to *Gilbertus le Horsmeg'e*, to be held to her and her heirs for a payment to us of 21s. yearly.

The Fraternity of Bakers, according to Maitland, appears to be of great antiquity; for in the beginning of Henry II.'s reign, anno 1155, it was charged, in the Great Roll of the Exchequer, with a debt of 1 mark of gold for their guild, which seems as if the

ancient guilds had held their privileges in fee-farm of the crown. However, this company does not appear to have been incorporated till about the year 1307, when it had a letters patent from Edward II., under the style of The Master and Wardens of the Mystery or Art of Bakers of the City of London.

“The bakers, probably observing that great profits arose to the clergy by the use of the symbols of the Cross, Agnus Dei’s, and name of Jesus, to oblige their customers (for their own interest), began to imprint upon their bread the like representations, which induced Henry the Third, by his mandate from St. Edmund’s-Bury, of September 1st, Anno 1252, strictly to injoin all bakers, thenceforth not to put any of those sacred representations upon their bread.”

A.D. 1365.—Release by Adam Costard and Alice, his wife, to *Simon Frensshe* and *Hawise*, his wife, of their right to a tenement and shop in Clerkenwellestrete, without the bar of Westmethfeld, in the parish of St. Sepulchre. Dated on the 13th of May, 39 Edward III.

A.D. 1365.—Grant by John Marsshal, vicar of Stokeburi, County Kent, and Ralph de Redyng, to *Simon Frensshe* and *Hawise*, his wife, of a messuage in the parish of St. Sepulchre, without the bar of Westmethfeld. Dated on the 5th of July, 39 Edward III.

A.D. 1370.—Grant by Ralph de Redyng to *Simon Frensshe* and *Hawise*, his wife, of a messuage in the

parish of St. Sepulchre, without the bar of Westmethfeld. Dated on the 8th of April, 44 Edward III.

In the forty-fifth year of the reign of King Edward III. (1371) a final concord was made between William de Stowe, fishmonger, and Alice, his wife, on one part, and *Simon Freynssh* and *Hawisia*, his wife, on the other part, concerning two messuages in the parish of St. Sepulchre, without the bar of Westmythefeld, London.

VINTRY WARD.

This ward takes its name, according to William Maitland, from the Vintrie, occupied by vintners or wine-merchants from Bordeaux, settled on the banks of the river Thames; at which place they landed their wines, and were obliged to sell them in forty days, till the 28 Edward I., who by privy seal granted longer time and certain privileges to the merchants.

ST. MICHAEL PATERNOSTER ROYAL.

“The church of this parish received its name from being dedicated to this saint, and from its vicinity to the Tower Royal.”

“La Ryole Street, in this parish, received its name from La Réole, on the river Garonne, near Bordeaux, in France. Kerion-lane, in Royal Street, stretches forth from over against St. Michael’s Church to and

by the north side of St. James Church by Garlisk-hithe.”

32 Edward I. (1303-4).—Johanna, daughter of Laurence Duket, in her will bequests to Cristiana, her sister, for life, rents held by the said Cristiana and Margery de Bircheholte in the parishes of All Hallows at the Hay and St. Martin in the Vintry, the reversion of which was in the testatrix under the will of her father. To Robert de Cornedale, clerk, a tenement in the street of Ryole, in the parish of St. Michael de Paternosterchirche, saving to *Walter de Fraunceys* his term, and charges with payment of her debts and legacies.

Walter le Fraunceys in his will proved and enrolled in the Court of Hursting, London, on Monday the morrow of the feast of Saint James the Apostle, 1305, bequests to *Matilda* and *Margaret*, his daughters, and to *John*, his son, his tenement in Kyronlane, parish of St. Michael de Paternostercherche, in successive tail, paying annually 2s. to the abbot and convent of Thame. Also to the said *Margaret* and *Matilda*, in successive tail, houses in the same lane and parish; remainder to pious and charitable uses. No date.

Whereupon came Robert de Cornedale, and put his claim upon 6 marks rent due to him from a tenement devised to the said *Matilda*.

Emma, late wife of *Walter le Fraunceys*, in her will dated on the morrow of the feast of Holy Trinity,

1307, bequests to *John*, her son, her tenement and rents in the parish of St. Michael de Paternostre-chirche, in tail; remainder to *Margaret* and *Matilda*, her daughters; remainder to pious uses. Richard de Clodeshale and the aforesaid *Matilda*, wife of the same, to have the custody of the said *John* and *Margaret* until they come of age.

Nicholas de Perundene, or Perundon, in his will dated at London, on Wednesday next before the feast of Saint Katherine, Virgin (25th of November), 1329, bequests his shop in the parish of St. Nicholas de Colemanstrete (sic), and also a certain brewhouse, to be sold for pious uses. The same to be done with ten acres of land in the vill of Perundon (Parndon, County Essex), and two shops in the vill of St. Alban, in the strete called "Spitelstrate," in the parish of St. Stephen.

Whereupon came *Robert*, son of *John le Frensh*, and put his claim upon the above brewhouse, which was situate in Grubbestrete (now Milton Street) in the parish of St. Giles without Crupulgate, inasmuch as *Matilda la Frensh* gave the same to a certain Geoffrey de Felstede and Cristina, his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, etc., with remainder to the said *Robert*, and the said Geoffrey and Cristina died without an heir, etc.

John Mortymer, saddler, in his will, dated at London, on the 25th of May, 1368, orders to be buried in the churchyard of St. Mary Wolchirchawe (St. Mary

Woolchurch Haw in Walbrook Ward). He bequests to the Church of St. Mary aforesaid and ministers thereof; Johanna, daughter of John Goby, senior, to have the sum of 10*l.* which Juliana, his wife, gave her for her marriage; and *Margaret*, daughter of *Walter Frensshe*, to have the sum of 6*l.* which the aforesaid John Goby left to her, the same to be paid to her out of the sum of 7*l.* which *John Frensshe* owed the testator. Provision made for tapers at his funeral, and for the maintenance of chantries in the aforesaid church, charged on a certain tenement near Berbynderlane in the parish of St. Mary aforesaid, which tenements he leaves to the aforesaid *John Frensshe*, in tail male; remainder to Nicholas Kylby.

WESTMINSTER.

Exchequer Court.

This court has a special interest in this volume, as one of its barons was of the surnames under consideration. It was one of the four great courts of the kingdom, and held its meetings in a room contiguous to the north-west angle of Westminster Hall. As regards the history of the Exchequer, Madox states on this subject that "from or soon after the time of the Norman Conquest the Scaccarium or Exchequer of England is frequently mentioned by the English his-

torians and records. There was an Exchequer in England in the reign of King Henry I., son of King William I., which has continued ever since. The judges or governors of it were at that time styled Barones Scaccarii, and administered justice to the subjects, as appears by a writ of King Henry I. concerning a charter to the canons of Holy Trinity in London," as follows:—

Henricus, King of England, to Rogerus, Bishop of Salisbury, and the barons of the Exchequer, greeting. Know ye that I have granted and confirmed the donation which Matilda, my wife, gave and granted to the canons of Holy Trinity,—namely, 25*l.* Blank, which she gave them of the firm of the city of Exeter; and I command you to constrain the sheriff of Devonshire to pay the same to them. Teste, Gaufrido de Clintona, at Winchester.

Somewhat over a century after this royal writ the records show² among the barons of the Exchequer the name of *Johannes Francigena*, of whom special mention is made in the succeeding county of Westmorland.

As it was during his term of office, and at a time when *Ricardus le Francois* was among the monetarii, that took place a notable historical event called the Trial of the Pix, it may not be uninteresting to give the following translation of the royal writ to the city of London, for what is considered the earliest trial of the pix in England and most probably the first trial of assay resorted to in that country:—

Henry, by the grace of God, King of England, etc., to the mayor and citizens of London, greeting. We command that you elect twelve discreet and loyal men of our city of London, and twelve goldsmiths of the same city, so that in all there are twenty-four discreet men, who at the same time shall come before the barons of the Exchequer at Westminster, and upon their oath, together with these barons, examine the purity and fineness of the old and new money of our realm.

In compliance with this writ, in the thirty-second year of the reign of King Henry III., on Wednesday next before the feast of Saint Gregory, the assay was made in the presence of the lord the king, the Earl of Cornwall, the king's brother; Willelmus de Hauerhulle, the king's treasurer; Edwardus de Westmonasterio, Willelmus Hardel, then custos of the mints of London and Canterbury; Radulphus de Ely, the barons of the Exchequer, and others faithful of the king then present.

Writs were also issued to hold similar assays at the different mints of the kingdom.

Among those at the assay in the city of Gloucester it is noticed that *Ricardus le Francois* was one of the four monetarii.

A final concord was made in the eighth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1279-80) between *Thomas Fraunceys* and *Petronilla*, his wife, on one part, and Thomas de Brideport, on the other part, concerning premises in Westminster.

The following records relating to the reign of King Edward II., although of value on the surname of *Franceis*, are given on account of their historical interest, as the period is later than assigned to that surname. They have been placed under this heading, as Westminster was intimately associated with the English sovereigns and its chancery, and from the fact that more of these records are identified with it than any one of the other places named where King Edward's writs, commands, or wishes are recorded.

A.D. 1308, January 15, Dover.—Memorandum, that on Saturday the feast of SS. Fabian and Sebastian the Martyrs, at Dover, in the chamber of J(ohn de Langton), Bishop of Chichester, the king's chancellor, the said chancellor delivered under his seal to Johannes Swyft, the messenger of Radulphus de Gorges, sheriff of Devon, the greater piece (peciam) of the king's seal appointed for the recognizances of debts at Exeter, in the presence of Dominus Adam de Osgodby, Dominus Robertus de Bardelby, *Magister Johannes Fraunceys*, Rogerus de Sutton, and others, to be carried to Exeter to the mayor of that town.

Memorandum, that on the same day the said chancellor delivered under his seal to Adam Poneray, clerk, keeper of the smaller piece of the king's seal appointed for recognizances of debts in the city of Winchester, the greater part of the same seal, in the presence of Dominus Adam de Osgodby, Dominus

Robertus de Bardelby, *Magister Johannes Fraunceys*, Rogerus de Sutton, and others, to be carried to Westminster, and delivered to the mayor of the same.

Memorandum, that on Wednesday next after the Purification, 7th of February, 1308, the king returned from Boulogne, where he had espoused the Lady Isabella, daughter of the King of France, and landed at Dover in his barge about nones. Dominus Henricus le Despenser and Dominus de Castellione were in the vessel with the king; and a little after nones the queen landed, with certain ladies who formed her train. The great seal was in the custody of the keeper of the wardrobe, who could not make the port of Dover on that day, so that no writs were sealed from the hour of the king's landing until the following Friday, 9th of February; but on the same Friday about noon (John de Langton) the Bishop of Winchester, chancellor, delivered to the king, in his chamber in Dover Castle, the seal which had been used in England whilst the king was abroad. And the king, receiving the same, delivered it to Dominus Willelmus de Melton, comptroller of the wardrobe; and immediately afterwards the king with his own hand delivered the great seal to the said chancellor, under the signets of Dominus J. de Benstede, the keeper of the wardrobe, and *Magister Johannes ffranceis*, in the presence of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster; Petrus, Earl of Cornwall; Dominus Hugo le Despenser, Willielmus Martyn, and Willielmus Inge,

knights; and Adam de Osgodeby, clerk. And on the same day, after dinner, the said chancellor, being in his hospitium in the Maison Dieu at Dover, caused writs to be sealed with the great seal.

A.D. 1308, March 1, Westminster.—Memorandum, that Thomas de Banquell, son and heir of Johannes de Banquell, delivered by the king's writ to *Magister Johannes Fraunceys*, before the king's council, by order of the chancellor, on Sunday next before the feast of Saint Gregory, in the first year of the king's reign, two public instruments touching the affairs of the merchants of England and France, to which the said Johannes de Banquell used to attend,—to wit, an instrument under the hand of Petrus de Villa Regia, clerk of the diocese of Amiens, executed at Monstroll, beginning thus: "In nomine Domini, amen," and finishing thus: "In testimonium omnium premissorum"; and another instrument under the hand of Johannes Hervei, clerk of the diocese of Dol, executed at Paris, beginning thus: "In nomine Dei, amen," and finishing thus: "Pro dicto negotio et premissis faciendis."

Memorandum, that on Tuesday next after the feast of Saint John ante Portam Latinam,—to wit, May 12, about the hour of noon, in the year 1310,—at Woodstock, in the chamber near the entrance to the king's great hall there, the Bishop of Worcester (Walter Reynolds) delivered the king's great seal by the king's order to Dominus Willelmus de Melton, Dom-

inus Robertus de Bardelby, and *Magister Johannes ffranceis*, in the presence of the clerks of the chancery, to do what pertains to the office of the said seal until the king shall otherwise ordain, on oath to faithfully execute that office; and they immediately sealed writs, and, after such sealing, delivered the seal to Ingelardus de Warlegh, keeper of the king's wardrobe, to be kept in the king's wardrobe.

A.D. 1310.—Memorandum, that on Monday before the feast of the Translation of Saint Thomas the Martyr, July 6, Adam de Osgodeby, keeper of the Rolls of the Chancery, delivered the king's great seal, which had been in his custody under the seals of Robertus de Bardelby and *Magister Johannes ffranceys*, to the king in the little chapel near the painted chamber, Westminster; who delivered it to Walterus, Bishop of Worcester, who received it from the king, and took oath of office, and redelivered the seal to the said Adam, receiving it from him on the morrow in Westminster Hall at the great bench upon which the chancellor was wont to sit, and opened it and sealed writs with it.

A.D. 1312, March 8, York.—Commission to J(ohn Salmon), Bishop of Norwich, Guido Ferre, Johannes de Crumbwell, Hugo de Aldeby, Willielmus Deyncurt, Henricus Spigurnel, and Henricus le Scrope, knights, and *Magister Thomas de Cobeham*, Robertus de Piking, Walterus de Thorpe, Gilbertus de Middelton, *Johannes ffranceys*, and Andreas de

Brigges, the king's clerks, to treat with the prelates, earls, and barons of the realm for the purpose of correcting such parts, if any, of the ordinances as are hurtful or prejudicial to the king, or any other person. The commission is issued by virtue of the power reserved to the king in his protestation when he assented to the ordinances.

A.D. 1312, March 8, York.— Letters patent or commission addressed to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, and all the other bishops of the province of Canterbury, about the assembly at London, together with certain earls and barons of England. The king intends to despatch the Bishop of Norwich, Guido Ferre, Johannes de Crumbwell, Hugo de Audele, Willielmus Deyncourt, Henricus Spigurnel, and Henricus le Scrop, knights, and Thomas de Cobeham, Robertus de Piking, Walterus de Thorpe, Gilbertus de Middelton, *Johannes ffraunceys*, and Andreas de Bruges, his clerks, unto them, for the purpose of declaring certain matters touching the ordinances which the king has much at heart; and they are therefore required to give full faith to the commissioners, or such of them as shall present the letters, so affording their advice that the king may have reason to commend their diligence.

Similar letters were addressed to the earls and barons about the assembly at London.

A.D. 1312, March 8, York.— Writ addressed to the Bishop of Norwich recites that he, together with

Guido Ferre, Johannes de Crumbwell, Hugo Daudeley, Willielmus Deyncourt, Henricus Spigurnel, and Henricus le Scrop, knights, and Thomas de Cobeham, Robertus de Pikering, Walterus de Thorpe, Gilbertus de Middelton, *Johannes ffraunceis*, and Andreas de Bruges, the king's clerks, had been appointed the king's commissioners for the despatch of certain affairs specially concerning the king and kingdom. He is commanded and firmly enjoined that, all other matters laid aside, he is to proceed forthwith to London, in order to treat and advise with the other lieges and clerks before mentioned upon the said affairs, and to give counsel thereupon in such manner as he shall be then more fully instructed.

In a writ tested at Windsor, on the 8th of January, 1313, Magister *Johannes Fraunceis* is commanded, "in fide et dilectione," all other matters laid aside, to attend as one of the council at the Parliament which the king has ordained to be held at Westminster, on the third Sunday in Lent, 18th of March, 1313.

In a writ tested at Westminster on the twenty-sixth day of July, Magister *Johannes Fraunceys* is commanded, among the justices and others of the council, all other matters laid aside, to appear in the Parliament at Westminster, on Sunday next after the feast of Saint Matthew the Apostle, 23d of September, to advise with others of the council.

NORFOLK.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1199, May 9.—Jacobus de Ethere essoins himself by *Ricardus Franceis* in a plea of land against Robertus Rus.

A.D. 1199.—Robertus de Colevill' essoins himself by *Willielmus Franceis* in a plea of land against Alexander Puintel.

A.D. 1200.—At the pleas in one month of Easter, 7th of May, *Willelmus Franceis* is mentioned as a bailiff.

NORWICH CITY.

At the crown pleas held in the city of Norwich in the fourteenth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1285-86) *Philippus le Fraunceys*, of Coslane, was in misericordia.

The Leet Roll of 1287-88 of the parishes of St. Michael de Coslany, St. George, St. Mary, and St. Martin, shows that "*Philippus fraunceys* and other jurors stated on their oath that all the dubbars who dub cowhides make fraud in their work. They said also that Ranulphus Saluz drew blood by night of

Rogerus Ruchballok when he came with corn about midnight. They stated that all the brewers have broken the assize. They said also concerning the fishmongers, regraters, and poulterers as above. They stated also that Rogerus Blackberd made ham-soken at the house of Alicie de Worstede. Galfridus, brother of Ricardus de Coslanye, is in mercy because he is not in tithing and has been in the city for three years. Afterwards he was found to be in tithing. Concerning Simon de Melton [he is in mercy] for grievous contempt done to the bailiffs because he declined to take the oath when he was elected sub-constable by all the jurors."

BROTHERCROSS HUNDRED.

NORTH CREAKE.

5 Edward I. (1276-77).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Ida*, daughter of *John Fraunceis*, against Robert Makefare and others, touching a tenement in Northcreyk.

CLAVERING HUNDRED.

STOCKTON.

At an inquisition made in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors said

that Robertus de Potefford, at the time he was ser-geant of Stoctun, took unjustly three rood of land from Rogerus, son of *Th(omas) le Franceys*, of Stoctun, and still retains them.

DISS HUNDRED.

SHELFHANGER.

A.D. 1281.—The sheriff of Suffolk was ordered to have Walterus Shelhang' to attend at the pleas in Lincolnshire, on the octaves of Saint Hilary, in the ninth year of the reign of King Edward I., to answer the king for several trespasses made by him when sheriff of Lincoln. Walterus did not come, and he was mainprised by *Reginaldus Fraunceys* of Shelhang' and others of same place, who therefore are in misericordia; and the sheriff is commanded to distrain him of all his lands, and attach him to attend on the close of Easter.

ERPINGHAM, NORTH, HUNDRED.

BEESTON REGIS.

In the Crown Plea Roll of the thirty-fourth year of Henry III. (1249-50) is found that Willelmus, son of Walterus de Bromholm, a boy aged one year and a

half, was found drowned in a ditch in Beston. His mother, Inghereta, did not come to the inquest, therefore she is fined. She is attached by *Willelmus le Franceys* and Willelmus Brun, of Beston. Four of the neighbors did not come, for which they were attached by Adam de la Bruere and three others. Athelmerton (Aylmerton) and other villages were fined for burying the boy without right of the coroner.

In the Schedule Roll of same year it is found that *Willelmus le Franceis* and Willelmus Brun, of Beston, were fined half a mark for not having the person whom they pledged.

ERPINGHAM, SOUTH, HUNDRED.

AYLSHAM.

A.D. 1200.—John, by the grace of God, king, etc., to his archbishops, etc., greeting. Know ye that we have granted, and by this our present charter have confirmed, to God, the glorious martyr Saint Edmund, Abbot Sampson, and his successors, and the monks serving God at St. Edmund('s Bury, in Suffolk), in free and perpetual alms, for our welfare and that of our ancestors and successors, ten librates of land in our soc of Eyllsham; namely, the land which Willielmus Bardulfus held there, with all appurtenances, valued at 100s.; and other land worth 100s. in the

same soc, with the following tenants; namely, Johannes de Hastings with the land he held of King Richard, our brother, Alexander, Radulphus, and Robertus with their lands, Johannes Cappellanus with his land "sub Erlage," *Robertus Franceis* and *Herveius*, his associate, with their land, Elstanus with his land, etc., etc., all the remainder of the wood called Herlage (Erlage) as it was in the hands of aforesaid King Richard. These ten librates of land we grant, etc., for the celebration of the aforesaid glorious martyr, etc. Wherefore we will and strictly command that the said abbot, his successors, and the monks may have and hold the aforesaid lands, with all appurtenances, and the said men, well and in peace, freely and quietly, entirely and honorably, in wood, in plain, in roads and in paths, in waters and mills, in vivaries and in pools, in meadow and pasture, in homages, services, and relief, with its liberties and free customs, etc. Given by the hands of the aforesaid S(ampson) and J(ohn) at Selveston', on the fifteenth day of March, in the first year of our reign.

LITTLE BARNINGHAM.

In 1343 Sir Robert de Causton, knight, gave the rectory of Berningham Parva to *Bartholomew French*.

EYNESFORD HUNDRED.

In the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors stated that Ernaldus de Folsham, catch poll of this hundred, by his power as public officer, had unjustly extorted 5s. 5d. from *Galfridus Fraunceys*.

FOREHOE HUNDRED.

RUNHALL.

At an inquisition held in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors of the hundred of Fourhowe said that *dominus Fraunceys* in Runhal has withdrawn himself from the court-leet in Runhal, belonging to the said hundred, for the liberty of Costiseye, but they do not know by what warrant.

WYMONDHAM PRIORY.

William de Albin, of the Cotentin family of that surname, was enfeoffed of the barony of Buckingham by King Henry I., to hold the same by the tenure of grand serjeanty, with the honorable service of *pin-erna regis*. He was the founder of this priory very early in the reign of King Henry I. The foundation charter could not have been later than the year 1107,

as in that year Rogerus Bigod, one of the witnesses to the same, died. Among the other witnesses was *Albertus francigena*.

There is another charter in favor of this priory, of a later date, wherein it is stated that Willelmus de Albeneyo, pincerna of Henry, King of England, assisting at the exequies of his wife, Matilda, the daughter of Rogerus Bigot, moaning and crying, and for the salvation of the deceased, with the hope of eternal retribution, and for the safety of King Henry and his wife (2d), Queen Adelize, and for the souls of King William, his father, and Matilda, his mother, and Matilda, his wife (1st), and his brothers and ancestors, and for the soul of Rogerus Bigot and those of the sons of Eborardus, Bishop of Norwich, confirmed to God, the Virgin Mary, and the monks of Wymundham, the manor called Hapesbury (Happisburgh), to be held forever, excepting a little dwelling called Eccles; confirming his donation by the delivery of a cross of silver in which were placed certain venerable relics; namely, part of the wood of the cross whereon our Lord was crucified, part of the manger wherein he was laid at his birth, and part of the sepulchre of the Blessed Virgin, as also a gold ring, and a silver chalice for retaining the holy eucharist, which he offered upon the altar of the church. Among the witnesses were his three sons, Willelmus, Nigellus, and Oliverus; and *Albertus Francigena* and his brother, *Reginaldus Francigena*;

the second name following the last two named being that of Willielmus de Curciona, who at the same hour gave to the church of Wymundeham twenty acres of land, with all the customary tithes of Stanfeld.

The date of the second charter is somewhat approximated from the fact that it was made during the reign of King Henry I., in the time of his second wife, Queen Adelize, who was married to him, according to Sanford, on the 2d of February, 1121; and, as eleven of the witnesses to the first charter of William de Albini are all found as witnesses either to this his second charter or to the donation of William de Curciona, of the same date, there is the strongest indication that this charter must have been executed soon after the year 1121.

Albertus Francigena or *Francesius*, as he is called in *Liber Niger*, held, according to the report returnable to the Royal Exchequer on the 17th of March, 1166, two knights' fees in this county under Willielmus de Albineio II., who held in capite of the king.

FREEBRIDGE LYNN HUNDRED.

LYNN REGIS.

A.D. 1293.—Writ of aid directed to the mayor and bailiffs of Lenn in favor of *Godfrey le Fraunceys*,

burgess of Lenn, whom Matthew de Columbariis, king's serjeant, and holding, during pleasure, the office of chamberlain and gauger throughout the realm, has substituted in his place in that town.

FREEBRIDGE MARSHLAND HUNDRED.

TILNEY.

In the octaves of Saint John the Baptist, 1st of July, 1199, Petris de Frith essoined himself de malo lecto, at Tilneia, by *Reinerus Francus* and Radulphus filius Willelmi, in a plea of land, against Henricus, his brother.

WALPOLE.

A.D. 1239.—*Hugo*, son of *Willelmus Le Franceis*, gives 1 mark for having four justices to take an assize touching a tenement in Walepoll'. The sheriff of Norfolk is commanded to take surety, etc. Teste Rege, at Windsor, on the eighteenth day of July.

WIGGENHALL.

A.D. 1199, October 13.—An assize came to recognize if Godefridus Lesewis, *Petrus le Franceis*, and others, had unjustly and without judgment disseised Semanus de Wigehale and Eudo de Wigehale of

their free tenement in Wigehale, after the feast of Saint Michael, next before the coronation of King John.

GREENHOE, NORTH, HUNDRED.

BINHAM ABBEY.

Peter de Valoniis, of the Cotentin family of that surname, and his wife, Albreda, founded this monastery with the approval of his sons, William and Roger, and his nephew, Walter, and with the consent and license of King Henry I. and Queen Matilda, his wife. Among the witnesses to this charter were the names of Ricardus, abbot of St. Benedict of Holme, Robertus, abbot of St. Edmund's, and *Albertus Francigena*.

Commenting on this charter, Dugdale states that it was probably executed about the year 1104. It is evident from the abbots who were witnesses that it could not have been made prior to the year 1101 and not later than the year 1107, as Abbot Richard was not elected to his office until after the first date, and Abbot Robert died in 1106 or 1107.

In a chirograph made in the year 1108, between Bishop Herbert (of Norwich) and Peter de Valoniis, settling a dispute in regard to lands of the manors of Binham and Langham, it is found that *Albertus francigena* was among the witnesses on the part of Peter de Valoniis.

WALSINGHAM.

At an inquisition held in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors of the hundred of Northgrenehog stated that Gilbertus de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, holds of the king in capite the manors of Wells, Warham, and Parva Walsingham.

They also said that *Ricardus Franceys* used to give 6*d.* per annum for chiriveschot and 6*d.* for wodewellehot, which he has withdrawn for eight years by the authority of the Earl of Gloucester.

Roteland' de Rumely, Willelmus his son, Willelmus de Ipestan, Robertus Pays, chaplain, *Stephanus*, son of *Bartholomeus Franceis*, son of *Stephanus Franceis*, and others hold a tenement in Walsingham which had belonged to Radulphus Pays, for which they had withdrawn one suit from the hundred; and they had withdrawn in chiriveschot 4½*d.* and in wodewellehot 4½*d.* for four years, by authority of the Earl of Gloucester.

The jury said that Willelmus Gyffard, sheriff of Norfolk, had two years before received command from the king to pay 100*s.* to *Ricardus Franceys* which was due him from King Henry, but he had not yet paid it.

The jury also said that *Ricardus Fraunceys* had withdrawn 6*d.* from the sheriff's tourn and 6*d.* of the sheriff's aid for four years.

They also said that the lord the king owed Radul-

phus Carnifex, of Hindringham, 4s. 6d. for meat, and *Ricardus le Fraunceys*, of Walsingham, had received the money, but had not given it to Radulphus.

GRIMSHOE HUNDRED.

At an inquisition held in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors of Grimeshowe hundred said that Alexander de Acria and Philippus Waze, bailiffs of the Earl of Warren, had taken cattle from *Willelmus Fraunceys*, and annoyed him until he gave them 12d.

LAUNDITCH HUNDRED.

BEETLEY.

8 Edward I. (1279-80).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by Robert Ouersfeld' against Simon Ouersfeld' and *John Fraunceis*, touching land in Betele.

NORWICH LIBERTY.

LAKENHAM.

At an inquisition held in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors said that

Willelmus Gyffard, sheriff, took half a mark of *Willelmus le Franceys*, of Lakenham (who was accused by a certain appellant), for releasing him on surety.

SHROPHAM HUNDRED.

THETFORD.

At an inquisition held in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors said that *Hugo le Fraunceys*, of Theford, when bailiff and coroner, had imprisoned Johannes, son of Clemens de Stanford, and would not release him on bail before he had given him two loads of oats.

They also said that *Hugo Fraunceys*, at the time he was bailiff and coroner of Theford, by his power as public officer had taken from Alicia, relict of Thomas Clericus, one acre of land for dimitting her in peace; and the same *Hugo* had taken from Beatrix Cornewaleys some hidden treasure which she had found in her yard, worth about 100s. But they did not know if he made report thereof before the justices.

6 Edward I. 1277-78.—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Alice*, late wife of *Hugh le Fraunceis*, against *Roger le Fraunceis* and others, touching a tenement in Theford.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).—Appointment of two jus-

tices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Roger*, son of *Hugh le Fraunceys*, against Robert Dolfyn and others, touching a tenement in Thetford.

In the ninth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1280-81) *Thomas Fraunceys* was mayor of Thetford.

TAVERHAM HUNDRED.

TAVERHAM.

At an inquisition held in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors said that Johannes del Hoth and *Henricus le Fraunceys*, bailiffs of Taverham, had taken the cattle of Willelmus, son of Rogerus de Sprouston, and maliciously kept them until he paid 12*d.*

TUNSTEAD HUNDRED.

SMALLBURGH.

A.D. 1306.—Grant by *William*, son of *John Fran-*
ceys, of Smalberge, to Reginald, son of Sir William de Stalham, knight, of land in Smalberge, in the field of Westcroft. Dated on Thursday after Saint John the Evangelist, 35 Edward I.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

GENERAL.

A family of Foliot held in early days the castle of Omonville-la-Foliot, a little to the north of Coutances, in the Cotentin of Normandy; and it is possible that Robert Foliot, of whom we have the ensuing notice, may have been of this family.

In the account returnable to the Exchequer on the 17th of March, 1166 (according to Eyton), Robert Foliot gives an account of his knights' fees held de veteri feoffamento, in this county, in which is noticed that *Willelmus de Franceis* held of him half a knight's fee.

In 1 Richard I. (1189-90) the sheriff renders account of 20s. for Boistardeslega which had belonged to *Willielmus le Franceis*.

On the 28th of May, 1199, Ricardus de Clendun essoins himself by *Eustachius Franceis* in a plea against Milisent and Sibia de Clendon.

In the same year, on the 15th of July, Ricardus de Clenden essoins himself by *Eustacius Franceis* in a plea versus Sibia de Clenden and Elisent de Dereberc.

At the pleas held at Northampton on Wednesday next after Lent, 1200, *Johannes Francus*, by offering surety, begged to have his lands, which had been taken into the king's hands for his default against Agnes Andegavensis.

A.D. 1201.—Rogerus de Yneworth offers 2 marks to the lord the king for having as a gift the land of Bustardesleg', which *Willelmus Le Franceis* had held, and for having the king's charter of the same.

A.D. 1201.—John, by the grace of God, king, etc. Know ye that we have given and granted, and by this our present charter have confirmed, to Rogerus de Yeneworth and his heirs the land of Bustardesleg', which *Willelmus le Fraunceys* held, with all its appurtenances. To have and to hold of us and our heirs, rendering therefore 2s. per annum for all services. Wherefore we will and strictly command that the aforesaid Rogerus, and his heirs after him, may have and hold the aforesaid land, with all its appurtenances, well and in peace, freely and quietly, entirely and honorably, with all its appurtenances in all places, with all liberties and free customs for the aforesaid service. Witnesses, Gaufridus filius Petri, Earl of Essex; Willelmus Marescallus, Earl of Pembroc; Willelmus Brewerr', Hugo de Nevill, Robertus de Turnham, etc. Given by the hand of S. Archdeacon of Wells, at Marlborough, on the ninth day of April, in the second year of our reign.

A.D. 1241.—The king gives respite to Walterus de

Godarvill' until fifteen days from Easter, anno 26, for 10 marks, 5 of which are demanded of him by the summons of the Exchequer for the escape of *Emma*, wife of *Ricardus Le Fraunceys*, whom he had held in his prison; and the other 5 marks are demanded of him by the same summons of Exchequer for the default which the abbot of St. Wandregesilus made before the last justices itinerant in County Northampton, at the placita foreste. And the barrister of the Exchequer is commanded to give him this respite. Teste Rege, at Rading', on the twentieth day of November, in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of King Henry III.

In 1284-86 *Adam Fraunceys* had a free tenement in Sarwoton, in this county.

In this county records of the eighteenth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1289-90) is found the name of *Sarra Fraunceys*.

NORTHAMPTON CITY.

At the inquest made here by twelve jurors of this vill before Willelmus de Sancto Omero and Warinus de Chaucumbe, the king's justices, in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75), the jurors said that *Robertus Fraunceys*, of Northampton, holds in this vill, in capite of the king, a rental of 20s. and more, for which the consideration is four horse-shoes, payment of which is to be made yearly into the

King's Exchequer at London, but they do not know from what time or by what warranty.

The jurors also said that a Johannes, son of the chaplain of Haverberge, was arrested at the time of the fair of Northampton, four years ago, in the house of Johannes le Sus Juvenis, by *Willelmus Fraunceys* and Ricardus le Mustarder, then bailiffs of Northampton, on suspicion of having stolen two supertunicas and two swords, although he was innocent; but they permitted him to depart, and said they received no consideration.

At an inquisition in the fourth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1275-76) the jurors of this place stated that *Willelmus le Franceys* and Ricardus le Saus', at the time they were bailiffs, had not executed the king's command of allowing Johannes filius Johannis to redeem his cattle on giving surety.

In the seventh year of the reign of King Edward II. (1313-14) Ricardus, son of Walterus Chambard, made a fine with the king of 2 marks for license to receive of *Matilda la Frensshe*, of Northampton, a certain tenement in Northampton, etc.

The inquest after the death of *Robertus le Frenshe* in the sixteenth year of the reign of King Edward II. (1322-23) shows that he held one messuage and six shops in Northampton.

A.D. 1330.— License for *Peter le Frenshe*, of Northampton, by the fine of 1 mark, to grant to Henry Roger, of Northampton, Juliana, his wife, and his

heirs a messuage and five shops in Northampton, held in chief. Dated at Westminster, on the 10th of December.

FAWSLEY HUNDRED.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of King Edward III. (1341) the names of *Johannes le Freanynche* and *Willielmus le Freaynch* both appear among the jurors of Fallewelse hundred at the inquisitio nonarum.

CATESBY.

32 Henry III. (1247-48).—Grant by Matilda de Dodeford, daughter of Richard de Lega, to brother Hamud', of Catebi, of a messuage in the vill of Dodeford. Witnesses, Richard, the chaplain of Stowa, John de Lega, *Peter Franceis*, and others.

STAVERTON.

No date.—Grant by William, son of Ralph de Esseby, to Simon, son of Richard de Haddon, of land in the field of Katesby. Witnesses, Nicholas de Capis, *William le Franceis*, of Staverton, and others.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by

the prioress of Catesby against *Gilbertus le Fraunceis*, of Staverton, and Walterus Gonnyld, touching a tenement in Staverton.

No date.—Release of John, brother of William de Esseby, late Lord of Esseby and Catesby, to the nuns of Catesby, to hold in frankalmoign his right of lands and tenements in Catesby which his said brother had held. Witnesses, Thomas Bolthisham, William West, of Staverton, *Gilbert Franceis*, John Abbe, Hugh le Boltiler, and others.

GUILSBOROUGH HUNDRED.

WEST HADDON.

3 Edward I. (1275-76).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by William le Skyrmere against *William le Fraunceys* and others, touching a tenement in West Haddon.

ROTHWELL HUNDRED.

MAIDWELL.

A.D. 1341.—*Willelmus Freynsh* appears as one of the jurors of Maydewell at the inquisitio nonarum held at Rothewell on Monday next after the feast of Saint David, in the fifteenth year of the reign of King Edward III.

SIBBERTOFT.

The dates of the ensuing accounts of the surname of Franciscus, etc., under the heading of this place, contained in our records Nos. 1 and 2, seem to be approximated by the following notices of the Archer family:—

A.D. 1239, June 20.—Willelmus le Archer, who held in capite of the king, had a son, Robertus le Archer, who made a fine with the king of 50s. for his relief and for having seisin of the land in Sybetoft which had belonged to his father when he died. And the sheriff of Northampton is commanded, at this date, to take surety and give seisin.

A.D. 1244, February 8.—Alicia (de Cormeilles), relict of Robertus le Archer, made a fine with the king for having the custody of the land and heir of aforesaid Robertus until the legitimate age of the said heir, and that she could marry whom she would. And the sheriff of Northampton is commanded, at this date, to accept surety, and allow her to have the said custody.

Alicia did not long survive the gift of the custody, as appears by the following record:—

A.D. 1244.—“The king has pardoned the pledges of Alicia le Archer 100s. of the fine of 10*l.* which the said Alicia had made with the king for the custody and marriage of Nicholas, son and heir of Robertus le Archer. And the sheriff of Northampton is com-

manded to take surety of Magister Johannes de Ailesbir', executor of the aforesaid Alicia, for the residue of 100s. to be paid in the King's Exchequer at Michaelmas, and permit him to have peace. Teste Rege apud Cleve, on the fifth day of July in the year aforesaid."

And the sheriffs of Hereford, Warwick, and Leicester, are commanded to permit the executors to have free administration of all things and chattels which belonged to the aforesaid Alicia. Teste ut supra.

Bridges, in his history of this county, quoting from the Pipe Roll of the thirty-fifth year of the reign of King Henry III. (1250-51), states that "the successor of Robert" (le Archer) "was Nicholas le Archer."

The serjeanty of Nicholaus le Archer in Sibertoft was held for finding one man with bow and arrows to serve in the king's army within the bounds of England for forty days at his own expense.

Record No. 1.

A.D. 1239-44.—Robertus le Archer held Sibertoft by serjeanty of archery. Among the alienations of the same was that to *Johannes Franciscus* of half a virgate.

Record No. 2.

A.D. 1244-51.—In the account of the serjeanties arrented in this county by Robert Passelewe, which

we take to be of this period, is that of Nicholas le Archer, which was alienated in part. Among the alienations was that to *Johannes Franceys*, holding one virgate of land valued at 10s., for which he then made a fine of 40*d.* per annum.

WILLYBROOK HUNDRED.

GLAPTHORN.

King Henry III., in the thirty-second year of his reign (1248), granted by charter to *Hugo Franceys* eighteen acres and one rood of land in Clapethorne.

Inspeximus of charter dated 15th of October, 32 Henry III., 1248, being a grant in fee simple, at a yearly rent of 6*d.*, to *Hugo Fraunceys*, of the land which Radulphus de Karevill some time held in Glapthorn; and confirmation of the same in favor of Will-elmus Broun in Glapethorn, who holds the same land, now enclosed, and lying between the highway at Harlemere toward the east and land of the abbot of Peterborough toward the west. Dated at Woodstock, on the 1st of May, 1330.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

As a preliminary to the introduction of the records of this county, it seems appropriate to give the reader some idea as to the execution of its criminal laws which Mr. Page has brought to our notice in his preface to the Assize Rolls. He states: "In the Pleas of the Crown for 40th Henry III. there are recorded seventy-seven murders, for only four of which did the murderers receive their just punishment; in one case the murderer abjured the realm, and in the remaining seventy-two cases the murderers escaped with a slight punishment of outlawry. On the same roll we find seventy-eight cases of burglary, theft, etc., in twelve of which cases the felons were hanged, in fourteen they abjured the realm, and in the remaining fifty-two they escaped with only the punishment of outlawry.

"The enormous percentage of unpunished crime which these figures show is to be largely accounted for by the peculiar position of the county, from which it became a matter of comparative ease for a felon to escape to some place where the king's writ did not run. On the north was the kingdom of Scotland, on the south the palatinate of Durham, and between

these were the small liberties of Hexham, Tyne-mouth, Tynedale, Carham, and Norhamshire, Islandshire, and Bedlingtonshire."

In the year 1279 there is a record of a whole city being punished for the non-execution of the law. The following is the account given by Mr. Page:—

"James Fleming, a merchant of Newcastle, went out one day early in October, 1272, to collect some money for a Gascon wine merchant; and on returning he was met by Robert de Sautemareis, a clerk, with three attendants, named Robert de Virili, Simon de Ripun, and William de Punsland. These attendants were ordered to attack the merchant, which they did to such effect as to break his head, and then threw him half dead into a stream. Here he was found by his friends, who carried him to the house of John le Flemeng, a bailiff of Newcastle, where he shortly after died. In the proceedings it is stated that no inquest was held from the date of the death till 1274, notwithstanding that the felony was done in the day-time and was well known, nor was any one attached or taken; from which it appeared that the whole community of the borough was consenting to the murder, therefore the mayor, bailiffs, and coroners had to answer for this neglect of duty, and the liberties of the borough were taken into the king's hands." The past bailiffs from the date of the murder were all arrested except *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, who was in Norfolk. He appears to have been a foreign merchant,

was bailiff in the year 1277, and at the date of this record was called clericus. "The mayors and bailiffs had also to answer for that Robert de Sautemareis remained and was conversing in the borough from the day of the felony till the coming of the justices, and was not attached. And Robert de Virili and Simon de Ripun were taken and imprisoned, and afterwards found guilty by the coroner's inquest. Nevertheless, the mayor of Newcastle permitted Simon to be at large on bail without a precept from the king; and Simon withdrew himself, and was outlawed on suspicion. Robert de Virili remained in prison till Hugh de Berewik, clerk, Robert de Seghal, clerk, Thomas de Wodeslak, deacon, and Bartholomew Russel, chaplain, by procurement of Robert de Sautemareis, went one night and broke into the prison, and took him away to the chapel of Jesmond, from whence he escaped to the liberty of Tynemouth. The prison breakers were caught and handed to the sheriff; but, being clerics, they were demanded by and delivered to the Bishop of Durham. Upon Robert de Sautemareis being brought before the justices, he pleaded he was a clerk, and therefore that he need not answer there to the charge; whereupon he was delivered to the agents of the Bishop of Durham, but the jurors first inquired as to how he was delivered to the ecclesiastical authorities. And the jurors said upon their oath that he was guilty of the death of the same James Flemeng. And, in accordance with the statute

of bigamy, the jurors inquired if he was bigamist; for by the statute, if he had been twice married, he would have been debarred the privilege of clergy, in accordance with the Pope's ordinance at the Council of Lyons. They found, however, that he had married a widow who died eight years previously, which was before the date of the Council. He was therefore delivered to the bishop with the prohibition that he should not take purgation until he received a special license from the king. And his goods were forfeited because he withdrew himself."

GENERAL.

A.D. 1259.—Willelmus le Venur, Thomas de Thornton, Willelmus filius Alic', Thomas Githericheforth, Thomas filius Liolf', Robertus filius Willelmi, Walterus Gemel, *Robertus le Fraunceys*, Adam Isperote, Thomas Forest, and Walterus de Hextildesham fined 20s. for having an assize.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

A.D. 1235.—At the pleas of this year *Matheus le Franceys* de Novo Castro was amerced half a mark for selling wine, and in the following year he paid half a mark for the same.

A.D. 1279.—Thomas Wytewell, who appeared in a plea against Henricus le Scot and others, burgesses

of Newcastle upon Tyne, was in misericordia for false claim, but was pardoned at the instance of *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, probably the same person previously mentioned as bailiff.

At the pleas at Newcastle upon Tyne, in the octaves of Saint Hilary, 1279, Johanna, wife of Rogerus de Hynghowe, makes Hugo de Hawyk or *Ricardus Fraunceys* her attorney in a placitum terrae.

A.D. 1308.—Commission of oyer and terminer to John de Insula, Guischarde de Charrun, and John de Vallibus, on complaint by Richard de Emeldon, mayor of Newcastle-on-Tyne, that under his mayoralty John Poveray and Dionisia, his wife, William Poverey, Robert de Angirton, *Thomas Fraunceys*, and Adam Gripe, with others, broke his close and abducted Sibyl, daughter and heiress of John Shething', a minor in his custody.

CASTLE WARD.

TYNEMOUTH.

In the month of May, 1247, an agreement was made before Michael, Archdeacon of Stowa, judge and delegate of the lord the pope, and Nicholaus, chancellor of Lincoln, sub-delegate of the lord the Archdeacon of Northampton, co-judge of the said Archdeacon of Stowa, between Nicholaus, Bishop of Durham, and Johannes, abbot of St. Alban's, respecting the right of visitation in the case of the church

of Tynemouth, in the presence of the abbots of Novo Monasterio and Nottingham, of the Archbishop of Salopesburi, the magisters Hugo de Stanbrige, Willelmus de Burgo, and Odo de Kilkenni, and dominus *Johannes Francigena*, and many others.

WEETSLADE.

At the Placita de Juratis et Assisis for the county of Northumberland at Newcastle upon Tyne, before R. de Thurkelby and his associates, justices itinerant, on the morrow of the close of Easter, 1256, is found that Willelmus Miles, of Suthwydelade, was found dead in the moor of Magna Beneton; and Margeria, his wife, who first found him, is dead. And it is testified by the jurors that *Willelmus le Franceys*, of Wydeslade, and Walterus Molendinarius, of the same place, are suspected, and therefore demanded and outlawed; and the sheriff has to answer for their chattels. The villatae of Northwydeslade (High Weetslade), Suthwydeslade (Low Weetslade), and Cullingwurth, (Killingworth) did not come to the inquisition, and are therefore in misericordia.

COQUETDALE WARD.

JERDHILL.

The Vescy family was particularly identified with the foundation of the monastery of Alnwick. These

barons of Vescy held there the castle, and had a manor of Jerdhill among the possessions of their barony, which place appears to have passed by donation, in whole or in part, to the abbots of Alnwick.

At the Placita de Juratis et Assisis held before the justices itinerant at Newcastle upon Tyne, in the octaves of Hilary, in the year 1279, a statement was made by *Alanus*, son of *Hugo le Fraunceys*, that he was the tenant of the abbot of St. Mary of Alnwick, holding one messuage and twelve acres of land in Jerdhill, year by year.

GLENDALE WARD.

WOOLER.

On the 2d of April, 1255, at the division made of the possessions in this county, by the king's escheator, of the lands of Isabella de Forde, which she had inherited from her grandfather, Robert de Muscamp, through his eldest daughter, Cecilia, it is found that her heirs were her aunt Isabella, the wife of William de Huntercumbe, and her two cousins, Muriel and Margery, daughters of her aunt Margery, who had married Malise, Earl of Stratherne. These possessions were divided in two portions, the records of the first showing that *Robert le Franceys* held of the said Isabella de Forde possessions in the burgh of Wllouler.

MORPETH WARD.

MITFORD.

A.D. 1389.— The dispute between the men of Morpeth and Mitford regarding a moor was arraigned to be settled by the arbitration of the Earl of Northumberland and Sir John Scrope for the one party, and the Baron of Greystock and Sir Matthew Reman for the other party; and the perambulation was made on Tuesday next after the feast of Saint Barnabas the Apostle, in 1389, by *Thomas Franch*, of Mitforde, and others.

TINDALE WARD.

BLACK HEDDON.

At the pleas held at Newcastle upon Tyne, on the morrow of the close of Easter, 1256, Johannes de Hedon' gives half a mark for license to agree with *Willelmus le Franceys* and *Matilda*, his wife, in a plea of land.

A.D. 1256.— A fine was made at Newcastle in three weeks after Easter, 40 Henry III., between *Willelmus le Franceys* and *Matilda*, his wife, plaintiffs, and Johannes de Heddon, tenant, for one toft and twenty acres of land in Blakeheddon. The aforesaid *Willelmus* and *Matilda* acknowledged the said toft and

land to be the right of the said Johannes, as he holds it by their gift and of the heirs of *Matilda* forever. For this grant Johannes gave *Willelmus* and *Matilda* 30s. sterling.

At this same date Johannes de Heddon acknowledges that he owes *Willelmus le Franceys* and *Matilda*, his wife, 30s. for a fine made between them, the half of which he shall pay at Pentecoste, anno 40, and the other half at the feast of Saint Peter ad Vincula next following.

At the Placita de Juratis et Assisis held at Newcastle upon Tyne, in the octaves of Saint Hilary, 1279, it is found that among the pledges of the prior of the Hospital of Jerusalem, in England, was *Willelmus Fraunceys*, of Heddon.

A.D. 1279-80.—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *William Fraunceis* against John de Heddon and William Tod, touching tenement in Black Heddon.

CORBRIDGE.

A.D. 1256.—On the river Tyne you find the castle of Bywell, which was the capital of the barony of that name. It came by inheritance to John de Bailliol, who married Dervoirgill. Near by, on the same river, lies Corbridge, where among the tenants of this John de Bailliol was *Alanus le Franceis*, who,

with some others of same place, had a dispute with their overlord about the right of pasture in Chivedon. At the assize held at Newcastle upon Tyne, in the year 1256, *Alanus* and the others recovered seisin of the aforesaid pasture.

At the plea held at Newcastle upon Tyne on the 25th of June, 1269, an assize came to make recognition if Isabella, widow of Rogerus filius Johannis, *Alanus Fraunceys*, Robertus Forestarius, and others, had unjustly disseised Simon filius Waldevi of his free tenement in Corbridge. The recognitors said upon their oath that the aforesaid Simon held the said tenement in villeinage of the said Isabella, and never had seisin of the same as a free tenement, wherefore he could not be disseised; and they said that the aforesaid Isabella and all the others had not disseised the said Simon of the aforesaid tenement, so Isabella and all the others were dismissed sine die, and Simon was in misericordia for a false claim.

WALLINGTON.

In the year 1256 there is a record of *Adam le Franceys*, of Wallington.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

NOTTINGHAM CITY.

Robert de Salcey's charter to St. John's Hospital,
A.D. 1222-35:—

“To all the sons of Holy Mother Church to whom the present writing shall come, Robert de Salcey, greeting. Know ye, all of you, that I, out of respect for divine charity and for the health of the soul of my father, and for the souls of my ancestors and successors, have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to God and the Hospital House of St. John of Nottingham, and the brethren there serving God, in pure and perpetual alms, two bovates of land, with all their appurtenances, in the demesne of Estanton (Stanton-on-the-Wolds); to wit, those which William, the son of Godric, held, which were of my demesne, lying toward the sun. Moreover, I have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to God and the aforesaid house, and the brethren there serving God, all my ‘cultura’ which is called ‘Rihe-lands,’ which lies next to the road which leads towards

Nottingham, instead of a toft, with pasture for two hundred sheep, eight oxen, six barren cows, two horses and ten hogs, freely and quietly, wholly and fully, with all the liberties and with all the free commons and with all free easements, in meadows and pastures, in roads and lanes, and in all places within and without the vill. I, the said Robert, and my heirs will warrant and defend the aforesaid lands, with their appurtenances, to the aforesaid house and the brethren there serving God, against all men forever. In order that this my gift and grant may obtain in future times the authority of stability, I have confirmed it by the evidence of the present writing and by the protection of my seal. These being witnesses: Alexander de Villers, Gervase de Hunetorpe, Hugh de Carlton, *Gerard le Franceys*, Robert the son of Augustin, William le Coroner, of Nottingham, Anketin the son of Alice, of the same, Augustin the son of William, William the son of Brian, Walter de Widmarepes, Geoffrey the clerk of Nottingham, and many others."

In the Pipe Rolls of the fortieth year of the reign of Henry III. (1255-56), under the heading of New Oblations, is the following: "Henry le Ferun, Henry le Cupere, Rich. Barth, Roger Norman, Simon de Hoveringham, and *Robert le Franceis*, the rents of the mill of Nottingham."

BASSETLAW HUNDRED.

BLYTH.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Thomas Fraunceys*, of Blyth, against Luke le Taney and others, touching a tenement in Blyth.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Robert Franceis* against William le White, touching a messuage in Blyth.

ELKSLEY.

No date.— Probably towards the end of the thirteenth century. *Thomas Fraunceis*, of Elkesley, sold to the neighboring priory of Wirksope all his right in the wood and pasture of Coder, with the appurtenances. Witnesses, Sir Robert de Furneus, Sir William de Bevercotes.

KIRKTON.

John le Vavasor was rector of the church of Kyrketon, and aquired many parcels of land of *Robert*, son of *Robert Fraunceys*, of Kyrketon, which Sir Robert de Streley and Elizabeth, his wife, and Robert de Streley, knight, their son, confirmed to Robert and John, sons of the said Sir John Vavasor, which the said John, his son, passed to Robert, son of Lance-lene, in 6 Edward II. (1312-13).

WEST MARKHAM.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Henry*, son of *Richard le Fraunceis*, against William Odardi, touching a tenement in West Markham.

BROXTOW HUNDRED.

LENTON.

In the year 1286 Ranulf Paskayl, of Eastwait, for himself, his heirs, freeholders, and villeins, released to the priory of Lenton all the claim of right of common in the wood called Fulwood. Witnesses, Robert de Kymmerley, William de Belew, Robert de Watenhowe, John Passeys, *Robert Franceis*, and others.

WANDESLEY.

A.D. 1227-65.— Hugh Fitz-Ralph, for the love of God, and for the health of his soul, and for the souls of Agnes and Idonea, his wives, of Ralph and Hugh, his sons, and for the souls of all his ancestors and successors, gave to God and the Church of the Blessed Mary in Stanley Park, and the canons of the order of the Premonstratenses there serving God, seven bovates of land in the territories of Paynesthorp and

Seleston,—to wit, those which John de Molinton and Juge, his mother, held, and four bovates of land in the same territories, which Eda, the wife of Henry the Clark, held, and ten acres of land (measured by the perch of four and twenty feet) in the territory of Wandesleg, which *Hugh le Fraunceys* held,—with tofts, crofts, homages, services, wards, reliefs, and escheats; and he likewise confirmed to that monastery, for the same reasons, fourteen bovates of land in Little Halum, in Derbyshire, which the said canons gave him in exchange for ten bovates in Seleston.

NEWARK HUNDRED.

SIBTHORPE.

“Simon de Sibethorpe, 15 Edward III. (1341-42), claimed the advowson here against Thomas de Sibethorpe, whereof his, the said Simon’s, ancestor Robert was seized in the time of King Richard I., and presented one Richard de Sibethorpe, his clerk, who was admitted and instituted in the said Richard I.’s reign; from which Robert the right descended to Ralph, his brother and heir, who had William de Sibthorpe, his son and heir (who held half a knight’s fee here in the time of King Henry III., and afterwards a fourth part), which William had issue William, the father of Simon de Sibethorp, the plaintiff. But Thomas pleaded that

the forenamed Robert gave the said advowson to the Knights Templars, who presented John del Temple, *Anthony Fraunceys*, and William de la Bruere, their clerks, successively in the time of Henry III., and Gilbert de la Bruere, and upon his resignation Stephen de Kynardesey, in the reign of Edward I."

SOUTHWELL & SCROOBY LIBERTY.

BECKINGHAM.

5 Edward I. (1276-77).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Margaret la Fraunceyse* against Roger, son of William de Bekingham, and others, touching possessions in Beckingham.

6 Edward I. (1277-78).— Appointment of two justices to hear and determine the appeal of John, son of Alan de Bekingham, in the County Court of Nottingham, against Robert, son of John de Bekingham, Robert, son of John, son of Richard de Bekingham, William Hauenok', of Hayton, Radulph de Mitton, Eustace le Mercer, Robert de Horbir', Roger le Keu, Nicholas de Swaleweclyue, John Butemund, John, son of Reginald de Sk. . .wik', Robert Wisnard, Walter de Axholm, Herbert de Beltoft, *Alan le Fraunceis*, Roger de Beltoft, Robert, son of Alan de Bekingham, Thomas de Lanum, and *Robert le Fraun-*

ceis, of Bekingham, of the death of Alan, son of Alan de Bekingham, his brother. Dated Macclesfield, on the 30th of September.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Hugh, son of Robert Milent, and Richard, his brother, against Robert, son of Robert de Bekingham, and *Robert le Fraunceys*, touching a tenement in Beckingham in le Clay.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Margaret*, daughter of *Simon Fraunceis*, against Richard Barbot and others, touching land in Beckingham.

A.D. 1316, August 6.—*Joan*, late wife of *Alan Fraunceys*, of Bekyngham, acknowledges that she owes to John de Cokermuth, clerk, 200*l.*, to be levied, in default of payment, of her lands and chattels in the county of Nottingham. Dated at Lincoln. The chancellor received the recognizance. Cancelled on payment.

THURGARTON HUNDRED.

SNEINTON.

Robert Thoroton, in his history of this county, gives the following record, with his remarks on the same:—

“Henry de Perpunt and Annora, his wife, in the

former part of the reign of Edward I. were attached to answer to Henry, son of Robert, William de Blackwell, Richard del Hull, William Arnold, *Robert Fraunceys*, and very many others, the men or tenants of the said Henry and Annora, his wife, of the manor of Sneynton, which is ancient demesne of the king's crown, why they, contrary to the king's precept, exacted other services and customs of the said men than they were wont to perform when the said manor was in the hands of King John; namely, whereas they were wont to hold a bovate of land for 4s. per annum, and suit of court from three weeks to three weeks, for all services, the said Henry and Annora exact for the said bovate of land 13s. per annum. And, whereas they were wont to plead by a writ of right close, and to have their essoiners according to the custom of the manor, the said Henry and Annora would not suffer them to plead nor have essoins; and whereas they were wont to be amerced by their equals, and that according to the quantity of the faults, they amerced them out of the court according to their own will; and, whereas they were wont to have park (or pound) in the same town, they did not suffer them to have one. And also the said Henry and Annora taxed the said men or tenants 100 marks where they were not wont to be taxed, and for the said 100 marks took their cattle in Sneynton, and drove them out of the liberty of Sneynton to Holme. The said Henry and Annora,

by their attorney, pleaded that the said men were not upon the king's ancient demesne, but were their villeins. The court gave day that the Book of Domesday might be searched, wherein Notinton was found to be the king's land; but in Easter term, 15 Edward I. (1287), they had a jury to find that Sneynton was never called Notinton, but always Sneynton, and that Notinton was a part of Notingham, on that side towards Arnehall,— which surely is the most evidently false of anything that ever pretended to be called a verdict, as may be sufficiently discovered by what is here set down. But it served to get the tenants amerced, and finally to submit to what had been some while before, it seems, attempting against them; for I find in 4 Edward I. (1275-76) John de Sutton, bailiff of Henry de Albiniaco, contemned (or refused) to admit of the king's writs which the king's sokemen of Sneynton brought to him that year."

SUTTON UPON TRENT.

5 Edward I. (1276-77).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Stephen*, son of *William Fraunceys*, of Sutton-near-Trent, against Roger Wisman and Nicholas le Tailleur, touching a tenement in Sutton-near-Trent.

OXFORDSHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1189-90.—Henricus Caperun fined 11s. for having a covenant between him and *Robertus le Franceis*.

OXFORD CITY.

PARISH OF ST. MILDRED.

Circa A.D. 1210-20.—Be it known to those present and those to come that we, Willelmus de Pykerynge and Juliana, my wife, and Emma and Alicia, daughters of Johannes de Furno, for us and our heirs have remised and quitclaimed to God and the canons of St. Frideswide, at Oxford, all the right we have in the land which belonged to Kenelmus Sacerdos, in the parish of St. Mildred, which lies between the land of *Osbertus le Franceys* and that of Henricus Molendinari, which land Johannes de Furno, our father, formerly held in Oxford. And that . . . (warranty). And for this grant the said canons have given us 20s. sterling. In testimony whereof, etc. (sealing clause).

Circa A.D. 1210-28.— To all faithful in Christ, etc., Symon dictus Prior, and the convent of St. Frideswide, greeting in the Lord. Be it known to all of you that we, with unanimous consent, have granted, etc., to Symon filius Reginaldi that land which belonged to Kenelmus Sacerdos (the priest), in the parish of St. Mildred, which lies between the land of *Osbertus le Franceis* and that of Henricus Molendinarius. To have, etc., rendering yearly to us 10s. at four terms; namely [2s. 6d. quarterly, commencing at Michaelmas]. The conditions, however, being made that neither the said S. nor his heirs can grant, sell, or mortgage in the Jewry the said land without our license and consent. But for this, etc., the aforesaid S. has given us — marks of silver; and he has made oath to observe fidelity to our church. (sealing clause).

PARISH OF ST. PETER-LE-BAILEY.

There is no date to the following charter, but it was probably made toward the end of the twelfth century: —

Be it known to those present and those to come that I, *Simon Francus*, knight of Har', have given and granted in perpetual alms to the Church of Saint Frideswide, at Oxford, 12d. yearly rent, for myself, and the soul of *Emma*, my wife, and for the souls of my family; namely, of that land which Ailwinus held. And this rent in the aforesaid land I have assigned to

the said church with the consent of *Johannes Francus*, my brother and lord, and also with the consent of *Humfridus*, my heir, and others of my heirs.

· Circa A.D. 1190-1200.— Be it known to all, as well those present as those to come, that I, Robertus, son of Galfridus de Wytefeld, have confirmed the donation which Robertus and Leonardus, my uncles, with the consent of my father, made to Thomas filius Eilrici and Radulfus "placetor"; namely, that land extending from the house of Swellynge to the street which is in front of the house of Rogerus filius Sawy filius Langlif, so much as Robertus filius Petri once had there, and that land on which *Ricardus Francus* lived to the west of the monastery of St. Peter. These lands aforesaid I grant and by my seal confirm to Thomas filius Eilrici and Radulfus "piscator," and their heirs, to be held of me and my heirs in fee and inheritance, etc., they rendering yearly to me for the same one pound of pepper for all service.

BAMPTON HUNDRED.

BURFORD.

1 Edward I. (1272-73).— License to *Lambert le Fraunceis*, merchant of Burford, to take twenty sacks of wool which he has in the kingdom, which he bought for his own use of others than Flemings or

Hainaulters, and which he can reasonably show to be his own, to any part beyond seas, except such as are within the power of the Countess of Flanders, the said merchant having made oath before the king's locum tenentes in England that he will not take out of the kingdom wools or other goods into Flanders, or elsewhere within the power of the Countess of Flanders, during the contention between the king and the said countess, which recently arose between Henry III. and herself, and that he will not sell such wool or other goods to Flemings or others of the power of the said countess, nor make exchange with them thereof, nor deal by art or craft so that the said wools or other goods may come into the hands of the subjects of the said countess, nor receive any money from the Flemings for trading with wools or other merchandise to the behoof of the said Flemings, nor avouch their goods nor those of any other subjects of the said countess, on pain of forfeiture to the king of any of their wools or other goods found in the kingdom; with a safe conduct to the said merchant in taking the aforesaid twenty sacks out of the kingdom.

KENCOTT.

A.D. 1341.—*Nicholaus le Frensch* was a juror of the parish of Kenycote at the valuation of the ninth of fleece, sheaves, and lambs.

STANDLAKE.

At an inquisition made in this county in the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) it is found that Lord Johannes Maudut holds in Stanlak one carucate of land in demesne of the Countess of Wyth, who holds in capite of the king.

And Lord Johannes Maudut holds it for three-eighths of a fee, having free market on Friday, a fair for two days at the feast of Saint Egidius, besides a pillory, tumbrel, a park and free fishery; and its valuation is 7s. 8d. He has also assize of bread and ale.

Lord Osbertus Giffard holds in the same place one carucate of land in demesne, as Johannes Maudut, for three-eighths of a fee, having the same liberties as Johannes, its valuation being 7s. 8d.; and he shall pay scutage for three-eighths of a fee to the said Johannes.

Among the cotarii in this place of this Osbertus Giffard is *Matilda Fraunceys*, who holds one cottage and five acres of land for a yearly rent of 15d., and instead of work 8½d.

The whole vill of Stanlak is held by the Countess of Wyth for one knight's fee and a half, and the said Johannes Maudut receives all the scutage and is responsible to the countess.

WITNEY.

On the 31st of January, 1369, Johannes de Crekelade was admitted to the church of Wyhendon, in

the diocese Worcester, which he received in exchange with *Johannes Frenche*, who then became the rector of the church of Witteney.

Magister *Johannes Frenshe*, rector of the church of Wytteneye, and *Johannes de Kelleseye*, rector of the church of Uppingham, exchanged churches on the 5th of March, 1370.

BANBURY HUNDRED.

GREAT BOURTON.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).—*Johannes Kachelowe* holds half a knight's fee in Burtona Major of the heirs of *Robertus de Veteri Ponte*; and these heirs hold of the Bishop of Lincoln, who holds of the king.

The assigns of *Willelmus de la Sale* hold in the same vill half a knight's fee of the heirs of *Robertus de Veteri Ponte*, who hold of the Bishop of Lincoln, who holds of the king; and these assigns give 20s. in scutage.

Willelmus ad Fontem holds one and a half acre of land of this fee, paying to *Johannes Kachelowe* one half-penny per annum, with scutage.

Robertus le Franceis holds three acres of land of the same fee for one rose per annum, and he gives 2*d.* in scutage.

BULLINGTON HUNDRED.

IFLEY.

In the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) the abbot of Oseneye held in the manor of Iftele 2s. of yearly rent in pure alms of the tene-ment which had belonged to *Willelmus Franceys*, do-nated by Reginaldus Child and confirmed by Agnes Basset.

CHADLINGTON HUNDRED.

HOOK NORTON.

In the year 1129 Robert D'Olleyo, second, founded the Church of St. Mary in the Island of Oseney with the consent of Theobaldus, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, at the petition of Editha, daughter of Forn.

Charter to Osney of Robert d'Ouilly II., its founder:—

Be it known to all faithful of the holy church, as well those present as those to come, that I, Robertus de Olleyo, with the will and consent of Edida, my wife, and Henricus and Robertus, my sons, give and grant in perpetual alms to the church of God and Saint Mary, his mother, and the canons serving there, which church I, by the consent and confirmation of

Alexander, by the grace of God Bishop of Lincoln, have founded in the island called Oseneia, for the safety of the king and the welfare of all the realm, as well as for that of myself, my wife, my sons, my parents and friends, all that belongs to me in the aforesaid island, with all the dwelling-houses which I had on the land belonging to my mills, near the castle of Oxford, and the tithes of these mills; and the following churches of my land,—namely, those of Cudlingtona, of Westona, of Hokenorton, of Cleydona, of Sheneston, and of Cesterton; within the burgh of Oxford the lands held by Engericus, Reymundus, Aylnoth, Godwinus filius Edwacher, Ermenoldus, Godwinus Nicuma, Sweting Cadica, Ravening, Segrim juxta murum, Henricus Coruiser, Leofwinus claudus, Godwinus monetarius, Brythricus monetarius, Godericus, Gulielmus, Radulphus pistor, Leofwinus Budda, and Gaufridus molendinarius; and 2s. rent which Fromundus capellanus held, with the tithes of Nicholaus de Stodeham, which the said Fromundus held; my manor within Hokenorton, half a hide which belonged to *Hugo Franceys*, or *Francigena*, and one virgate which Mauricius canonicus held, and after him his son Simon; and near the castle of Oxford, under the wall, one house which belonged to Warinus capellanus; my whole vill of Ethona with appurtenances, except the mill which I have given to another church; and Sparewesya, as well as that part which my mother holds, whenever she shall abandon

it, so it may come to the church and to the use of the brethren. Wherefore, I will and wish that the aforesaid church shall hold the aforesaid things well and in peace, wholly and honorably, with all customs and liberties; namely, in wood and plain, in meadow and pasture, in waters, ponds, and lanes, and all other places, as held by others or by myself when in my lordship. Testibus, Waltero archidiacono, Rahero priore, Main' et Waltero monachis de Abbendon, Willelmo capellano, Gaufrido Arturo, Rogero de Amar, Edwardo presbitero de Tiwa, Simeone clerico, Fulco de Olleyo, Hugone de Tiwa, Roberto filio Widonis, Philippo de Hamtona, Radulpho filio Rogeri et aliis.

IDBURY.

In 15 Edward III. (1341) *Thomas Frensch* was among the jurors of this parish at the valuation of the ninth of fleece, sheaves, and lambs.

NORTON.

A.D. 1241.—At the pleas at Oxford, in fifteen days of Easter, in the twenty-fifth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John, an assize came to make recognition if Egidius de Berkele unjustly, etc., disseised *Galfridus Le Franceis* of his free tenement in Parva Norton. The jury said that the aforesaid Egidius had not disseised him. Therefore, it is con-

sidered that *Galfridus* shall gain nothing by this assize; and he is in misericordia for false claim.

DORCHESTER HUNDRED.

EPWELL.

A.D. 1279-80.—Robertus Danvers holds of the Bishop of Lincoln, in the hamlet of Eppewelle and elsewhere, one knight's fee, giving scutage to the said bishop for all service.

Robertus de Loveday holds in this hamlet of Eppewelle one messuage and ten virgates of land, with appurtenances; and he holds . . . Wykham, and shall make suit to the court of the aforesaid Robertus Danvers.

Of these ten virgates of land *Robertus Franceys* holds one messuage with three virgates of land in the same hamlet, giving to Robertus de Loveday . . . 8s.; and *Robertus Franceys* shall make suit to the court of the aforesaid Robertus Danvers, and give scutage, for all service.

EWELME HUNDRED.

EWELME.

A.D. 1278-79.—Lord Adam Dispensarius holds in fee of his lord the king, by serjeanty, in demesne five

virgates and four acres of land, eight acres of meadow and twenty acres of wood, with the advowson of the church of Ewelme; and he holds in villeinage five and a half virgates.

Among the free tenants of Lord Adam Dispensarius is *Walterus Franciscus*, who holds half a virgate of land by charter, giving yearly for the same one pound of pepper and making suit to the court.

Lord Adam Dispensarius holds also in the vill of Ewelme of Magister Radulphus de Nebaton the tenth part of a knight's fee, of the fee of Fancelin; and in this fee he has several tenants, among whom is *Walterus Franciscus*, who holds half a virgate of land, giving for the same 5s. annually.

LANGTREE HUNDRED.

LITTLE STOKE.

A.D. 1278-79.—Johannes Marmion is lord of Chakenden and Stoke Marmion, and he holds the said vill and hamlet of Philippus Marmion for service of one knight; and the said Philippus holds of the king.

Among the free tenants in Stoke Parva is Johannes Marmyon, who holds two acres of land for a rent of 5s. for all service.

Robertus le Franceys holds free one cotland of Johannes Marmion for half a mark for all service.

PLOUGHLEY HUNDRED.

BICESTER.

Circa A.D. 1217.—Robert Fitz-Michael, in consideration of 1 mark in silver and the yearly rent of 1*℔*. of cumin at Easter, granted to the Church of St. Edbury in Burcester, and the monks of that convent, two acres of land in Burecroft beyond the priory court, lying between the land of Nicholas, son of Harold, and the land of John Godard.

Know present and future that I, Robertus filius Michaelis, for the welfare of my soul and for the souls of my ancestors and successors, have given and granted, and by my present charter have confirmed, to God and the Church of St. Edbury in Burnecestria, and the canons serving God there, in free and perpetual alms, two acres of land in Buricroft beyond the court of the said canons; namely, those two acres lying between the land of Nicholaus filius Haraldi and the land of Johannes Godard, with all its appurtenances. To hold in perpetuity of me and my heirs, honorably and in peace, giving therefore yearly to me and my heirs 1*℔*. of cumin at Easter for all service or exaction belonging to me and my heirs. And I, the said Robertus, and my heirs will warrant the said two acres of land with its appurtenances to the said canons against all men and women in perpetuity. But for this donation, grant, and confirmation the

aforesaid canons have given me 1 mark in silver. And, that this my donation, grant, and confirmation may remain firm and stable in the future, I have appended my seal to this present writing. Hiis testibus, domino Roberto Daumari, Genteschive Paupere, Radulfo de Cestreton, Johanne filio Willelmi Waltero filio Dru, Walhamot Paupere, Roberto de Badinton, *Radulfo Franceis*, Petro de Wendlebure, et multis aliis.

In Kennet's "Parochial Antiquities of Ambrosden, Burcester," etc., is the following: "Circa A.D. 1245, William Longespe, by right Earl of Salisbury, though he had never possession of that earldom, lord of the manors of Burcester and Midlington, gave to the priory of Burcester a certain pasture land called Heescroft, lying on the west side of the highway leading to Wrechwich, as far as the bridge, with the whole meadow adjoining, to enclose and convert at their pleasure; as also his whole right and title in a mill which Robert Puff held of him, saving to himself and heirs the free grinding of corn for their own family; as also a messuage in Crocwell, for which the said canons used to pay yearly 15*d.*: in consideration of all which the canons did remit to him and his heirs 60*s.* yearly rent, which they had in the mill of Wivesley. Hiis testibus, domino Nicholao Malens, domino Ricardo Lungespe, Henrico de la Mare, Johanne de Muel, militibus; Stephano Lungespe, Rogero de London seneschallo, *Radulpho de F(ra)uncceis*, et multis aliis."

In the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) Henricus de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, holds three carucates of land in demesne in the vill of Burcestria; and he has this land by his wife, Margaret Longespee, the daughter and heir of Willelmus de Longespee, who had it by the gift of the king. And it is within the precincts of the honor of Wallingford; and he has warren and fair of King Henry, the father of King Edward.

Johannes Franceys holds five acres of land in villeinage for 4s. per annum; and he has to come once a year to the view of frankpledge before the steward of Wallingford, and he shall give scutage.

KIRTLINGTON.

A.D. 1278-79.—Ela Longespee, Countess of Warwick, holds the manor of Curligton in dower, in capite of the king, for the fourth part of a knight's fee.

Among the cotarii of this countess was *Willelmus Franceys*, holding one cottage for 6d. per annum.

WESTON ON THE GREEN.

In the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1278-79) the abbot of Osney held, in pure and perpetual alms, five carucates of land with appurtenances in the vill of Weston, the gift of Henricus Doyli, who

held it of the king in capite for two knights' fees; and the abbot had here one park containing four acres, warren, view of frankpledge, and a water mill.

Martinus le Wyle holds of the said abbot in villeinage one virgate of land for 5s. per annum, doing bodily work and redeeming his sons according to the wishes of the lord. Besides, he shall give toll, service, pannage, and is not allowed to sell horse or ox without license of his lord.

In the same manner *Adam Franceys* and *Robertus Lille* hold one virgate.

PYRTON HUNDRED.

PYRTON.

In the seventh year of the reign of King Edward I. (1279-80) *Johannes le Franceys* held in the vill of Pyrtton, of the prior of Norton, one virgate of land and one acre of meadow for 8s. per annum.

WATLINGTON.

Post 1133, early in the reign of King Stephen, Hadmadus de Bidun grants to the Church of St. Mary of Oseney, and to the canons serving God there, the church of Watlintuna, one virgate of land, etc., in frankalmoign, for the health of himself and his rela-

tions. Witnesses, Daniele abbate, Mam le bret, Dro-gone, Roberto, Pet' clerico, Ricardo filio Roberti, Wlurico et Ricardo filio ejus, Aschetillo fratre Dro-gonis, Helia fores, Olholf, Ricardo filio Wlmari, Roberto famulo, *Waltero franceis*.

A.D. 1278-79.— Lord Edmundus, Earl of Cornwall, holds the manor of Watlington, with all its appurtenances, in capite of the king for one knight's fee.

Among the free tenants was Robertus de Syreffeld, holding in the said vill of Watlington, of the said earl, four virgates of land, giving for the same 20s. 4*d.* and harvest work, having the food of the lord; and he shall make suit to the court, and give scutage.

Willelmus le Franceys holds in the same vill of the said Robertus de Syreffeld three acres of land of the said four virgates, by mesne of Ricardus de la Felde, for 10*d.* per annum.

THAME HUNDRED.

MORETON.

A.D. 1278-79.— The lord abbot of Thame holds in the hamlet of Morton one virgate of land in pure and perpetual alms, a gift of *Robertus le Franceis*.

WOOTTON HUNDRED.

COGGS.

A.D. 1278-79.—Isabella de Gray holds in dower of Robertus de Gray, her son, two carucates of land in demesne, with adjoining meadow and pasture, in the vill of Coges. Robertus de Gray holds it in capite of the king by barony, and it is of the barony of Harsik (Arsic), and gives scutage, and makes custody at the castle of Dover (Dov'e) for 20s. per annum.

Among the free tenants of Isabella de Gray is *Gervaseus le Franceys*, who holds one acre of land, giving her yearly 12*d.* for the same.

ENSHAM.

A.D. 1278-79.—*Adam le Franceys* holds of the abbot of Eynesham one virgate of land in Tilgardsle, member of Eynesham, for handicraft and tallage, redeeming his sons at the will of the said abbot.

LITTLE TEW.

A.D. 1278-79.—Robertus de Brok' holds in Parva Tywa four virgates of land in demesne of the Earl of Lincoln, and this earl of the king in capite, of the honor of Pontifract.

Among the free tenants of the said Robertus, belonging to the said honor of Pontefract, is *Johannes le Franscys*, who holds one virgate of land, giving one pound of pepper, one pound of cumin, and suit to his court, for all service.

SANDFORD.

A.D. 1278-79.—*Johannes de Sancto Johanne* is the lord of the vill of Saunford, and holds it with two carucates of land belonging to the manor of Barton for the third part of a knight's fee in capite of the king.

Among the villani of *Johannes de Sancto Johanne* is *Thomas Franceys*, who holds one virgate of land for a yearly rent of 6*d.*, besides tilling, mowing, weeding, and cutting until the feast of Saint Michael, and redeeming his sons at the lord's will.

Robertus Franceys holds one virgate in the same manner.

YARNTON.

Circa A.D. 1274-75.—*Edmund*, Earl of Cornwall, holds the manor of Erdington of the king in capite of the honor of St. Wallery. And the same earl holds in demesne three carucates of land, with meadow and pasture adjoining; and he has view of frankpledge, with the pleas and profits of the same,

and the right of warren of the whole manor, by what warrant the jurors know not. And the manor should be represented twice a year at the hundred of Wotton; but it has been withdrawn by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, on what warrant they know not.

Willelmus le Fraunceys holds in villeinage of the said earl one virgate of land for 4*s.*, and should work and redeem his children.

A.D. 1282.—Commission of oyer and terminer to Robert Malet and Walter de Agmod[esham], on complaint by John Giffard, the younger, that John de Escheke, Simon Betom of Erdington, *William Fraunceis*, Ralph le Carpenter, Thomas Reine, Simon Brid, Robert North, and Nicholas de Horssepathe carried away his goods at Erdington, County Oxford, whilst he was under the king's protection and on his service in Wales, and assaulted his men. Dated at Ruthin, on the 8th of September.



SHROPSHIRE.

BRADFORD, SOUTH, HUNDRED.

BERWICK MAVISTON.

Ante 1230.—Geoffrey, son of Daumar de Suggedon, grants and confirms to *William*, son of *William le Franceys*, of Berewike, and *Sibil*, his wife, for his homage and service, and for a sum of 5 marks and 3s., paid to the grantor in his urgent necessity, half a virgate in Suggedon; namely, that which *William Walsensis* held. To hold to the grantees, their heirs and assigns, under the grantor and his heirs, in fee; paying therefore a penny rent to the grantor, and 2s. rent, on the grantor's behalf, to Haghmon Abbey. Witnesses, Sir Peter, chaplain of the Church of St. Almund, Salop.

CHARLTON.

A.D. 1277-78.—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *William Franceys*, of Chirlton, against Adam (or Ada), son (or daughter) of *William de Norton*, touching rent in "Opiton."

William Fraunceys, of Cherleton, concedes to Richard Bernehoud, of Cherleton, an acre in the fields towards Walcote, upon Sundornehull, to hold from Michaelmas, 1306, till six crops should have been taken therefrom. The premises were bounded by lands of John de Cherleton and Michael de Laueley. The grantor also concedes another acre towards La Lee, for three crops, at the rent of 1 rose. Witnesses, Adam Bernehoud, Alan le Pokere, and others.

William le Fraunceis, of Cherleton, gives to Roger le Monck, of Salop, and Juliana, his wife, for a sum of money, one messuage, together with all his land of Cherleton, to hold of the lords of the fee. The messuage is described as lying between the land of Sir John de Cherleton, knight, and the tenement which belonged to the Church of St. Mary, Salop. The deed is dated at Cherleton, on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1308, and attested by John de la Leye, Adam Bernehoud, Alan le Pokere, and others.

HIGH ERCAL.

Circa A.D. 1310.—William de Erkalewe, knight, grants to *Robert de Fraunce*, and others, land in Ercall waste, between the land of Dame Petronilla, Lady of Ercalewe, and the lands of John de Ercaluwe, Robert, his son, and Agnes, his daughter. Witnesses, John de Styvinton, Geoffrey, Lord of Peninton, etc.

At a short distance to the north of this place, in North Bradford hundred, is Stanton upon Hineheath, where we find among those assessed in a Subsidy Roll of 1322, was *Robert Fraunce* for 3s. 4d.

MEESON.

This member of Bolas seems to have given a name to a family. Among the records identified with it we find that *William le Fraunceis* with William de Eton were amerced half a mark in 1247 for some default in suretyship; and *William Fraunceys*, of Meeson, occurs on a local jury in 1249.

At the assizes of January, 1256, William de Ercaule had suits of novel disseisin with Henry Mauvesin and with *William Fraunceys*, probably of Meeson. In these suits William de Ercaule appoints his son John as his attorney.

ROWTON.

At the assizes of January, 1256, John de Erkalewe appeared as bailiff of his father William, then sick, and vainly defended an action brought against the said William de Erkalewe by *William le Franceys* and John de Rewelton, for having injuriously set up a stank in Rewelton and Osbardiston (Osbaston), and thereby injuring the plaintiff's tenements.

A.D. 1274-75.—Appointment of two justices to

take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Thomas le Fraunceys* against Henry de Erdington and others, touching a tenement in Roulton.

A.D. 1275-76.—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Thomas le Fraunceis* against Henry de Herdington and others, touching a tenement in Roulton.

WELLINGTON.

On May 21, 1377, Sir Robert Corbet, knight, Lord of Hadley, concedes to John, prior of Wombridge, a messuage, a half-virgate, a mill, and a croft in Hadley for a term of ninety-nine years, during which the said prior was to provide a brother canon and a chaplain to celebrate services in the chapel within the gates of Hardley manor-house for the souls' health of the said Sir Robert, his wives, children, ancestors, and heirs, on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, weekly. Witnesses, Sir John Appeley, knight, *Roger le Freynche*, of Wellington, and others.

BRIMSTREE HUNDRED.

BROCKTON.

Radulphus de Sanford, Lord of Sanford and Ruthall, grants at Sutton Maddock, between the years

1205 and 1211, one virgate in Brocton, which he had obtained from Griffin de Sutton. This grant was in favor of Margaret, daughter of Ricardus the Priest (Sacerdotis), of Brocton, half of which land *Rogerus Francigena* held, and Osbertus the other half.

This *Rogerus Francigena* may have been the ancestor of *Rogerus le Fraunceys*, of Cressage, from the fact that the locations were near, and this Christian name is rare in the early history of the *Fraunceys* of this county.

CONDOVER HUNDRED.

ACTON BURNELL.

A.D. 1275-76.— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *William Fraunceis* against Robert, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and others, touching a tenement in Acton-Burel.

BELSWARDINS.

The fines by which Robert Burnell effected his purchases of some of his possessions in Belswardine were passed at Salop on Nov. 18, 1272. Among these it is noticed that Walter de Conede, plaintiff, quitclaims to *William le Fraunceys*, tenant, a mesuage and bovate in Bedeleswurdh, which had been

subject of a suit of grand assize. *William*, at the instance of Walter, concedes the premises to Robert Burnell and his heirs for a sum of 6 marks, to be held of the lords of the fee.

William le Fraunceys, of Badeleswurthyn, impeditent, acknowledges himself to have given a moiety of one virgate and a quarter in Badeleswurthyn to Robert Burnell, plaintiff, represented by Maculine de Harley; to hold to Burnell and his heirs, paying a rent of one rose to the grantor, and performing all capital services. This fine purports to be the conclusion of a suit of charter warranty, and Burnell gives a sore sparrow-hawk.

This *Willelmus le Franceys*, of Belswardine, was probably the same person who as *Willielmus Franciscus* was bailiff of the hundred of Condover.

In November, 1274, eleven jurors reported on the state of the manor of Condover, and complained of the unjust and arbitrary distrains levied on the men of Condover by Johannes de la Hulle and Willelmus de Bassechirch, who were bailiffs of the hundred of Condover with *Willielmus Franciscus*.

CRESSAGE.

At the assizes of January, 1256, *Roger le Fraunceys* makes *Christiana*, his wife, his attorney in two suits of land in Cressage, one against William le Clatere,

the other against Gilbert le Frome and Margery, his wife.

It is not impossible that this same *Rogerus le Fraunceys* may have held for a time land, near by, in Nether-Stanwey, in Munslow hundred, of which we find the following notice at the assizes of September, 1272:—

Alice, daughter of Walter de Kenigford, and Margaret, his wife, sued John Abel (Aberd) and Thomas de Holgotcastle for disseising her of three messuages and one and a half virgate in Nether-Stanwey. John pleaded that Margaret, mother of the plaintiff, had enfeoffed himself and *Roger le Franceys* in the premises, and that *Roger le Franceys* had since transferred his interest to John. The jury found that Margaret had indeed some time given a part of the premises to *Roger le Franceys*, but only as tenant at her will, that she had since reseized that part, and given the whole to John Abel in marriage with her daughter Alice; lastly, that, when John and Alice were divorced, John retained the land. Hereupon the court gave sentence of unjust disseisin against John Abel.

Although *Johannes Franceys* is mentioned as of Cressage, we find nothing to show that he belonged to the family of *Rogerus le Fraunceys*, of that place. This *Johannes Franceys* is recorded as a juror for Condover hundred at the assizes of 1272, at the inquest of 1274, and the assizes of 1292. He sat also at the inquest at Little Buildwas in December, 1302.

MUNSLOW HUNDRED.

CORFHAM.

A.D. 1254-55.—The jurors of the manor of Corfham said that Lord Walterus de Clifford holds this manor of the king for the service of one knight, and it contains seven and a half hides of land.

Among the tenants of the vill of Corfham were Reginaldus chaplain of Dourleg', Master Johannes Medicus, of Blockeleg', Philip Sturin, and *Ricardus le Franceys*, of Hulton.

LITTLE SUTTON.

"*William le Franceis* was enfeoffed in 1215 by Robert de Sutton, whose reserved rent was 3s. This rent Robert de Sutton transferred to Henry Moneyer; and William, Henry's son, quitclaimed it to the king."

The holdings of Robert de Sutton in this place are indicated by an inquisition of later date, wherein it is stated that Robert de Sutton held Sutton for half a hide of the king.

In the account of serjeanties arrented by Robert Passelewe, who visited Shropshire about March, 1247, is the following: The serjeanty of Osbertus de Sutton (son of Robertus de Sutton), in Sutton, for which he should provide a horse with head-stall to

convey the king's treasure yearly at Michaelmas from Shrewsbury to London, is alienated in part.

Willelmus le Franceys, holding half a virgate of this serjeanty valued at 8s. per annum, then made a fine for a yearly rent of 2s. 6d. to the crown.

The following eight greater tenants — namely, *Willielmus de Crowe*, *Willielmus de Fraunceys*, *Willielmus filius Henrici*, *Nicholaus de Staunton*, *Willielmus Chayles*, *Elias de Sutton*, *Ricardus filius Philippi*, and *Rogerus de Staunton* — hold together the thirtieth part of a fee.

“In 1254 the aid for marrying the king's daughter was put in charge at the rate of 40s. on every knight's fee. The eight greater tenants were not charged, as we should have expected, 16d. in common on a thirtieth of a fee, but 16d. each, as if they held eight-thirtieths of a fee.”

A.D. 1256.— The *inquisitio post mortem* of *Willielmus le Fraunceys* of this year shows that he held twenty-nine acres in capite in Sutton Parva, and *Willielmus*, his son and heir, was twenty-six years of age in this year.

A.D. 1256.— The king took homage of *Willelmus le Franceys*, son and heir of *Willelmus le Franceys*, for all the lands and tenements which the said *Willelmus*, his father, held of the king in capite; and the king has given him all these lands and tenements. And the sheriff of Salop is ordered to take surety of the said *Willelmus* for 3s., to be paid into the King's Ex-

chequer at Easter next for his relief; and the said *Willelmus* shall have full seisin in all the aforesaid lands and tenements which *Willelmus*, his father, held in the county of Salop, of which he was seized when he died, and which on account of his death had been taken into the king's hands.

This *Willelmus le Franceys*, the son, appears to have died a short time after, as his sisters succeeded to the inheritance of their father in 1258. The inquisition after the death of their brother *Willelmus le Franceys* shows that *Margeria*, the eldest, was twenty-four years of age, and *Alicia*, the youngest, was fourteen years old.

The following records show the successions of his sisters, *Margeria*, *Juliana*, and *Alicia*, to the inheritance of their father, *Willelmus le Franceys*:—

A.D. 1258.—The king took homage of *Margeria*, daughter and one of the heirs of *Willelmus le Franceys*, for a third part of the lands and tenements which the said *Willelmus* held of the king in capite; and the king granted her this third part. And Stephanus de Botherle (Bitterley, of Bitterley), the king's escheator in County Salop, is ordered to take surety of the said *Margeria* for 20*d.*, to be paid at the Exchequer at Michaelmas next for her relief of the said third part, and to give full seisin to this *Margeria* of the third part of all the lands and tenements which belonged to the aforesaid *Willelmus* in the bailiwick of Beterle (Bitterley), and of which *Will-*

elmus was seized in demesne as of fee on the day of his death. And the remaining parts, the inheritance of *Juliana* and *Alicia*, coheirs of *Margeria*, are to remain in the king's hands. Teste Rege apud Merleberg' (Marlborough), on the sixth day of June.

A.D. 1258.—The king took homage of *Juliana* and *Alicia*, daughters and coheirs of *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, for two parts of the land and tenements which the aforesaid *Willelmus*, their father, held of the king in capite; and the king has granted them these two parts. And Stephanus de Boterle, the king's escheator in County Salop, is commanded to take surety of them for 40*l.*, to be paid into the Exchequer at Michaelmas next for their relief; and seisin is given them in the two parts of all the lands and tenements which had belonged to the aforesaid *Willelmus* in the bailiwick of Boterle, of which *Willelmus* was seized, etc., on the day when he died, etc. Teste Rege at Oxford, on the seventeenth day of June.

A writ of Oct. 16, 1306, orders an inquest to be taken on the death of *Alicia le Frense*, and a jury which met on October 31 found that the deceased had held one messuage, twenty-six acres of land, and two acres of meadow in capite in Sutton; that the service arrented thereon was 2*s.* 6*d.* per annum; that the tenement was worth 13*s.* per annum; and that *Rogerus le Frense* was her next heir, and twenty-eight years of age and more.

A.D. 1306.—Walterus de Gloucester, escheator beyond Trent, is commanded to take into the king's hands all the lands and tenements which *Alicia de Frense* held of the king, and of which she died seized.

In April, 1323, an inquisition taken after the death of *Rogerus le Frenssh*, shows that he held one mesuage and thirty acres of land in Sutton Parva in capite, for a rent of 2s. 6d., and by suit to the court of Munslow hundred every three weeks; and he left a son, *Willelmus le Frenssh*, who was twenty-one years of age on the 25th of March, 1323.

STOKESAY.

Hugh de Say about the year 1174 gave the church of this place to Haughmond Abbey. The deed by which it was conveyed had the confirmation of Hugh de Lacy as seignoral lord. Hugh de Say must have been a very old man in 1194, at which time he had a suit as regards the bosc of Renhall, in which he is described as of Stoke (upon Tern), where he had part of his possessions. As he did not appear, the case was evidently postponed to the 12th of November, in the same year, of which date we have the following record.

Hugo de Sai essoined himself de malo veniendi by *Willielmus Franceis* in a placitum bosci versus *Willielmus filius Simonis*, who had been appointed by *Fulco de Aili* in his place.

OVERS HUNDRED.

BITTERLEY.

In 1256 Margery, widow of Richard Landien, having taken out a writ of dower against *Richard le Franceys*, of Bitterley, for a share in a tenement in this place, withdrew the suit.

PIMHILL HUNDRED.

PETTON.

On a Roll of 1272 is a notice of a suit of dower which *Matilda*, widow of *Reginald de Fraunceys*, had arraigned against Richard de Petton, coroner of Shropshire, Richard fitz Chapelen and Margery, his wife, and Griffin Seule and Agnes, his wife, but had since withdrawn. It was her late husband's tenement at Petton, in which she had sought dower.

STOTTESDON HUNDRED.

ASTLEY.

At the assizes of 1272 *William le Franceys*, William de Hordwych, Richard Carpenter, and Roger Saer attended with Robert, their provost, for this manor.

ROMSLEY.

At Shrewsbury assizes, November, 1221, *Robert le Franceis* being dead, a suit of mort d'ancestor, which he had arraigned against Richard de la Vestene and Agnes, his mother, concerning a virgate in Remesleg, was postponed.

The following may have been the settlement: On Nov. 12, 1221, Agnes Fitz-Robert, being plaintiff against Richard Fitz-John and Agnes de Wascon, concerning half a virgate in Ramesleg, remits her right to Richard and Agnes and the heirs of Richard, for which the latter paid her 10s.

WENLOCK LIBERTY.

BRADLEY.

"It seems that Alan de Buildwas (III.) left a daughter and sole heir, Alice, who became the wife of Edmund de Leynham. This lady, as yet unmarried, and being styled Alice de Buildwas, was sued at the assizes of 1292 for a toft and half a virgate in Posenhall, in which the plaintiff, *Thomas le Frensche*, of Bradeleye, alleged that she had no ingress save through Alan de Buildewas, who had held the same for a term, now expired, by demise of *Agnes* de Bradeleye, the plaintiff's mother. The defendant, Alice,

acknowledged that she had ingress by Alan (probably her father), but denied that the said Alan had been demisee of Agnes, for that the latter had never been seized of the premises. In this the jury acquiesced, and the plaintiff was in misericordia pro falso clamore."

Agnes de Bradeleye was without doubt the wife of William de Bradeleye, of whom we have a record as early as 1248. Prior to this date, and according to the following record, her previous husband must have been *William le Fraunceys*, by whom she had sons, *William le Fraunceys*, and *Thomas le Frensche* mentioned in the previous record.

On Aug. 17, 1260, Giles de Erdinton was appointed specially to try a suit of novel disseisin which *William*, son of *William le Fraunceys* and *Agnes*, his wife, had brought against Robert Beumys, concerning a tenement in Stanwey.



SOMERSETSHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1199, 20 June.—Pleas, etc., in the octaves of Holy Trinity.

Robertus Franceis and others were sent to view the infirmity of Paganus de Walton, who had essoined himself de malo lecto in a placitum terrae versus Reginaldus de Abemare.

A.D. 1205.—*Willelmus le Franceis* was amerced half a mark for disseisin. His pledge was Walterus de Touke.

A.D. 1250.—*Everardus*, son of *Thomas Le Franceis* gives 20s. to the king for an assisa de nova disseisina held before Robertus de Brus; and the sheriff of Somerset is commanded to take surety, etc.

ANDERSFIELD HUNDRED.

BROOMFIELD.

In 1 Edward III. (1327). *Richardus le French*, of Bromfelde, paid 6*d.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

BATH FORUM HUNDRED.

BATH.

A.D. 1123.—Agreement between the convent of Bath and William Hosat:—

This is the covenant and agreement which the whole convent of Bath confirmed and agreed with Willelmus Hosatus, on the day he reconciled with them, regarding a home cause between them.

The monks granted to Willelmus that he might hold and have freely and honorably all the land which his father held of them on the day of his death. Moreover, they gave him two acres, one called "acra praepositi," the other in Staberga, and so much of assart as his father had made. And Willelmus swore to the monks on the evangelia (the service-book containing the gospel) that as his lords he would be friendly and faithful to them in all ways, and give them in full the tithes belonging to them in the vill of Esctone, and that he further should pay "geldum" for the half-hide, which tax he before unjustly retained. He should also restore to them all the "praepasturas" which had caused the disagreement and discord between them. Further, that he will serve them in all pleas to which he should be suitably summoned, besides doing all that is possible in defending the vill of Esctona in the hundred and shire courts, when present. This agreement is made

in the Chapter-house of Bath, on Tuesday, the tenth Kal. of February, 1123. Sub testimonio totius capituli, et subscriptorum, Reinbaldi Huscal, Ricardi nepotis ejus, Heliae de Dedingtona, Henrici Hosati, Roberti fratris ejus, Atselini Hosati, et fratrum ejus, Rogeri filii Viviani, Radulphi clerici de Esctona, *Radulfi Francisci*, Adeulfi Fabri, Roberti fratris Drogonis, et Salidae, et aliorum.

A.D. 1174-92.—Ratification by Rainaud (*i.e.*, Reginald Fitz-Jocelin, 1174-92), Bishop of Bath, of the sale of half a virgate of land at Lanferleg' [County Somerset] by Walter Pistor, of Bath, to Edward de Wellis and Hugo, his heir:—

To all faithful in Christ who see this charter, Rainaudus, by divine permission Bishop of Bath, greeting, etc. We will that it may be known to all of you that Walterus Pistor, of Bath, by our consent and that of all his heirs,—namely, of Radulphus, Ernardus, Willelmus, and Robertus,—sold in our court before Magister Radulphus de Lichelade, our steward, and many others, all the land he had at Lanferleg'; namely, half a virgate of land, with meadow and all its appurtenances, to Edwardus de Wellis, Hugo, his heir, and all his heirs, for 5 marks of silver, which they had given to the said Walter and his heirs, and 2s. which the heirs divided between them in our court; for which money the said Walter and all his heirs abjured forever the said land with all its appurtenances. But when this Walter should deliver the

charter, which he had of Robert, formerly Bishop of Bath, of the said land into the hands of aforesaid Edwardus de Wellis and his heirs, he made oath before all that it had been destroyed by fire. And, that all suspicion should be removed, he and his heirs made oath that they should hold this sale firmly and forever without deceit or intention to defraud, and would warrant to him the land. And, that this sale made in our court may remain firm and stable in all ways, we have confirmed it by appending our seal; and, furthermore, we have granted that the said Edwardus and his heirs may hold the aforesaid land, with meadow and all its appurtenances, of us and our successors, with hereditary right, as freely and quietly as any of his predecessors held the same, rendering yearly to us 3s. for all service. Hiis testibus, Magistro Radulpho de Lichelade Archidiacono Bathoniensi, Ricardo Archidiacono Constanciensi, Magistro Roberto de Geldeforde, Jocelino capellano, Gaufrido Clerico, Roberto de Sancto Laudo, Osberto de Fernberge, Petro de Chiu, *Gaufrido Franceis*, Durando et Ermenauo de Bathonia, et aliis multis.

A.D. 1198—1223.—Grant by R(ober)t, prior of Bath, to Gilbert de Hiwis, clericus, of an annuity of 2 marks from the church of Stokes (Radstock) of Helias de Clifton until he shall be provided to a benefice. Witnesses, Fulk Painel, Master Robert de Castelford, Richard de Ford, *Richard le Franceis*, and others.

A.D. 1198-1223.— Grant by Robert, prior of Bath, etc., to Clement, his clerk, of the church of Stanton (*i.e.*, Stanton Prior, five miles S. W. of Bath). To hold as Henry, the chaplain, held it. Rent, 8s., assigned to the Refectory of Bath. Witnesses, Master Robert de Castelford, Richard de Ford, Humfrey Mansel, Swein de Weston, Thomas de Palton, Daniel and Richard Russell, clerks, *Richard le Francais*, and many others.

BRENT & WRINGTON HUNDRED.

GERITOP'-NEAR-BROADFIELD.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *William le Fraunceis* against Augustine de Plecy and others, touching a tenement in Geritop-near-Bradefeld.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).— Appointment of two justices to take the certification arraigned by Augustine de Plescet' and Sarah, his wife, against *William le Fraunceis*, touching a tenement in Geritop or Gericop.

CANNINGTON HUNDRED.

SHURTON.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Thomas Fraunceys* and *Agnes*, his wife, against *Akina de Reygny* and others, touching a tenement in *Schurreneton*.

5 Edward I. (1276-77).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Thomas le Fraunceis* and *Agnes*, his wife, against *Akyne de Reynny* and others, touching a tenement in *Shyireneton*.

A.D. 1290.— A final concord was made at Westminster, in three weeks of Trinity, between *William de Stokes*, querent, and *Thomas Fraunceys* and *Agnes*, his wife, deforciant, for two messuages, fifteen acres of meadow, and seven acres and the moiety of a virgate of land in *Northbury* and *Syrreneton*. Plea of covenant was summoned. *Thomas* and *Agnes* acknowledged the right of *Walter*, as by their gift. For this *Walter* granted the same to them for their lives, to hold of the chief lords of the fee by the service belonging. After the death of both *Thomas* and *Agnes* the said tenement shall wholly remain to *Thomas*, their son, to hold of the chief lords as aforesaid.

STOKE-COURCY.

Prob. twelfth century.—Grant by Nicholas Poher to St. Andrew, of Stoke (Courcy), and the monks thereof, of land in Middleton. Witnesses, William Poher, Joan, the mother of Nicholas, *Fulk*, the son of *Richard Francus*, Ralph the clerk who wrote the charter, and others.

CATSASH HUNDRED.

WESTON.

27 Edward I. (1298-99).—*Willelmus Fraunceys*, junior, has shown that, when in the King's Court, he recovered his seisin against Walterus le Blund, of eight acres of land and a half, with its appurtenances, in Magna Weston, near by Camel Regis.

28 Edward I. (1299-1300).—The king to the sheriff of Somerset. *Willelmus Fraunceys*, junior, has shown that, when at the King's Court at Taunton, he recovered his seisin against Walterus le Blund, of two messuages, twenty-nine and a half acres of land, seven acres of meadow, and 12*d.* 10*b.* of rent, with its appurtenances, in Magna Weston, near by Camel Regis.

31 Edward I. (1302-3).—The king to the sheriff of Somerset, greeting. *Willelmus*, son of *Willelmus Fraunceys*, has shown that, when in the King's Court

at Sumerton, he recovered his seisin against Humfridus de Bello Campo and Alicia, his wife, of three acres and a half of land, with its appurtenances, in Magna Weston, near by East Camel, etc.

CHEWTON HUNDRED.

TEMPLE.

33 Edward III. (1359).—The king, by the assent, etc., of Nicholas de Cadbury, commits to *Reginaldus le French* the custody of one messuage and six acres of land at la Temple, near by Chuton, and three tofts of land and pasture in the vill of Knolle, of which Robertus Gyen died seised, to hold until, etc., giving for the same to the king 4s. 6d. per annum.

WEST HARPTREE.

A.D. 1201.—Willelmus filius Willelmi filii Johannis gives 5 marks for having an inquiry made by a jury of legal men if Walterus filius Thomae has twelve librates of land in Westharptre and in Porteheved which the aforesaid Willelmus granted him by his charter. Among the pledges was *Robertus Franceis*.

GLASTON-TWELVE-HIDES HUNDRED.

GLASTONBURY.

A.D. 1266.—To all who see or hear this writing, Willelmus Peytwyn, of Melnes, greeting in the Lord. Know that I by this present writing firmly bind myself to Robert (de Pederton), abbott of Glastonbury, and his successors, that from this time forth during my lifetime I shall neither give, sell, or alienate in any way the messuages, curtilages, lands, meadows, tenements, rents, homages, services, reliefs, or escheats belonging to the tenement which I hold in the vill of Melnes of the abbot and church of Glastonbury. And, if I should do so, or attempt to do so, the abbot and his successors or their bailiffs may enter and take possession of my whole tenement which I hold of them in the vill of Melnes, and forever hold it for the monastery of Glastonbury, without objection, retention, or claim by me or my heirs. In testimony whereof I have appended my seal to the present writing. Hiis testibus, Michaele le Goyz, Reginaldo de Ivichorn', Roberto de Wotton, *Roberto Franceys*, Gaufrido Samuel, G. Palayn, Willelmo de la Clive, et aliis. Given at Glastonbury, on the 18th Kal. September, in the year of our Lord 1266, and in the fiftieth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John.

About the last-named period are the two following deeds:—

Be it known to those present and those to come that I, Willelmus Peytevin, of Melnes, have given, granted, conceded, and quitclaimed in perpetuity, for me and my heirs, to my lords Robertus, abbot of Glastonbury (abbot from 1261 to 1274), and the convent of that place, and their successors, and to the monastery of Glastonbury, all the right and claim I had in three acres of arable land in the fields of Melnes, which Adam le Bur formerly held of me as a gift, two acres of which lie in the eastern field "in Sutcumba subtus Mulnembeche," and one acre in the western field which is called Langacre at Babynton', and half an acre which lies in the fields of Melnes, above the croft of Gaufridus Samuel; and all the claim I had in the meadow called Brodemede, above Dicheputte, which meadow the aforesaid Adam formerly held of me. To have and to hold, with homages, reliefs, wards, escheats, rents, services, and all other appurtenances, to the aforesaid abbot and convent and their successors and the monastery of Glastonbury, in free, pure, and perpetual alms, without any withholding, of me or my heirs. In testimony of which I have strengthened this present writing with the impression of my seal. Hiis testibus, Y. le Goyz, Roberto de Wotton', *Roberto le Franceys*, Galfrido Samuel, Willelmo de la Clive, et aliis.

May it be known to all who see or hear this pres-

ent writing that I, Galfridus Samuel, of Melnes, for me and my heirs, acknowledge and recognize that I hold forever of the lord the abbot and monastery of Glastonbury the whole tenement and land with its appurtenances which belonged to Johannes Doggetayl, in Melnes, giving to the abbot and monastery of Glastonbury yearly 10s. sterling at four terms. In testimony of which I have appended my seal to this present writing. Hiis testibus, Domino Alano de Waltona, milite, Roberto de Wotton', *Willelmo le Franceys*, Willelmo de la Clyve, et aliis.

HARTCLIFFE AND BEDMINSTER HUNDRED.

WINFORD AND FELTON.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Johannes le French* paid 18*d.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

HOUNDSBOROUGH, BERWICK, AND COKER HUNDRED.

BERWICK.

At the inquisition of the manor of Berewyk, in the county of Somerset, late of George de Cantilupe, made at Berewyk, Wednesday next after Epiphany, in

the second year of Edward I. (1274), before Roger de Crofte, clerk, Master Richard de Clifford, and Robert Radinton, subescheator of the said county, the jurors say that the said George held the manor of Berewyk of Lord John de Burg in chief by the service of half a knight's fee, etc. There are rents of free tenants 47*s.* 6*d.*; namely, of *Henry Franc*, for half a virgate of land, 3*s.*, etc.

NORTON.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Willelmus le Frensch* paid 3*s.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

HUNTSPILL AND PURITON HUNDRED.

PURITAN.

A.D. 1261.—Fine at Westminster, in the quinzaine of Easter, between Alexander de Chykengrave and *Cristiana*, his wife, Geoffry le Carpenter and *Margeria*, his wife, claimants, and William de Monz, of Pyriton, and *Agnes*, his wife, tenants, for two parts of twenty-four acres of land, and a rod of meadow, and 18*d.* rent, in Skawell, which Alexander and *Cristiana*, Geoffry and *Margeria*, claimed as their part, coming to them by inheritance, from *Emma la Frauncheyss*e, the mother of *Fristiana*, *Margeria*, and *Agnes*, whose

heirs they were. Alexander and *Cristiana*, Geoffrey and *Margeria*, quitclaimed their right to William and *Agnes*. For this William and *Agnes* gave them 7 marks.

KEYNSHAM HUNDRED.

MARKSBURY.

In 44 Henry III. (1259-60) *Thomas le Frenisce* was a tenant in Markesbur of the Abbey of Glastonbury.

KILMERSDON HUNDRED.

BABINGTON.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Richardus le Frensh*, of Babyngtone, paid 2s. as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war against Scotland.

BUCKLAND.

Circa A.D. 1280.—Auicia, widow of Thomas Marascallus, in her widowhood granted to Johannes Pert-rich and Clemencia, his wife, one acre of arable land in the western field of Bochland and all her land on the west side of her house, for 20s. of silver and an

annual rent of one rose at the feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist for all service. Hiis testibus, *Thome Franceis*, Johanne Fullone de Lullyngton, et aliis.

MIDDELTON.

A.D. 1283-86.—Rolls of the fees held of the king in capite in the counties of Somerset and Dorset, according to inquisitions held about this subject before Johannes de Kirkeby, then the king's treasurer, and his associates.

Willelmus le Franceis and Gilbertus de la Forde hold one knight's fee in Middleton of Anselmus de Gurnay, who holds of the king. The service is not mentioned.

STRATTON.

A.D. 1280.—At the pleas before the justices itinerant, on the morrow of Ascension Day, Thomas de Sancto Vigore was summoned to show by what warrant he claimed to have warren, fair, etc., in the manor of Stratton, and elsewhere in this county, without license, etc.

The said Thomas came, and said that he had the said warren, etc., by charter of King Henry III., etc. *Willelmus Fraunceys*, one of the jurors, did not appear; but the jurors of the hundred of Kynesmersdon, together with the knights elected for this purpose,

said upon their oath that aforesaid Thomas and his ancestors had the said liberty without encroaching or usurping the right of the king or his ancestors.

KINGSBURY, WEST, HUNDRED.

LYDIARD PUNCHARDON.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Rogerus French* paid 6d. as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

MILVERTON HUNDRED.

MILVERTON.

A.D. 1235.—A fine was made at Ivelcestre (Ilchester), on Sunday next after Saint Lucie, between Reginald Wulwine, claimant, and Gilbert de Germunvill, tenant, for a messuage and a furlong of land in Milverton; and between the same Reginald, claimant, and the said Gilbert, who called *William le Franceis* to warrant, for a furlong of land in the same vill; and between the same Reginald, claimant, and the said Gilbert, who called Walter fitz Walter to warrant, for a furlong of land in the same vill; and between the same Reginald, claimant, and the said Gilbert, who called John Comin to warrant, for a furlong of land

in the same vill; and between the same Reginald, claimant, and the said Gilbert, who called Thomas Baggehegh to warrant, for one acre of meadow in the same vill. Assize of mort d'ancestor was summoned. Reginald quitclaimed to Gilbert all his rights. For this Gilbert gave him 10 marks.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Margery la Fraunceyse* against John de Burbache and Robert Fayermay, touching possessions in Milverton.

NORTH PETHERTON HUNDRED.

BRIDGEWATER.

1 Edward I. (1272-73).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Thomas Fraunceys* and *Agnes*, his wife, against William Doding' and Radulph Doding', touching a messuage in Briggewauter.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Th(omas) le Fraunceys* and *Agnes*, his wife, against Richard Pik', touching a messuage in Brugewauter.

Another appointment to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Thomas Franccis* and *Agnes*, his wife, against Robert de Piriton and others, touching possessions in Bridgewater.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Thomas le Fraunceis* and *Agnes*, his wife, against Richard Pik' and others, touching messuage in Bridgewater.

A writ, witnessed by the king at Westminster, on the 28th of April, 1382, was addressed to John Rodes-ton, the king's escheator in Somersetshire, by which he was directed to take the verdict of a jury whether it would be to the damage or prejudice of the king or others if license should be given to Robert Crosse, parson of the church of Spaxton, to give and assign six messuages, one hundred and nine acres of arable land, and eight acres of meadow, with appurtenances, in Poulet, to the prioress and convent of Canyngton, for her and her successors to find two sufficient and good wax candles, "duos cereos vocatos Torches," one at the right and one at the left corner of the high altar in the priory church, to burn through and from the time of consecration daily and every day at mass, in honor of the same, to the conclusion of the service.

The inquisition consequent upon this was taken before the said John Rodeston, at Bryggewater, on the Thursday in Whitsun-week, in the fifth year of the aforesaid king; and the jurors, among whom was *John Frenssh*, returned a favorable verdict.

CHEDZOY.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Thomas Fraunceis* and *Agnes*, his wife, against Richard Pig and others, touching common of pasture in Chedzoy ("Chedeseye").

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Richardus Frenssh*, of Chedesey, paid 12*d.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

PORTBURY HUNDRED.

BOURTON.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Robertus le French* paid 12*d.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

EASTON IN GORDANO.

A.D. 1293.— Fine at Westminster, in the octaves of St. Michael, between John de Howelle, querent, and *William*, son of *Thomas le Fraunceys*, and *Agnes*, his wife, deforciant, for a messuage, forty acres of land, eight acres of meadow, and six acres of wood in Eston, in Gordon. Plea of covenant was summoned. *William* and *Agnes* acknowledged the right of John

to hold of the chief lords of that fee by the service belonging; and they warranted the same. For this John granted that he would render every year to *William* and *Agnes*, for the life of *Agnes*, 4 marks at four terms; after the decease of *Agnes*, John shall be quit of the said payment.

PORTBURY.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Johannes French* paid 12*d.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

SOMERTON HUNDRED.

ARLE.

This place was located in the hundred of Somerton Forinsecum.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Willelmus le Frensch*, of this place, paid 18*d.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

KINGSDON.

A.D. 1256.—A final concord was made at Iwelcestre, in a month of Saint John the Baptist, between Brian de Gowiz, querent, and *Robert*, son of *Alice la Fran-*

ceis, deforciant, for thirty-six acres of land in Kyngesdon; and between the same Brian, querent, and William, son of Matilda, deforciant, for thirty-six acres of land in the same vill. Plea of covenant was summoned. *Robert* and William acknowledged the right of Brian. For this Brian granted the same to them; namely, to each of them the land which he demanded against them, to hold to them and the heirs of their bodies begotten, of him, rendering per annum 16s. That is to say, *Robert* 8s. and William 8s. by quarterly payments, and doing the regal service, as much as belongs to so much land of that fee in that vill. And, if it happen that *Robert* and William shall die without heirs of their bodies, the said land shall revert to Brian. And be it known that *Robert* and William cannot give, sell, injure, or in any manner alienate nor waste or spoil the said land; for, if they die without heirs of their bodies, the whole must revert to Brian.

TAUNTON AND TAUNTON-DEAN HUNDRED.

STOKE.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Willelmus Frensh* paid 5s. as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

WELLOW HUNDRED.

DUNKERTON.

A.D. 1295.—Fine at Westminster, in the octave of Saint John the Baptist, between *Nicholas Fraunceys* and *Roger*, his brother, querents, and *William Fraunceys*, of Langeton (Langton Herring, in Dorset), and *Agnes*, his wife, deforciant, for two parts of two messuages and a carucate of land and a half in Dunkerton and Cridlyncote. Plea of covenant was summoned. *William* and *Agnes* acknowledged the same, together with the homage and service of Gregory de Cridelyncote, chaplain, and of Nicholas de Horssyngton in respect of the tenement which he held of them in the said vill, to be the right of *Nicholas*, to hold to *Nicholas* and *Roger* and the heirs of *Nicholas* of the chief lords of that fee. And *William* and *Agnes* quitclaimed to *Nicholas* and *Roger* all the right they had in one-third part of two messuages and a carucate and a half of land which Petronilla, who was the wife of Walter le Balun, held in dower, the inheritance of *Agnes* in the said vill. *William* and *Agnes* also quitclaimed to *Nicholas* and *Roger* all the right they had in one-third part of half a carucate of land which Richard de la Folye and Ela, his wife, held in dower of Ela from the inheritance of *Agnes* in the said vill; and *William* and *Agnes* warranted the same. For this *Nicholas* and *Roger* gave *William* and *Agnes* 60*l.*

sterling. This concord was made in the presence of Gregory and Nicholas, who agreed thereto, and did fealty to *Nicholas* and *Roger* in the court.

32 Edward I. (1303-4).—The king to the sheriff, greeting. *Willelmus Franceis*, junior, has shown that, when in the King's Court at Sumerton, he recovered his seisin against Petronilla, who had been wife of Walter Walun, and others, of land, four hundred feet in length and sixty-five feet in breadth, and a third part of 4s. of rent, with its appurtenances, in Cridel-ingcote, near by Dunkerton.

NEWTON.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Walterus le Frensshe*, of Newton, paid 6s. 3d. as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

WELLS FORUM HUNDRED.

WELLS CITY.

Bishop Reginald Fitzjocelin de Bohun was of the family of the Bohun, of the Côtentin, the north-west corner of Normandy, near Carentan, which still marks the cradle of the family. His father was Jocelin de Bohun, Bishop of Sarum 1141-84; and Richard de Bohun, Bishop of Coutances, 1151-79, was his uncle.

Savoric, the cousin of Bishop Reginald, succeeded him as Bishop of Bath in 1192. He was younger brother of Franco de Bohun.

Bishop Reginald, between the years 1174-80, granted a charter to the town of Wells, of which the following is a partial synopsis. He grants that the town of Wells shall be a free borough; that every one dwelling within its limits, and possessing a messuage in the name of a burgage, should have freedom of dwelling, going and coming, also of mortgaging, selling, and granting their houses, except to houses of religion. He reserves to the bishop the payment of 12*d.* a year out of every house in the borough; forbids sale of raw skins or hides within the limits of the borough; grants authority to hold a court for settlement of disputes, and for civil and criminal trials, except in cases where deadly wounds or injuries for life had been inflicted, without any fee to the bishop's justices. He reserves to the bishop right of appeal, and right to interfere or revise the sentence of the burgesses if they failed to do justice. *Galfridus francus* is among the twenty-two witnesses.

A.D. 1263.—Inspeximus and confirmation by Edward, the dean, and the chapter of a charter of Bishop William, granting to Stephen Russel and Joanna, his wife, a fardel of land in Bocland, in Welyington manor, pro servitio suo, formerly held by W. Russel, at a rent of 6*s.* 8*d.* a year, besides Peter's penny, the hundred penny, etc., and the duty of fencing West-

bury Park, saving also a winter and summer ploughing to be made by them. Witnesses, John Forti, chancellor of Wells, *Thomas Franceis*, seneschal of the bishop, and others. Given in the chapter Nov. 13, 1263.

HENTON.

4 Edward I. (1275-76).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Richard, son of Peter de Hurst, against *Thomas le Fraunceys* and others, touching a tenement in Henton.

WHITESTONE HUNDRED.

A.D. 1225.— *Ricardus le Franceys* was taken for the death of Robertus filius Goldine, and the serjeant of the abbot of Glastonbury took him into his custody. This must be discussed.

Afterwards *Ricardus* is arrested, and defends all of it, and puts himself upon the county. Therefore, the sheriff of Somerset is commanded that in full county court before him, Jordanus Oliver, Johannes de Reyni, and Radulfus de Lidiard, he do convene the four neighboring hundreds, etc., and diligently make inquest by their oath, and according to the result of the inquest do let *Ricardus* have his judgment.

DOULTING.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Henricus le French*, of villata de Doultynge, paid 6*d.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

WHITLEY HUNDRED.

OTHERY.

A.D. 1235-52.—*Thomas Franceis* holds ten acres of land here of the Abbey of Glastonbury, for which he renders 3*s.* 4*d.* per annum for all service.

A.D. 1235-52.—*Ricardus Franceis* holds of the Abbey of Glastonbury four acres of meadow in Othery Moors, two in Stubbrech and two in Langedem, and “de Benet” one acre and a half for 22*d.*

WESTON ZOYLAND.

A.D. 1235-52.—*Thomas Franceis* holds two acres and a half of land in the field of Sowy Weston, and a messuage with curtilage “super la Hamme,” of the Abbey of Glastonbury, rendering 2*s.* per annum for all service.

A.D. 1237.—At this time the moors belonging to the manor of Sowy, held by the Abbey of Glaston-

bury, were changed into meadow. Among those paying to the abbey for the improvement was *Walterus Franceis*, who gave 6*d.*

A.D. 1261-74.—*Thomas Francois* paid a rent of 3*s.* to the said abbey for eight and a half acres of moorland in Weston; and *Walterus Franceis* paid 4*s.* 10*d.* to the same abbey for nine acres of moorland in the same place.

WINTERSTOKE HUNDRED.

BLAGDON.

In 1 Edward III. (1327) *Richardus le Freynsch*, of Blakedone, paid 3*s.* ½*d.* as his quota of the subsidy for carrying on the war with Scotland.

CHEDDER.

A.D. 1245.—Inspeximus by Thomas, prior of Bath, etc., of a charter of Roger, Bishop of Bath, granting to Mabel, wife of William de Stokes, land which *Richard*, son of *Robert Franceys*, some time held in the bishop's manor of Ceddre; also a mill with messuage and curtilage in the said manor, some time held by *Robert Franceys*, for life. Rent, 12*s.* 8*d.* Reserved, the mark of silver to the lady Agatha de Corscumbe, which she is wont to receive from the

mill. Mabel may not marry without the counsel of the bishop or his successors, or else the mill, etc., to revert to them. For this grant Mabel has paid as bonus (in gersuma) 10 marks. Given by the hand of Master Richard de Holdeswithe, at Kingesbyrie, 1 Id. June, first year of our pontificate. Confirmation dated at Bath, 16 Kal. Jul. 1245.

A.D. 1246.—Confirmation by the dean and chapter of Wells, reciting the bishop's charter which grants to William de Aure and Mabilia, his wife, the mill, etc., formerly held by *Richard*, son of *Robert Franceys*, of Chedder, saving to Domina Agatha de Corscumb, etc., 1 mark a year.

In 4 Edward I. (1275-76) it is found by the statement of a jury that the manor of Cedderne was the demesne of King John, who delivered it to Hugo, Archdeacon of Wells, by charter, in fee farm for 20*l.* per annum, payable at Michaelmas. This Hugo conveyed it to Lord Jocelinus, the Bishop of Bath, with the consent of King John, but the jurors do not know by what warrant. And Lord Willelmus, Bishop of Bath and Wells, who is there now, holds by the same rental as his predecessors; and the manor with the hundred is valued at 30*l.* per annum.

Robertus de Fraunceys, according to the statement of the jury, once held one carucate of land together with a mill in free socage, of ancient demesne of the crown, of the manor of Cedderne; and Lord Rogerus, Bishop of Bath and Wells, twenty-six years ago

granted this carucate together with the mill to Willelmus de Aure, by his charter, to be held free of the bishop and his successors for a rent of 2 marks per annum.

EAST HARPTREE.

In 18 Edward III. (1344) Johannes le Walshe and others are ordered, in virtue of a certain commission, to take into the king's hands 20*l.* of rent of the tenements at one time belonging to Lord Thomas de Gourneye in Estharpetre, which *Eborardus Frenshe* held for a term of three years after the demise of said Thomas,—namely, four bovates of land valued at 14*s.* per annum, six acres of meadow valued at 6*s.* per annum, the crop of twelve acres of corn valued at 20*s.* per annum, the crop of two acres of beans valued at 3*s.* per annum, the crop of four acres of oats valued at 5*s.* 4*d.*, in the said vill of Estharpetre, six oxen appraised at 60*s.*, twenty-four sheep appraised at 4*l.* 30*s.*, and to take the yearly rent in Capenore of the tenement of Johannes atte Chapelle and all the tithes of the church of Estharpetre, appraised at 16 marks, which the aforesaid *Eborardus* bought of the parson of the church; and they are ordered to deliver custody, etc., to the said *Eborardus*, if he can find among his friends sufficient surety to answer to the king.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1182, Michaelmas.—At the Nova Placita et Novae Conventiones held before Godefridus de Luci and others, *Robertus le Franceis*, a vintner, was amerced for selling wine against the assize; and he paid half a mark by the sheriff.

A.D. 1187, Michaelmas.—At the Nova Placita et Novae Conventiones held before Robertus Marmium, Radulphus de Arden, and others, Bernardus de Stafford and *Willielmus Franceis* had been amerced as sureties for *Robertus le Franceis*. The former paid 2 marks, and the latter 1 mark by the hand of the sheriff.

A.D. 1189-90.—At the Nova Placita et Novae Conventiones held before Radulphus de Ardena and his associates, *Robertus Franceis* is amerced 66s. 8d. for a novel disseisin.

A.D. 1191-92.—*Robertus le Franceis* owes 66s. 8d. for disseisin, for which he is pardoned by a writ of the king.

A.D. 1195-96.—At the Nova Placita et Novae Conventiones held before Willielmus, Bishop of Here-

ford, and his associates, *Willielmus Franceis* was amerced half a mark for selling wine against the assize. He paid 4s. 7d., and owed 2s. 1d.

A.D. 1196-97.—At the Nova Placita et Novae Conventiones held before Willielmus, Bishop of Hereford, and his associates, *Willielmus le Franceis* owed 2s. 1d. for selling wine against the assize. He paid 12d. into the treasury, and owes 13.

In 10 Henry III. (1225-26) an assize came to make recognition if *Robertus le Fraunceis*, father of *Johannes*, was seized of the manor of Hulle, which lands Robertus Noel holds; who came, and by permission gave up to *Johannes* the fifth part of the manor of which *Robertus le Fraunceis*, his father, died seized.

CUTTLESTONE HUNDRED.

HIGH ONN.

In the Subsidy Roll of the sixth year of the reign of King Edward III. (1332) is found that *Adam le French*, of Magna Onne, paid 5s. as a tax on account of the Scotch war.

WESTON UNDER LIZARD.

Johannes Franceis was among the witnesses to the following conveyance without date. It was evidently

executed before the year 1214, at which date the confirmer of the grant was dead. Hamo de Weston confirmed a grant of land which Matilda, daughter of Wlmers, made to her brother William for one bovate, which William gave to the said Hamo. This included land beyond Marlebrun, in Beretilth, in Culvecroft, and a field near that of Alan the for-ester, in Brademor.

The following charter was probably made after the year 1214, as Hamo de Weston was deceased at that date, and his son William is among the witnesses:—

Know those present and those to come that I, Robertus de Bethertona, have given, etc., to God and the Church of St. Thomas (priory of St. Thomas, near Stafford), for the safety of my soul and those of my family, in free, etc., alms, five acres of land in the vill of Weston, four acres of which lie between the land which belonged to Hugo Palmerus and the piece of meadow in the moor of Radulphus, and are extended in length from Hardelegesyche to the land of said Robertus, and all the land which extends from the moor of Radulphus to Wathingstreet, between the marlpit of the said Robertus and the land of R. de Gossich; and one acre, consisting of two butts, which extends from Wachlingstreet to the said acres. To have and hold, etc., in perpetuity, freely, etc. (warranty and seal). Hiis testibus, Domino Johanne de Acton, Roberto de Wyston, Johanne le Bruntone, *Wilielmo le Fraunceys*, Willielmo filio Hamonis, Henrico de Bosco, et aliis.

OFFLOW HUNDRED.

ALREWAS.

A.D. 1307.—Memorandum of the King's Parliament at Carlisle, on Friday, in the octaves of Saint Hilary, in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of King Edward I.

Petition of a *Johannes Fraunceys*, who represented that he was taken at the battle of Rosselyn (24th of February, 1303), and had lost his horses, arms, and everything he had, and was detained in a Scotch prison for fifty-seven weeks, and had to pay a fine of 40 marks for his release. For these troubles, damages, and losses he prays to have some uncultivated land in Alrewas, in the county of Stafford, which waste contains $\frac{XX}{IX}$ acres, and is of no profit to the king; and he offers the king $2\frac{1}{2}$ marks per annum for the same. Therefore, Walterus de Gloucester and Willelmus de Harden are ordered to inquire about the value of the land, etc., and report to the king.

BLITHBURY.

The date of the following charter is somewhat defined by Johannes de Stafford, who was elected abbot of Burton in July, 1260, and resigned in 1280:—

Be it known, etc., that I, Ricardus, son and heir of Rogerus filius G . . . of Newland (de nova terra),

near by Blitham, have given, etc., to Dominus Johannes, abbot of Burton, etc., to hold forever, the mill beyond Blitham, which Ricardus, the miller, once held of them, etc.; saving for myself and my heirs free grinding of my own corn for my table of le Neulond. Among the witnesses was *Henricus Fraunceis*, of Blithebiri.

Hugo Fraunceys, of Blithebur', was one of the manucaptors of Henricus Mauveseyin, knight of the shire, elected to attend at the Parliament to be held at York, on the 25th of May, 1298.

BURTON UPON TRENT.

To all faithful in Christ who shall see or hear this charter, Willelmus (Melburne, 1200-10), by divine permission abbot of Burton, and the whole convent of that place, greeting, etc. Be it known to all of you that the lord the king for his salvation has granted us permission to make a borough at Burton, with all the liberties and free customs belonging to a borough, and confirmed it by his charter. And therefore we will that all who after this royal grant took burgage of us,—namely, in that street extending from the great bridge of Burton to the new bridge towards Horningelawe,—both they and their heirs may hold it freely and quietly, giving to us yearly 12*d.* for every burgage, for all service, payable at two terms;

namely, 6*d.* at the feast of Saint Michael and 6*d.* at Easter. And every burgage shall consist of twenty-four perches in length and four in breadth; smaller tenants to pay less in proportion. We also grant that the burgesses of aforesaid place may have all the liberties and free customs which would be granted them as free burgesses of any neighboring borough. And, that this our grant may be firm and inviolable, we have strengthened this present charter by our seal. Hiis testibus, Jordano de Tok, Willelmo de Lawarde, Dauj de Caldewelle, Henrico persona de Etewelle, Herberto de Stratton, Radulfo persona de Stapenhille, Reinaldo de sancto Albano, Hugone de Findern, Roberto de Bensicot, *Willelmo Franc(eis?)*, Petro de Derby, Henrico Geri, Ricardo Rundel de Tutesbiri, Roberto Blundo, Radulfo Camberlano, Willelmo de Morleb., Adam Marescallo, et multis aliis.

HANDSWORTH.

At the pleas at Tewkesbury, on the 15th of July, 1209, *Alan Francus*, by Walter de Ardern put in his place, is complainant against William de Parles, tenant or deforciant, concerning half a hide of land in Huneswordne. *Alan* remitted all claim, for which William gave 20*s.*

A.D. 1210, October 19.—Willelmus de Parles claims against Willelmus de Barre forty acres of wood with

its appurtenances in Hunesworthe as his right, and as belonging to a hide of land with its appurtenances in Hunesworthe, which Paganus de Parles and Alicia, his mother, had recovered against Willelmus filius Petri, "per finem duelli vadiati et percussi," in the King's Court at Westminster, in the time of King Henry II., so that they after the duel were quiet, and W. and Alicia were seized of this wood, taking thereof a rent of half a mark and more; and that Willelmus de Barre had no entry in this wood save through *Robertus le Fraunceis*, who had intruded himself in it "vi et injuria" during the time the said Willelmus was in prison; and he (Willelmus de Parles) offers 40s. for having an inquisition thereupon. Willelmus de Barre defends his right, and says that the wood belongs to the two hides which he holds in Barre, and not to the aforesaid hide in Hunesworthe, and that Willelmus de Parles and Alicia never were seized of the said wood nor had recovered it by the aforesaid duel. The day given them to hear judgment was on the 22d of October following.

HARLESTON.

"This place," according to the Staffordshire Historical Collections, "was subject to the Honour of Chester before the accession of Henry II. Between the years 1154 and 1157 Matilda Countess Dowager of Chester" (daughter of Robert, Earl of Gloucester),

“having Harlaston in dower, enfeoffed Walter de Vernon in the same.”

In 11 Henry II. (1164-65) the sheriff renders account of 4*s.* 6*d.* rent of Harlaston.

Richard de Vernon, 1st, was fined in 22 Henry II. (1175-76) in Staffordshire. He married, probably late in the reign of Henry II. or early in that of Richard I., one of the heiresses of William de Avenell, of Haddon, County Derby.

In 5 Richard I. (1193-94) there is a record that he had previously held Harlaston, and had forfeited it, as we learn from the account which Hugo Pipard renders for this year of Harlaston, who states that there is 40*s.* rent of the land of Ricardus de Vernon for half a year, and 13*s.* 4*d.* for cattle sold there.

In 7 Richard I. (1195-96) Richard de Vernon's Harlaston estate was still in the king's hands; but in the eighth year of the same king (1195-96) Richard de Vernon makes a proffer for twenty librates of land, as we infer for the reversal of his sentence. In the following year he owes 20*l.* for twenty librates of land, and pays during the year the half of his fine. And, as Harlaston was no longer an escheat, it probably constituted the twenty librates of land which he regained. In the second year of King John (1200-1) he pays into the treasury the last 47*s.* for the twenty librates of land, and he is quit.

William de Vernon, the son of Richard de Vernon, 1st, in the second year of the reign of King Henry

III. (1217-18), annexed to his liberty three hides in Harlaston, which was a damage to the king of 9s. per annum.

He was justiciary of Chester in the time of Ranulph, earl of that county, and seems to have succeeded Philip de Orreby in the year 1229, holding the office until the year 1232. He left two sons, Richard and Robert.

Richard de Vernon, 2d, is mentioned as Lord of Harlaston in the thirty-ninth and fortieth regnal years of King Henry III. (1254-56). About this time there is a verdict of twelve jurors of the hundred of Offlow, who say upon their oath that Ricardus de Vernon holds Harlaeston of the Earl of Derby, by the service of one knight's fee; and he holds plea at his court of Erlaeston of everything except "namine vetito," and he has view of frankpledge without cognizance of the sheriff, but it is not known by what warrant.

His inheritance seems to have gone to *Hawise*, the daughter of his brother, Robert de Vernon, married to *Gilbert le Fraunceys*, who became Lord of Harlaston at a later period.

Gilbert le Fraunceys was succeeded as Lord of Harlaston by his son Richard de Vernon, 3d, of whom there is a record as holding that place in the year 1283.

A.D. 1279[-80].—Litterae Communes to the dean of Tamworth concerning the will of *Gilbert le Fraunceys*. Dated at Wlstaneston, 16 Cal. Aug.

16 Edward I. (1287-88).— An assize, etc., if Adam Mauvaslet, the father of Richard Mauvaslet, was seized in fee, etc., of a messuage and a virgate of land in Herlaweston when he died, which Richard de Vernun, 3d, holds, who stated that Richard Mauvaslet could have no claim to the tenements because he had released all his right in them to *Gilbert (Fraunceys)*, his father, and he produced the deed. Verdict for Richard de Vernun.

A.D. 1287-89.— Richard Mauvaslet appeared against Richard de Vernun, 3d, in a plea that he should carry out the terms of a convention made between him and *Gilbert le Fraunceys*, the father of the said Richard de Vernun, 3d, whose heir he is, respecting a toft and forty acres of land in Horlaveston. Richard de Vernun did not appear, and the sheriff is ordered to distrain and produce him in a month from Easter.

LICHFIELD CITY.

This city is locally in Offlow hundred.

A.D. 1252.— Mandate to the precentor and *John Francigena*, canon of Lichfield, to cause Peter, Archdeacon of Salop, to be received by the dean and chapter of Hereford as canon, and inducted to the prebend conferred on him by the Bishop of Ostia and Velletri. Dated at Perugia, in June.

At Hilary, 1299, Richard de Duddlegh sued *Walter le Fraunceys* and *Isolda*, his wife, and Joan and

Cristiana, sisters of Isolda, for two acres in Lyche-feld as his right and inheritance. The defendants did not appear; and the sheriff was ordered to take the land claimed into the king's hand, and to summon them for the morrow of Saint John the Baptist.

LITTLE BARR.

In 1185, among the tenants of Gervase Paganel, was Robert de Barra, whose name appears again in October, 1208, when he acknowledged a carucate in Barr to be the right of Richard fitz Henry, who was to hold of Robert and his heirs. Robert de Barr was dead before the following December; for a fine was levied on Monday next after the feast of Saint Andrew, in the same year, by which William de Barr acknowledged two hides of land in Little Barr to be the right of *Alan Franceis*, who remitted and quitclaimed it for himself and his heirs to William de Ardern, of Hamton, and his heirs forever, and the said William de Ardern granted it to the aforesaid William de Barr and his heirs forever, William de Ardern to hold him harmless toward the chief lord for the service which is due for the land in question.

MAVESYN RIDWARE.

In 1258 a covenant was made between Robertus Mauvsyn, on one part, and Rogerus de Crane, on the

other, by which the said Robertus demised and let to the said Rogerus all his land in Magna Casterton, with rents, escheats, reliefs, and homages, with all appurtenances, except the dower of Lady Matilda, mother of the said Robertus, and the dower of Alicia, his brother's wife; to hold, etc., rendering therefore yearly 40s. sterling, etc., for all service, excepting four suits; namely, two to the wapentake and two to the hundred (with warranty). Testibus, domino Radulfo de Normanvile, domino Th. fratre suo, Radulfo de Semiam, *Willelmo de Franco*, Roberto de Sunderlond, et multis aliis.

TYMMORE.

This was an ancient manor on the right side of the road between Whittington and Elford, opposite to Fisherwick Park.

Ranulf held Tymmore at Domesday survey, being two carucates. About the time of Henry I., Simon Clericus de Lichfield (Simon le Sage) was lord thereof. He had issue Petronella, his daughter and heir, who married Goddard de Timmore, who had issue William, who was lord thereof.

This Petronella, in her widowhood, granted to William de Vernun the mill of Tymore and meadow of Goseholm.

In 25 Henry III. (1241) is a covenant between William de Vernon and William de Tymor, by which

the latter let to William de Vernon his part of Goseholm, for twenty years, for 100s.

In 41 Henry III. (1256) William de Tymor let the same to Richard de Vernon (2d) for nineteen years, for 3 marks of silver and one robe.

In 4 Edward I. (1276) Hugh de Tymor let to *Gilbert le Franceys* his part of Goseholm for ten years at 33s. 4d. Testibus, domino Petro de Ardern, Andrea Selvayn, Thoma de Thamenhorn, Rogero de Cumberland, etc.

PIREHILL HUNDRED.

HIXON.

A.D. 1239.—At the Placita apud St. Brigadam Londonii, at the term of Holy Trinity, in the twenty-third year of the reign of King Henry III., Henry Blund sued Geoffrey de Greseleg for deforcing him of common of pasture in Kingeston, belonging to his free tenement in Huthesdon; and Geoffrey did not appear, and was attached by Gilbert de Morton and *Geoffrey le Franceis*. He is therefore to be attached by better sureties to appear at the same term.

NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME.

In 1199 *Robertus Francus* de Novo Castello was amerced half a mark for selling wine against the assize.

Petrus, serviens of *Robertus Francus*, and Willielmus filius Adamae were amerced half a mark as above.

SANDON.

At the pleas at Westminster at Michaelmas term, 1253, *John le Fraunceys* appeared against Robert, son of Robert de Mulewitz, and Thomas, his brother, in a plea that they, together with their father Robert, had taken ten cartloads of turf from his moor in Sandon. The defendants did not appear, and are to be attached by better sureties to appear on the morrow of the Purification.

TIRLEY CASTLE.

At the assizes of 1256 William de Goldstan withdrew his prosecution against Ralph de Butiller and his wife, Matilda, who had disseised him of common of pasture in Tyrlegh. His sureties de prosequendo were William fitz Hugh and *Thomas le Franceis*, both of Seworthyn.

A.D. 1275. Trinity term.—Richard de London appeared against Philip de Arcy, John Devereus, Vivian de Standon, Hugh de Dutton, Walter Devereus, John Pauncfot, Robert de Somerville, *William Fraunceys*, William de Mortymer, Nicholas de Huggeford, and thirty-seven others named for beating and ill-treating and imprisoning him at Thirlegh vi et armis, and for which he claimed 20*l.* as damages.

None of the defendants appear, and the sheriff is ordered to distrain them, and produce them at Michaelmas term.

SEISDON HUNDRED.

AMBLECOAT.

A.D. 1270.— At the pleas at Westminster, in the octaves of Holy Trinity, in the fifty-fourth year of the reign of King Henry III., before M. de Litlebiri and others, *Thomas*, son of *Hugh le Fraunceys*, of Amelecote, sued Ingeran, son of Laurence de Amelecote, for a messuage and two acres and a half of land in Amelecote. Ingeran did not appear, and is to be summoned in a month after Michaelmas and the land to be taken into the king's hands.

A.D. 1272.— At the pleas at Westminster, in the octaves of Saint Hilary, in the fifty-sixth year of the reign of King Henry III., *Thomas*, son of *Hugh le Fraunceys*, of Amelecote, sued Ingeran, son of Laurence de Amelecote, for a messuage and two acres and a half of land in Amelecote, in which he had no entry except by a disseisin unjustly made by Laurence of one John le fevre (the smith), of Amelecote, the grandfather of *Thomas*, whose heir he is. Ingeran appeared, and called to warranty William de Stafford, who appeared to the summons, and warranted the tenement to him, and stated that Laurence

had entry into the land by a feoffment made by one Cecilia de Stafford, who put him into seisin of it, and he appealed to a jury. The sheriff is ordered to summon a jury in the county and return the inquisition into the court at the octaves of Saint John the Baptist.

A.D. 1272.—At the Placita de Juratis et Assisis at Lichefeld, in this county, on the morrow of Holy Trinity, in the fifty-sixth year of the reign of King Henry III., before R. de Hengham and his associates, justices, *Thomas*, son of *Hugh le Franceys* of Amelecote, sued Ingeran, son of Laurence de Amelecote, for a messuage and two acres and a half in Amelecote, in which the said Ingeran had no entry except by a disseisin which Laurence de Amelecote had unjustly made of John le Fevre, of Amelecote, the grandfather of *Thomas*, whose heir he is.

Ingeran appeared, and called to warranty William de Stafford, who came, and warranted the tenement to him, and stated that Laurence had never disseized John le Fevre, the grandfather, and that the said John le Fevre, who formerly held the tenement of Cecilia de Stafford, appeared in full court of the said Cecilia, and surrendered the tenement, and Cecilia had enfeoffed the said Laurence. The jury state that Laurence had unjustly disseized the said John le Fevre, the grandfather of *Thomas*; and it is therefore considered that *Thomas* should recover seisin, and William de Stafford should make to Ingeran an exchange of equal value.

ROWLEY.

A.D. 1266.—At the pleas before the lord the king, in the octaves of Saint Michael, in the fiftieth year of the reign of King Henry III., Edith, the widow of Philip le Symple, appeared against Richard le Jovene of Adilbroke, Michael de Kant, Davet de Kantia, and *Richard le Franceis*, for coming vi et armis to her house in Rouley, breaking it open, and taking her goods and chattels to the value of 20 marks. The defendants did not appear, and are to be attached for the octaves of Hilary.

By a final concord of the thirty-fourth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1305–6) *Roger Fraunces* and *Margeria*, his wife, had by grant from Stephen, son of Nicholas de Sondon, and Edith, his wife, one messuage, one toft, twenty acres, and half a virgate of land in Salt and Rugelowe by Stafford, which belonged to the said Edith, to hold of Stephen and his wife Edith, rendering a rose yearly, and performing to the chief lord of the fee for them, the said Stephen and Edith, the services appertaining to the fee; but, if the said *Roger* died without issue by the said *Margery*, then the fee was to revert to the grantors.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

In 23 Edward I. (1294–95) Magister John de Cadamo, prebendary of the free chapel of the king in

Wolverhampton, appeared against Richard de Rosale, *Reginald Fraunceys*, *Felicia Fraunceys*, William, son of John del Pipe, Agnes, formerly wife of John del Pipe, John in the Lane, and others named, in a plea that they should appear before a jury to determine whether nine acres and a rood and a half of land in Wolverhampton held by them was free alms belonging to his prebend or the lay fee of the said Richard and others. They did not appear, and are to be attached for the quindene of Hilary.

At a later date there is a record of *Richard*, son of *Reginald Fraunceys*, of Wolverhampton.

TOTMONSLOW HUNDRED.

At the Placita Coronae held at Lichfield, on the day of Saint Michael, 1199, the jurors of the hundred of Tatemananeslawe report that *Robertus Francus* and others, vintners of Stanford, sold wine against the assize; and therefore they are in misericordia.

In 5 John (1203-4) *Robertus Franceis* had sold wine against the assize.

CHEADLE.

According to the Subsidy Roll of 1327, to meet the expenses of the Scotch war, *Ricardus le Frensche*, of Chelde, paid 3s. 3d. as his share. This levy was the twentieth part of all movable goods.

SUFFOLK.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1194, November 6.—The day is given to Radulphus Gernun and *Willelmus le Franceis*, in fifteen days of Easter, for a pleading at Westminster before the lord the archbishop.

A.D. 1194, November 12.—Countess (of Norfolk) Gundreda essoins herself de malo veniendi by *Franceis* and by Willielmus de Cerston in a placitum terræ versus Warinus de Basham.

A.D. 1199, May 9.—Willielmus filius Edwardi essoins himself by *Ricardus Franceis* in a placitum terræ versus the prior of Norwich.

A.D. 1199, June 14.—Willielmus de Hastings essoins himself in a plea against Estmundus de Winebadesham by Robertus Siment and *Willielmus Franceis*.

A.D. 1200, April.—At the pleas in fifteen days after Easter the prior of Thefford (Thetford, in Norfolk) appears, on the fourth day, against Gaufridus de Amblie, Ricardus Pigace, *Willielmus Franceis*, and Ranulphus, a man of Gaufridus, in a placitum intrusionis et vis illate; and they did not come, but were repre-

sented by pledges. A day was given in fifteen days after Easter, but they did not appear. Therefore, they were attached to be present for answering in the octaves of Holy Trinity. The prior was represented by Thomas de Thameston.

A.D. 1226-27.—Michael de Polsted appointed *Walterus le Franceys* his attorney in a plea against Johannes de Reydon concerning a debt of 18 marks.

BABERGH HUNDRED.

At an inquisition held in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors said that Walterus le Wylde, bailiff of this hundred, had charged *Gilbertus le Freynsce* with sheltering the son, whom he accused for freebooting, when he was quiet at home, and good and faithful; and the said Walterus took one cow worth 7*s.*, and still retains her.

BLYTHING HUNDRED.

HUNTINGFIELD.

A.D. 1257-83.—To all the sons of the Holy Mother Church to whose attention this present writing shall come, Willelmus de Huntingfeld, knight, greeting in the Lord. Know ye that I have given and granted

for me and my heirs to Willelmus le Gardener, for his fidelity and 10 marks sterling beforehand, Thomas, son of Reginaldus le Gardener, formerly my "nativus," with all his tenement, cattle, and goods, movable and immovable. And, that Thomas and all his family shall be free and quit of all serfdom, I have manumitted them before several persons, so that the said Thomas, with all his family, may be held free from all serfdom to me and my heirs to the said Willelmus; so that neither I nor any of my heirs or assigns can have any claim on this Thomas or his family or his cattle and goods, movable and immovable, or on his tenement. And I, the aforesaid Willelmus de Huntingfeld, and my heirs, will warrant forever to the said Willelmus that the aforesaid Thomas, son of Reginaldus le Gardener, with all his family, his tenement, cattle, and goods, movable and immovable, may be free and quit of all serfdom. And, that this my donation and grant may be firm and obtain strength, I have placed my seal to this my present writing. Hiis testibus, Domino Philippo de Heveningham, Johanne de Huntingfeld, Roberto de Ubbeston, Willielmo de Cokeleye, Johanne de Bomund, Johanne de Derneford, Stephano de Wyndermle, *Thoma le Fraunceys*, Adam de Rendham, Johanne de la Mere, Waltero de Alderhegs, Simone nepote, magistro Simone filio suo, Humfrido de Batesford, et aliis militibus.

COSFORD HUNDRED.

HADLEIGH.

13th century.—Grant by Philip Basset to Lady Lora de Ros of a market in the town of Haddele, which had been annulled or put down according to the law and custom of England, on the presentment of Sir Nicholas de Turry and his fellows, justices itinerant, at Catteshull, Suffolk, in the fifty-third year of the reign of King Henry III. (1268–69), for her life, with remainders to Sir Robert Kokerel and Joan, his wife, daughter and heiress of the said Lora, and the heirs of the said Lora. Witnesses, Sir Adam de Bedingfeud, Sir Robert de Bosco, *Sir Richard le Fraunceis*, Sir Richard de Holebrok, Sir Thomas de Welaund, knights, and others.

IPSWICH LIBERTY.

IPSWICH.

4 Edward I. (1275–76).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Thomas Froysh against *Agatha*, late wife of *Reginald Fraunceys*, and others, touching a tenement in the suburb of Ipswich.

LACKFORD HUNDRED.

MILDENHALL.

A.D. 1281, at Easter.—Enrolling of a charter of *Robertus Fraunceys* made to Johannes Limecot and his heirs of certain land and tenement which Johannes holds of him in Myldhalle, with homage, fealty, and day's work, for a rent of 28s.

LOES HUNDRED.

BRANDESTON.

A.D. 1199, October 27.—The assisa de morte antecessoris between Brianus filius Beroldi, plaintiff, and Robertus Prepositus, concerning eight acres of land, with appurtenances, in Brandeston, is postponed until the octaves of Saint Hilary, owing to the absence of Hugo de Calne, Ricardus Puher (who essoined themselves), and Willielmus filius Vitalis, Robertus de Futipo, and *Rannulphus Franceis*, who were attached to be present at the aforesaid time.

LOTHINGLAND AND MUTFORD HUNDRED.

At the inquisition made on the command of King Edward I., in the third year of his reign (1274-75), the

jurors of Luthyngelond said that Rogerus de Colvill, when he was sheriff, took chattel for his services, and so did his deputies, among whom was *Thomas le Franceys*.

They also said that after the demise of Rogerus Danbere and Margaret, his wife, as well as Eylmer, father of the said Margaret, *Alicia*, relict of *Thomas Fraunceis*, holds half an acre, giving the names of four other holders, all of which render no service.

HOPTON.

At an inquisition made in the third year of the reign of King Edward I. (1274-75) the jurors said that Henricus Horsedekene formerly held in capite of the king eight acres of land in Hopeton for a yearly rent of 5*d*. *Johannes le Franceis* holds it now, giving to the king the same rental. He has himself four acres, while the remainder is held of him by others.

RISBRIDGE HUNDRED.

CLARE.

According to Dugdale, it appears that Gilbert Fitz-Richard, Lord of Clare, founded the priory at Clare in 1090. In circa 1116 he was succeeded by his son Richard as Lord of Clare, who in 1124 removed the

monks of Bec from the Church of St. John the Baptist in the castle of Clare to the village of Stoke, near by in this county, between which dates he gave the church of Denham to the priory of St. John of Clare. Among the witnesses to this grant were *Albertus Francigena* and *Willielmus de Bascetvilla*.

MOULTON.

A.D. 1224.—Adam de Muleton gives half a mark for summoning *Robertus Le Franceis* and *Leticia*, his wife, before the justices in a month from Easter, to restore to him certain land in Muleton. And the sheriff of Suffolk is commanded to take, etc. Teste Rege, at Deseninges, on the fifth day of April.

THEDWESTRY HUNDRED.

TIMWORT.

9 Edward I. (1280-81).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by Hervey Fyn against *Adam le Fraunceis*, touching land in Tymworth.

THINGOE HUNDRED.

HORNINGSHEATH.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Hermer, son of Radulph del Pont, of Eylesham, against *Robert le Fraunceys*, touching a tenement in Heruynggeshert.

9 Edward I. (1280-81).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize arraigned by *Robert Fraunceis* against Hermer del Brigge, touching a tenement in Horningsherte.

REED.

In the fourteenth year of the reign of Edward I. (1285-86) *Henry Fraunceys* held a messuage and fifty-four acres of land, three acres of meadow, and two acres of wood in Rede, of Walter de Wancey, and Walter of William de Wancey, and he of the abbot of St. Edmund's.

The following charter is of the time of Walter de Wancy, and is probably of an earlier date than the preceding notice:—

Be it known to all, as well those present as those to come, that I, Willelmus, son of Joudewin de Mane-stun', have granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, for the welfare of my soul and those

of my ancestors and successors, to God, St. Edmund's, and Walterus de Wancy and his heirs, to hold of the altar of St. Edmund, all the tenements, with appurtenances, which my father gave to St. Edmund and this Walterus and his heirs, to be held of St. Edmund's in pure and perpetual alms; namely, the whole grove which belonged to the said Joudewin, my father, in the vill of Rede, and the whole fee in which this grove is located, with all the homage, service, and fee of *Adam*, son of *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, besides three acres of arable land in *Wluelegle* adjoining the wood of *Petrus de Brockelegh*'. To have and to hold to the aforesaid Walterus and his heirs of St. Edmund's, freely, quietly, and honorably, rendering yearly for the same to the altar of St. Edmund, in the octaves of Saint Edmund, 8*d.* for all services, customs, and exactions. Reserving for myself and my heirs the right to receive of the aforesaid Walterus and his heirs 12*d.* at a scutage of 20*s.*, and more when the scutage is increased, less when it is diminished. And I and my heirs will warrant the aforesaid tenements, with all their appurtenances, against all men and women, to St. Edmund's and the above said Walterus de Wanci. Hiis testibus, *Willelmo de Gretingham*.

WILFORD HUNDRED.

SUTTON.

On the morrow of Saint Andrew, in the twenty-eighth year of the reign of King Henry II. (1182), a final concord was made in the King's Court at Westminster between Michael filius Ogeri and Sarra, his wife, on one part, and Ogerus filius Ogeri and Amia, his wife, on the other part, in regard to the land of Willelmus de Shelflega, the father of Sarra and Amia, in Sutton, in Suffolk, besides rent in Silveston, land in Schelflega, Walton, and Lachebroch, with the reservation that Ogerus and Amia should retain the land of Schelflega, Walton, and Lachebroch, with all the appurtenances, for the payment of certain debts due by her father, among which was 10 marks which he owed *Willelmus le Franceis*.



SURREY.

GENERAL.

At the pleas in the King's Court on the 27th of October, 1194, *Willielmus le Franceis* withdrew his suit against *Rogerus le Franceis* concerning the breaking of the king's peace.

At the pleas in the King's Court in three weeks of Easter, 9th of May, 1199, *Rogerus filius Edwardi*, who was absent from the great assize in the suit between *Henricus* and *Walterus de Wenleswuth*, essoined himself by *Robertus Franceis*.

At the pleas in the King's Court in the octaves of Holy Trinity, 1199, *Ricardus de Godesfeld'* essoined himself by *Ricardus Franceis* in a placitum terrae versus *Willielmus de Lund'* and *Roesia*, his wife.

A.D. 1200, May 14.—The assisa de morte antecessoris between *Simon de Boresworth*, plaintiff, and *Gilbertus de Heddon*, defendant, touching forty acres of land and a messuage with appurtenances in *Funnes'*, is placed in respite until the arrival of the justices, because *Gilbertus de Heure*, *Rogerus Franceis*, and others did not come.

Under the heading of Surrey the Calendar of Pa-

tent Rolls of the eighth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1279-80) gives the appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *John*, son of *John le Fraunceis*, against Matilda, daughter of John de Stocton, and others, touching possessions in Elesham.

BRIXTON HUNDRED.

PECKHAM AND CAMBERWELL.

In an account of the taxation of the fifteenth granted by the laity to King Edward III. in the sixth year of his reign (1332), under the heading of Pech'm and Camvelle, is found that *Nicholas le ffrensh* paid 12*d.*

SOUTHWARK.

A.D. 1295.—*Willielmus Fraunceys* was a manucap-tor of Ricardus le Clerk, one of the burgesses elected for Southwark to attend the Parliament at Westminster on the Sunday next after the feast of Saint Michael (13th of November), which was prorogued to the Sunday next before the feast of Saint Andrew (27th of November), 1295.

GODLEY HUNDRED.

BYFLEET.

Geoffry de Lucy held half a knight's fee here of the Abbey of Chertsey in the time of Henry III. In the fifty-first year of that reign, 1267, he impleaded *John*, son of *Roger le Fraunceys*, and others, for forcibly entering his park and warren at Byflete, and taking away the deer, horses, and other cattle.

KINGSTON HUNDRED.

TALWORTH.

In 1327 an extent was taken of the manor of Talworth with its members of Turberville and Wyke, which the king held in his own seisin as members belonging to the demesne of the manor of Talworth. The jurors say that they do not know of whom the site of this manor is held; that one acre and one rood of meadow, formerly held by Peter Baldwyne, which are in demesne, are held of John Tolye, rent 1*d.*; a toft and three acres, formerly held by *William le Frenche*, now in demesne, are held of the said John by scutage when levied, and paying annually to *Alice le Frenche* 7*s.* for her life.

REIGATE HUNDRED.

FRENCHES.

Roger le Fraunceys is found among the witnesses to a charter dated at London on the morrow of the Epiphany, in the thirty-eighth year of the reign of King Henry III. (1254), by which John de Warenne first, Earl of Surrey, conveys to John, son of Adrian de London, for his homage and service, the whole land of Brocham (Brockham) in Reigate hundred, with all its appurtenances, and a verge of land in Estbecheworth (East Betchworth), in same hundred, with its appurtenances.

Circumstantial evidence indicates that this *Roger le Fraunceys* was a tenant of the Earls of Surrey, holding probably the mansion which was afterwards called Frenches, which mansion belonged to Reigate, the caput of their barony in this county. Frenches was located in the hamlet of Wiggey, in the parish of Reigate.

Charter of John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, Sussex, and Warenne, Baron of Lewes, Reigate, etc.:—

A.D. 1254.—“Know those present and those to come that I, John de Warenne, have granted, and by this my present deed have confirmed, to John, son of Adrian de London, for his homage and service, the whole land of Brocham, with all its appurtenances, and a verge of land in Estbecheworth, which was for-

merly Adam le Brabezun's, with all its appurtenances; namely, in pastures, in meadows, in mills, in waters and pools, in free tenants and their services, in villeins and their services, and customs of men and women, in wood and plain, and all that belongs to the aforesaid land of Brocham and to the aforesaid verge of land, as the deeds of William de Warenne, my father, concerning both the lands,—namely, of Brocham and the aforesaid verge,—do better and more fully show. To have and to hold to the said John and his heirs, freely, quietly, peaceably, and honorably, in fee and inheritance, paying to me and my heirs 60s. sterling yearly for the land of Brocham, and certain gloves furred with gris or 40*d.* for the verge of land in Estbecheworth; payable at three terms of the year,—namely, at the Purification of the Blessed Mary, 20s.; at Pentecost, 20s.; and at the feast of Saint Michael, 20s. and the gloves furred with gris or 40*d.*, for all services and customs and all suits and demands. And, for this grant and for the confirmation of this my present deed, the aforesaid John has given me 20*l.* sterling. And, because I will that this my grant and confirmation shall be good in law and durable, I have strengthened the present deed with the appending of my seal. These being witnesses: Sir Henry de la Mare, Sir John de Wanton, Sir Peter de Anesye, Sir John de Abernun, Sir Peter de Mareville, William de Stutevil; Ralph Clerk of Eccleshal at that time seneschal, Thomas Cok,

Philip Talecurteys, Gilbert de Colleh, *Roger le Fraunceys*, John de la Hale, Robert Bonet, William de la Hambrach, Robert de Weston, Robert de la Dune, and others. Given at London on the morrow of the Epiphany, in the thirty-eighth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John."

TANDRIDGE HUNDRED.

TANDRIDGE PRIORY.

Upon the resignation of Prior John de Merstham, in 1380, *Richard French* was elected as his successor; but, on the 8th of May following, a commission to inquire into the regularity of the election was issued. However, he died when holding the office, on the 9th of December, 1403.

WALLINGTON HUNDRED.

CHEAM.

A.D. 1316.—*John le Frensh*, of Westchayham, acknowledges that he owes to the prior of Christchurch, Canterbury, 30*l.*, to be levied, in default of payment, of his lands and chattels in the county of Surrey. Dated at Westminster, on the 27th of May.

WOKING HUNDRED.

HORSLEY.

This place was the Horslei or Orselei of the time of King William I., and was then located in the hundred of Wochinges. According to the Domesday survey there were here two crown tenants. One of them was Archbishop Lanfrancus or Lanfranc, formerly abbot of Caen in Normandy, who held for the see of Canterbury, in Horslei, three hides and one virgate and a half; but no names are given for his under-tenants. The other tenant in capite holding possessions in Orselei was Goisfridus de Manneville, whose under-tenant was Walterus filius Otherii, who held of him eight hides of land.

The following record gives the earliest of the very few pedigrees of the surname of *Franceis* to be found in this volume. It is a convincing proof of the early settlement of this family of *Franceis* in England. *Bernardus le Franceis*, the progenitor of this family, appears to have held land in Horslee as early, at least, as the time of King Henry I.

At the pleas held at the King's Court, between September, 1194, and April, 1199, *Walterus*, son of *Hamo (le Franceis)*, claimed against *Radulphus*, son of *Johannes (le Franceis)*, one hide of land with its appurtenances in Horslee, as his right and inheritance, which *Bernardus le Franceis*, his great-grand-

father, held in seisin as of fee in the time of King Henry (I.) on the day and year he died. After him *Osmundus*, son of this *Bernardus*, held it, and after *Osmundus* it should descend to *Hamo*, *Walter's* father, for taking the profits which were valued at 10s. and more; and *Walter* offered to prove by Robertus de Bretton' that it was the lawful right of his father. And Robertus de Bretton' said that *Osmundus* and *Johannes* were brothers; namely, sons of *Bernardus*. *Osmundus* was the first born, *Johannes* was the younger; and, owing to the inability of *Osmundus*, *Johannes* took possession of his inheritance by a grant of the lords of the fee, to whom *Johannes* made service. *Radulphus* came, and defended his right. He admitted the seisin of *Osmundus*, and he acknowledged that *Osmundus* and *Johannes* were brothers; but *Johannes* had purchased the land and held it as his purchase for service to the chief lord in the year and day when Henry, ancestor of the present king (Richard I.), died. And all the days of his reign the said *Johannes* had seisin of this land, and after him *Radulphus*, his son, who places himself under the great assize, and begs that an examination be made as to who has the more right to this land. So the day is given in fifteen days of the feast of Saint John for hearing the report and judgment, and they have leave to agree.

WORPLESDON.

In this parish, near Guildford, is an estate called Fraunceys or Frenches, and sometimes styled a manor. In the year 1290 *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, of Worplesdon, granted to Agnes de la Hurst his tenement, which Robertus de la Hurst, her father, formerly held of him in villa de Teresworth apud la Hurst, at the rent of 3s. 7d. a year, saving to *Willelmus* and his heirs suit of court and reliefs, and to the lords of Burpham their accustomed services from the said tenement, and the king's service as far as belongs to free land of the same fee.

This was an early period in the anglicization of surnames, wherein we find many instances of the change of the name of *Franceis* to *French*; and, although the writer has found no pedigree of the descent from this *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, it may be inferred that *Richard le French*, of this place, found in the following record, was a descendant of this family of *Fraunceys*.

In the twenty-third year of the reign of King Edward III., 1349-50, *Richard le French* held in this place the third part of a knight's fee of Thomas Seymer, the mesne tenant of the late Hugh de Audeley, Earl of Gloucester.

On the south-western bounds of this hundred is the hundred of Farnham. On its western Hampshire boundary is the parish of *Frensham*, another reminder of the early location of the surname of *French* in this

county. The manor of *Frensham* seems to have been held in the years 1325–26 by John Bel, of Fermesham, and was then called *Frensham Beale*.

WOTTON HUNDRED.

OCKLEY.

A.D. 1328.—Thomas de Rokenham grants, by a charter dated on the Tuesday of the Feast of Saint Luke the Evangelist, in the second year of the reign of King Edward III., to *Robertus le Frensche*, junior, of Ockeleg, a small portion of land in that place.

A.D. 1338.—*Robertus le Frenssh*, junior, grants, by a charter dated on Sunday next after the Assumption of the Virgin, in the twelfth year of the reign of King Edward III., to *Robert*, his father, the third part of a messuage in Ockeleg for a yearly rent of one rose.

WOTTON.

A.D. 1355.—Alicia, daughter of Adam atte Rugge, quitclaims by a charter dated on the 7th of June, in the twenty-ninth year of the reign of King Edward III., to *Thomas le Frensche*, of Wodeton, land in Wodeton and Ochleg, in this county. Witnesses, Willelmus de Newdegate, Willelmus de Pynkehurst, Adam Waleys, and others.

A.D. 1356.— *Thomas le Frenshe* grants, by a charter to Johannes de Newtymbre and Isabella, his wife, a messuage in Okwode (Oakwood), in the parish of Wodeton. Dated on Thursday in the Feast of Saint Dunstan, in the thirtieth year of the reign of King Edward III. Witnesses, Willelmus de Pynkehurst, Ricardus de Assehurst, Philipus le Fullere, Robertus atte Hale, and others.

A.D. 1373.— *Thomas le Frenshe* is among the witnesses to a charter of the 12th of November, 47 Edward III., by which Johannes Gouwyk, of Iwhurst (Ewhurst), quitclaims to Margeria, formerly wife of Ricardus atte Strode, of Slyndefolde, the chamber at Rokenham in which Willelmus Pynkhurst died.



SUSSEX.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1199, 15th of July.— Thomas de Argentein es-
soins himself by *Reginaldus Franceis* in a placitum
terrae versus Rogerus Cref.’

A.D. 1222.— The king to his barons of the Ex-
chequer, greeting. Know ye that we, for two doles
of wine of Anjou, have pardoned Willelmus Hardel
and Michael de Wattevill’ the amercement of 20s.,
which they were amerced in the county of Sussex on
account of their replevin for *Herbertus le Franceis*, in
pursuing his claim against W., Earl of Arundel, con-
cerning a debt of 10 marks which this *Herbertus*
claimed against the said earl, by our writ, and which
claim was not pursued before the justices. Wherefore,
we command you to acquit the aforesaid Willelmus
and Michael of the amercement of 20s.; but we have
commanded the sheriff of London to take surety of
them for the said doles of wine.

A.D. 1244-45.— *Willelmus le Fraunceys* and *Juliana*,
his wife, give 1 mark for having a “pone” from the
county of Sussex to Westminster; and the sheriff of
Sussex is commanded, etc.

A.D. 1315.—*Robertus le Frensshe* was a manucaptor of Nicholas Gentyll, knight, who was summoned to meet at the Parliament at Westminster, on the twentieth day of January, 1315.

A.D. 1331-32.—The king to the sheriff of Sussex, greeting. *Elena*, formerly wife of *Robertus le Frensshe*, has shown that, when in the King's Court at Westminster, she recovered her seisin against Willelmus Torny of five acres of land with its appurtenances in Wyndelyngton, by the consideration of the court, etc.

A.D. 1341-42.—The name of *Nicholaus Frenshe* is found in Cornilo at this date.

ARUNDEL RAPE.

ADRINGTON.

A.D. 1291, 2d of February.—License for the alienation in mortmain by *Ralph le Fraunceys* of one acre and a half in Aderington to the abbot and convent of St. Martin's, Sééz.

BILLINGHURST.

Pynham, or De Calceto, was a small alien priory of Augustine canons in the hamlet of Warningscamp, adjoining the parish of Arundel, once a separate chapelry, but now a part of the parish of Leominster.

The canons of Pynham possessed in Billingham certain pieces of land called Westerzonfield, Isterzonfield, Garstone, and Littlesonfield, and the homage and service of Adam de la Fenne, due for the field called Puriham, and also an annual rent of 12*d.*, the gift of John de Palyngfaud to their church.

There is another deed referring to the same land, by which *Robert le Franceys*, of Billingham, confirms it to the same church, adding to the homage and service of Adam de la Fenne those of Dominus Bartholomew, chaplain of Billingham, for a field called Littleham; Ralph Rymer, William de la Spiere, William de la Frier, Peter le Wilde, John of the Park, Richard Diggeyn, Roger le Petewood, William Dram, William Hunt, and others attesting the deed.

For the salvation of himself and his ancestors, William de Arundel, clerk, quitclaimed to his brother Stephen, prior, and the canons of Calceto, an annual rent of 12*d.* which had been given him by *Robert le Franceys*, of Billingham, and which he had formerly received from them, for the land above mentioned. This deed was sealed and witnessed by Robert de Yelfhang, steward of Arundel; William and Richard Paris, Robert the Baker, William, merchant of Calceto, and others.

SULLINGTON.

A.D. 1366.—Margaret, second wife of John Covert, who held the manor of Sullington, and daughter of

Richard Cheslebeach, in her will dated on Friday next after the festival of the Epiphany, 1366, made a "bequith to *William Frensh* of six withers and one mark of silver."

BRAMBER RAPE.

A.D. 1319.—*Johannes le Frenshe* was a manucaptor of Rogerus de Bavent, knight, who was summoned to meet at the Parliament at York, on the 6th of May, 1319.

A.D. 1320.—*Johannes le Frensh* appears again with a *Robertus le Frensh* as the two manucaptors of Rogerus de Bavent, knight, who was summoned to meet at the Parliament to be held at Westminster, on the sixth day of October, 1320.

A.D. 1332, 20th of June.—Commission of oyer and terminer to Richard de Wylughby and others, on complaint by Richard de Peshale that William de Wolde, chaplain, Robert de Saxton, Richard de Richmond, John de Moubray, *John le Frenshe*, and others took away twenty horses, thirty mares, twenty-four colts, sixty oxen, thirty cows, thirty steers, one hundred swine, and two hundred sheep of his, worth 500*l.*, at Knappe, Beaubosson, Fyndon, Wassyngton, Bedyng, Brembre, Stenyng, West Grenstede, and Warynglide, County Sussex, mowed his crops, carried away his goods, and assaulted his servants.

ALBOURN.

A.D. 1278.— In a writ of the twenty-sixth day of June, 1278, to the sheriff of this county, King Edward I. commands him to distrain all persons within his bailiwick seized of land to the amount of 20*l.* yearly value, or one entire knight's fee, whether held of the king in capite or of any other lord, and who "ought to be knights and are not" to take upon themselves the degree of knighthood before Christmas then next, and to return the names of such persons under his seal and the seals of two lawful knights of the said county.

The returns show that Nigellus de Brok and Andreas de Lychpole held each one knight's fee, and as such were distrained to receive knighthood.

Among the manucaptors of the former was *Henricus le Frensche*, and those of the latter show among their number the name of *Willielmus le Frensche*.

The possessions of these proposed knights were in Bramber Rape. Nigellus de Brok held the manor of Albourn, land at Lancing and some other places. Andreas de Lychpole appears to have been steward of William de Broase, holding possessions in Offington.

BRAMBER.

A.D. 1313.—*Johannes le Frensh'* was summoned for Bramber and Steyning borough to meet at the Parlia-

ment to be held at Westminster, on the eighth day of July, 1313.

A.D. 1324.—Thomas de Hurst and Mabel, his wife, sold in 1324 to *John le Frenshe*, of Bramber, and *Alice*, his wife, two messuages, one salt-pit, and sixteen acres of arable land in South Lancing for 12*l.* This was afterwards sold, in 1334, to John de Boxgrave.

There is another record, of the 13th of April, 1334, wherein it is stated *John le Frensh* had a garden at Lancing.

A.D. 1330.—*Johannes le French* was summoned for Bramber and Steyning borough to meet at the Parliament to be held at Westminster, on the 26th of November, 1330.

A.D. 1331.—*Robert le Frensh* was a burgess of Bramber.

In this same year *John Frenshe* was a burgess of Steyning.

In 1341 the nona return of the parish of Bramber was made on the oath of *Gilbertus le Frenshe* and others. He was summoned for Bramber and Steyning borough to attend the Parliament held at Westminster, on the 31st of March, 1348; and he is mentioned as a burgess of Bramber in 1349.

There is a certain amount of suspicion that *Gilbertus le Freynsh*, who is particularly identified as the rector of the church of Findon, may have been the son or a kinsman of *Gilbertus French*, burgess of Bramber.

Among the crown appointments for 1347-48, it is

observed that *Gilbert le Frensh* had a living at St. Peter, next Guildhall, which location is not quite clear; but at the same time the record indicates that it was at Wisborough, in Arundel Rape. *Gilbert le Freynsh* was parson of Rayleigh (Rayle), in Essex, and became rector of the church of Findon on the 27th of January, 1354, where an inscription in the church shows that he died on the ninth day of October, 1374.

FINDON.

In 1318 *Robert*, the son of *Robert le Frenche*, and *Isabel*, his wife, sold to Walter atte Lynch one mesuage and four acres of arable land at Fynedone for 20 marks.

In 1326 *John le Frenche* and *Aliva*, his wife, sold to Robert de Manningham, vicar of Fyndon, twenty-eight acres of arable land and fifty acres of pasture at Thornwyk, in Fyndon.

HORSHAM.

A.D. 1287-88.—Of persons appointed to serve on juries in 16 Edward I., in the Rape of Bramber, the bailiff, *Robert le Fraunceys*, appears to have been summoned in every hundred. He was also chief bailiff of the borough of Horsham.

Robert Frensh was a burgess of this borough in the years 1357, 1359, 1360, 1365, and 1372.

Robertus le Frensshe was summoned for Horsham Borough to meet at the Parliaments held at Westminster on the fifth day of February, 1357-58; on the fifteenth day of May, 1360; on the twenty-fourth day of January, 1360-61; on the thirteenth day of October, 1362; on the fourth day of May, 1366; on the third day of June, 1369; on the eighth day of June, 1371; on the thirteenth day of October, and, by prorogation, on the third day of November, 1372; and on the twenty-first day of November, 1373.

Henricus Frensshe was summoned for this borough to attend the Parliaments held at Westminster on the sixth day of October, 1382; on the twenty-third day of February, 1382-83; and on the twenty-sixth day of October, 1383.

SHIPLEY.

In 1308 *William le Frenshe* was a tenant in this place of the "Masters and Brothers of the Solidiery of the Temple," holding a cottage and eight acres of land for 9*d.* rent, and certain services.

SHOREHAM.

A.D. 1305.—*Robertus le Frensh* was a manucaptor of Ricardus Serle, one of the two burgesses summoned for Shorham to attend the Parliament at Westminster, on Tuesday, 16th of February, which was prorogued to Sunday, 28th of February, 1305.

CHICHESTER RAPE.

CHICHESTER.

A.D. 1274-75.— Appointment of John de Cobham to hear and determine the appeals of Thomas Peverel against Robert de Broghampton and Alice, his wife, Simon Tprush, William le Ireys, William de la Flete, *Richard le Franceis*, *Laurence le Franceis*, Peter Bundy, John le Ber, and others, in the vill of Chichester, and against the commonalty of the said vill for the homicide of Stephen Coby, lately killed by night in the said vill, and to inquire as to the persons who killed him.

A.D. 1285.— *Walter Franciscus* was among the five persons of the diocese of Chichester ordained acolytes in September, presented by William de Cruceroys, official of the Bishop of Chichester, by commission dated at Cacham, 13 Cal. October, 1285.

In 1335 *Lawrence French* was a comptroller of the customs in this borough.

ROGATE.

A.D. 1341.— *Willielmus Frenshe* was a member of the jury of this parish at the inquisitio nonarum held at Chichester, on Wednesday next after the feast of St. Gregory, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Edward III.

SELHAM.

A.D. 1330.—*Robertus Frenches* is among the witnesses to a charter, dated on the morrow of Ascension Day in that year, in which Adam atte Stroude, clericus, grants to *Walterus Boggyng*, chaplain, a mesuage with croft at Hammes, in the parish of Sialesham.

HASTINGS RAPE.

BATTLE.

Temp. Henry III.—Grant in frankalmoign by Robert de Sicele, to the abbot of Battle, of a rent issuing out of land in Newe Rede, bounded by the road from Stondenn' to Slepelle and from Hedbroc. Witnesses, *Walter Franceis*, Thomas, de Mora, Hereward de Hauekherst, and others (named).

ETCHINGHAM.

A.D. 1332.—*Robertus le Frensh* was a manucaptor of Robertus de Echyngeshamme, Baron of Echyngesham, who was summoned to attend the Parliament held at Ripon, on the 14th of November, 1322, which Parliament was to be held to consider the plan for the intended winter campaign.

LEWES RAPE.

LEWES ABBEY.

The three generations of the family of *Francigena*, found in the following seven charters, represented by *Robert*, and *Thomas* and *Hugh*, his sons, besides *Robert Francigena*, whom we take to be the grandson, all of whom appear to be contemporaneous with members of the family of Dene, as represented first by Robert Pincerna, alias Dene, second by his son Ralph, and third by his grandson, Robert de Dene; and, as there are no positive dates to these charters, they may be approximated from the information and records about the Dene family, as follows.

The title of pincerna in the Dene family has been attributed to holding such position under the Earls of Morton, who held the honor of Pevensey until about the year 1102, after which period it was granted by King Henry I. to the Aquilas; and, as Robert pincerna held this title at a later date, it is concluded that it was under the Aquilas. He seems to have been living towards the close of the reign of King Stephen, as he is found as a witness to a charter of Prince Eustace, who died in 1152. So it is inferred that this charter could not have been executed before 1150. This charter conveyed the fishery of Pevensey to the monks of Lewes.

Ralph de Dene, son of Robert Pincerna, is also

found in a charter of Prince Eustace, and again in the eleventh year of King Henry II. (1164-65) as paying a fine of 4*l.*; while in the report of Richard de Aquila, which was returnable to the Exchequer on the 17th of March, 1166, Ralph de Dene held of him six knights' fees.

Robert de Dene, the son of Ralph, granted at a later period the tithes of the rectory of Waldron to the priory of Lewes. This was probably towards the end of the reign of King Henry II.

Charter No. 1.

Alan, son of Rembert, grants to the monks of Lewes "Turgustū de Suttuna," with all the lands. William, son of Alan, confirms the grant. For this the monks give them 10 marks of silver. Testibus, Angerio capellano, Magistro Willelmo de Cukefelda, Willelmo presbitero de Suttuna, Roberto pincerna, *Roberto franceso*, Radulfo Walensi, Waltero clerico, Alano nepote prioris.

Charter No. 2.

William Malfed gives to St. Pancras and the monks there the church of Chitinglie. Testibus, Warino capellano, Henrico presbitero, Adam clerico, Rogero de ffracnei, Roberto Pincerna, Philippo de ffokington, *Roberto ffranceiso*, Hugone de Linet, Ricardo de Truelie, et aliis.

Charter No. 3.

William Malfed gives to St. Pancras, of Lewes, two hides of land; to wit, half a hide called Imberhorne, half a hide at Posingeword, and one hide at Lumport. Testibus, Hugone Linet, *Roberto ffrancigena*, Brieno de Hauckeham, Ordwino de Cnolle, Waltero clerico de Grenesteda, Willelmo Caldello, Rannulfo Portario, Radulfo Waleys, Roberto Coco.

Charter No. 4.

Ralph de Dena gives and confirms to St. Pancras at Lewes, and the monks there, all the gifts which Robert Pincerna, his father, gave them; to wit, Hamwode, Wolfhole, Crohurst, the land of Westhorn, and the land of Newica. Testibus, *Roberto ffrancigena*, Ricardo de Hindedal, Gaufrido de Bacton, Petro de Hinded, Willelmo Coco, Willelmo de Perci, Roberto filio ffulchredi, Ailwino Dag', Simone Dapifero, Rannulfo portario, Willelmo de sancto Pancracio, Ysaak Sartore.

Charter No. 5.

I, *Thomas*, son of *Robert ffrancigena*, give to St. Pancras at Lewes, and the monks there, ten acres of land lying before the gate of Edwin de la Feld, for the health of *Robert*, my father. Testibus, Rogero Capellano, Petro filio Omeri, Johanne Huke, Ricardo

de Hasting presbitero; Pagano clerico de Blackint', Willelmo Ruffo, Johanne Chudmet, Radulfo de Dena, Gaufrido de Gacton, Mil' de Harmere, Ricardo de Trul, Willelmo de Hoult, Ysaak Gileberto, Johanne Chury, *Hugone filio Roberti ffrancigene*, Alexandro de Den.

Charter No. 6.

Ralph de Dena confirms to the monks of Lewes the gift which *Thomas*, son of *Robert Francigena*, made to them; to wit, the ten acres of land which lie before the gate of Edwin de la Feld. Testibus, Rogero de capello, Petro filio Omeri, Johanne Hupe, Ricardo de Hasting presbitero, Pagano clerico de Blagint, Willelmo Ruffo, Johanne Chudinech, *Thoma filio francigene*, Gaufrido de Gattun', Mil' de Hamare, Ricardo de Sruel', Will. de Hoult, Ysaac Gileberto, Johanne Cur', *Hugone filio Roberti (ffrancigene)* Alexandro de Den'.

Charter No. 7.

Circa 1186.—Brother Hugh, prior of St. Pancras, and Robert de Dena and Sibilla, his wife, and Ralph, his son, and William Malfeth have exchanged the land of Cnolle and the land of Duductona. Testibus, Radulfo de Dena, Willelmo Malfethe, Ranulfo de Cherlakestona, Rainaldo de Moret', Ricardo de Hyxdedale Hardinch, *Roberto ffrancigena*.

Additional charters conveying land in this parish, of the thirteenth century, most probably executed after the year 1250:—

Johannes Produmme grants by charter to the monks of Lewes all his rights in the land which was formerly Reginaldus le Long's and one messuage which was formerly William le Somner's, near by in the parish of Southover (suburb of Lewes). Testibus, Amfrido de fferringhes, Simone de Herletinghes, Johanne Berenger, Hugone de Stokingham, Reginaldo Griselim, Roberto le Wimpler, Johanne le Tailur, Magistro Hugone Coco, *Ricardo le ffrenceis*, et multis aliis.

Matilda, daughter and heiress of Adam de Myvelde, granted to the monks of Lewes the half of one messuage with its appurtenances lying in the parish of Suthenover, near the mill of Watergate. Testibus, Johanne le tanner, Roberto le Wympler, *Ricardo fraunceys*, Ada zonario, Johanne le port', Roberto le haftere, Nicholao Casel, et multis aliis.

Robert "manubriator" granted to the monks of Lewes, for the supports of lights, a certain messuage with its appurtenances in the parish of Suthovere, between the messuage of Nicholas le cuper and Rogerus le wes in Westporta. Testibus, Willelmo de Pynz clerico, Philippo clerico, Radulpho Janitore, Johanne Prudhume, Johanne Aufray, Johanne le tailur, Johanne Horn, Ricardo zonario, *Ricardo le ffrancēso*, Matheo Page, Roberto Drad, et multis aliis.

Radulphus le Couper and Isabella, his wife, daughter of Johannes le Deyde, have given to Johannes le Mason of Southwikes the moiety of one messuage in Southnovere, next Lewes. Testibus, Magistro Hugone Coco, Johanne Aunrey, *Ricardo le fraunceys*.

Bartholomew Cornesarius, son of Alan, and Alice, his wife, gave to Emma, mother of the said Alice, some time wife of Robert le Lomb, the fourth part of a messuage in Southenover, in Westporte. Testibus, Gilberto Sikelfot clerico, Johanne Serle, Nic. Cassell, *Ricardo le fraunceys*.

PIECOMB.

A.D. 1272-73.—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Adam Fraunc* against *Hamelin Fraunc*, touching land and rent in Pyecombe.

PLUMPTON.

A.D. 1341.—*Johannes le Frensshe* was a juror of this parish at the nona return held at Lewes, on Monday next after the feast of Saint Gregory the Pope, in the fifteenth year of the reign of King Edward III.

PEVENSEY RAPE.

ALCISTON.

Among the rentals and customals of the manor of Alsiston, paid to Battle Abbey in the reign of Edward

I., *Willelmus le Franceys*, who held land in Linderle, paid 15½*d.* at the feast of Saint Thomas and 15*d.* at Hokeday.

CHIDDINGLY.

A.D. 1296.—In the Subsidy Roll of 24 Edward I., which contains the taxation of this and the adjoining parish of East Hoathly (“Hodleggh”), *Johannes Fraunceys*, evidently of Chittingley, was taxed at 2*s.* 6*d.* and 3 *farthings*.

EAST BOURNE.

A.D. 1241–42.—Among those holding of the king in capite in this county, the heirs of *Gilbertus Franceis* hold the third part of a knight’s fee in Burne, of the honor of Morteyn.

HEATHFIELD.

Prob. circa 1258.—Peter, son and heir of Walter le Porter, granted to Roger, son of Robert de Broham, all that tenement with appurtenances which Walter, his father, bought of Robert Scherrene in the parish of Hetfeld. Witnesses, *Willelmus Fraunceys*, Nicholas forestarius, and others.

MAYFIELD AND WADHURST.

In a writ issued at Lincoln on the 23d of November, 1328, for the collection of the twentieth in the

county of Sussex, the portion of the roll relating to Maghefeld and Wadehurst shows that 2s. was the assessment of *John Le Fransh*.

WALDRON.

A.D. 1311.—*Thomas le Frenshe* was a manucaptor of Johannes de Heringaud, who held the manor of Herringdales, alias Waldron, by descent from the family of Dene, one of the two knights elected for the county of Sussex to attend the Parliament held at London, on the eighth day of August, 1311.

WESTHAM.

A.D. 1259.—Robert, son of John de Glyndeale, and Margaret, daughter and heir of Salomon de Hothlegh, have given to Reginald de Burghers the moiety of all the land of which the said Salomon died seized in the town of Westham, the western hamlet of the ancient town of Pevensey. Given on the morrow of the Translation of Saint Edmund the Confessor, in the forty-third year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John. Witnesses, *Willelmus ffranceys*, Nicholas fforestarius, and others.

WARWICKSHIRE.

GENERAL.

In 26 Henry II. (1179–80), at the Nova Placita et Novae Conventiones before Rannulphus de Glanvill and his associates, *Robertus Francaeis* had been amerced 10 marks as surety for "Johannes." He pays 4 marks into the treasury by the hand of the sheriff of Warwickshire, and owes 6 marks.

In 27 Henry II. *Robertus Francaeis* pays 2 marks of his misericordia, and owes 4 marks.

At Michaelmas, 1182, he again pays 20s., and owes 13s. 4d., which he pays in the twenty-ninth year of Henry II., when he is quit.

On Sunday after the octaves of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, 11th of July, 1199, *Robertus filius Leueneth* essoins himself by *Hugo Francaeis*.

BARLICHWAY HUNDRED.

BEARLEY.

A.D. 1251.—Covenant between the abbot and convent of Bordesley (of Worcestershire) and Elizabeth,

relict of Alexander le Blu, relative to a demise by her to the said abbot of lands in the field of Bur' (Bearley), in Sterf furlong, bordering upon the road leading from Statford, in Wotton, Blakebroc and Hokinde Stret. Witnesses, Simon de Stok', *William Franceis*, and others.

The following charter is undated, but it is probably of a later date than that preceding it:—

Grant in frankalmoign by *William Fraunceys*, son of *William Fraunceys*, of Burleia, to the monks of Bordesley, of a yearly rent payable by *Robert Fraunceys*, son of *Ralph Fraunceys*, of Burleia, for a curtilage in Burleia. Witnesses, Nicholas le Rower of Warewick, William Moryn' of Snitenefeld, William de Burleia, and others.

8 Edward I. (1279-80).—Demise of Ralph Geri, of Burleye, to the abbot and convent of Bordesley, of a messuage with a curtilage and land, and also of a rent in Byrleye. Witnesses, Hugh de Bleez, *William Franceys*, and others.

GRAFTON.

At the essoins, etc., taken at Westminster, on the 13th of October, 1194, *Alanus*, nephew of *Robertus le Franceis*, excuses himself "de malo veniendi" by Adam Marescallus, in a plea of land versus Radulphus de Crafton.

On the 1st of December, 1194, Radulphus de

Grafton essoined himself de malo veniendi by Simon de Beninton in a placitum dotis versus *Cristiana*, relict of *Robertus le Franceis*.

At the pleas, on the Eve of Saint Nicholas, 5th of December, 1194, Willelmus de Parles appeared, on the fourth day, versus *Cristiana*, the wife of the deceased *Robertus Francigena*; but she neither came nor essoined herself.

A.D. 1194-95.—A day is given to the brethren of the Hospital of Jerusalem, Radulphus de Crafton, Willelmus de Ardena, and *Alanus Francigena*, in a placitum terrae, at Westminster, on the day of Saint Peter ad Vincula.

A.D. 1195.—At the assizes on the morrow of Holy Trinity Willelmus de Ardena essoins himself de malo veniendi by Thomas Bon Pas in a placitum terrae versus the hospital and *Alanus le Franceis*.

LANGLEY.

Circumstantial evidence indicates that the following charter was executed about the last quarter of the twelfth century:—

Be it known to those present and those to come that I, Henricus de Clintona, for my welfare and that of my family, grant, and by this charter confirm, in pure and perpetual alms, to the Church of St. Mary of Kenilduurda (Kenilworth), and the canons serving God there, all the land and churches, and all other

things, with appurtenances, which G. (eoffrey) de Clinton, my grandfather, chamberlain of the lord the king (Henry I.), gave and granted to them, in pure and perpetual alms, for the welfare of the kings of England, and for his own welfare and that of his family; namely, all the land in Kenilworth, in bosc and in plain, etc. Moreover, I grant and confirm to them all the lands, with their appurtenances and liberties, which I before have given, granted, and confirmed to them, to be held of me and my heirs in perpetuity; namely, all that land, with bosc, from the place where the house of Ailmerus stood to the fossatum of Stotfold, and from Stotfold to the corner of the wood belonging to the said canons at Blachwell, with Colgrimusholifast, etc. And I will warrant them the whole wood, which *Robertus le Francois* claimed in the fossatum belonging to the canons in Blachwell, and all the land from the hedge of Robertus pistor to the end of the old fossatum which is extended thither, and from the end of this fossatum to the corner of the new fossatum which the canons made around the wood which I before granted them, and from this corner to the boundaries between me and the Templars, and then by the boundaries of *Robertus le Francois*, of Langele, to the bosc I before had given them, namely, all that land which I had there between the boundaries of the aforesaid canons, the Templars, and *Robertus le Francois*, etc.; all the land which lies between the alder grove of the canons and the land of Nigellus

de Mundavilla, etc.; and one acre of land which Johannes le Strange, a man of the canons, held of me; and all the moor which is between Bradeford-Broch and the land of Radulfus carbonarius (collier), near the road to Harestone, etc.; and one acre of land which Ranulfus and Reginaldus Rufus held of me, and the wood which is between the house of said Reginaldus and the wood which of old belonged to the church of Kenilworth, from the spring, from which the brook called Neusiche flows down, to the cross which *Robertus le Francois* erected for making a boundary between the wood which this *Robertus* held of me and that part of the wood which I retain for myself, etc.; and the Church of Etha, of the donation of Lecellina and concession of Bertramus de Verduno, her son. Hiis testibus, Magistro Willielmo Martell, Willielmo clerico de Warewiche, magistro Ricardo de Gnowshale, Roberto de Herecurth et Willielmo filio ejus, Willielmo de Ardena, Radulfo fratre ejus, Walerand de Cumpton, Henrico de Camera, Johanne de Londonia, Henrico Blundel, Johanne Blundel, Rogero Godecnave, Willielmo de Norfolcia.

SALFORD.

The ensuing eight documents are all identified with this place. The time of the execution of charter No. 1 is indicated by the period when William de Lucy, one of the witnesses, was sheriff of this county. Dug-

dale decides the time as follows: "In 20 Henry III." (1236) "the custody of this county and Leicestershire was committed to his" (William de Lucy's) "charge, together with the strong castle of Kenilworth, 23d of April, which trust he continued for the space of three years." The date of charter No. 2 is designated by the time when the justices, witnesses to the same, made their northern circuit, which was in the year 1240. Robert de Lexinton, the principal justice named, died in 1250. The visitation of the justices was made during the time of Richard le Gras or Crassus, who became abbot of Evesham, in County Worcester, after the death of his predecessor, who died on the 12th of September, 1236. This Abbot Richard died on the 8th of December, 1242, according to Dugdale; but Hardy states it was on the 2d of December. So that the succeeding charters wherein Abbot Richard is mentioned must have been made during the time he was abbot of Evesham. The following abbot was Thomas de Glovernia or Gloucester, who was confirmed in 1243, and died on the 15th of December, 1255. Henry, or Henry of Worcester, mentioned in the last record of the year 1259, succeeded Thomas, the late abbot. He was installed abbot of Evesham in 1256, and died in November, 1263. So that the following documents may, we judge, safely be considered to cover the period from the year 1235 until the year 1259.

Charter No. 1.

Grant by *Robert Franceis*, of Saltforde, to William the clerk, of Drayton, of a portion of his court towards the high street, with the coterelli living there, with a croft and half of his virgate of land at Saltforde. An acre of the land is in Morwrlung, part heading on "la Den," half an acre called "Forshecar," part on "Calueulle le affeudlond," in "la Verniwrlung," part next Huniwei in "la Holulonde," and Goren by Huniwei looking on Somerwei, part on Hothulle, next land of the court of Saltford Priors, etc. Witnesses, Sir William de Luci, sheriff of Warwick, and others.

Charter No. 2.

Grant by William the clerk, of Drayton, to Richard, the abbot, and the monks of Evesham (in Worcester-shire), in frankalmoign, of land and a messuage, with the coterelli, and a croft in Saltford, which he had of the gift of *Robert le Franceys*, against whom he afterwards recovered it by assize of novel disseisin before the king's justices in Eyre at Coventry. Witnesses, Robert de Lexinton, William de Culewrth, Robert de la Haye, Warner Engayne, and Ralph de Sutlegh, the king's justices then in Eyre, and others.

Charter No. 3.

Grant by *Robert le Fraunceys*, of Saltforde, to Roger Lossewit, of a messuage in Saltforde at the end of the town, and twelve acres in Saltford, part at Tunstall, part in Othull, in Hevedfurlong, by "le Merwey," in the upper part of the furlong called "Somerweye," at Cocesacre, in Calwenhull, upon Stifurlong, extending to "la Dene" and to "la Hethe," part at the end of the mill road, at Leverichescroft, next "la Longedole," and a portion of the meadow by Elmeforde. Witnesses, Robert Grim, Henry Austin, and others.

Charter No. 4.

Release by Roger le Losewit to Sir Richard, the abbot, and the convent of Evesham, of the messuage in Sanford which he had of *Robert le Franceis*, at the end of the town, and also of land there. Witnesses, William, the steward (senescallo) of Evesham, Simon de Cottone, knight, Robert Grym, Henry Austin, and others.

Charter No. 5.

Grant by *Robert le Franceis*, of Sanford, to William, son of Geoffrey de Ynceberg, of all his land in Sanford, with the service of Roger Losewit, for 30 marks, which William has lent to him for his great and urgent business, the said William paying 5s. yearly to the

abbot of Evesham, and giving to *Robert* for life a fourth of the wheat growing on the land; and, if after his death, *Robert's* heir repays the 30 marks, he shall recover the land. Otherwise William shall hold it till the money be repaid, with the amount he has spent on the land. Witnesses, Henry Austin, of Sanford, Robert Grim, and others.

Charter No. 6.

Grant by Peter the palmer (palmarius), of Eccheslenz, son of the late Bond', son of Alexander, to Sir Richard, the abbot, and the convent of Evesham, of the land in Sanford which he had of *Robert le Franceis*, of Sanford, part extending from the spring commonly called "Carfwellesiche" by the moor, toward Herverton, part in Weleforlong by "le Chirhacre." Witnesses, William the steward of Evesham, Peter son of Osbert de Eccheslenz, and others.

Charter No. 7.

Grant by *William Franceys*, of Sanford, to Geoffrey de Camera of a moiety of all his right in one virgate of land in "Sanford abbatis Evesham" (Salford Abbot's), which came to *William* through *Alice*, his mother, Geoffrey defraying the cost of the plea for acquiring the land by judgment or agreement. Witnesses, Walter Grim, Henry Austin, and others.

Charter No. 8.

A.D. 1259.—Undertaking by Geoffrey de Camera and John Birun to defend Henry, abbot of Evesham, in a plea which *William le Fraunceis*, of Salford, is moving against him before the king's justices of the Bench, London, concerning a virgate of land in Salford, and to cause the said abbot to have a deed of acquittance of the said land under *William's* seal before Ascension Day next. Evesham, the morrow of Saint John ante Portam Latinam, A.D. 1259.

COVENTRY CO.

STIVICHALL.

Circa A.D. 1180—1200.—Grant from Stephen de Nerbona to William, son of Ralph de Filungele, in consideration of his fighting a duel for him ("pro homagio et servicio, et propter duellum quod fecit pro me"), of two virgates of land in Stivechala, with additional land near the high road leading from Allesle, with license to sell or mortgage or assign to the house of the brothers of the Temple, or to the Hospitallers, or any other religious house: with a full warranty, "propter quod fecit pro me predictum duellum." Witnesses, *Robertus Franceis* and others.

HEMLINGFORD HUNDRED.

BIRMINGHAM.

In the year 1221 John de Kent, of Birmingham, was murdered by his servants John and Henry, who fled. They are in the frankpledge of *Peter le Fraunceis* in Burmingham, no Englishry proved. For this offence the town was fined 1 mark, and the frankpledge of *Peter le Fraunceis* for the flight half a mark.

GLASCOTE.

About the beginning of King Henry II.'s time, William, the son of Hugh de Hatton, confirmed to the nuns of Polseworth all those lands in Glascote which *William le Franceis* had given them. By which confirmation it appears that they were of the inheritance of Maud, wife of the said William de Hatton.

WIDNEY.

At the Placita coram Consilio Domini Regis, in octabis Sancti Hillarii, anno 38 Henry III., 20th of January, 1254, *Roger le Fraunceys*, William de Parles, and Alicia de Parles were attached to answer the complaint of Robert, parson of Wadington, that they had come with others to the house of said Robert in

Wydehaye, which he held in custody, and had ejected him and his family from it *vi et armis*, and had carried away his goods and chattels to the value of 20 marks.

Roger denied the accusation, and appealed to a jury, which is to be summoned in the county, and the inquisition returned on the octaves of Trinity.

William de Parles and Alice appeared, and admitted the fact. They are therefore committed to custody, and the sheriff to return the amount of damage at three weeks from Easter.

KINGTON HUNDRED.

CHESTERTON.

In the Domesday survey, under the heading of Terra Ricardi Forestarii, is the following account of this place: Ricardus Venator holds three hides in Cestreton. There is (arable) land (sufficient) for six ploughs. In demesne are three carucates, and (there are) six villani and four bordarii with three ploughs. There are thirty acres of meadow. It (the whole) was worth 40s., now it is worth 100s. Four teini (formerly) held it free.

Sir William Dugdale explains the appearance of Richard Venator in this survey by stating it was another name for Richard Forestarius, who was also called Richard Chineu; and in continuation observes

that Richard Forestarius held his lands by the service of keeping the forest of Kanoc, in Staffordshire, and paying to the king 10 marks yearly. From another source it is found that Richard Forestarius founded the church of this place. From the Forestarii the forestership of Cannock passed, according to Testa de Nevill, successively by heiresses, first to William Crok, then to Robert de Brok, and afterwards by a daughter of the latter to Hugh de Lodges, whose son, Hugh de Lodges, was the last hereditary forester of Cannock.

There are indications that Robert Passelewe made his northern circuit about the year 1247, for Eyton states that it was probably in March of that year he visited Shropshire. So the chances are that he may have included the county of Warwick among the records of that period, among which arrentations is the following account of Chesterton, identified with the last hereditary forester of Cannock of the surname of Lodges.

Hugo de Lodges enfeoffed *Robertus le Fraunceys* with one virgate of land for 12*d.* per annum. *Thomas le Fraunceys* holds it, and it is valued at 10*s.*

THORNTON.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned

by William de Bissopedon against *Walter le Fraunceis*, touching common of pasture in Thornedon.

KNIGHTLOW HUNDRED.

HODNELL.

Willelmus de Lodinton and Ricardus Peche, collectors of the aid of 2 marks of each fee, given to King Henry III. for marrying his sister Isabel, to Frederick, the Roman Emperor, render account for the terms of Michaelmas, 1235, and Easter, 1236.

Henricus le Fraunceis, of Hodenhull, and Willelmus de Ludinton, of Ludinton, paid 1 mark for half a knight's fee,—the half at each term.

THURLESTON.

At the aid for marrying Isabel, sister of King Henry III., in 1235 and 1236, *Willelmus le Franceis*, of Turlaweston, paid 2 marks for one knight's fee.

WESTMORELAND.

EAST WARD.

APPLEBY.

At the assize held at Appleby in a month of Easter, 1279, *Johannes le Fraunceys* was an attorney of Will-elmus de Lyndesay in a plea of land between him and the sisters and heiresses of Peter de Brus (3d), plain-tiffs, and Alanus de Turribus, defendant.

WEST WARD.

CLIBURN.

In the year 1291 there was a dispute between King Edward I. and the Abbey of St. Mary, York, concern- ing the advowson of the Church of St. Laurence in Appleby and the Church of St. Michael in Appleby, in Bondegate, the king affirming that King Henry II. presented to the same Adam and John, his clerks. But the jurors found that the abbot had more right in the said advowson than the king. The names of the

jurors were Thomas de Culwene, Hugh de Multon, of Hoffe, William de Stirkeland, John de Rossegill, R. le Englays, Richard de Preston, knights; Jo. Mauschael, William de Crakenthorp, Richard de Musegrave, *Jo. Fraunceis*, of Cliburn, Richard de Warthecop, and Richard Tyrel.

A.D. 1292.—At the pleadings held at Appleby, in this county, in the octaves of Saint Michael, in the twentieth year of the reign of King Edward I., the lord the king, by Willelmus Inge, claimed versus the abbot of Bella Landa (Byland, in Yorkshire) four carucates of land, one thousand acres of wood, and one hundred acres of pasture, with its appurtenances, in Theybeye and Askeby.

The following jurors, elected for this purpose, said upon their oath that the aforesaid abbot had more right to hold the said tenement, as the right of his church of Bella Landa, than the king; namely, Thomas de Derwentwater, Hugo de Molton, Willelmus de Stirkelaund, Johannes de Rossegile, Ricardus de Preston, and Robertus le Engleys, knights; Johannes Mauchael, Willelmus de Crakentorp, *Johannes le Fraunceys*, of Clyburn, Ricardus de Wardecoppe, Nicholaus de Musegrave, and Johannes de Whale.

At the same pleadings the lord the king, by Willelmus Inge, claimed versus Gilbertus de Querton the manor of Querton, with all its appurtenances.

The following jurors, chosen for this purpose, said upon their oath that the said Gilbertus had more right

to hold the said tenement, as he holds it by confirmation and enfeoffment, than the king; namely, Hugo de Molton, Thomas de Derwentwater, Willelmus de Scirkelaund, and Ricardus de Preston, knights; Johannes Mauchael, Willelmus de Crakenethorp, *Johannes le Fraunceys*, of Cliburn, Nicholaus de Mosegrave, Adam de Haurington, Johannes de Quale, Ricardus de Wardecoppe, and Adam de Musegrave.

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH.

Thirteenth century charter, probably executed soon after the year 1256:—

To all who see or hear, etc. Thomas de Hastyngs, son of Thomas de Hastyngs, greeting. Know all that I and my heirs or my assigns can neither have nor take any suit to my mill of Crosseby of the abbot of Whiteby and his men, or his tenants, of any of his lands in Crosseby Ravenswarth,—namely, of those lands which they held on Friday next before the feast of Saint Barnabas the Apostle, in the fortieth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John, 1256, in the said vill of Crosseby; and that the said abbot and his men, or his tenants, may grind their corn of the said land wherever it seems them better to take it, without hindrance of me, my heirs, or my assigns. And for the more security I have confirmed this present

charter by my seal. Hiis testibus, Roberto de Askeby, Alano de Cataberge, Roulando de Revegille, *Willelmo de Franceys*, Willelmo de Goldington, Johanne de Berwys, Willelmo filio Adae de Meburne, et aliis.

GREAT STRICKLAND.

Circa A.D. 1230.—Walterus de Stirkland, knight, granted to the Church of St. Mary's, York, and to the prior and monks of Wederhal, which was a cell of St. Mary's, York, four acres of land in the territory of Stirkeland, with liberty to grind the corn growing thereupon at his mill of Stirkeland, molter free. The witnesses were Radulphus, prior of Carlisle; Magister G. (that is, Gervase Lowther), archdeacon; Dominus W., official of Carlisle; Ricardus Brun, and Thomas son of Johannes, (deputy) sheriffs of Cumberland and Westmorland; Robertus de Castelkairo, brother of the said Walterus; Walterus, dean (rural) of Westmorland; Michael, vicar of Morlaund; Johannes son of Willelmus, Thomas de Lowther, *Thomas le Fraunceis*, Adam and Robertus, his sons, *Hugo le Fraunceis*, Adam de Slegyle, Stephanus and Robertus de Newby, and others.

MAULD'S MEABURN.

Rogerus de Morvill held Meburn, at whose death it was divided between his coheirs, Hugo de Morvill and Matilda de Morvill, who married Willelmus de Veteriponte. Hugo's part came to the king by forfeiture, when it was known as Meburn Regis; and Matilda's moiety became Meburn Matildae.

This latter place is of interest to the surname of *Fraunceys* from the fact that the manor of Meburn Matildae was held at a later period by *Johannes le Fraunceys*, the baron of the Exchequer.

This *Johannes le Fraunceys*, of whom are given the succeeding records, was the son of *Hugo le Fraunceys*.

In the year 1241 the king issues a writ on treasury business to the sheriff of Cumberland, in regard to the debt due by the deceased John de Veteriponte, in which is an early record of *Johannes le Fraunceys*, where he appears in the royal service.

The following is a translation of the writ:—

A.D. 1241.—The king to the sheriff of Cumberland, greeting. Know ye that we have assigned to *Johannes le Fraunceys* and yourself the appraisement of the lands which belonged to Johannes de Veteri Ponte, as well as how much they are worth per annum, and to take into our hands all the chattels which belonged to this Johannes on the day of his death for the debt he owed us, and that you give an account thereof, keeping the custody of the same

until otherwise ordered. And, therefore, we ordain you to accept the aforesaid clerk to accomplish these our wishes for the purpose aforesaid.

In this same year is noticed the name of *Johannes le Franceys*, evidently occupying the same official position, and then as a witness to a charter of the Earl of Kent, wherein the first witness is the king's treasurer, next two barons of the Exchequer, while the fifth name is that of *Johannes le Franceys*, and the seventh witness is the Mayor of London.

Charter of Hubert de Burgh.

To all the faithful in Christ who see or hear this writing, Hubertus de Burgo, Earl of Kent, greeting in the Lord. May it be known that we have given and granted to God all the houses we held of the abbot of Westminster, in the parish of St. Margaret at Westminster, with all their appurtenances, and all the rents and possessions we had in houses, roads, parks, curtilages, and all other things, between the Abbey of Westminster and the city of London, for the relief of the Holy Land, and in redemption of a solemn promise that we should either give aid in the support of the cross or go to the Holy Land in person, provided we had no legitimate hinderance; and we gave these houses with all rents and possessions, and all the aforesaid, without any withholding of us or our heirs, to the discreet men, the brethren, Walterus de

Sancto Martino, minister of Christ's cross, Laurentius de Sancto Albano, rector of the church of Attleburg, and Ricardus de Wokindon, rector of the church of Annilers (?), to arraign and expose for sale, for aid of the Holy Land, for the safety of our soul, and those of Margaret, our wife, Johannes, our son, Margaret, our daughter, as well as those of our ancestors and successors. And Walterus, Laurentius, and Ricardus sold these houses with all their appurtenances, without any withholding, to Walterus (Gray), Archbishop of York, Primate of England, for 400 marks sterling, to be contributed in aid of the Holy Land; and they gave him full seisin of the same. And for the confirmation of this sale and seisin we have appended our seal to this present charter. Hiis testibus, Willelmo de Haverull tunc thesaurario domini regis, Petro Grimbold, Rad' de Ely, tunc baronibus scaccarii; Rad' de Laycestre, *Johannes le Franceys*, magistro Thoma Essewi, Reinero de Bungei tunc majore London, Mich' Thorn, Johanne de Gilor' tunc vice-com' London.

A.D. 1243, 5th of May.—Henry, by the grace of God, etc. Pay from our treasury to *Johannes Franc(eis)* the expenses for our queen's gold, 38*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, which he received from the chattels sold of John, formerly Earl of Lincoln, above the debt which the same earl owed us, and which we will shall be allowed to the executors of the will of said earl for the gold

which the aforesaid earl owed us, on account of our queen.

The last of the family of Veteripont, who held Meburn Matildae, was Robert de Veteripont, who succeeded his father, John de Veteripont, and is the grantor in the following record:—

In 27 Henry III. (1243), Robertus de Veteri Ponte granted, and by his charter confirmed, to *Johannes Le Fraunceis*, son of *Hugo Le Fraunceis*, for his homage and service, the whole manor of Meburn Matildae, with all its appurtenances, in the parish of Crosby Ravensworth, West Ward.

At this period *Johannes le Franceys* appears versus Johanna de Veteripont in a plea that she should restore him the custody of Willelmus de Pinkeny's land and heir, whereof she unjustly deforced him; but she is absent. Judgment, let her be attached to appear, etc.

There is another record of about the same time, in which *Johannes le Fraunceis* conveyed to Johanna, the daughter of Johannes de Veteripont, the several lands and tenements, with the services of villains and bondsmen, granted to her by her father.

In the Memoranda Roll of the lord treasurer's Remembrancer, for the year 1243, is noticed the following memoranda relating to the county of Kent and its sheriff:—

The sheriff is, as others, ordered to have before the barons of the Exchequer, in fifteen days of Holy

Trinity, the body of Johannes Baryl, of Harleston, to answer to A(lexander), treasurer of St. Paul's, for meanly ill-treating his own men, depriving them of their rights, and erecting gallows without Canterbury and hanging robbers. And the sheriff shall come before the barons on the same day to hear judgment for not having this Johannes Baryl before the barons on the morrow of the Ascension Day, as commanded. And he shall have the writ. Teste, *J(ohannes) Francigena*, at Westminster, on the twenty-fifth day of May, 27 Henry III.

A.D. 1243-44.—Grant by Petrus, son of Ricardus, son of Lucas de Stanford, to Willelmus de Haverhull, clerk, of all his lands, etc., in Stanford, except the rents he holds in Angre and a rent of 12*d.* in Stanford due from Walterus de Royng'. Witnesses, Dominus Willelmus de Ebor', provost of Beverley; Ricardus [de Barking], abbot of Westminster; Alexander de Swereford, *Johannes de Fraunceis*, Radulphus de Ely, then barons of the King's Exchequer; Jollanus de Nevill, Johannes de Cobeham, then justices of our lord the king "in Banco"; Willelmus de Sancto Edmundo, Thomas de Newerk, then justices of the Jews; Radulphus Eswy, then mayor of London; Adam de Basing and Hugo Blund, then sheriffs; Rogerus filius Rogeri, Johannes de Condre, Petrus de Wakering, Willelmus son of Ricardus de Stapelford, Petrus de Tany, Simon son of Gilbertus de Stanford, Johannes de Bernes, Baldwinus de Ripariis, knights, and others (named).

A.D. 1244.—The sheriff of York is commanded that, upon the oath of good and loyal men, he shall make an appraisement of all the land of Robertus de Tweng' in his bailiwick, as well as his chattels, which are in the king's hand; and when he, by their oath, has been sure of the value of the land and of the price of the chattels, then he shall transfer to *Johannes le Fraunceys* as well the land as the chattels at their value, who shall answer to the king for the same when he so ordaines.

A.D. 1245.—Command to the sheriffs of London to pay to Ricardus Carectarius the penny per day of the king's alms, which Nicholas Carpentarius used to receive of the sheriffs of that city. Tested, *J(ohannes) Francigena*, on the 26th day of May.

A.D. 1245.—*Johannes Francigena* issued a writ to the sheriff of Essex and Hertford on the 26th of July, 1245, commanding him to have Henricus le Lechin and others named in the writ before the barons of the Exchequer, in the octaves of Saint Michael, to answer to Alexander, treasurer of St. Paul's, London, baron of the Exchequer, concerning the wasting of their feoffments in Andebury, and the destruction of the trees against the king's peace.

A.D. 1246.—Grant by Bartholomeus de Turberevill to Fulco Basset, Bishop of London, of his manor and advowson of the church of Melebury (in Dorset), paying therefore to the King's Exchequer, London, for Bartholomeus and his heirs, 10*l.* yearly for twelve

years from Christmas, 1246, and after that term 40s. yearly till the sum total paid is 122*l.*, with other conditions specified. For this grant Fulco has paid 140 marks. Witnesses, Willelmus de Ebor', warden of Beverley; Henricus de Bathon' and Alanus de Watsaund, then justices of the Bench; Willelmus de Hailhull, then the king's treasurer; Magister Alexander de Swereford, treasurer of St. Paul's, London; *Johannes le Fraunceys*, and Magister Alexander Secular, then barons of the Exchequer, and others.

A.D. 1247.—The king to the sheriff of Cambridge. As it is provided by the Common Council of the Magnates of England that they who hold in capite of the king for military service shall pay 20s. for each knight's fee in aid to marry the king's eldest daughter, therefore the sheriff is commanded to distrain H. de Ver., Earl of Oxford, to pay 20s. for each of the fees he holds in capite of the king for knight's service. The sheriff is also commanded to permit peace to Martinus le Chamberleng and his tenants of the same aid for the aforesaid earl. Tested by *Johannes Francigena*, on the sixth day of February.

A.D. 1247.—The king to his diligent and faithful *Johannes le Franceis*, Thomas de Stanford, and Robertus de Creppingis, greeting. Know ye that we, by the consent of the heirs of Willelmus de Lancaster (3d), have assigned of the land belonging to the said Willelmus, to Agnes (de Brus), who was his wife, her reasonable dower; and we have assigned the manor

of Kirkeby (in Kendale Ward) to Petrus de Brus (3d) for chief messuage, and the manor of Warton to Walterus de Lindesy for chief messuage. And we command you to divide the remaining land in two equal portions, and then give seisin to Petrus of the part near his land, and to retain in our hands the other part and hold it in custody until we order otherwise. Teste Rege, at Windsor, on the twentieth day of February.

A.D. 1247.—*Johannes le Franceis* on the 4th of October, 1247, issues a writ to the sheriff of Somerset, commanding him to assist Henricus de Tracy to distrain his knights and free tenants to render to him their "Escuages de Scutagio Wasconiae," which they owed to him for the knights' fees which they held of him and he of the king in capite; to wit, 40s. per fee.

A.D. 1248.—On the fifteenth day of July, in the thirty-second year of the reign of King Henry III., the Summons of the Great Roll, for the collection of the royal revenue in Northamptonshire, was delivered to the sheriff of that county by the hands of *Johannes Francigena*, baron of the Exchequer.

In the Memoranda Roll of the lord treasurer's Remembrancer for the thirty-second year of the reign of King Henry III. (1248) is the following order relating to the inquisition to be held before the barons of the Exchequer. As this year was one of the many years that *Johannes Francigena* held the official post

of Baro de Scaccario, it is inferred that Waldenus, referred to in the Memoranda, was ill-treated when probably on treasury business acting under the orders of his chief.

The sheriff of Essex and Hertford is ordered to inquire upon the oath of twelve, etc., if Walterus Carpenter, of Rumford (Essex), in the vigils of Pentecost, had beaten and wounded Waldenus, a man of *Johannes Francigena*, or not; and, if he did not beat him, who had done it. And the inquest is to be returned to the barons at the close of St. Margaret, under his seal.

In the last-named year there appears to have been a quarrel between the monks of Selby and *Johannes Franciscus*, clericus domini regis, in collecting the revenue of hay and corn.

A.D. 1250.—Pleas at Westminster in a month from Holy Trinity. Westmoreland: *Johannes le Fraunceys* appears by attorney versus Robertus de Veteripont, in a plea that the latter should acquit him of the service which Johannes de Bayllo exacts from him for the freehold he holds of Robertus, in Meburn Matildae, whereof Robertus, as the "medius" between them, should acquit him. Robertus is absent. Attached to attend on the morrow of Saint Martin.

On the 30th of September, 1251, in the pleas of the assizes of the county of York, it is found that Robertus, son of Ivo de Veteripont, acknowledged that he had granted to Johannes de Baylof (Baliol) and his

heirs the homage and service of *Johannes le Fraunceys* for Florliswrth in the county of Leicester, and likewise the homage and service of said *Johannes* for the moiety of the manor of Soureby in Farnes, in Gallo-way (Galewaythe), as more fully contained in the writing made between them.

A.D. 1252.—Agreement between Roaldus filius Alani and Isabella, his wife, on one side, and the prior of Lanercost, in regard to divisions of land between Torcrossoc and Camquenstat. Witnesses, Dominus Thomas de Multon, Dns. *Johannes le Fraunceys*, Dns. Alanus de Multon, Dns. Ricardus de Vim, Dns. Thomas de Lascelles, Willelmus de Salcock, then sheriff of Cumberland, Dns. Robertus de Castelcayrock, Dns. Willelmus de Vallibus, Dns. Willelmus de Warthwick, Roland de Renegill, and others.

A.D. 1252, 23d of August.—On the day when the lord the king came to St. Albans—namely, on the morrow of Saint Bartholomew—died Willelmus de Haverulle, canon of St. Paul's, the king's treasurer, who had spent many years of his life in the royal service. And at this time it was believed that the lord the king would appoint *Johannes Franciscus* to the office held by this Willelmus; but, owing to a rumor that this *Johannes* had died in a remote part of northern England, where he had gone ut contra quosdam religiosos placitaverat (to plead against certain monks), the lord the king appointed (27th of

August, 1252) Philippus Lovell, clericus de scaccario, a prudent, eloquent, and generous man, to the office held by the deceased Willelmus de Haverhill.

A.D. 1253 (circa June 29-30).—Pleas at Westminster before R. de Thurkelby, and other justices de Banco. Cumberland: Isabella, widow of Adam de Wygeton, by attorney appears versus Willelmus de Shelford, in a plea of the third part of the manor of Wygeton, and of Stainton, excepting one carucate and fourteen acres of land; and in a plea of the third part of seventy-two acres and two bovates of land in Melmorby,—which she claimed as dower. Willelmus is absent, and made other defaults. The sheriff, ordered to summon him, reports he has no land in the county. Whereon *Johannes le Fraunceys*, keeper of the land of Walterus, son and heir of Odardus de Wygeton, says that he is in seisin of the aforesaid land and delivers her dower therefrom; saving to *Johannes* the crop presently on the land, and to Isabella her damages against Willelmus on account of her dower delayed to this very day, which the sheriff is ordered to ascertain without delay.

In the account of the Abbey of St. Mary of York, Mr. Francis Drake gives for the year circa 1253 no records of the sufferings that this abbey endured from the crown; but M. Paris gives for the year 1253 the following information:—

At this time the abbot and convent of the Church of St. Mary at York suffered the greatest loss on ac-

count of a certain charter which their adversaries, among whom the most conspicuous was *Johannes Franciscus*, clerk of the King's Exchequer, judged should be given up. They were therefore forced to pay a very large sum of money to the king, besides being deprived of lands and rents; and for this reason the monks dispersed, and the noble church was in such confusion that it was open to danger and ruin. Besides, *Johannes Franciscus* persecuted in the same manner the Abbey of Selby, so that it suffered irreparable damage.

A.D. 1254.—There is an interesting case in regard to the privileges of the liberty of St. Albans, which appears at an inquisition held at Chesthunte, in Hertfordshire, without the bounds of this liberty, in which the community of St. Albans was summoned, while certain other persons of this liberty were cited to answer for trespasses on the exchange. As none of them appeared, they were amerced 100*l.* and 2½ marks respectively. King Henry III., after inspecting the charters of the abbot of St. Albans, issues a writ to the barons of the Exchequer, wherein he states that the men of this abbot are not bound to go beyond the liberty for any summons; and he therefore remits the aforesaid amercement, commanding the barons of the Exchequer to make the villata and liberty quit of the 100*l.* and the aforesaid men of the 2½ marks.

In response to the command of the king, received

by the barons of the Exchequer, *Johannes Franceis* issues a writ to the sheriff of Essex and Hertford, as is found in the writ of N. de Arderne, sheriff of these counties, addressed to the bailiff of the liberty of St. Albans, wherein he commands him to carefully execute the following mandate:—

Henry, by the grace of God, etc., to the sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire, greeting. Because it is known, etc., that Nicolaus le Esperer, Alexander Stoil, Willelmus de Sandruge, and Reginaundus Aurifaber, men of this abbot, of the aforesaid liberty, have been amerced $2\frac{1}{2}$ marks before Henricus de Mara and Willelmus de Wiltona, at Cheshunte, for the aforesaid trespass, therefore we order you to remit the demand on the villata of St. Albans of the aforesaid 100*l.*, and the aforesaid $2\frac{1}{2}$ marks on the aforesaid Nicolaus, Alexander, Willelmus, and Reginaldus, and permit them peace, and deliver them their cattle if you have taken them. Teste, *J(ohannes) Franceis*, at Westminster, on the twenty-seventh day of June, 1254.

A.D. 1254, 22d of July.—Willelmus de Ireby, Gilbertus de Hauteclou, Johannes de Breyton, Willelmus le Escot, and Willelmus de Vaus give the king 20*s.* for an assize of novel disseisin, before Alanus de Wassaund and *Johannes le Fraunceys*.

A.D. 1254.—Agnes, who had been wife of Johannes Luveles, gives the king 1 mark for an assize of novel disseisin held before Alanus de Wassaund and *Johannes le Fraunceys*; and the sheriff of Cumberland is commanded to take surety, etc.

A.D. 1255.—Radulphus Rychild' and Idonia, his wife, give the king half a mark for an assize of novel disseisin held before *Johannes Le Franceys*. And the sheriff of Norfolk is commanded to take, etc.

King Henry III., in the forty-first year of his reign (1256-57), granted a charter in favor of *Johannes le Fraunceys* and his heirs, wherein he gave them perpetual free warren in all his demesne lands in the counties of Westmorland and Cumberland. *Johannes le Fraunceys* had also a gift, in this same year, from his sovereign, of six oaks to build his houses at Meburn Maud, besides a present of six bucks from the forest of Englewood, while another gift of three stags from the same forest came from his royal master before the end of the year; and, as a continued mark of royal favor, King Henry III., in the forty-fourth year of his reign (1259-60), makes him a present of two more stags from the same forest of Englewood.

A.D. 1257-58.—*Johannes le Fraunceys*, baron of the Exchequer, complained to the king that, when the king only took 20s. of an entire knight's fee for marrying his eldest daughter, Radulfus filius Radulfi filii Nicholai unjustly demanded from him 30s. for two-thirds of a knight's fee for marrying his eldest daughter, and that he had taken his cattle, and still retained them. And therefore the sheriff of the counties of Buckingham and Bedford is commanded to have him (Radulfus) to come before the barons, etc.

A.D. 1258, circa June 16.—Pleas at Oxford before

H. le Bygod, justiciar of England, R. de Thurkelby, and H. de Bathonia, in a month from Holy Trinity. Cumberland: The sheriff sent the inquisition which he had been commanded to make as to the land and heir of Odard de Wigeton, certifying that Odard held of the king in capite the manor of Melmerby with its pertinents—namely, Steynton, Blakhille, and Wardwik—by cornage; and its value was 20*l.* per annum. That Odard held in capite of W(illiam) de Fortibus, Earl of Albemarle, the manor of Wygeton by cornage; and it was worth yearly 15*l.* That Walter, Odard's son, was his next heir and twenty-one years of age and more. Hereon came John de Langeton and said on behalf of *John le Franceys*, who held the manor of Melmorby in custody till the heir's full age, that Walter was not yet of age, and that the inquisition so taken by the sheriff was made by jurors who did not know his age. Walter, the heir, being present, says he is twenty-two years of age, and asks seisin. And moreover says that the Earl of Albemarle, of whom his father Odard held the manor of Wygeton, delivered seisin thereof to him as of full age, and took his homage. Further, that many of his neighbors (*de patria ubi natus fuit*) were in court, who knew and could testify to his age. And he produced Gilbert de Hauteiclo, Nicholas de Metelthone, Peter de Ros, William de Lasceles, Andrew de Feugerres, Roger la Veyle, John Bakun, Nicholas le Taylur, and John de Ely, who say on oath

that Walter is of age, and will be twenty-two years old from the Assumption of the Blessed Mary (August 15). Asked how they know this, say it is evident from the inquisition before the sheriff at which they were present. And they say that *John le Fraunceys* was there, and removed several jurors, consenting to the others on the inquisition. That the Earl of Albe-marle made an inquisition in his court at Cokermue, and found that Walter was of age, and gave him his land. That the present king gave the custody of the manor of Malmorby to Walter, late Bishop of Carlisle, till the heir's age. The bishop demised it to William de Huntercumbe, and he to William de Shelford, and the latter to *John le Fraunceys*. The judgment of court is that the heir recover seisin, and the sheriff is directed to give it; and the king has taken Walter's homage.

Johannes le Fraunceys died in or before the fifty-second year of the reign of King Henry III. (1267-68); for in that year Thomas de Wymundeham, precentor of Lichfield and royal treasurer, with Petrus Radenor, Archdeacon of Salop, executors of the testament of *Johannes le Fraunceys*, have given surety for themselves and their coexecutors to pay the debt which this *Johannes* owed the king at the day of his death. Therefore, the king commanded the sheriffs of Bedford, Cumberland, Kent, Lincoln, Westmorland, and York, to give full administration to these executors.

Johannes le Fraunceys, the baron of the Exchequer, of whom are found the preceding records under this heading of Maulds Meaburn, seems to have been the same person who held the manor of Roccliffe, in the county of Cumberland, and was there succeeded by *Gilbertus le Fraunceys*, who was a kinsman of this baron; and, although the evidence is not quite clear, there is a certain amount of suspicion that *Gilbertus* and this *Johannes le Fraunceys* were cousins. Their fathers, as previously stated, were *Ricardus le Fraunceys* and *Hugo le Fraunceys*. The manor of Meburn Maud, the chief seat of this baron of the Exchequer, also passed to *Gilbertus le Fraunceys*.

Gilbertus le Fraunceys is noticed in the fourth year of the reign of King Edward I., when two justices were appointed to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by Ricardus de Preston against *Gilbertus Fraunceys* and others, touching land in Newby.

In the escheats of the sixth year of King Edward I. (1277-78) it is observed that *Gilbertus le Franceys*, besides having held the manor of Meburn Maud, held also the hamlet of Wykerslegh; land, etc., in Scarlegh and Thirneby, in the parish of Morland; messuages, etc., in Strickland Magna, in the last-named parish, also in Quale (Whale), in the parish of Lowther, besides the manor of Neuby, in the parish of Morland, and land, etc., in Crisseby (Crosby), in this county.

A.D. 1279, November 12.—Grant to Roger de Clifford to farm during the minority of the *heirs of Gil-*

bertus le Fraunceys, deceased, the manor of Meburn Maud, in the king's custody, out of the lands late of the said *Gilbert*.

A.D. 1279-80.— Appointment of two justices to take the assize arraigned by (another) *John le Fraunceys* against Peter de Reysebeck and others, touching a message and land in Meburn Matill'.

About this period is the following charter:—

To all men, Thomas, son of Gilbertus de Culwenne, greeting in the Lord everlasting. Know ye that I have inspected the charters of my ancestors, which show that they have given and granted to God, the Blessed Mary of Holmcultram, and the monks serving God there and their successors, in free and perpetual alms, a piece of land on the bank of the water of Derwent, for their support from the fishery in that river, which place has been inundated and almost wholly carried away by a flood of the Derwent and the sea, so that they cannot have the necessaries for their support from the fishery. And I aforesaid Thomas, for the salvation of my soul, and for the souls of my ancestors and successors, will make good the aforesaid damage; and therefore I give and grant for me and my heirs or assigns, to God and the Blessed Mary, and the aforesaid monks of Holmcultram, and their successors, the whole place adjoining the land of these monks on the north and east, which lies between the furrow I have caused to be drawn and the sea, on the bank of the said water of Derwent, in rec-

ompensation for parts of the aforesaid-destroyed place. To hold, etc. And I and my heirs or assigns will warrant in perpetuity, etc. In testimony of which, etc. Hiis testibus, Dominis Roberto de Feritate, Roberto de Haurington et Thoma de Neuton, militibus; Thoma de Ribbeton, Willelmo le Venur, *Johannes le Fraunceis* de Mebornematild', Hugone de Brunfeld, Adam de Thorisby, Willelmo de Simonderlawe, et aliis.

The following record is of special interest as showing the inheritance in Meburn Maud. *Ricardus le Fraunceys* named therein, succeeded his father, *Gilbertus le Fraunceys*; and this *Gilbertus* was the successor of *Johannes le Fraunceys*, the baron of the Exchequer. This *Ricardus le Fraunceys*, as already noticed in the records of Cumberland, assumed the surname of Vernon.

A.D. 1284.—Placita de Quo Warranto of different counties, held at York, at the term of Holy Trinity, in the twelfth year of the reign of King Edward I., before H. de Cressingham and his associates, justices itinerant.

The lord the king, by his representative Rogerus de Hegham, claims versus *Ricardus le Fraunceys* one thousand acres of pasture, with its appurtenances, in Tybeye (Tebay in the parish of Orton, East ward), concerning which he said that King Henry, father of the present king, had it in seisin.

Ricardus was represented by his attorney, and de-

manded view, which was arraigned to three weeks of Easter.

The aforesaid Rogerus de Hegham, on behalf of the king, claimed of *Ricardus le Fraunceys* the manor of Meburne Maud with its appurtenances, and said that King Henry, great-grandfather (proavus) of the present king, had lawful seisin of this fee, which he offers to verify.

Ricardus by his attorney demanded view, which was arraigned to be in three weeks of Easter.

And *Ricardus le Fraunceys* was summoned to answer to the king by what warrant he claimed to have free warren in all his demesne lands in Meburn Maud, and Neuby (Newby, in the parish of Morland), without the license and will of the king and his progenitors, the kings of England.

Ricardus, represented by his attorney, said that he claimed the aforesaid warren by charter of King Henry III., granted in the forty-first year of his reign (1256-57), which he showed, and which testified that this lord H., the king, had granted it to a certain *Johannes le Fraunceys* (baron), consangvineus of aforesaid *Ricardus*, who is his heir; and *Johannes* and his heirs have perpetual free warren in all his demesne lands, which he has as a gift in the counties of Westmorland and Cumberland, and not being within the boundaries of the king's forest.

And Rogerus de Hegham, attending on behalf of the king, asked that an inquiry be made to show if

the said *Ricardus* or his ancestors, after the execution of aforesaid charter, obtained any tenement in which the said liberty is held, etc., and what is the nature of holding, etc.

Therefore, it was enjoined the sheriff that he summons twelve jurors to appear in fifteen days after the day of Saint John the Baptist to make recognition, etc.

A.D. 1293-94.—The king to the sheriff of Westmorland, greeting. Petrus de Rasebech and Matilda, his wife, have shown us that they, when before the last justices itinerant of Westmorland, recovered seisin against *Johannes*, son of *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, of two acres of land with appurtenances in Meburn Matildae, by the recognition of an assize of novel disseisin taken between them.



WILTSHIRE.

GENERAL.

1 Richard I. (1189-90).—*Robertus le Franceys* fined half a mark for the non-appearance of the person whom he had pledged.

In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of King Henry III. (1251-52) there is a record of a charter in favor of *Johannes le Franceis*.

In the year 1339 *Willelmus le Frenche*, of Auechestone, quitclaimed, by charter dated at that place on Tuesday in the feast of All Saints, to Galfridus Pamfader and Agnes, his wife, his right in a messuage and curtilage in le Apshous, in Auecheston.

A.D. 1360.—Indorsement by the sheriff of Wilts to the writ of 34 Edward III. summoning Parliament:—

I, Henry Sturmy, sheriff, by virtue of this writ have caused to be elected two knights of the most honest and discreet knights of the county, and two citizens of the most honest and discreet citizens of the city of New Sarum; and of every of the underwritten boroughs—to wit, Downton, Calne, Old Sarum, and Chippenham—two burgesses of the most discreet and honest burgesses; having full and sufficient power for

themselves and the commonalty of the same county, and for themselves and the commonalties of the cities and boroughs severally, for them to do and consent to those things which by the common council of the lord the king shall happen to be ordained, etc. And for the other boroughs of this county I have made a return of this writ to *William French*, bailiff of the liberty of Philippa, Queen of England, and to William Wyke, bailiff of the liberty of Ralph, Earl of Stafford; namely, of his hundred of Kinwardstone, within which liberties the aforesaid boroughs are situated,—to wit, Marlborough, Malmesbury, Devizes, Ludgershall, Cricklade, and Bedwyn,—the said bailiffs having the return of all writs of the lord the king and the execution of the same. And the said bailiffs have given to me no answer thereupon.

AMESBURY HUNDRED.

DURRINGTON.

At the pleas held at Marlborough, in the ninth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1280-81), Willelmus de Gisselham, who follows on the side of the crown, claims versus *Ervis' le Fraunceys*, of Derryngton', two virgates of land with its appurtenances in Deryngton, which he should have deforced the king; concerning which he says that the lord, King Richard (I.), predecessor of the present king, held the said tenement in seisin.

And *Ervis' le Fraunceys* came and defended his right against the king, etc., and the seisin of the aforesaid King Richard, etc., and placed himself in the hands of the jurors of the king's great assize, and begged that a recognition should be made whether he or the king has the most right in the said tenement. The jurors said upon their oath that the aforesaid *Ervis'* has more right to hold the said land as he holds it than the king, because, as they said, the lord King Henry, ancestor (proavus) of the present king, had granted the aforesaid land to a certain Hugo Huse, and no king of England had seisin of the said land after this donation.

At the pleas held at Marlborough in the ninth year of the reign of Edward I., Willelmus de Gisselham, who follows on the side of the crown, claimed versus the prioress of Ambresbury three virgates of land with its appurtenances in Derinton.

The prioress came by her attorney, and she called to warrant Gilbertus de Neyvile, who came by his attorney, etc.; and she defends her right, and places herself in the hands of the jurors, etc. And the following persons chosen for this purpose — namely, Robertus de Lustehull, Ricardus de Upton, Elyas Baldok, Stephanus de Bristmerston, Johannes le Fitz-Aucher, *Simon le Frenshe*, Bartholomeus de Cumpton, Elyas Cotele, Robertus Droys, Johannes Daungiers, Willelmus de Wodefaude, and Philippus Strong, knights,—said upon their oath that the said prioress

had more right in the said tenement, etc., than the lord the king.

Simon le Frenche was among the jurors at the pleas at the same place, in the same year, when *Willelmus de Gisselham*, following on the side of the crown, claimed versus *Gilbertus de Neyvyle* the manor of *Dernyngton*.

Simon le Frenche, knight, was also among the jurors at a plea held at *Wilton*, in the octaves of *Easter*, 1281, when *Willelmus de Gisselham*, following on the side of the crown, claimed three hides of land in *Dernyngton* versus the abbess of *Ambresbury*.

NORTH TIDWORTH.

A covenant was made at the feast of *Saint Hilary*, in the fifteenth year of the reign of *King Edward I.* (1287), between *Walterus le Neere*, of *Okeburn*, and *Willelmus le Prous*, knight, by which the said *Willelmus* gave up his whole tenement, etc., in *villa de Todeworthe*. Testibus, *Dominis Henrico Huse*, *Roberto de Mohun*, militibus; *Philippo Ffraunceys* et aliis.

WOKINGHAM.

In 1327 the Parliament granted to *King Edward III.* the twentieth of the value of all the movable goods of every person except the clergy.

The record of the Wiltshire portion relating to Wokingham shows in this hundred, under the heading of Wokingham and Mechene lyghe, that *Willelmus le Ffrensche* paid 2s.

A part of Wokingham belongs to the county of Wilts, though locally situated in Berkshire, a few miles east by south from Reading.

BRANCH AND DOLE HUNDRED.

A.D. 1275.—At an inquisition made at Sarum, on Wednesday next after the feast of Saint Gregory, in the third year of the reign of King Edward I., Gilbertus Giffard and *Simon le Frenche* were among the jurors for the hundred of Dolesfeld.

BERWICK ST. JAMES.

A.D. 1257.—At the extent of the manor of Berwick, which had belonged to the deceased Patricius de Churtes, held on Sunday in the Vigil of Saint Martin, before Stephen de Melleford, coroner, and Ricardus le Rus, *Simon le Fraynche* was among the jurors.

FISHERTON ANGER.

A.D. 1275.—At the inquisition held at New Sarum, on Thursday next after the feast of Saint Gregory,

in the third year of the reign of King Edward I., before Willelmus de Brayboef and Willelmus Gerberd, the jurors say that *Willelmus Fraunceys* had made an encroachment on the bank of the Avon, at Fisserton, eight years before, to the injury of the said bank, which is in the keeping of the king.

A.D. 1285-86.—The inquisitio post mortem of *Willelmus Fraunceys* shows that he held Fisserton juxta Sarum, and that *Robertus*, his son, was his next heir, and eleven years of age.

A.D. 1285-96.—Magister Henricus de Bray, the king's escheator citra Trent, is ordered to take into the king's hands all the lands and tenements of which *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, who held of Robertus Waleraud, died seized.

MADDINGTON.

A.D. 1250-72.—About this period there is a record that Gilbertus Giffard, *Hugo Franceis*, and Willelmus Frankleyn hold half a knight's fee in Madinton of Hugo Giffard, who holds of Elyas Giffard, who holds of the Earl of Sarum, who holds of the king.

WILTON.

Circa A.D. 1200.—Charter of Willelmus de Wilton, organist, of grant of land at Wilton, in the parish of St. Peter, Bullbridge, to the church of Sarum:—

Know present and future that I, Willelmus de

Wintona, organista, son of Willelmus monetarius, with the consent of Ricardus, my brother, and Christina and Matilda, my sisters, have given and granted for the souls of my predecessors, to God and St. Mary of Sarum, and the church of that place, all my land in Wilton, which is of the fee of the lady the abbess of Wilton, in the parish of St. Peter, Bolebrigge. To be hold in perpetuity with all its appurtenances, in pure and perpetual alms, freely and quietly, wholly and entirely, with all its appurtenances and liberties; saving yearly thereof $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ to the abbess of Wilton, at the feast of Saint Peter ad Vincula, for all service and secular exaction. And I, Willelmus, and my successors will warrant and defend the said gift with all its appurtenances to God, St. Mary at Sarum, and the church there against all men and women in perpetuity for the aforesaid service. And, that this my donation and grant may continue forever, I have appended my seal to this my present charter. Hiis testibus, Jocelino, decano de Wiltone; Johanne Ysembard, tunc praeposito; *Gilberto Francigena*; et toto halmoto dominae abbatissae de Wiltone.

WINTERBOURNE STOKE.

A.D. 1341.—*Edwardus Frensh* was among the jurors of the parish of Wynterbournstoke at an inquisition at New Sarum, on Tuesday next after the octaves of the Purification.

CAWDEN AND CADWORTH HUNDRED.

SUTTON MANDEVILLE.

2 Edward I. (1273-74).— Appointment of Martin de Littlebury to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Margery de Cantilupe against *William le Franceys*, touching a tenement in Sutton-Mandvill.

A.D. 1280-81.— At the pleas held at Marlborough, in the ninth year of the reign of King Edward I. Thomas le Venur and *Willelmus Fraunceys* were summoned to answer to the lord the king if they made the suit they owed to the king's hundred of Cadeworth.

Willelmus de Gisselham, who follows on the side of the crown, said that the aforesaid Thomas holds one hide of land with its appurtenances in Sutton; and that the aforesaid *Willelmus* holds one carucate of land in the same vill, for service of making suit to the said hundred; and the lord, King Henry, father of the present king, was seized thereof in his demesne as of fee, etc.

And Thomas and *Willelmus* came, and they could not deny that they were due to make the said suit to the aforesaid hundred. Therefore, it was ordered that the king should recover the said suit to his aforesaid hundred. And Thomas and *Willelmus* are in misericordia.

CHIPPENHAM HUNDRED.

CHIPPENHAM.

In a charter of King Henry III., dated at Mortlake, on the second day of May, 1227, he confirms many grants to the Abbey of Stanley in this county, among which is the confirmation of *Durandus* (*le Franceis*), son of *Simon* (*le Franceis*), of one messuage with its appurtenances in Chippenham, near the bridge of Avon, which *Radulphus le Franceis* had given in alms.

A record of the original grant of *Durandus le Franceis* to this abbey appears as follows:—

Durandus le Franceis confirms the donation of *Radulphus le Franceis* of one messuage in Chippenham, and quitclaims the 12*d.* rent due for the same.

Anterior to King Henry's confirmation are the following records of donations in favor of this abbey:—

Confirmation by *Durandus le Franceis* of one messuage in Chippenham, the donation of Ricardus Smud.

The gift of *Durandus le Franceis* of one acre of meadow in Westmed, also another rent of 2*s.*, besides a donation of a rent of 12*d.*

What appears to be of a later date are the succeeding donation records of the son of *Durandus le Franceis*:—

The gift of *Willelmus*, son of *Durandus le Franceis*, of half an acre of meadow in Westmed.

The same *Willelmus le Franceis* remits the rent of 6*d.* which was due him from this abbey for land held of him in Chippenham.

LACKHAM.

A.D. 1252.—Agreement made at the feast of Saint Michael between Sir William, chaplain, son of Robert, of one part, and William Bluet, lord of Lacham, of the other part, whereby the said Sir William gave to the church of St. Mary of Lacham the messuage and land which he had in the town of Lakoc of the tenement of Simon Urmeston, and the land which he had there of the tenement of Sybil la Frie, to remain to the use of the chaplain, celebrating divine service in the said church, forever.

And for this gift the said William Bluet granted that the said Sir William should receive every year during his whole life 10*s.* from Augustine, the miller. Witnesses, "Willelmo de Hortune, Willelmo de Kalva, Willelmo de Bingham, militibus; Roberto de Holte filio Walteri, Ricardo de Wike, Roberto de Holta clerico, Waltero de Sterkele, *Hugone le Franceis*, et aliis."

SOPWORTH.

A.D. 1341.—*Nicholaus Frensch* was a juror of this parish at the nona return held at Malmesbury, on Friday next before the feast of Saint Gregory.

DAMERHAM, NORTH, HUNDRED.

GRITTLETON.

A.D. 1235-52.— *Osbertus* and *Galfridus Frense* hold each here of the Abbey of Glastonbury half a virgate of land, giving a yearly rental of 8*d.* each, with conditional service.

Among the other possessions of *Galfridus Frense* it is found that he holds a croft in the field, as well as his neighbors, while, by favor, his croft was increased by half an acre.

In continuation it is noticed that *Galfridus Frense* holds another croft, which was formerly alienated from the demesne of the Abbey of Glastonbury by *Robertus Giffard*, one of its monks, and added to this tenement, for which croft *Galfridus* pays yearly 4*d.*

DAMERHAM, SOUTH, HUNDRED.

DAMERHAM MANOR.

A.D. 1235-52.— Damerham was the principal estate of the Abbey of Glastonbury in South Wilts. It was capute of a hundred now called South Damerham.

Petrus Franceis holds here one virgate of land of the Abbey of Glastonbury, rendering a yearly rent of 5*s.* at three terms; namely, at Michaelmas 2*od.*,

at Christmas 20*d.*, and at Easter 20*d.*, besides 10*d.* at Michaelmas as a gift to the larder, with specified service.

Ricardus and *Gerardus Franceis* hold here each of this abbey half a virgate, rendering each a yearly rent of 30*d.* at three terms of the year; namely, at Michaelmas 10*d.*, at Christmas 10*d.*, and at Easter 10*d.*, besides 5*d.* to the larder,—making each half the service due by one holding a virgate.

MARTIN.

A Willelmus de Tudepute, in the time of Rogerus, formerly abbot of Glastonbury (1252–59), held one virgate and a half with its appurtenances in Mertona, for a yearly rent of 5*s.* A Reginaldus de Tudeputte held afterwards this tenement, and gave it to a Johannes Coty, after whose death it descended to his daughter, *Margeria*, who did homage and fealty for the same to Galfridus Fromond, abbot of Glastonbury, at Domerham, on Sunday next after the feast of Saint Andrew the Apostle, 1272. And thereafter *Johannes Fraunceys*, who married the said *Margeria*, held the aforesaid tenement for the same service and rent, as is shown in the new “Customaria” of the time of Adam, formerly abbot. This *Johannes Fraunceys* had a son, *Stephanus Fraunceys*.

ELSTUB AND EVERLEY HUNDRED.

SHERRINGTON.

A.D. 1281.—At the pleas held at Wyltone before Salomon de Roffa and his associates, justices itinerant, in the octaves of Easter, in the ninth year of the reign of King Edward I., Willelmus de Gisselham, who follows on the side of the crown, claims versus the prior of St. Denis, of Dureford, half a knight's fee with its appurtenances in Schreveton. The jurors, among whom were *Simon le Frenche* and Gilbertus Giffard, say upon their oath that the said prior has more right in the said half a knight's fee in Scherenton than the lord the king.

FRUSTFIELD HUNDRED.

WHITE PARISH.

A.D. 1330.—*Johannes le Frensshe* was among the jurors at the inquisition held at Alderstone, a tithing of this parish, to decide on the extent of the lands and tenements which had belonged to Ingelram Berenger in Aldredestone and Cot'mor'.

HEYTESBURY HUNDRED.

HEYTESBURY SOUTH COURT.

In 20 Edward III. (1347-48) *Everardus le Frenssh* released Johannes Strug from all actions against him. He appears to be identical with the *Everardus le Fraunceys*, of Bristol, who gave a receipt in the previous year to Johannes Strug for a certain sum of money.

HIGHWORTH, CRICKLADE, AND STAPLE
HUNDRED.

A.D. 1255.—At the inquisition made at Wyltone on Sunday next after the feast of Saint Peter ad Vincula, in the thirty-ninth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John, *Henricus le Fraunceys* was a juror of the hundred of Staple.

PURTON.

At the inquisition held at Purytone, on the 11th of September, 1306, concerning the mill at Purton, *Adam Fraunceys* was among the jurors.

MALMESBURY HUNDRED.

CHEDGLOW.

A.D. 1291-92.—At the taxation of the Bishops of Winchester and Lincoln of the tenth of the temporalities of the abbot of Malmesbury, granted to Lord Edward, King of England, by the lord the pope, in aid of the Holy Land, for six years, in the twentieth year of the reign of this King Edward, *Johannes le Fraunceys* paid $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ at the day of Saint Martin, and $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ at Hockeday, for land in Cheggelewe.

HULLAVINGTON.

Release by Nicholas de Pekynghulle, son of Roger de Pekynghulle, to Ralph, abbot of St. Victor, and the convent of that place, of all his rights in the vill of Hullavington which *Richard*, son of *Gilbert le Fraunceis*, had demised to him and his brother Roger, and which Bernard, formerly abbot of St. Victor, had demised to a certain *Gilbert*, son of *Thomas*, ancestor of the said *Richard*, without the assent of the chapter. Dated August 16, 11 Edward II. (1317).

MALMESBURY.

A.D. 1199, 13th of October.—At the pleas, etc., of Michaelmas term the abbot of Malmesbury appointed

Stephanus Franceis his attorney in a placitum terrae against Milo de Morlee.

A.D. 1222-46.— To all faithful in Christ who see or hear this charter J. (John de Wells), by the grace of God abbot of Malmesbury, and the convent of this place, greeting in the Lord. We will that all shall know that we unanimously have granted, and by this our present charter have confirmed, to Ricardus de Albo Monasterio, son of Bernardus cappellanus, and his heirs two crofts in the vill of Malmesbury, with the dwelling-house built thereon, situated between the houses of Gervasus le Blunt and Ricardus le Paumer; namely, those crofts which *Alicia*, daughter of *Willelmus Fraunceys*, formerly held in Burneuallis, without the west gate. To be held freely and quietly to him and his heirs for a yearly payment to us of 16*d.* at two terms; namely, at the day of Saint Austin, under the name of burghage, 10*d.*, and at the feast of Saint Michael 6*d.*, saving the royal exaction and the suit to the burgh of Malmesbury belonging to this fee. And we and our successors will warrant the aforesaid crofts with messuage to the aforesaid Ricardus and his heirs. And in testimony of this our grant we have made him this charter, and signed it by our seal. Hiis testibus, etc.

SOMERFORD.

A.D. 1291-92.— At the taxation in aid of the Holy Land granted to King Edward I. by the pope, already

referred to under Chedglow, in this hundred, *Gilbertus Franceys*, tenant of the abbot of Malmesbury, paid 2*d.* for his tenement in this place.

MERE HUNDRED.

KNOLL.

3 Edward I. (1274-75).— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *John le Fraunceys*, of La Knolle, against Radulph de la Knoll and others, touching a tenement in Hynset.

MAIDEN BRADLEY.

Circa A.D. 1210.— Confirmation by the dean and chapter of Sarum of an agreement between the prior of Maiden Bradley and Margaret Bisset:—

To all faithful in Christ who see this writing, Ricardus, the dean, and the whole chapter of Sarum, eternal greeting in the Lord. Know all of you that we have inspected a certain charter sealed with the seal of the prior and convent of Bradelege, containing these words:—

To all faithful who see this writing, Andreas, prior of Bradele, and the leprous brothers and sisters of this place, greeting in Christ. Know all of you that Henricus Bisset, formerly patron of our house, had given

to Margaret, his sister, because she lived unmarried and intended to do so, 100s. of rent in a certain place in the manor of Burgate, which rent this Margaret for a while possessed; but, on account of the poverty of our house and for the leprous there, she gave and granted to us the whole aforesaid rent, to be held forever. She, choosing for her welfare and that of her ancestors to be in poverty, resigned in our hands the land which Henricus, her brother, had given her. But we, consulting with great and prudent men, granted her yearly during her lifetime twenty-six quarters of the best and purest corn from our house, to be delivered in her house at Bradele, when she needs it. We have also granted her in same way 49s. good money per annum, to be paid to her in equal portions in four terms; namely, at Christmas, Easter, Midsummer, and Michaelmas. We also give her two pounds of pepper at Michaelmas; and, further, the aforesaid Margaret shall receive the moiety of all the growth, besides the redditum assisum of the aforesaid tenement of Burgate during her lifetime. Besides, the aforesaid Margaret may have and hold in peace, possessing with all honor during her lifetime, the house in our court which she built for herself. We resolve, however, that after her decease the aforesaid house may be used by the leprous without any contradiction and vexation. In continuation we promise before God to show her due honor and regard, and do nothing that will give her

trouble and inconvenience. We also give as fidejussors for this grant ten freeholders of tenement in Bradele, etc., among which was *Robertus Franceis*.

A.D. 1274-1303.—Release from the convent and prior of Maiden Bradley to Ralph de Augens, alias Daungens, of all the common of pasture which they had upon Foxhull:—

Know present and future that this is the covenant made between Hugo, prior of Bradel, and the convent of that place, on one part, and Radulfus de Augens, on the other part; namely, that the aforesaid prior and convent have remised and quitclaimed for themselves and their successors to the said Radulfus and his heirs all the common of pasture which they had “super Foxhull,”—namely, that which is within the ditch made by this Radulfus. But for this remise and quitclaim the aforesaid Radulfus has quitclaimed for himself and his heirs to the said prior and convent and their successors all the common he had in Gatebench and Francumb and in the pasture which is between the road extended to Selewod, as the water-course descends to the mill of Bradel from the fossatum which is in the extremity of Selewod, to the road which leads to the aforesaid mill. And that this covenant may be held faithfully and without fraud the aforesaid prior and convent had brother Johannes to certify for them and their successors; and the aforesaid Radulfus certified by his own hand for himself and his heirs. Hiis testibus, Willelmo de Augens,

Ricardo le Bygod, *Aedwardo le Franceis*, et multis aliis. Besides, the aforesaid prior and convent shall make a ditch between their land "super Gatebench" and the land of said Radulfus for the convenience and security of both parts. Testibus qui prius.

POTTERNE AND CANNINGS HUNDRED.

DEVIZES.

A.D. 1295.—*Gilbertus Fraunceys*, junior, burgess, was returned for Devizes to the Parliament at Westminster on the 13th of November, which was prorogued to the 27th of November in the same year.

A.D. 1315.—*Johannes le Frenshe* was a manucaptor of Willelmus de Codio, one of the two burgesses elected for Divizes to attend the Parliament at Westminster on the 20th of January, to be held upon certain arduous affairs, particularly concerning the state of Scotland.

HORTON.

A.D. 1166.—In the survey for the collection of the aid for marrying the king's eldest daughter, which was returnable to the Exchequer on the 16th of March, 1166 (according to R. W. Eyton), it is observed in the account of the knight's fees held in

capite of the king in this county by the Bishop of Salisbury that *Humfridus Francigena*, knight, held one knight's fee of him,—namely, three hides at Imbemara and two at Hortona; but the king had dis-seized him of the land at Imbemara.

SELKLEY HUNDRED.

LOCKERIDGE.

A.D. 1293-94.—Maculinus de Harle, the king's escheator on this side of Trent, has recently taken into the king's hands one messuage and forty acres of land with its appurtenances in Lockerigge, which *Philippus le Franceys* had assigned and granted in mortmain to the prior of the house of St. Margaret without Marleberg.

MARLBOROUGH.

In 3 John (1201-2) Hugo de Nevill renders an account of the rents of Merleberge, of which *Robertus Franceis* pays 10s. for the land of Flexeberge, which Radulphus Babau had held by the king's writ.

A.D. 1221.—The king in a writ dated at Westminster, on the twenty-fourth day of July, 1221, commands his constable of Marleberge to give full seisin to *Robertus le Franceis* of half a hide of land with its

appurtenances in Flexberegh, which King John, when Earl of Moreton, had granted him.

A.D. 1225.—The king to the barons of the Exchequer, greeting. Know ye that we, for the yearly rent which Matilda de Barbefle owed us for a certain mill in Marleberge, have received on the morrow of the feast of Saint James, in the ninth year of our reign, two pairs of gilded spurs by the hands of Robertus de Meisy, constable of Marleberg, for the eighth and ninth year; and for the rent which *Robertus le Franceis* owed us for a certain virgate of land with its appurtenances in Bertona de Marleberg we have received from him, in the same place and on the same day, by the hands of the same Robertus de Meisy, two pairs of gilded spurs for the same years; and for the yearly rent which Johannes de Viel owed us for one virgate of land in the same vill we have received in the same place, on the same day, by the hand of the same Robertus, four capons for the same years. And, therefore, we order you to acquit the aforesaid Matilda, *Robertus*, and Johannes.

WINTERBOURNE MONKTON.

A.D. 1267.—An assize came to make recognition if *Rogerus le Fraunceys* and Hugo Aldred unjustly dis seized Johannes Achard of his free tenement in Wymburn, of the abbot of Glaston, about which was

made the complaint that they disseized him of the third part of a virgate of land with its appurtenances; and *Rogerus* and Hugo did not come, etc. The jurors said upon their oath that the said *Rogerus* and Hugo had unjustly disseized the said Johannes of the aforesaid tenement as the writ shows. Therefore, it is considered that the aforesaid Johannes shall recover his seisin by view of recognitors, and *Rogerus* and Hugo are in misericordia. Damages, 6 marks.

A.D. 1268.—Hugo, son of Adam Aldred, and *Rogerus Le Fraunceys* give half a mark for a writ. And the sheriff of Wilts is commanded, etc.

WARMINSTER HUNDRED.

WARMINSTER.

26 Edward I. (1297-98).—Final concord between *Gilbertus Fraunceys* and *Margareta*, his wife, on one side, and Johannes le Squyer, on the other side, for one messuage, eighteen acres of land, 12*s.* rent, and pasture for six oxen and one horse in Wermenystre.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1271.—*Johannes*, son of *Johannes Le Fraunceys*, gives half a mark for having a writ at that term. And the sheriff of Worcester is commanded, etc. Teste Rege, at Westminster, on the fourth day of November.

WORCESTER CITY.

A.D. 1226, on the twenty-seventh day of July, there is a record of Walterus de la Newelond, *Willelmus le Franceis*, Walterus Burewald, and Nicholaus Coc, burgesses of Worcester, having made a fine with the king.

In 1235 the citizens of Worcester granted the monks both of Reading and Leominster considerable privileges, but chiefly for the advantage of the latter.

Charter.

Be it known to those present and those to come that we, Adam filius Petri and Rogerus de Oxon. praepositi Wigorniae, Robertus Neel, Aluredus le draper,

Johannes Cumin, Petrus Colle, *Johannes Fraunceis*, Ricardus clericus, Robertus de sancto Godewello, Radulphus Cumpaninun, Alex. le draper, *Albinus Franceis*, Ricardus de Bureford, Johannes Prihc, Ricardus Cumin, Rogerus Cumin, etc., and the whole community of the city of Worcester, with the consent and will of that community, have granted in perpetuity, for us and our heirs, and by this our present charter have confirmed, to Adam, abbot of Reading (Berkshire), and the convent of that house, and their heirs wherever located in England, free ingress and egress from our vill of Worcester, and freedom in sales and purchasing of all kinds of merchandise, excepting "coriis et pellibus recentibus, et pannis laneis crudis, et filo laneo," and perfect freedom to take their merchandise to their place in Bohale and without, free of all kind of toll, demand, payment for passage, stallage, bridge tax, as well as attendance of courts, fines, and suits, and all amercement within the fair and without, and all vexations, having all the liberties which the kings of England—namely, Henry, the founder of the church of Reading, and King Henry II., and King John, son of King Henry, and King Henry, the son of King John—have given them. We have made this grant for the unjust vexation which we have made to the said abbot and his men against the liberties of their charters, for which we have been sued before lord Willelmus de Eboraco, abbot of Tewkesbury, Willelmus de Insula, Radulphus de Nor-

wiz, and Maur. le Butiler, the king's justices itinerant at Worcester, in the nineteenth year of the reign of King Henry, son of King John; and because we will that the aforesaid grant may remain firm and stable forever to the said abbot and his men, without any vexation and impediment from us and our heirs, we have appended the common seal of our city to this writing. Testibus, etc.

A.D. 1240.—*P. Franciscus* holds the land of Chut, in the parish of St. Clemence, of the priory of Worcester.

A.D. 1240.—*Willelmus Franceys* holds of the priory of Worcester the land of G. Marescallus, in the parish of St. Swithun, paying to the same priory 6*d.* quarterly; namely, at the feasts of Saint Michael, Saint Andrew, Annunciation, and Saint John.

8 Edward I. (1279–80).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Agnes le Mareschall against *Walter le Fraunceis* and *Isolda*, his daughter, touching a tenement in Worcester.

The Lay Subsidy Roll for the county of Worcester, circa 1280, edited for the Worcester Historical Society, gives the following to be the earliest extant record of a lay taxation of movables in the county of Worcester. "Its date is somewhere between 1276 and 1282. As, unfortunately, the title of the Roll is lost, it is impossible to fix the date with absolute certainty."

“ This Roll gives some interesting particulars about the city of Worcester, which was then divided into wards. Six of these correspond in name to six of the existing parishes; but the seventh, ‘Alta Warda,’ is difficult to identify. It was the most populous and the richest of all the city wards.”

In this Roll are the following record of the surname of *Fraunceis*:—

“ Warda Sancti Clementis.

De *Henrico le Fraunceis* vj d.

Warda Omnium Sanctorum.

De *Petro Francisco* vj d.

Warda Sancti Nicholai.

De *Simone Francisco* v s.

Warda Sancti Andree.

De *Johanne le Franceys* viij s.”

Temp. Edward I., no date.—Deed poll, whereby Thomas de Cliftone, called le Knyst, citizen of Worcester, gives and confirms to Henry de Stodley, saddler, citizen of Worcester, in fee, a tenement, situate between the donor’s tenement and a tenement of Roger de Scheldesleye, in a street called Wodestathe Stret, in Worcester. To hold of the chief lords of the fee, paying yearly to *Simon le Fraunceys* and his heirs 3s. 6d. at the usual quarterly terms according to the custom of the said city, and 6d. for the support of

a light before the cross in the Church of St. Andrew on the feast day of Saint Andrew; and to Roger de Scheldesleye and his heirs *1d.* at Easter. The consideration for this grant was 100s. Witnesses, Walter le Euneyse and William Colle, then bailiffs of Worcester, Hugh Lovet, and others.

In the twentieth year of the reign of Edward III. (1346) *Peter le Frenche*, the preceptor of St. Wolstan in the city of Worcester, held two hides and a half in Chadeswicke and Willingwyke, which the preceptor of St. Wolstan and Thomas de Lench formerly held.

BLACKENHURST HUNDRED.

ALDINGTON.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280, of which notice is given in the account of the city of Worcester.

Galfridus de Franceys, of this place, paid 2s. 6d.

EVESHAM.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Rogerus le Freynse*, of this place, paid 12d.

NORTON.

A.D. 1266.—Extent of the lands which belonged to Hugh Gutmund, of Norton (near Evesham), on the

day he died, by the oath of *Geoffrey Fraunceys*, *Randulph Wyther*, *Richard de Moy*, *John de Herueton*, *Simon Herebert*, of Norton, and *Randulph Ernald*, of Norton, who say upon their oath that the said Hugh held two virgates of land of the abbot of Evesham in the vill of Norton, doing suit at the court of the aforesaid abbot from three weeks to three weeks, and two suits at the two great hundred courts of the same abbot yearly, and one suit at the county court of Worcester from month to month. The said land is worth yearly 12*s.*, besides the service aforesaid; and his wife prays for her dower thereof. *Ranulph* is his eldest son and heir, and is of the age of eight years. Writ dated 2d of May, 50 Henry III.

DODDINGTREE HUNDRED.

ASTLEY.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Galfridus Fraunceys*, of Estle, paid 12*d.*

BERRINGTON.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Johannes Fraunceys*, of Beriton (in Tenbury parish), paid 3*s.*

HILLHAMPTON.

To Master John Waleweyn, escheator citra Trent. Order to restore to the prior of Great Malverne a virgate of land in Hullampton, acquired by a predecessor of his of Richard de Arundell, and a moiety of a virgate in the same town, acquired from William de la Quebbe, and fourteen and a half acres of land in the same town, acquired from *Clement Fraunceys* and *William*, his son, and twenty acres of land and three and a half acres of meadow in the same town, acquired from William le Hore, taken into the king's hands by the said escheator, on the grounds that they had been acquired after the publication of the statute of mortmain (7 Edward I., 1278-79), without license from the late or present kings, as it appears by inquisition that a prior of Malverne acquired them in fee ten years before the publication of the statute (1268-69). Dated at Westminster, on the 14th of June, 1316.

MARTLEY.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Robertus Franceys*, of Martelee, paid 2s.

SUTTON.

A.D. 1240.—*Robertus Franciscus*, a free tenant at Sudintun of the priory of Worcester, "pro clauso ante

hostijum suum," paid yearly 9*d.* at the feast of Saint Michael, 9*d.* at the feast of Saint Andrew, 9*d.* at the Annunciation, and 9*d.* at the feast of Saint John. Also "pro equitatura" 2½*d.* at all of the quarter days.

A.D. 1240.—*Johannes Franciscus* holds, as a free tenant, half a virgate in Sudintun of the priory of Worcester, paying yearly 23½*d.* at the feast of Saint Michael, 23½*d.* at the feast of Saint Andrew, 23½*d.* at the Annunciation, and 23½*d.* at the feast of Saint John the Baptist. Also at the feast of Saint Andrew 2½*d.*, "pro equitatura," which seems to imply the service of a Rodknight.

HALFSHIRE HUNDRED.

KIDDERMINSTER.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Willelmus le Franceys*, of Kydermunster, paid 12*d.*

MORTON.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Hugo Franceys*, of Morton', paid half a mark.

OLD SWINFORD.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Willelmus le Franceys*, of Swyneford, paid 20*d.*

RUSHOCK.

A.D. 1296.—“Inquisition of the lands and tenements which were Henry l’Estormi at Rushuc, in the county of Worcester, made there, 24th of October, 23 Edward I., by the oath of Stephen de Bosco, Robert de Cakelade, John de Peremort, Thomas de . . . , Thomas de Hetheye, Richard Cocus, of Stone, Thomas de Barndel’, Henry de Wynterford, Roger le Taylour, Robert atte Bathe, *John Franciscus*, and Adam Wade, who say that the said Henry held a certain messuage there, which he was unable to sustain, of William de Bello Campo, Earl of Warwick, by the service of making suit at the county court of Worcester and by knight’s service. He held also there, of the same, a garden worth yearly 3s. 4d.; three carucates of land, worth 16s. a carucate, sum 48s.; eight acres of meadow, worth 2s. an acre, sum 16s.; several pastures worth yearly 40d. There are there two vivariis, the fishery whereof is worth yearly 5s.; rents of assize of the free tenants amount to 4*li.*, 10s.; rents of the villeins, 4*li.*, 2s.; there are no work of tenants. The pleas and perquisites of court are worth yearly half a mark. And they say that Henry l’Estormi, son of the aforesaid Henry, is next heir, and of the age of thirty years and more. Sum total, 12*li.* 18s. 4d.”

WELEY PARK AND SELLY OAK.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—Under the heading of Weleye et Selleye, it is found that *Ricardus le Frensche* paid 2s. 6d.

YARDLEY.

6 Edward I. (1277-78).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Adam Fraunceys* against Robert de Mulledon, touching common of pasture in Yerdeſl'.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Adam le Franceys*, of villata de Jerdeleye, then in Pershore hundred, paid 4s.

OSWALDSLOW HUNDRED.

BEDWARDINE.

5 Edward I. (1276-77).—Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Walter le Fraunceis* against Richard Rolf and others, touching a tenement in Bedewardin.

BLACKWELL.

A.D. 1240.—*Willelmus Franceys* holds half a virgate in Blakewell of the priory of Worcester, paying yearly 12d. at each of four terms.

BORDSLEY ABBEY.

A.D. 1251.—Covenant between the abbot and convent of Bordesley and Elizabeth, relict of Alexander le Blu. Witnesses, *William Franceis* and others.

CUTSDEAN.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Radulphus Franceys*, of Cotestone, paid 3s.

GOLDICOTE.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Hamo Franciscus*, of Caldicote (Shipston), then in Pershore hundred, paid 12d.

HANBURY.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Rogerus le Franceys*, of Hambury, then in Halfshire hundred, paid 2s.

HARVINGTON.

A.D. 1240.—*Johannes le Fraunceys* holds in Herfortun, of the priory of Worcester, one virgate, consisting of twenty-eight acres, sixteen acres of which lie in one field, and twelve in another.

A.D. 1240.—*Johannes Franciscus* holds a curtilage in Herforton of the priory of Worcester, paying

yearly for the same $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ at Michaelmas, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ at Saint Andrew, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ at the Annunciation, and $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ at the feast of Saint John.

HIMBLETON.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Petrus le Franceys*, of Humelton, then in Halfshire hundred, paid 22*d.*

HOLT.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1341) *Johannes le Frenche* was a member of the jury of the parish of Holte.

NETHERTON.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Ricardus le Franceys*, of Netherton' (Crophorn), paid 18*d.*

OMBERSLEY.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of King Edward III. (1341) *Johannes le Frensshe* is found among the jurors of the parish of Ombresleye.

OVERBURY.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Johannes le Franceis*, of Ovenbury, paid 2*s.*

REDMARLEY D'ABITOT.

Subsidy Roll, 1280.—*Walterus le Franceys*, of Rudmereleye, then in Halfshire hundred, paid 6s.

SHIPSTON ON STOUR.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Henricus Franceys*, of Sipestone, paid 20d.

A.D. 1301 or 1302, February.—*Robert*, son of *Henry le Freynces*, of Schepiston, was manumitted by the hand of W. de Stok.

SPETCHLEY.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Thomas le Fraunceys*, of Spechesley, then in Halfshire hundred, paid 5s.

WESTMANCOT.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Adam le Franceys*, of Westmonecote (Bredon), paid 3s.

WICK.

31 Henry III. (1246-47).—Inquisition made by William de Draitona, Hugh de Molendino, Richard

Lamoc, Roger le Berd, *Walter le Franceis*, Adam le Fleccher, and others, who say that William Fitz-Hamon held Wica of the king in chief by the service of a quarter of a knight's fee. And there are there, of rents of assise, 56*s.* 2*d.*; tallage, 1 mark. The custom of villeins, who hold four and a half virgates of land, are worth 57*s.* There are there, in meadow, eight acres, and they are worth 20*s.* by the year. The pasture is worth 3*s.* 6*d.* There is a little park there, worth 5*s.* by the year. The wood is in the forest of the king; and there is there a little garden, worth 12*d.* The dove-cot is worth 2*s.* There are in demesne three carucates of land, worth 8*l.* by the year; and the advowson of the chapel belongs to Sir William Fitz-Hamon, and the chapel is worth 5 marks. Also they say that those four and a half virgates of land in villeinage give 4*s.* 6*d.*; and each virgate two hens at Christmas, price of a hen 2*d.*; and every virgate gives four geese at the Gules of August, price 1½*d.*; and a cottage gives nine hens, price 9*d.* From the free men of rent, of hens twelve, price 12*d.*; of capons eight, price 12*d.* Sum total of the value of the manor, 16*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* Also they say Fitz-Hamon held of the king by knight's service in Tenford, which Nicholas de Haversham held of him by the service of rendering one sole falcon and the foreign service of the king. Also he held of the king one knight's fee in Maidewelle, which Alan de Maidewelle held of the said William by the service of

one knight. Alan, brother of Fitz-Hamon, is his next heir. No date.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Johannes le Fraunceys*, of Wyke Abbetot, then in Halfshire hundred, paid 2s.

PERSHORE HUNDRED.

ALDERMINSTER.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Walterus Franciscus*, of Aldremoneston', paid 20d.

BRITSMORTON.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Johannes Franceys*, of villata de Morton Bree, paid 2s.

LEIGH.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Thomas Fraunceys*, of villata de Leya, paid 12d.

PERSHORE.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Willelmus le Franceis*, of villata de Persore, then in Blackenhurst hundred, paid 3s.; and *Thomas le Franceys*, of same place, paid 8d.

STAUNTON.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Henricus le Fraunceis*,
of villata de Stanton, paid —.

UPTON SNODSBURY.

Subsidy Roll, circa 1280.—*Simon Franciscus*, of
Uptone, paid 22*d*.



YORKSHIRE.

GENERAL.

A.D. 1189-90.—*Humfridus le Franceys* is fined half a mark for not bringing whom he pledged.

Walterus le Franceis is amerced 38s. 8d. for default in the same year.

A.D. 1194-95.—*Siluius de Cresto* essoined himself for being sick beyond the sea, by *Willielmus Mansepe* and *Willelmus le Franceis*, in a plea wherein he was pursuant against *Ricardus de Samere* and his wife.

A.D. 1205.—*Radulphus le Franceis* was amerced half a mark, and his sureties were *Serlo ad Portam* and *Adam le Wilde*.

YORK CITY.

Roger de Moubray, the grantor of the following charter, was still in his minority in 1138. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Lincoln in 1142, went to the crusade with King Lewes in 1148, and in 1166 he was certified as holding eighty-eight knights' fees, together with one-third and one-fourth, "de veteri feoffamento," and eleven and three-quarters "de novo." The date of his death appears uncertain.

Charter.

Rogerus de Mulbray to the Archbishop and chapter of York, and to all who see or hear this writing, greeting. May it be known to all that I have given, and by this my charter have confirmed, to God and St. Hylda of Whiteby, and the monks serving God there, for my soul and for those of my heirs and parents, the land which Reginaldus Poer held of me in Thorp (near by York); namely, six bovates of land and the meadow belonging thereto, with the common easement of the vill, and four dwelling-houses in York,—namely, three in Sceldergata and one on the bank of the river Ouse. And I and my heirs will warrant this alms and donation to the aforesaid monks of Whitby; and, in case of being unable to warrant, we will give them other land of equal value. Hiis testibus, Willelmo de Steinegrive, Rogero de Flamevile, Waltero de Templo, Waltero de Turchilby, Waltero de la Rivere, Willelmo de Magneby, Diriv, Willelmo de Houchesgard, Hyvone de Ugylbardby, Cliberno Biscop, Normanno Coco, Hugone Hospitario, Gaufrido de Bosco, *Thoraldo Francigena*, et multis aliis.

Circa 1200-3.—The assize came to recognize if Willelmus Rainkill had, unjustly and without judgment, disseized *Radulphus Francigena* and *Matilda*, his wife, of one toft with appurtenances in York, after the coronation of the king at Canterbury. The

jurors said that they would speak the truth, and after being heard would leave it for the justices to decide. And they then stated that Willelmus Rainkill brought a writ against *Radulphus* and *Matilda* in the Portmote, who came and vouched to warrant *Matilda's* son, who was present and warranted to her. And immediately afterwards the said son sold the land to the said Willelmus for 1 mark of silver; but, when *Radulphus* and *Matilda* heard this, they forbade Willelmus to buy the land, and *Matilda's* son to sell it. And they said that it was the inheritance of *Matilda*, and not of her son. *Matilda* and her husband came, and freely admitted that they were impleaded in the Portmote, but they had never called *Matilda's* son to warrant, because the land is the right of *Matilda*. The jurors, being questioned, said that the land is the right of *Matilda*, and not of her son. Therefore, it is considered that *Radulphus* and *Matilda* may have their seisin; and Willelmus is in misericordia. The damage assessed by the jury was 4s.

The monastery of Melsa (Meaux) received in the year 1235 a grant of land, with buildings thereon, in Fyshergate, in York, from Ricardus, a chaplain. Among other donations to this monastery at this date was a parcel of land from *Robertus Fraunceys*.

At the inquisition held at York on the 1st of December, 1272, *Petrus Franceis* was among the jurors.

At the inquisition held at York on the 30th of April, 1281, *Henricus Fraunceys*, of Merston, was among the jurors.

EAST RIDING.

BUCKROSE WAPENTAKE.

NEWTON.

A.D. 1297.— In this place, in the parish of Wintringham, *Johannes Frauncays* paid 12*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods, of which we find the following account:—

“ This grant of a ninth of personal goods was of very great importance in the constitutional history of England. It was a consideration paid by Parliament for a full confirmation by the king of all the liberties conferred by the Great Charter and the Forest Charter, and thus concluded a struggle between king and Parliament which had continued for over eighty years,—indeed, ever since its commencement with the first grant of the Great Charter by King John in 1215. Annexed to this confirmation by Edward I. was the celebrated statute, *De tallagio non concedendo*, which established the principle that no tax could be levied without the assent of Parliament. All through Edward’s reign it had been the object of Parliament to obtain the concession of this principle, but until his necessities compelled the king to yield they had been unsuccessful. Lately he had been singularly unfortunate in his wars both in Flanders and Gascony, and also in Scotland, where his troops had

been utterly defeated on Sept. 10, 1297, by Sir William Wallace, at the battle of Stirling. At home his position was quite as unfavorable. All classes were hostile to his policy. The clergy were irritated at the unjust seizure of a fifth of their goods, the merchants at the heavy tax levied on wool, called male tote, and the great nobles at his endeavor to restrict their franchises by writs of quo warranto and to make them amenable to the royal officers, whilst the common people were harassed and impoverished by many illegal exactions.

“Finding it impossible by these means to raise sufficient money to carry on the wars which were then being waged, and as some of the chief barons refused to serve beyond the seas, the king was compelled to summon a Parliament. It was ordered to meet at London on the octave of Saint Michael, Oct. 6, 1297, under the presidency of his son, Sir Edward of Carnarvon, as he himself had crossed over to Flanders, on the 22d of August, so as to avoid the embarrassment of meeting a hostile assembly.”

The confirmation of the charters in the king's name was witnessed at Westminster in October, 1297, by Prince Edward, and by the king himself at Ghent, on November 5, following. It was afterwards solemnly confirmed by King Edward in a Parliament held by himself in person in the year 1300.

SLEDMERE.

A.D. 1284-85.—The fee of Ros, in this place, consists of five carucates and six bovates, of which fee *Willelmus Fraunceys* holds three bovates.

The fee of Moubray, in this place, comprises eleven carucates and six bovates. Among those of this fee is *Thomas Fraunceys*, who holds one bovat.

A.D. 1297.—*Thomas Frauncays* paid 12*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods, in villata de Sleddemer.

WETWANG.

A.D. 1297.—*Robertus Frauncays* paid 13*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods.

WINTRINGHAM.

A.D. 1297.—*Willelmus Frauncays* paid 12*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods, in villata de Wyntringham.

DICKERING WAPENTAKE.

FLAMBOROUGH.

A.D. 1297.—*Robertus Frauncays* paid 18*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods, in villata de Fleyinburgh.

GANTON.

Matilda de Gaumeton in her widowhood (widow in 1232), and Richard de Bozhale, her son and heir, granted to the Hospital of St. Peter at York a toft and croft in Gaumeton, now Ganton, which was confirmed by her husband, *Willelmus Francigena* de Gaumeton.

HARPHAM.

A.D. 1275-76.— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *William le Fraunceys*, of Harpham, against Adam de Everingham, Isabella, his wife, and others, touching common of pasture in Harpham, Thornholm, Gransmoor ("Grancemor"), Haston, and Burton Agnes ("Burton Anneys").

This *William Fraunceys*, of Harpham, was probably the same person who gave one oxgang of land in Harpham to the Abbey of St. Mary at York.

HARTHILL WAPENTAKE.

BAINTON.

At the inquisition at Pokelington, on the 6th of August, 1279, of lands and tenements in Baynton and Nessingwyk (Neswick), the name of *Walterus Fraunceys* is found among the recognitors.

BEVERLEY.

A.D. 1297.—*Johannes Frauncays* paid 12*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth.

LOCKINGTON.

A.D. 1296–97.—In the twenty-fifth year of the reign of King Edward I. *Ricardus Fraunceys* and *Nigellus Fraunceys*, of Lockington, were among the suitors at the court of the bedern, or provost's court, in the town of Beverley, which extended over a wide district of more than a hundred parishes.

MARKET WEIGHTON.

A.D. 1284–85.—The king has here a fee of sixteen carucates, of which *Adam Francais* holds three bovates.

HOLDERNESS WAPENTAKE.

BEEFORD.

A.D. 1279.—Gerard, the prior, and the convent of Bridlington confirm to Sir Ralph Gousle, knight, the toft in Beeford held of the priory by Alan Burdoun, of Winkton, in exchange for a toft held of the above Sir Ralph Gousle by *Robert Franceys*. Dated at

Bridlington, on the feast of Saint Michael, 7 Edward I. Attested by Sir James de Mora, William de Grimston, Ralph de Falconberge, and others.

BURTON CONSTABLE.

A.D. 1297.—*Henricus Fraunce* paid 12*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth, in villata de Burtona et Neutona Constable.

COLYNGHAM.

A.D. 1297.—*Nicholaus Frauncays* paid 12*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods, in villata de Colyngham.

ELSTERNWICK.

A.D. 1297.—*Stephanus Frauncays* paid 16*d.* and *Nicholaus Frauncis* paid 2*s.* 3*d.* as their assessment for the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods, in Elstanwik'.

OTTRINGHAM.

Circa 6 Edward I. (1277-78).—William de Lascelles, of Ottringham, confirms to Alan Langdyke and heirs all his land in a close, called Newcroft, in Ottringham Marsh, which he had of the grant of

William's son. Tested by William de Fontains, Alan Ulbright, *William Franciscus*, etc.

Circa 10 Edward I. (1281-82).— William de Lascell gives and confirms to Alan Langdale, of this place, and his heirs and assigns, seven acres and a half of arable land in this territory, and also meadow and pasture. Tested by *William de Francais*, William de Pratis, William Fitz-Peter, etc.

Rogerus, who was abbot of Melsa (Meaux) between the years 1286 and 1310, makes a grant to *Willelmus Franceys*, of Otringham (near Meaux), of a parcel of land in that place for a yearly rent of 2s.

PATRINGTON.

A.D. 1297.—*Ricardus Frauncays* paid 14*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth.

RYHILL WITH CAMERTON.

A.D. 1297.— The former place is in the parish of Skeckling, the latter in that of Paul. *Johannes Fraun(c)ays* paid 12*d.* towards the subsidy of the ninth.

SIGGLESTHORNE.

A.D. 1297.— Towards the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods in this place *Alicia Frauncays* paid 2s. 1*d.*, *Ricardus Frauncays* paid 20*d.*, and *Walterus Fraunceys* paid 2s. 2½*d.*

OUSE AND DERWENT WAPENTAKE.

At an inquisition held in the fourth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1275-76) the jurors said that *Walterus Franceys* was negligent in attaching Robertus de Tresk, a felon.

NORTH RIDING.

BULMER WAPENTAKE.

MYTON.

The following grant is probably of the latter half of the twelfth century. In it the grantor confirms the gift of his father, Robert de Maisnil, which was made before the year 1113.

Be it known to all, as well future as present, that I, Stephanus de Maisnil, have given in free alms to the abbey church of St. Mary, York, the vill called Miton, placing this my donation upon the altar of aforesaid church as free as any donation can be given. And I grant it forever, in pure alms, for the soul of my father, Robertus de Maisnil, who before made this donation to the aforesaid church, and for the soul of my mother, and for my soul and those of my wife, my sons, my parents, and my friends. I also grant in the

same way to the said church one carucate and a half of land in Suttuna, near the bridge, on that side of the river Derwent which is nearest the city of York, for which alms I have been admitted in the chapter to the fraternity of this convent of monks. Among the witnesses is *Walterus Fraunces*.

GILLING, WEST, WAPENTAKE.

APPLEGARTH.

30 Edward I. (1301-2).— In this place *John Fraunceys* paid 18*d.* as subsidy.

BARFORTH.

A.D. 1275-76.— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Richard le Fraunceis* against Geoffrey Gerewell and others, touching a tenement in Bereford.

BARTON NEAR MELSONBY.

29 Edward I. (1300-1).— John, son of Ivo de Hertford, versus *Grimbaldus le Fraunces*, in a plea of land.

31 Edward I. (1302-3).— *Grimbaldus Fraunceys* sued Richard de Vernun, 3*d* (son of *Gilbertus le*

Fraunceys) in a plea that he should warrant to him a messuage, one hundred and sixty acres of land, six acres of meadow, and half a mill in Barton near Melsonby, in County Ebor., which John de Hertford claimed against him. The plea was postponed.

A.D. 1303-4.—John de Hertford versus Richard de Vernon, 3d, whom *Grimbaldus le Fraunceys* called to warranty of the aforesaid tenement; and the said Richard called to warranty William, son of Nicholas le Botiller, who was under age.

A.D. 1309-10.—*Grymbaldus Fraunceys* appeared by attorney against Richard de Vernon in a plea that he should appear in court to warrant to him the aforesaid tenement, which had been valued at 14*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*, and which John de Hertford claimed as his right. Richard did not appear, and the sheriff was ordered to summon him for the morrow of Saint John the Baptist.

A.D. 1316-17.—John de Hertford claimed versus *Robert, son of John Fraunceys*, one messuage, ten tofts, forty acres of land, and six acres and a half of meadow, and half one mill in Barton-juxta-Melsonby, which he claims as his right and inheritance, and of which William de Kendale unjustly disseized Alan de Hertford, plaintiff's grandfather, whose heir he is. The defendant said that *Grimbaldus, his uncle*, whose heir he is, died seized of the said lands in his own right as of fee, after whose death he entered therein, and is now under age. Adjourned accordingly.

A.D. 1330-31.—Thomas, son of John de Hertford, sued Thomas, son of William de Moubray, for a messuage and one hundred and forty acres of land, and six acres of meadow, and half a mill in Barton near Melsamby. Thomas, son of William, called to warranty *Robert, son of John Fraunceys*, who appeared, and warranted the tenements to him; and as regarded one acre of land and one and a half acre of meadow. Robert called to warranty Thomas, son of John de Hodelleston of County Ebor., and as regarded the residue of the tenements he called to warranty William de Vernoun, the kinsman and heir of (great-grandson of) *Gilbert le Fraunceys*, who is to be summoned in the counties of Stafford and Westmorland. And he stated that the said Thomas, son of John, and William de Vernoun were under age, and prayed that the suit might be made a remanent till their full age.

Thomas, son of John, stated they were all of full age, and prayed that they might be summoned; and the sheriffs of the counties of York and Stafford were ordered to summon them in a month from Easter.

BOWES.

About four miles south-west from Barnard Castle, formerly the seat of the Balliols, is this parish. Its manor originally included the township of Boldron, which is located about two miles from this castle.

27 Edward I. (1298-99).— Thomas de Bolron claimed against John le Harper and Alicia, his wife, Stephen de Bowes and Johanna, his wife, John Ra, John, son of Henry de Bowes, William Wetteherne, Nicholas, son of Peter, Hugh le Fletcher, *Adam Fraunceys*, Thomas Tollere, Alan le Meyre, and Reginald, son of Sampson de Bowes, for having unjustly disseized the plaintiff of his free tenement in Bowes and Boldron. In this same year the claimant asked leave to withdraw his suit against them.

CALDWELL.

A township adjoining Stanwick, in the parish of St. John.

50 Henry III. (1265-66).— *John le Fraunceys* claims against Matilda (de Vallibus), who was the wife of Thomas de Multon, custodian of the body of Roald, son of Roald, son of Alan, and Peter de Sa-
baudia, the custodian of the lands of the said heir, warranty of the third part of the manor of Caldwell, which Alan de Lascelles and Isabella, his wife, claim against him, by right of latter's dower from her first husband, Roald, son of Alan.

There appears to have been an earlier assize held at York, in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of King Henry III., in regard to this manor, in which the same *John le Fraunceys* is one of the defendants.

DALTON.

In the Domesday Book there is a record that Gospatric had in this place three and a half carucates: the earl holds them.

One authority states that *Roald le Fraunceys* gave land in this place to Warin de Travers, of Dalton Travers; but of this conveyance we find no record. The same authority gives a record of the grantee in 2 Richard I. (1190-91), and further states that he died 25 Henry III. (1240-41).

23 Henry III. (1245-46).—*John Fraunceys* claimed against Robert Travers two bovates of land with appurtenances in Dalton.

30 Henry III. (1245-46).—John son of Peter, who took a writ of diversion of a certain watercourse in Dalton Travers, to the injury of plaintiff's freehold in Dalton Travers, against Robert Travers, did not come, and was in contempt with his sureties; namely, Robert de Wassington and *John le Fraunceis*, of Dalton.

Fine, Trin., 30 Henry III. (1246), between *John le Franceys*, plaintiff, and Robert Travers, defendant, of four acres of land with the appurtenances in Dalton; and the said Robert acknowledges the said land to be the right of the said *John*, which *Robert le Franceys*, father of the said *John*, had, by the gift of Warin Travers, father of the said Robert, whose heir he is, to hold to the said *John* and his heirs of the said

Robert and his heirs forever, at the yearly rent of 12*d.*, payable half at Pentecost and half at the feast of Saint Martin, for all services. In consideration whereof the said *John* gave the said Robert one soar hawk.

There is another Dalton in this same wapentake, called Alia Dalton in Domesday survey, which record shows that Gospatric holds one manor in this place, which is waste. Gospatric had a son Dolfin, who, according to a published pedigree, had a son Roger, mentioned as Roger de Dalton, who appears to have had a daughter and heir, Wiltmai, said to have married Norman Travers, who, in right of his wife, was seized of Alia Dalton, which was afterwards called Dalton Travers, and finally Gayles.

Adam Travers, of Dalton Travers, son and heir of Robert Travers, living in 46 Henry III., was defendant in a plea at the suit of *Gilbert le Frauncis*, touching lands in Dalton Travers.

7 Edward I. (1278-79).—An assize was taken to ascertain if Isolda, who was the wife of William, son of Alicia de Neusum, William Werry of Dalton Travers, and *John Fraunceys*, unjustly disseized *Adam, son of John le Fraunceys*, of Dalton Travers, of ten bovates of land with the appurtenances in Dalton Travers, whilst he was on his journey to Jerusalem. And John de Carleton came, and answered for the defendants, as their bailiff, etc., and for the said William he said Adam unjustly brought this suit against

him, because he held by the gift of said Isolda, and, if the others disseized the said Isolda, he did not know; and he afterwards said that the said *Adam* was never in seisin of the said land, therefore they could not unjustly disseize him, which the jury confirmed, and the plaintiff was in contempt for a false claim.

In 15 Edward I. (1286-87) in Dalton Travers there were three carucates of land (and twelve made one knight's fee), of which William Werry held one carucate, *John Frankes* three bovates, Henry, son of John, one bovate, Richard, son of Wychard de Charron, held twelve bovates of Hugh de Ask, who held of the earl, and the earl of the king.

In 30 Edward I. (1301-2) *Emma Frankyse* paid a subsidy of five and three-quarters pence.

FELDOM.

This place was in the parish of Marske, about six miles north-west from Richmond.

19 Edward I. (1290-91).—An assize was taken at York to ascertain if John de Britannia, *John Fraunceys*, and five others unjustly disseized the abbot of Jorvalle of one hundred acres of wood, twenty acres of land, and half an acre of moor, with the appurtenances, in Feldom.

GILLING.

This place is located about three miles north-west from Richmond.

In 30 Edward I. (1301-2) *Adam Frankays*, of this place, paid a subsidy of 4*s.* $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*

MARSKE.

30 Henry III. (1245-46).— At this date there is a record that *John le Fraunceys*, of Marske, was surety of Roger, son of Robert de Mersk.

MELSONBY.

52 Henry III. (1267-68).— At Richmond, Adam, son of Hugh de Neyrford, and Alicia, his wife, Roger de Melsamby and Simon, his son, Theobald, parson of the church of Melsamby, the abbot of Jorevalle, *John Fraunceys*, and others were summoned to answer Henry, son of Robert de Stanwegges, touching his right to common of pasture in Melsamby, of which Walter Fayirbarne, grandfather of said Henry, whose heir he is, was seized in his demesne as of fee as belonging to his freehold in Staynwegges, etc. The defendants appeared by their attorney, etc.

The jury say upon oath that the said Walter did not die seized of the said pasture in his demesne as

of fee as belonging to his free tenement in Staynwegges. Consequently, Henry, son of Robert de Staynwegges, was fined for a false claim.

HANG, EAST, WAPENTAKE.

GREAT AND LITTLE FENCOTE.

A.D. 1269-70.— In the fifty-fourth year of the reign of King Henry III. the king grants a charter to *Alanus le Fraunceys* of the land of Fencotes near by Flecham, and the land of Fencotes near by Sturneton, in the county of York, besides the land of Badelingham, in the county of Cambridge.

The jurors stated at the inquisition held in 1275-76 that he had free warren in his land in this wapentake by a charter of King Henry III.

It appears by an inquest made before John de Kirkby, treasurer of King Edward I., in the fifteenth year of his reign (1286-87), that in Magna and Parva Fencotes there are nine carucates of land which make one knight's fee. Of these, Willelmus de Holtby holds three carucates and a half of *Alanus le Fraunceys*. Besides this land, *Alanus* holds five carucates of Hugo filius Henrici, who holds of Henricus filius Conani, who holds of the earl, who holds of the king.

LANGBAROUGH WAPENTAKE.

GUISBROUGH PRIORY.

The surnames of *Fraunceys* and Bruce, identified with this district, were found in the Cotentin of Normandy at an early period as grantors or as witnesses to charters. *Robert Fraunceys* was one of the few recorded knights of the second Robert de Brus, who founded this priory in 1119, near his castle of Skelton, the name of this *Robert Fraunceys*, knight, appearing soon after the death of the first Robert de Brus, in circa 1100, as one of the witnesses to a charter to the neighboring Abbey of Whitby.

It is not unlikely that prior to the year 1204, when King Philippe Auguste reunited the province of Normandy to the crown of France, the *Franceis*, like the Bruces and many other persons, held landed possessions both in that province and in England.

At a later date than the record already given of the surname, on observation it will be found that *William Franceis* paid in the Cotentin in the year 1180 a fine of 10s., and *Roger Franceis* paid in the same location a fine of 30s. in the year 1195.

In the Guisbrough district it is noticed that a *William Franceis* or *Francus* was a witness to a charter which had the confirmation of King Henry II. in 1182. The grant was made by Walter Ingerram to the Church of St. Mary of Gyseburn; and in it he refers to his overlord, Adam de Brus II.

The next account observed of the *Franceis* having feudal relations with the Bruses appears in the Anandale of Scotland, where the records of circa 1218, as given by Mr. Bain, show that *William Franceis* was the father of *Roger Franceis*; and thereafter, during this and the early part of the fourteenth century, the name of *William Fraunceis* is perpetuated in the Scotch archives, while *Roger Franceis* is unnoticed in Scotland after the first period. But at a later time, down to about the year 1300, the same Christian name is found in the records of Levingthorp, a place which belonged at the Domesday survey to the manor of Aclum, which was among the many manors given to the first Robert de Brus by William the Conqueror. Apparently, in after years, the priors of Guisbrough became overlords of Levingthorp, as *Roger Franceis* and seven other freeholders of that place made suit to the prior's court at Thornaby.

The following charter already alluded to had the confirmation of King Henry II. in 1182:—

Be it known to all who hear this writing that I, Walterus Ingerram, have given and granted, in free and perpetual alms, to the Church of St. Mary of Gyseburne, and the canons serving God there, the churches of my land; namely, the church of Erneclive and two bovates of land with an adjacent mansion, the church of Welleberg' with two bovates of land and an adjacent mansion, the church of Haslinton with half an acre of land and a mansion, to-

gether with the chapel of the other Haslintuna, excepting the half carucate of land of forinsec service. Saving the benefice of the parsons who hold the churches; namely, Willelmus, who holds the church of Welleberge, and Robertus, parson of the churches of Erneclive and Haslintune. This donation I have made for myself, my wife, and my sons, and for my lord Adam de Brus (2d), and for the souls of my father, mother, and my paternal uncle, Willelmus Ingerram, and for the souls of Robertus de Brus, and Adam his son. Hii sunt testes, Alexander de Lium, Albanus Presbiter, Johannes Niger, *Willelmus Francus*, etc. Teste etiam Capitulo Clivelandae.

A.D. 1230-50.—Willelmus Forestarius and Gundreda, his wife, granted, in free and perpetual alms for the safety of their souls, and for some pence received of Stephanus and Robertus, masters of the work, to God and to the Fabric Fund of the Church of St. Mary of Gyseburne, the land which lies near the highway to Holdebec, on the west; namely, nearly one acre and a half which Willelmus Forestarius had received with his wife, the aforesaid Gundreda. Hiis testibus, Rogero Canonico de Rypum; Willelmo Clerico de Beverlaco; *Petro Fraunces* et multis aliis.

Rogerus Franceys, of Levyngthorp (Linthorp, near Middlesbrough), was among the free tenants of the priory of Gyseburne; and he made suit to the court of Ralph, the prior, at Thornaby, who held this office between 1262 and 1280.

The same *Roger Fraunceis* appears again in the two following notices of assizes of the fourth year of the reign of King Edward I. (1275-76). The first was an appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Osanna, daughter of Humphrey de Leuingethorp, against *Roger Fraunceis*, touching a tenement in Leuingethorp.

The other was a similar appointment of the same date, in a like case, between the same parties, in regard to a tenement near by in Middlesbrough ("Mildeburg").

The rent-roll of this priory of circa 1300, in the part relating to Levingthorp, shows two entries of the name of *Rogerus le Fraunceys*. The first states that he paid 3*d.* for three bovates of land, and the second that he paid 6*d.* for two bovates.

In the same rent-roll relating to this place is a *Radulphus Fraunceys* who made fealty, on the Monday next before the feast of Saint Dunstan, A.D. 1299, to the lord the prior of Guisbrough, for one toft and one croft in the vill of Levingthorpe, paying for the same at Guisbrough 2*d.* on the 14th of September.

KIRKLEATHAM.

Kirk-Letham, called in old records Lythum or Lythunum, about four miles to the north of the market town of Guisbrough.

Circumstantial evidence associates this place with *Johannes le Fraunceys, Francigena*, etc., the parson of Caldebeck in Cumberland. In the records of that county for the year 1249 it will be found that Pope Innocent IV. granted, on the solicitation of King Henry III., a dispensation to *Johannes dictus Francigena*, clericus regis, to receive another benefice, if granted in England; and in the following year the same pope addressed a mandate to the Archbishop of York in favor of *Johannes dictus Francigena*, clericus of the illustrious King of England, in which he commands that, notwithstanding his impaired sight, etc., no hindrance be given to his promotion to superior orders.

This chain of evidence, with the following suppletion, indicates that this place came to him as the result of the mandate:—

A.D. 1253.—Suppletion to *John dictus Francigena*, of whatever defect there may be in the papal dispensation granted to him, to hold the rectories of Lithum and Ronay, in the diocese of York.

A.D. 1254.—Papal mandate to *Johannes dictus Francigena*, clericus regis, to grant a dispensation to Henricus de Galdington (his kinsman), rector of the church of Grossemere (in Westmorland), in the diocese of York, value 10 marks, to hold an additional benefice with cure of souls.

In continuation, the chronicles of Matthew of Westminster show, under the date of 1255, a record of the

death of *Johannes Franciscus (le Fraunceys)*, domini regis clericus praecipuus. He was stricken with paralysis, and was lamented ("siccis lacrimis") by the monks of St. Mary of York and of Selby. This is the period assigned for the death of *Johannes le Fraunceys (Francigena)*, who died as parson of Caldebeck, his successor, Alan, having succeeded him in that place prior to the year 1257.

PICKERING WAPENTAKE.

AISLABY.

A.D. 1261-62.—By an inquisition held in the forty-sixth year of King Henry III. it is found that *Willelmus Fraunceys* held one bovate and one toft in Aslakeby, near Pickering, of Ricardus de Aslakeby, for an annual rent of 4s.

IRTON.

A.D. 1315, January 20.—To John de Evre, escheator beyond Trent. Order to deliver to Eleanor, late the wife of Henry de Percy, tenant in chief, the knights' fees assigned to her as dower, among which was a sixteenth of a fee in Irton, in County York, which *Ricardus Fraunce* holds, for the yearly value of 8s.

WHITBY STRAND LIBERTY.

WHITBY ABBEY.

Hugh Lupus d'Avranches, Earl of Chester, hereditary viscount of Avranches in Normandy, and a nephew of King William I., became lord of Whitby soon after the Conquest, and died on the 27th of July, 1101. He granted Whitby to William de Percy, of the Cotentin in Normandy. This William de Percy was the father of Alan de Percy, whose charter is found among the archives of the British Museum. In it he conveys to the "Ecclesiae S. Petri et S. Hildae de Wyteby, et monachis illius loci," the vills which Tancardus Flandrensis sold to Willelmus, abbot of Wyteby, and the monks of that place; namely, "Figelingam et aliam Figelingam, Normaneby et Haukesgard," with all their appurtenances; besides confirming to the monks all the lands, forests, pastures, and woods in his fee held by the abbey within specified limits. This grant is made for the safety of the souls of his lords, the kings of England and their heirs, and Hugo, Earl of Chester, and for the safety of his own soul, and those of his parents and heirs. The first witnesses were the grantor's brothers, Willelmus, Walterus, and Ricardus de Perci. The next witness was Robertus de Brus et tres de suis militibus, Rogerus de Rosels, Wydo de Lofthous et *Robertus ffraunceys*.

The Rev. J. C. Atkinson, commenting on this charter, gives the period of its execution between the years 1097 and 1101.

WEST RIDING.

AGBRIGG WAPENTAKE.

NORMANTON.

Circa 1250.—Know present and to come that I, *Alan le Franceis*, of Normanton, and *Ysoulda*, my wife, have granted, surrendered, and quitclaimed, for us and our heirs and successors, to Nostell Priory all that tenement which we held of it, in the territory of Huntewicke; namely, one messuage and half an orchard with the appurtenances in the town aforesaid, and three roods of land lying in Bonderodos, between the land of William Admey and Henry de Huntewicke.

Ysoulda survived her husband, and confirmed the grant.

QUICK.

A.D. 1297.—At the valuation of the personal goods for the subsidy of the ninth it is found that *Gilbertus le Fraunsays*, of Quyk, has two oxen (boves), worth each 5s.; seven quarters of oats, worth 9d. a quarter;

one horse (affrus), worth 2s. 6d.; and one hogget, worth 9d.

BARKSTONE WAPENTAKE.

SELBY.

Circa 1235.—Charter of Johannes, son of Johannes Juvenis:—

Know present and future that I, Johannes, son of Johannes Juuenis, of Seleby, have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to Henricus, my brother, and the heirs of his body, for his homage and service, one toft, with buildings thereon, in the vill of Seleby; namely, that in Mikelgate on the hill, near by the toft of *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, on the west; and the moiety of the assart which belonged to Adam Marescallus, situated below the park of Brayton. To have and to hold in fee and inheritance of me and my heirs, free, etc., with all its appurtenances, in the vill of Seleby. Witnesses, Dominus Ricardus de Kellesby, then abbot of Seleby, etc.

In another charter, without date, but probably of the same period as the preceding charter, is a record of *Willelmus le Fraunceys*, the grantor being Robertus, son of Radulfus de Thorp, the grantee the abbey of Seleby; and it conveys one acre of meadow at Bardelby, near by Holsick, and not far from the

meadow of *Willelmus le Fraunceys*. Johannes Juuenis being a witness.

A.D. 1255.—To all who see or hear this writing, Johannes Camerarius, of Seleby, Walterus Capellanus, Thomas de Drayton, Radulfus de Hanburg', Henricus Juuenis, *Alanus le Fraunceis*, Walterus de Scotton, Johannes Tannator, Thomas de Hayton, Martinus Tannator, Willelmus Pipin, Rogerus Bay, Ricardus Hund, and the whole villata of Seleby, greeting. Know that we, with the consent and will of all our free tenants of this vill, have granted and quitclaimed for us and our heirs to God, St. Germanus of Seleby, and the monks serving God there, all the right and claim we have "in bosco del Est," and the herbage in the same bosc, which is enclosed by the ditch; reserving for ourselves the herbage in the remainder of said bosc outside the ditch; and, further, the reservation of pannage for our swine in aforesaid bosc, provided the abbot and convent will receive foreign swine with their own. In testimony of which we, Johannes Juuenis, Walterus Capellanus, *Alanus le Fraunceis*, and the others, in the presence of the abbot and convent, for the whole villata of Seleby, have appended our seal. Given at Seleby on Sunday next after the feast of Saint Ambrosius, 1255, in the presence of dominus Thomas de Stanford, the king's clerk, and others.

There are two other charters, probably about the last-named date, wherein the same *Alanus le Fraun-*

ceys, of Seleby, appears. One of these is the grant by Willelmus Popelow and Agnes, his wife, formerly wife of Johannes, son of Willelmus Forestarius, to the abbey and monks of Seleby, of the land which this Johannes held in the territory of Thorp, wherein it is stated that for the greater security Henricus Juuenis, of Seleby, and *Alanus Franciscus*, of the same place, have appended their seals, together with the grantors'. The other charter is that by which Hugo de Thorp, son of Robertus de Thorp, grants to the same abbey and monks, of Seleby, several rents of land in the vill and territory of Bardelby, among which is a rental of *2d.* of *Alanus le Fraunceis*.

The following charter of *Henricus Fraunceys* must have been executed soon after the death of his father, *Alanus*:—

Know present and future that I, *Henricus*, son and heir of *Alanus le Fraunceys*, of Seleby, have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed and quitclaimed, in pure and perpetual alms, for me and my heirs, to God, the Church of St. Germanus of Seleby, and the monks serving God there, and their successors, a piece of land in the vill of Seleby, upon the river Ouse, with the buildings thereon, as it is extended in length and breadth, which land *Alanus*, my deceased father, held of these monks in the said vill of Seleby. To have and to hold by the aforesaid monks and their successors, in pure and perpetual alms, as above stated, in perpetuity,

freely and in peace, with all its appurtenances and easements. And I, the aforesaid *Henricus*, and my heirs will warrant and acquit the aforesaid land to the said monks and their successors, in testimony of which I have appended my seal. Witnesses, *Henricus Siward*, of Selby, *Rogerus le Marescal*, of the same place, and others.

The date of the second charter of *Henricus Fraunceys* may be somewhat indicated by the second term of *Thomas de Whalley* as abbot of Selby, which began in 1269 and ended in 1280.

Know all, present and future, that I, *Henricus Fraunceys*, of Seleby, have given and granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed, to God, the Church of St. Germanus of Seleby, *Thomas*, the abbot, and the convent of that place, one toft in the vill of Seleby, which I lately held there, situated between the toft of *Johannes*, son of *Ranulfus de Seleby*, and the hospital in said vill. To have and to hold of me and my heirs by the aforesaid abbot and convent of Seleby, freely, quietly, etc., reserving 4*d.* to *Johannes*, son of *Ranulfus de Seleby*, to be paid by the aforesaid abbot and convent. And, that neither I nor others may have any claim to the aforesaid donation, I have appended my seal to this present charter. Witnesses, *Hugo Mar*, of Brayton, etc.

CLARO WAPENTAKE.

ALDFIELD.

A.D. 1277, December 22.—*Thomas Frauncheays* was among the recognitors who had for their consideration the extent of certain land at Aldefelde (near the town of Ripon).

STAINBURN.

The Historical Manuscript Commission gives no date for the two following early charters:—

Elyas, son of Knut, of Stainburne, gives to Agnes, daughter of Yngerode, his sister, and her children by Hugh, the chaplain, for homage and service and 28*s.* of silver, one toft in Stainburne of half an acre of land; namely, that toft lying between his toft and garden and the house of *W. le Franceis*, and four acres and a half of arable land in the fields of the said vill, etc. Witnesses, Nigel de Plupton, Peter his son, John his son, William de Marton, Matthew de Bram, Walter de Stokkeld, Robert son of Uckem of Plumpton, Walan chaplain of Stainburne, Robert son of Henry of Sikkelinghale, Robert Bongaut, Gilbert Lardiner, Henry le Screvin, Adam son of Gregory of Stainburne, and many others.

William Alebastarius gives to God, etc., and Fontains Abbey one bovate of land in the territory of

Stainburne, with the appurtenances and easements within and without the vill,—namely, that bovate which he held of Helyas, the son of Cnut, in frankalmoign — but doing foreign service as much as pertains to one bovate where fourteen carucates of land make one knight's fee. Witnesses, Helias the son of Cnut, William clerk of Stainburne, *W. le Franceys*, Adam the nephew of William Alebaster, Hameric de Castells, and others.

MORLEY WAPENTAKE.

NORTH OWRAM.

A.D. 1379.—*Janyn de ffraunce* and his wife, of Northourom, paid 4*d.* as poll-tax.

“This subsidy was granted at the accession of Richard II. in the form of a graduated poll-tax, from 10 marks, at which the Duke of Lancaster was charged, down to 4*d.* for each individual of the common people not being a notorious mendicant, and being above the age of sixteen years. Married people are charged at a single rate. The tax was levied on the laity only.”

STAINLAND.

A.D. 1272.—The manor of Wakefield is situated in this and Agbrigg wapentakes. Within its bounds

were held four court leets or sheriff tourns. At the tourn at Brighouse, in this year, among the jurors was *Henry Franceys*, of Staynland. He was probably the same person who gave, at Bramley, one neif called Ive with five acres of land to the neighboring Abbey of Kirkstall. Another gift in the same place to this abbey was that of Adam Raynvile, who gave a toft and croft occupied by *William Frauncays*.

OSGOLDCROSS WAPENTAKE.

ADLINGFLEET.

A.D. 1245.—*John le Franceys*, or *Francigena*, has the church of Adelingflet at the presentation of Roger de Mubray, as keeper of the heir of Robert de Ayvill.

A.D. 1253.—Mandate to J., cardinal of St. Laurence's in Lucina, to assign to *John Francigena*, rector of Athelingflete, in the diocese of York, the proceeds of the men and towns of Usefleth, Witegift, Redenes, Swineflet, Esketoft, and thirteen bovates of land of the fee of the abbot of York in Haldanebi, and other matters arisen in the suit between the said John and the abbots of St. Mary's, York, and of Selby, about the chapel of Witegift; those being excepted which by the award of the archbishop, dean, and precentor of York have been adjudged to the adverse party. Given at Lateran, 10 Kal. January, 1253.

A.D. 1256-57.—*John Franciscus* sought replevin of land in Whitegift against the abbot of St. Mary, York.

He appears to have destroyed the chapel of Whitegift, removing the stones to Athelingflet with which he built for himself a house. After some lapse of time, arrangements were made for rebuilding it.

DARRINGTON.

A.D. 1209.—Plea between *Reginald Franceis* and *Wimima*, his wife, complainants, and Thomas, son of Alice, tenant, of half a bovate of land with the appurtenances in Darthington. The right of Thomas, etc.

POLLINGTON.

A.D. 1379.—*Thomas ffranche* and *Elena*, his wife, of villata de Pollyngton, paid a subsidy poll-tax of 4*d.*

PONTEFRACT PRIORY.

The honor of Pontefract was restored to Henry de Lacy, apparently early in the reign of King Stephen, by the Empress Maud. A few years later, in 1159, on the day of the dedication of the Church of Pontefract, Henry de Lacy granted a charter in its favor. To this charter Jordan Foliot was a witness.

Henry de Lacy gives his consent to and witnesses the second charter of Jordan Foliot to this abbey, and appears to have died sometime before the year 1189, at which date his son Robert was one of the barons who attended at the coronation of King Richard I. These facts, together with other circumstantial evidences, seem to indicate that the following second charter of Jordan Foliot must have been executed about the year 1170.

Charter.

Be it known to all the sons of the Holy Mother Church, as well present as future, that I, Jordanus Folioth, have given and granted, in pure and perpetual alms, and by this my charter have confirmed, for the welfare of my soul, and those of my ancestors and heirs, to God, St. John, and the monks of Pontefract, the west mill at Nortun. This mill and the house at the same, with all appurtenances, I have given, granted, and by this my present charter confirmed, on the morrow of Christmas Day, the day of Saint Stephen, on which day the monks gave me a fur gown as recognition and in testimony thereof. Among the witnesses are Henricus de Lasceyo (as before mentioned), Willelmus Foliot, Otto de Tilly, Osbertus archidiaconus tunc dapifer Hugonis de Tilly, and *Fulco Franceis*.

SKYRACK WAPENTAKE.

ABERFORD.

A.D. 1276-77.— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by *Juliana*, daughter of *Radulph le Fraunceys*, of Aberford, against John Whicheland, of Lotheron, touching a tenement in Luterington.

ALLERTON BY WATER.

A.D. 1379.— *Johannes de ffraunse* and his wife, of Allerton juxta aquam, paid a subsidy poll-tax of 4*d.*

HARWOOD.

On the 28th of March, 1264, after the death of Baldwin de Réviers IV., Earl of Devon, an inquisition was held as to the extent of the manor of Harewde, near Leeds, by which it appears that *Robertus Fraunceis* held one toft for an annual rent of 1*s.* 4*d.*

HEADINGLEY.

A.D. 1379.— *Willelmus de ffraunce* and his wife, of Heddinglay, paid 4*d.*, and *Johannes de ffraunce*, of same place, paid 4*d.* towards the subsidy poll-tax.

RAWDON.

Rowdon was a township in the parish of Guiseley. There was a grant of land in this place wherein Michael, son of Adam de Rowdon, in the time of Henry III., by his deed confirmed to God and the monks of Kirkstall all the land which *Hugh de Frances* held of him in the vill of Rawdon. Witnesses, Nicholas Ward, and Simon, his brother, and many others.

WIKE.

A.D. 1280-81.— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by *Adam le Fraunceys* against Walter, the abbot of Kirkstall, touching a messuage and land in Wyke, near Harewood.

STAINCLIFFE WAPENTAKE.

DENT.

A.D. 1275-76.— Appointment of two justices to take the assize of novel disseisin, arraigned by Henry de Staneley against *Richard le Fraunceis* and others, touching common of pasture in Denete.

STAINCROSS WAPENTAKE.

BARNESLEY.

Circa 1170.—Be it known to those present and those to come that I, Radulfus de Capricuria, and my sister Beatrix, have granted and given to God, and the monks of Pontefract, the vill of Bernesleya, in bosc and plain, in mill, in waters and meadows, with all its appurtenances, in free and perpetual alms, for our souls and those of our ancestors and heirs, by the consent of my sons, Jordanus and Ricardus. The aforesaid monks of Pontefract have also, for this donation, granted that they will make a monk for our mother, and another for my sister, and a third for myself, who shall pray expressly for us. They have also granted to receive me as a monk whenever I would desire it. And for the recognition of this gift the monks have given my sister 10 marks of silver, and 3 marks to me, and shall yearly give me a fur gown and boots. They gave also a palfrey to my son Jordanus, and 5 marks to my son Ricardus. And I, Radulfus de Caprecuria, confirm this donation by the impression of my seal; and, if any of my heirs should attempt to break or lessen this grant made in favor of my soul and that of my sister, then God may destroy his freedom of life. Teste, Henrico de Lascey in cujus praesentia haec donatio facta est et Matilde matre sua, *Ricardo Franceis*, et aliis.

Jordan de Capricuria confirmed this his father's gift before the year 1181.

A.D. 1379.—*Alicia ffrance*, of villata de Breneslay, paid 4*d.* towards the subsidy poll-tax.

STRAFFORTH AND TICKHILL WAPENTAKE.

A.D. 1275-76.—At an inquisition held in this year the jurors stated that *Walterus le Fraunceys* and Simon de Ledes, bailiffs, took half a mark of Radulfus Fullone for peace; also of Rogerus de Breteles, whom they had imprisoned, 10*s.* for the same reason; and of Thomas de Breteles 4*s.* for peace. Besides, Thomas Lorimer paid 10*s.* for having protected a certain robber.

The jurors also state that *Walterus Fraunceys* and Simon de Ledes, bailiffs of the wapentake of Strafford, had taken 7*s.* of the vill of Edelinton for having respite with the debt due the king.

They further say that Johannes de Horbire, coroner, and *Walterus Fraunceys*, bailiff of the wapentake of Tickhill, have taken gifts for neglecting to enforce the law, as is shown by the inquest.

CADEBY.

A.D. 1297.—*Johannes Fraunceys*, of Cateby, in the parish of Sprotborough, paid 18*d.* as his assessment for the subsidy of the ninth of personal goods.

ROTHERHAM.

A.D. 1297.—At the taxation for the subsidy of the ninth of all personal goods granted by the Parliament to the king for his confirmation of the Great Charter and the Forest Charter, it is found that *Thomas Fraunceys*, of Roderham, had one cow, value 5s.; one quarter of wheat, value 2s. 6d.; two quarters of oats, value 20d. Sum total, 9s. 2d., the ninth of which, amounting to 1s. and 1f. was to be paid.

SKINTHORP.

A.D. 1284-85.—*Thomas Frans'* paid (a fine of) 12d. to the wapentake, and 2d. to the sheriff's aid, for Skynthorp, which he held of Petrus de Malo Lacu, for one fee.

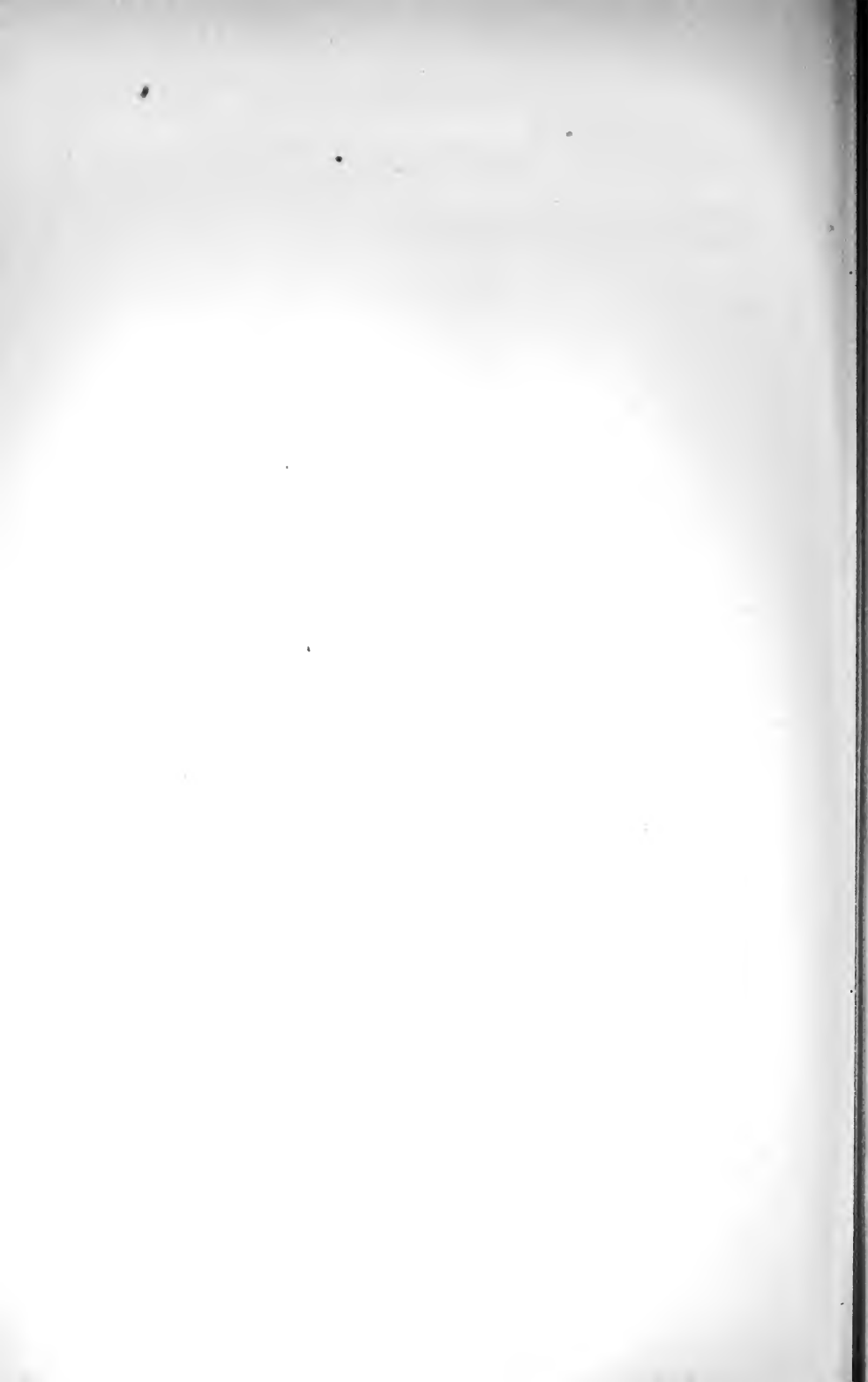
TICKHILL.

A.D. 1379.—*Robertus Fraynssche* and *Sibilla*, his wife, of villata de Tykhill, paid 4d. as subsidy poll-tax.

WADWORTH.

A.D. 1379.—*Thomas Franche* and *Margareta*, his wife, of villata de Wadworth, paid 4d. as subsidy poll-tax.





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NOTES

ON THE

SURNAMES OF FRANCUS, FRANCEIS, FRENCH, ETC., IN SCOTLAND, WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE FRENCHES OF THORNYDYKES.

BY A. D. WELD FRENCH, F.S.A. SCOT.

(Boston: Privately printed, 1893.)

SOME OPINIONS OF THE PRESS,

BOTH FOREIGN AND AMERICAN.

"THE SCOTTISH ANTIQUARY."

A study of genealogy affords convincing evidence that the adage, "There are as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it," holds good with regard to families. Many of our oldest families are not to be found in the peerage, and some are so proud of their untitled position that they decline with thanks the offer of a coronet. As the north-west of Scotland can boast her Highland chieftains, so the southern and the eastern portion of the kingdom still possess families sprung from Saxon followers of Queen Margaret and Norman knights, who, having gained a lodgment in England, got across the borders and colonized the fair vale of Annan, and worked northward to Aberdeen. Some of these men founded houses prominent in our national history. The list can be headed by Bruce and Stewart. The power of the house of Bruce early showed itself by the number of families which were allied to it by interest rather than consanguinity. Annandale was the home of men who, recognizing the Bruce as the most influential settler, seem to have paid him the compliment of making his armorial bearings the model on which to form their own. The *saltire* with a *chief* of the Bruces, varied by different colored metals and subsidiary charges, is borne, amongst others of less note, by the Johnstones, Kirkpatrick's, Blackwoods, Jardines, and the Frenches, which last family were early in possession of a district in Annandale known as Frenchland. We find from Mr. A. D. Weld French's "Index Armorial" that the family of France of Scotland bore "*vert* a *saltire arg.* on a *chief or*, then *fleur-de-lis az.*" These are not the arms at present attributed to French of Frenchland, but they point to the locality of the early home of the family of French or France. Mr.

Weld French has supplemented his "Index Armorial of the Name of French" with "Notes on the Surnames of Francus, Francis, French, etc., in Scotland, with an Account of the Frenches of Thornydike," and in a compass of 100 pages he has compressed a vast amount of genealogical research. A short preface explains the formation of the various forms of the name from a common root; and, having done this, he shows in the body of his work how the Frenches were in France the neighbors of the Bruces and Valoines in the district of the Cotentin in Normandy. Mr. French is a careful and laborious writer, and his book is an example of the value of collecting all scraps of information when compiling a family history. We have little doubt that we shall see further results of his labors, and that they will prove both interesting and valuable.

"THE GENEALOGIST" OF ENGLAND.

As the author of the "Index Armorial," Mr. Weld French is already well known as an authority on the name of French with its numerous variations. In this work he deals with the surnames of Francus, Franceis, and French in Scotland, and has, as he intimates in the Preface, obtained his evidence from the records in the Register House in Edinburgh. The volume is divided into two parts, the first being a collection of notes on the name, the second is devoted entirely to a history of the lairds of Thornydikes. As an example of the variation in the spelling of the surname, we notice in the short account of the Frenchs of Linlithgow, one of whom was the second Master Mason of Scotland in 1535, that it occurs as France, Franche, Frans, and Frensche. The earliest instances of the appearance of the surname in Scotland are to be found in monastic records, and are, of course, chiefly in a Latinized form, such as Francus, Franciscus, and Francigena, as with other names in ancient charters. There is so much valuable and hitherto unpublished information in the volume that it is a great pity an index has not been given, especially to the history of the Thornydikes' family. The portion of the book relating to that family will undoubtedly be found the most useful and interesting to the genealogist; and, from the evidences adduced, it is clear how trustworthy all Mr. Weld French's work is likely to prove.

"SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES."

This is not an every-day genealogical work, inasmuch as the author brings to it an unusual amount of scholarship and historical knowledge. In a brief but valuable preface Mr. French discusses the philology of the name, and the chronology of its various forms and orthographical changes as it spread itself over the civilized world. Coming to Scotland, every page gives proof of thorough research and minute investigation, the antique basis being largely the archives of the religious houses both of Scotland and the Continent. In all this the author has gone about his work as an expert. Among the various

brief memorials of the bearers of the patronymic, Mr. French (p. 45) refers to Thomas Franche, Master Mason to the Bishop of Aberdeen for building the Bridge of Dee, and whose eldest son, "who died in 1530, was buried in Aberdeen Cathedral, where is found his epitaph." It may interest the author if we transcribe the epitaph, which is now much worn:—

" . . . r lylis tomas ye
son of tomas fra-
nch master maco . . . "

In the second part of the book the author gives an interesting account of the Thornydyke branch of the family, dating from the time of Bruce, in the middle of the fourteenth to the middle of the seventeenth century. As became a Border family, the Frenches took an active part in many a fray, and, withal, maintained a dignified position. Several representatives of the family held crown appointments. If anything, the author has somewhat restrained himself in this department, as there can be little doubt that the charter-chest would yield a good deal of interest without the purely genealogical. The book is, however, strictly reliable, and a model of a family record; and its get-up is well worth the thanks gracefully paid to the printer, *inter alia*, by the author in his preface. An index would have been a useful adjunct.

"THE SCOTSMAN" OF EDINBURGH.

Genealogy is not one of the despised sciences in New England, and in Boston they are far from smiling at the claims of long descent. Proof of this is furnished in the privately printed volume on "The Frenches of Scotland," by Mr. A. D. Weld French. It prosecutes with much industry a side-path in historical research, which, besides its special personal interest to the author, has local bearings which will be appreciated by genealogists and antiquaries in this country, and particularly by those who have looked into the family archives of the Merse. The volume consists of two parts, of which the first contains notes gathered from published and unpublished records in France, England, and Scotland, on the occurrence of the surnames of Francus, Franceis, French, and their congeners; while the second part is an account of the old family of the Frenches of Thornydykes, in Berwickshire, which came to an end in the person of the tenth laird early in the seventeenth century. The notices on the mentions of the surname are necessarily fragmentary, and but slightly connected; but they are suggestive, as in the case of so many other Norman families which acquired land and power in the south of Scotland, of an origin in the Cotentin district of Normandy, and of an early association with the Bruces. Afterwards the Frenches seem to have been allies or vassals of the successive ruling houses on the Eastern Marches, Dunbars, Gordons, and Homes, and as lairds of Thornydykes, in Berwickshire, and of Pitcox, in East Lothian, to have played a stirring, if subsidiary, part in the Border and family troubles of three centuries.

"THE DUNDEE ADVERTISER."

"Notes on the Surname of Franceis and French in Scotland," by A. D. Weld French, is a volume belonging to a class of literature that is of comparatively recent introduction. It is not strictly a genealogical account of the family of Franceis or French, but rather contains memoranda as to the charters and documents wherein the name is to be found. He is of opinion that the family came to this country from the Cotentin of Normandy, and he has found the name associated with that of Robert de Brus so early as 1097. As the name of Franceis is frequently found on charters connected with the Bruces of Annandale, he thinks it probable that the family had settled in that district early in the twelfth century. The only branch that he has followed up consecutively is that of French of Thornydykes, in Berwickshire; and the genealogical information he has brought together will be of great service to members of the family who desire to make out a pedigree. Mr. French has explored very thoroughly all the places where it was likely that he would find traces of any of the French family under the numerous variations of the name. Though this book is primarily of interest to bearers of his own name, Mr. French's method may be taken as an excellent model for similar works.

THE "DAILY FREE PRESS" OF ABERDEEN.

Mr. Weld French, of Boston, has bestowed much labor on the production of a monograph on the early history of the surname French (in its various forms) in Scotland. For this purpose he has ransacked the abbey records, the principal antiquarian authorities, and published and unpublished public documents. This name goes back in Scotland to the days of its Anglo-Norman colonization under David I. The first actual example of it which Mr. Weld French has lit upon occurs in connection with "the second Robert de Brus, who obtained possessions in Scotland, the son of one of the companions of William the Conqueror"; and the name Brus, and that which was afterwards anglicized as French, were, prior to this time, associated in the Cotentin in Normandy. As bearing on this latter point, quotation is made from several charters of the Abbey of St. Sauveur-le-Vicomte, "so well endowed by the Bruces," as also of other abbeys of the Cotentin. The original Robert Fraunceys, or one of his sons, seems not unlikely to have been a settler with Bruce in Annandale; and certainly no long time elapsed till the Fraunceys bore a feudal relation to the Bruce lords of that district. Before Bannockburn William le Fraunceys appears as a knight of the Earl of March; and after that battle Edward II. took shelter in Dunbar Castle, where "William Fraunceys" rendered him service, which was rewarded with an annuity. Several Fraunceys, including Sir William, swore fealty to Edward I. in 1296; and in this year Simon de Fraunceys, tenant of John Comyn of Badenoch, had lands in Roxburgh restored to him. Adam French was one of the Scottish

patriots pardoned by Edward III. at Berwick in 1335. The family had possessions at Ayton, in Berwickshire, and in Linlithgow. An inscription, formerly in the north aisle of the Church of Linlithgow, bore: "Heir lyes Ihon Franch, fadder to Tomas, master mason of Brig of Dee. Obiit Anno Domini MCCCCLXXXIX." Thomas had been appointed master mason by King James V. at Kelso in 1535. Prior to this he had been master mason to the Bishop of Aberdeen for building the bridge of Dee. While he was resident in Aberdeen, in 1530, his son Thomas died, and was buried in the cathedral. As king's mason, he executed works at the palaces of Linlithgow and Falkland; and he appears to have died in 1551. John French, probably his son, seems to have succeeded to his functions in connection with the royal residences. George French held land in or near Aberdeen in 1474-75; and a George French is mentioned with Thomas and his sons, John and Robert, in the account of work done at Falkland in 1538-39. About half the volume is occupied with the Frenches who were lairds of Thorndykes, in Berwickshire, from the fourteenth to the seventeenth century,—a family that played a not unimportant part in their own district, and whose ramifications spread far and wide.

"BOSTON EVENING TRANSCRIPT."

THE FRENCHES OF SCOTLAND.

The first work of the author of this volume that attracted attention was his "Index Armorial." His previous volume on the Williams Armory, published several years since, still remains the chief authority on their coats-of-arms.

The author of the *Fenland Notes and Queries* of England, commenting on the "Index Armorial," states that "we have referred to several works on heraldry, and in no instance have we found any entry about these names that has been omitted." The charge by one writer that the title was a misnomer, owing to the historical importance of its preface, is equally applicable to the present volume; for, disguised under its title, we find the translations of several unpublished original charters and records, which throw additional light on some of the ancient customs and manners of Scotland and Normandy. The preface of this work on the origin of the surnames is interesting, and a similar effort in regard to other names would result in a much-needed modern work on the subject. In the body of this volume we find some early prototypes of the surnames of the Baliols, Blacks, Bovilles, Bruces, Stuarts, Viponts, Whites, etc. It is noticeable that several of the surname of French held positions very close to the persons of several of the Scottish sovereigns of the Stuart line. Thomas Franche was a marshal of the royal household in the reign of King James IV.; another Thomas, the second master mason of the kingdom of Scotland, was particularly identified in the building of the royal palaces of King James V.; while the more numerous of these appointments appear during the reign of King James VI. Soon after his coronation Hue French was made "controller of his majesty's horse." Later

another of the name appears as the "only keeper of his majesty's outer chamber door," while we find a Royal Palefrenier among the latter appointments of this king. Many of this surname were identified with the clergy. One of these, in the reign of the last-named sovereign, was appointed as a Protestant ecclesiastical commissioner for the shire of Berwick. Setting aside the general historical importance of these last two volumes, which are also very valuable additions to the bibliography of the surname of French, for a long time left vacant, they both show, on the part of the author, great industry, continuous research, and many years of study.

"WILTSHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES."

We can best express our opinion of this book by saying that it contains just the kind of genealogical matter that *Wiltshire Notes and Queries* is designed to promulgate. Some time ago Mr. French published a volume, entitled the "Index Armorial," in which he summed up most sufficiently and exhaustively the origin and history of the French family in France and Great Britain. The first part of the present volume is a compendium of ancient deeds and documents supplying the evidence for his former assertions so far as Scotland is concerned. The second part is a history of that particular branch of the French family who enjoyed the title of "The Laird of Thorndike." Altogether, the volume does credit to the indefatigability and zeal of the author, and is one of the most scientific collections of family history which we have yet come across.

"NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER."

The writer of this volume is already well and favorably known in Great Britain and this country as the author of the "Index Armorial." His first work, however, on armory was on the coats-of-arms of the surname of Williams. The present title does not fully indicate its antiquarian and historical importance, for this volume goes far back to the very foundation stones of history. Much of the earliest information has been gathered from the ancient abbey archives in England, Scotland, and Normandy. And, although there are a few gaps in the historical records, yet, practically, this original search begins at the very end of the eleventh century, and continues down to the dawn of the seventeenth century, a period of more than five hundred years. No one but the historical and genealogical author can fully realize the amount of work, perseverance, and study necessary to have completed this volume. Dissecting the work, we classify it under the following four headings:—

First.—Surnames, on which subject the preface is particularly interesting. Nor does the interest fail on this theme in the body of these records. As an illustration, we cite an instance as found in the family of Ayton, where, start-

ing with Francus, we have Franciscus, Franceis, Franceys, Francys, Frauncays, Frances, Fraunches, and finally Franche.

Second.—Historically. The translations of the ancient unpublished Norman charters specially indicate the then prevailing custom of individual donation to the abbeys, the existing system of land tenure, historic and genealogical information, as well as early prototypes of some French and Anglo-Norman surnames. Similar illustrations by charters are given for Scotland. Many historical events crop out in different parts of this work in connection with the surnames in Scotland, of which the following is a partial synopsis:—

In the year 1296 roll of submission of King John Baliol to his liege lord King Edward I. of England.

Arrangements in 1302 for the defence of Kirkintilloch Castle.

Taking of Edinburgh Castle from the English in 1312-13.

King Edward II.'s flight in 1314 after the battle of Bannockburn.

Third.—General notes on the surname. Beginning at the end of the eleventh century, we find "Robertus ffranceys, one of the few recorded knights of the 2d Robert de Brus in English history." The earlier Norman charters recorded give the Latin form of the surname. They are all identified with the Valognes district of the Cotentin, the Normandy home of the Bruces, in which locality are many records of the surname of Franceis, which at a later period appears in the Annandale of Scotland as feudatories of the Bruces. Besides the last-named feudality there are many associations of the name in connection with the old Earls of Dunbar, even before the recorded charters of the Frenches under these earls.

There are indications that William Franceis, under the different orthographical changes of this surname, so often found as a witness to the abbey charters as well as those of the Bruces, may have been the same personage. In continuation we find much genealogical information about the Franceis of Ayton and Linlithgow, the latter family being specially distinguished as having furnished the second master mason to the crown of Scotland.

Fourth.—Lairds of Thornydykes, which comprises part second of this work, is the unpublished records of that family for more than two hundred years, beginning with the latter part of the fourteenth century and continued to the opening of the seventeenth century. This was during the reigns of Kings Robert III., the five Jameses, Queen Mary, and ending with the reign of King James VI. of Scotland, who became in 1603 the first Scotch king of England. This period comprises many interesting epochs in Scotch history, including the Reformation. Several members of the family of French of Thornydykes held positions immediately under the last-named sovereign.

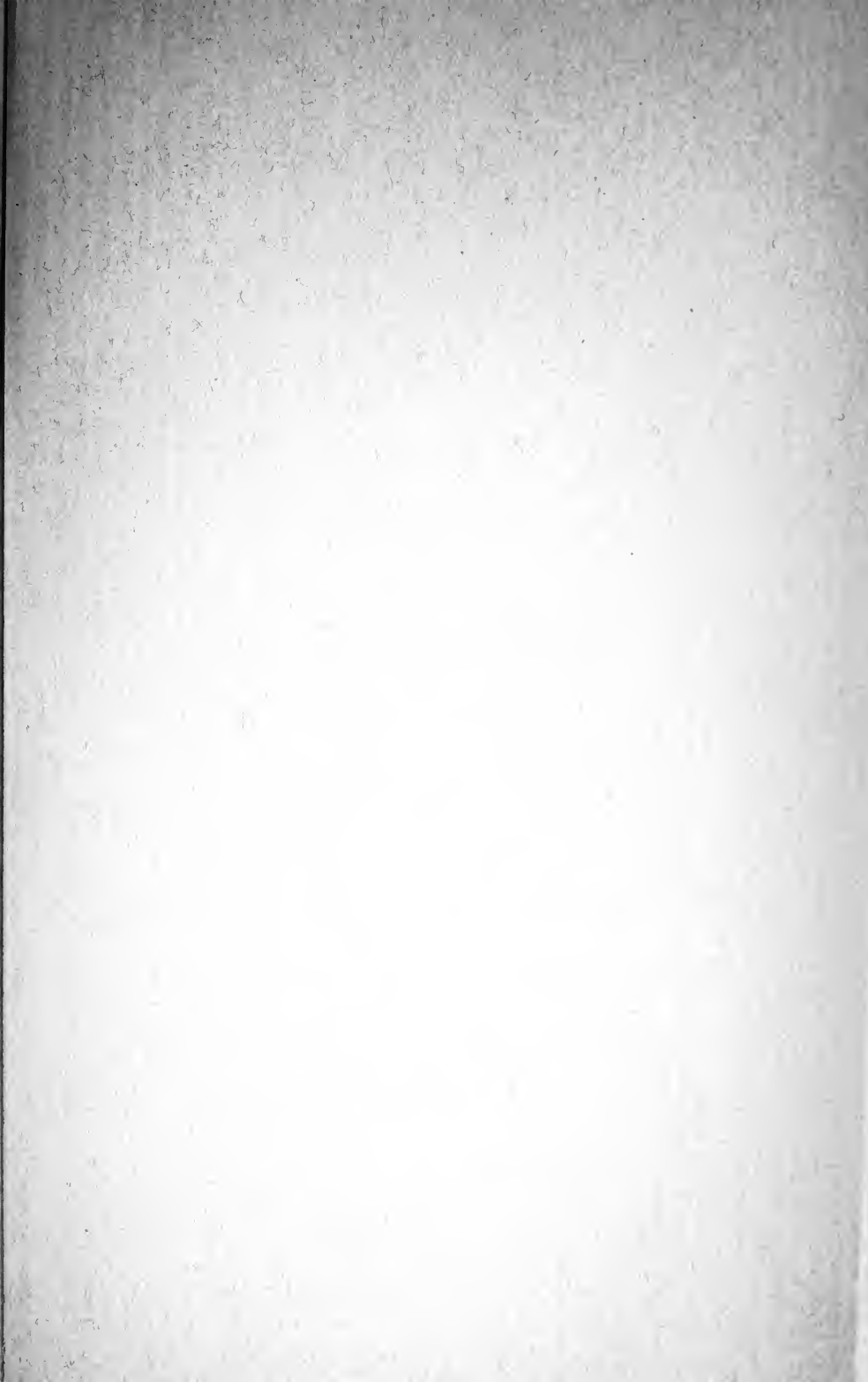
Although this work is privately printed and limited to the small edition of three hundred copies, this disadvantage to the general public is somewhat overcome from the fact that Mr. French has donated copies to the leading historical, genealogical, and free libraries of our country.

"HAMPSHIRE OBSERVER."

The name of French is a well-known one in Hampshire, but whether the Hampshire Frenches are connected with the lairds of Thornydykes and their Scottish offshoots it would take a genealogist to decide. If such connection there be, the owners of the name should feel a peculiar interest in a well got-up volume, privately printed, which hails from across the Atlantic, "Notes on the Surnames of Francus, Franceis, French, etc., in Scotland, with an Account of the Frenches of Thornydykes," by Mr. A. D. Weld French, F.S.A. Scot., an authority on genealogy and cognate subjects. In any case the zeal and research which Mr. Weld French displays must command the admiration and respect of antiquaries, and the volume forms a valuable and exhaustive chapter of family history. It is pleasant also to know that dwellers under the stars and stripes feel so keen an interest in their British kin; and we could wish that the queries of another American citizen, *viz* the Bachiler family, addressed to our own readers, had found in our county an informant as learned in Hampshire Bachilers as Mr. Weld French, of Boston, is concerning the Scottish Frenches.









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French, Aaron Davis Weld
County records of the
surnames of Francus, Franceis,
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