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DEVONSHIRE PARISHES.

VOLUME II.



DEVONSHIRE PARISHES,

OR THE

ANTIQUITIES, HERALDRY AND FAMILY HISTORY

OF TWENTY-EIGHT PARISHES

IN THE ARCHDEACONRY OF TOTNES.

BY

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"NOTES ON BIDEFORD AND THE HOUSE OF GRANVILLE," "PRACTICAL HERALDRY,"

ETC., ETC.

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CONTENTS OF VOL. II.

CHAPTER XIV. PART IV.

	PAGES.
History of DARTMOUTH continued—Parish Churches—Description of Townstall Church—Boone Memorials, &c.—Ancient Deeds—St. Saviour's Chapel of the Holy Trinity—The Rood Screen—Brasses of Hawley and Staplehill—Heraldry—St. Petrock's—Old Houses at Dartmouth—Fosse Street—The Butter Walk—The Britannia and Hindostan Training Ships—The Prince of Wales and his Royal Sons—Charities of Dartmouth ... ..	1—30

CHAPTER XV.

The Parish of BROAD-HEMPSTON—Its Early Owners—The Cantilupes—West, Lord Delawarr—English Colonization—Chesapeake Bay and James's Town Serjeant Rowe—More about the Rowe Family—The Parish Church, its Description—Ancient Alms-house—Patronage of the Vicarage—Gifts to the poor—The Petre Arms ... ..	31—54
--	-------

CHAPTER XVI. PARTS I, II.

The Parish of LITTLE-HEMPSTON—Roger Arundell—The Duke of Norfolk—Stretch of Pinhoe and other owners of the Soil—The Lords Broke—The Knolles family—Bogan of Gatcombe—The Parish Church—Ancient Tomb and Glass therein—The old Rectory, a Priest's house of Chaucer's time ... ..	55—84
--	-------

CHAPTER XVII. PARTS I, II, III.

The Parish of WOLBOROUGH—Various spellings of the name—Folkland and Bocland—The descent of the Manor—Lord William Briwere—He bestowed	
---	--

it on Tor Abbey, Newton Abbot—Its origin—Dissolution of Abbeys—Gaverocke buys Wolborough—Sir Richard Reynell—Reynell of Ogwell—Ford House—Visit of Charles I.—Sir William Waller—The Courtenays of Powderham—The Earls of Devon—Wolborough Church—Norman Font—Ancient Screen described—Ancient Tomb of Balcull in S. Aisle—Reynell Monument—Old Glass—Armorial—Curates of Wolborough—The Chapel of St. Leonard—William of Orange visits Newton ... 85—143

## CHAPTER XVIII. PARTS I, II.

The Parish of HENNOCK—Baldwin de Brion—The Lords of the Manor—Flode—The Chaplain of Beydon—Hennock Church—Armorial—Ancient Tiles and Glass—Perpendicular Screen—Inscriptions and Arms ... 144—161

## CHAPTER XIX. PARTS I, II.

The Parish of NORTH BOVEY—Two Manors written "Bovi"—William Pipard—The Lords L'Isle—The Stout Earl of Shrewsbury—The family of Basset—Sir Arthur Plantagenet—Sir George Smith of Maydeworthy—George Monk, Duke of Albemarle—His History—Origin of his name—Beauchamp of Elmley—Queen Catherine Parr and Lord Latimer—Edward Courtenay, Earl of Devon—Slight Queen Mary—Loves the Princess Elizabeth—Dies at Padua—Note on the Courtenay Earldoms—North Bovey Church—Old Crosses in the Parish ... 162—182

## CHAPTER XX. PARTS I, II.

The Parish of LUSTLEIGH—Anciently written "Lege"—Lords of the Manor—Wadham of Edge—Nicholas Wadham of Lustleigh—He founds Wadham College, Oxford—Dorothy Wadham—Her Charter of Foundation—Barn House and Barne Court—Lustleigh Cleave—Peck-Pits—Terrific Thunder storm—Lustleigh Church—Early English Windows—Easter Sepulchre—Norman Font—Fine Screen—Ancient Tombs—Inscribed Stone—The Bishop's Stone—Rev. William Davy ... 183—194

## CHAPTER XXI. PARTS I, II.

- The Parish of DENBURY—The Danes—Archbishop Aldret—He Crowns William the Conqueror—The Reynells own the Manor—Their well known Arms—The family of Froude—The Parish Church—Circular Font—The Parish lands ... 195—206

## CHAPTER XXII. PARTS I, II.

- The Parish of SOUTH BRENT—Belonged to Buckfast Abbey—Passed to Petre at the dissolution—Philip Phrear—Boundaries between Dartmoor and Brent Moor—Why Crosses were used for bond marks—Sir William Petre's, Monument at Ingarston—The Hillions of Ashton—Brent Church—Norman Font—Dr. Gandy's troubles—Parish Lands ... 207—216

## CHAPTER XXIII. PARTS I, II.

- The Parish of HARFORD—Ivy Bridge—Robert of Mortaine—Williams, Speaker of the House of Commons—The Manor of Hall—The Chudleighs—Sarah Chudleigh, Duchess of Kingston—Her remarkable career—Harford Church—The Rectory House—John Prideaux, Bishop of Worcester 217—231

## CHAPTER XXIV. PARTS I, II, III.

- The Parish of SHAUGH—Its picturesque situation—The Barony of Plympton—The Novants—The Slannings—Inscription to Mrs. Mabbot of Truelove—Pedigree of Martin, Barons of Barnstaple—Their relationship to St. Patrick—The Church of St. Edward of Shaugh—Its unique Font Cover described—Memorial to Carrington the Poet—The Parish Church ... 232—250

## CHAPTER XXV. PARTS I, II.

- Parish of KINGSTEIGNTON—Ancient demesne of the Crown—The Burdons of Ware—Remarks on their Armorial—The Clifford family, "This made Roger,"—Examination of the Vault at Skipton—Opening of the Clifford Coffins—Their contents described—Clifford of Chudleigh—Yarde of Kingsteignton—Robert Hurst—Kingsteignton Church—Chained books there—Annual Revel at Whitsuntide—Curious Custom observed then—Remarks thereupon 251—27

## CHAPTER XXVI. PARTS I, II.

- The Parish of HIGHWEEK with NEWTON BUSHEL—Recent efforts at Identification, probably incorrect—Lucas the Butler—The Bushels—Newton Bushel—The Yarde Family—Interesting Shield of Arms in Clist Honiton Church—Bradley House—Its Domestic Chapel—Yarde of Traysbeare—Newton Bushel Chapel—Manor of Moore and Perry—Highweek Church—When erected—Recently separated from Kingsteignton, upon which it was a dependent Chapelry—Gilberd's Alms House ... 276—306

## CHAPTER XXVII. PARTS I, II, III.

- The Parish of TOR-MOHUN, including the modern Town of Torquay—Anciently called Torre and Tor-Brewer—The Foundation of Tor Abbey—Lord William Briwere—The Mohun Family—Death of Reginald de Mohun at Tor—John de Mohun gives Tor Manor to the Abbot—The Abbot surrenders to the King—The Ridgways'—Earls of Londonderry—The rise and progress of the Family of Palk—Sir Robert Palk, Bart.—His Life and Adventures—Purchases the Manor of Tor—Sir Lawrence V. Palk—First Lord Haldon—His improvements of Torquay—Tor Abbey—The Cary Family—Their Pedigree—Queen Ann Boleyn—Sir Edward Cary—His misfortunes—Ancient votive Chapel of St. Michael—Cockington—Manor and Church—The Cockington Family—Sir Henry Cary of Cockington—Roger Mallock—Mayor of Exeter—His House there—The Mallocks of Cockington ... 307—346

## CHAPTER XXVIII. PARTS I, II, III.

- The Parish of ST. MARY CHURCH—Its Manors described—The Fords of Ashburton and Bagtor—Their Arms—The Manor of Ilsham—Note on the Bartlett Family—Shiphay—The Kitsons of Devon, not descended from Sir Thomas Kitson of Hengrave Hall—Babbacombe Barton—The Parish of Coffinswell—The Coffins of Coffinswell and Portledge—Coffinswell Church and Glebe—The Parish of Kingskerswell—Avis de Dol—Recumbent effigies in the Parish Church—Concluding note on the Courtenay label ... 355—376

## CHAPTER XIV.—PART IV.

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### HISTORY OF DARTMOUTH.—THE PARISH CHURCHES.

There are four Churches in this town and of these Townstall, will take precedence as being the Parish Church of Dartmouth proper. The second, known as St. Saviour's was dedicated in the fourteenth century. St. Petrock's, near the castle was a daughter church to Stoke Fleming; and the modern chapel of S. Barnabas is dependent upon the latter.

Townstall Church is situated some little distance from the centre of Dartmouth and occupies a commanding position at the summit of a high hill from which it dominates both the town and harbour. On this account it was naturally utilized, when the place was besieged, and its walls still bear evidence of the rough treatment they then experienced. The structure consists of Chancel, nave separated from a north aisle by an arcade of three bays of Early Fourteenth Century date, a deep south transept, and a shallow transeptal projection on the opposite side, a south porch and a western tower containing five bells.

The priests' door remains in its proper position in the Chancel. There is a handsome trefoiled piscina with shelf, and an oval hagioscope from the aisle with the zigzag or chevron moulding round it, and also an ancient image bracket. I remarked some old stained glass, representing the Annunciation, in the lights of the square Perpendicular window on the south side of the Chancel with the legend, "Ave gratia plena Domina," and there is also a fine third Pointed window of four lights in the north transept.

The octagonal bowl of the font, has panels ornamented with the cross flory, which I found nearly obliterated with whitewash. It is supported upon a circular stem. In the south transept may be seen a sepulchral memorial without inscription, which is generally supposed to mark the grave of Simon Rede the last Abbot of Tor, who retired to this vicarage after the suppression of his abbey. The figure has the hands joined in prayer. Several windows have been blocked up from time to time probably to save the expense of renewing them, but the western one is a good example of Perpendicular work. The tower, which is built of red sand-stone has an octagonal stair turret on the south side; it is buttressed at the angles and terminates with crocketed pinnacles. The doorway has Early English characteristics. The jambs of the entrance from the porch are also of red sand-stone.

It will be seen from this description that there are many remains of an earlier church than the present one. Extensive repairs must have been effected here from time to time as was the case generally with our Devon-

shire Churches, which were most of them either rebuilt, or so much altered as to become unrecognizable during the fifteenth century. I fancy that the tomb attributed to Abbot Rede was originally outside the church (it still protrudes in the churchyard), and that it became partially enclosed when the south transept was erected, which was manifestly at a later period than other existing portions of the structure.

In the taxation of Pope Nicholas, anno 1288, Townstall Church was valued at £10 per annum.

In the “Valor Ecclesiasticus,” we read :—

“Townstall eum capella ibidem in decanatu et diocesi predictis.

“Rectoria ibidem valet per annum cum vii xiiis iii*d*, pro decima garbarum, et xviii viii*d* pro lana et agnis, et £10 pro decima personali; et pro omnibus aliis decimis et oblacionibus dicte rectorie pertinentibus £12 10s. Inde solutum vicario ibidem et successoribus suis pro uno annuali pencione £13 6s. 8d.

“Et remanet clare £16 13s. 8d.”

It is shown by the Chantry Roll, that there was a “Stipendarye” in this church. Yearly value of the lands and possessions £3 6s. 8d. The high altar here was dedicated, May 15th, 1318, probably after extensive repairs and additions to the fabric generally, of which evidence remains.

Dr. Oliver says that, prior to the suppression of Abbeys, “this church was usually served by one of the community from Tor,” to whom the advowson belonged. The statement in the *Valor*, as to the provision of an annual pension of £13 6s. 8d. *for the Vicar and his successors*,

would almost tend to discredit this statement were it not explicable by the fact that Abbot Rede held the Vicarage, to which he was regularly instituted, July 7th, 1531, nine years subsequently to his election to the Abbey. After the dissolution of his fraternity he seems to have resided here entirely. Previously to the surrender he had wisely taken the precaution to lease the tithes great and small, to William Adams of Townstall for ten years, under the yearly rent to the Abbey of £11 13s. 4d., and to the Vicar of £13 6s. 8d., which coincides with the sum mentioned in the *Valor*. He must have anticipated the evil times that were coming upon him for some years and thus secured a retreat for his old age. His will dated September 23rd, 1554, was proved March 15th, 1556, and has been printed in the "Monasticon" of the Diocese. In it he describes himself as "Vicar of Townstall," and *desires to be buried within the Church of Stoke Fleming*, to which he bequeaths *xxd.* To Townstall Church he leaves 3s. 4d. He gives to John Predyaux and Sir Thomas Ffrynd, Priest, "the £33 6s. 8d." which *Nicholas Adams* of Dartmouth had received for him, on account of his pension, from Mr. Mylleworth; and the residue to his servant John flurseman, who is Executor. Sir Thomas Ffrynd was Rector of Stoke Fleming; his will dated September 8th, 1557, was proved September 4th, 1558.

John Flavel, B.A., was ejected from this church for Nonconformity in 1662. It has been said of him that he was greatly beloved by members of his congregation, who flocked to hear him preach in the woods and fields after his ejection. It has been also stated that he refused all offers of composition, and that when persecu-



tion became very severe he went to London, and that ten years later he took advantage of the Declaration of Indulgence and returned to Dartmouth, where he died in 1691, æt. 64. He is believed to have been the author of "A Prayer or Treatise of God's Mighty Power, and Protection of his Church and People:" London, 1642; of "Husbandry Spiritualized:" London, 1669; and probably of an octavo tract entitled "A Saint Indeed:" London, 1670.

Wood<sup>1</sup> says of him, that "he occurs Minister of Dartmouth in Devon, 1672, and several years after." Was he a son of Dr. John Flavell, Rector of Talaton, whose son Thomas was Vicar of Mullian, and collated to a Prebendal Stall in our Cathedral, 18th January, 1660-1, *vice* Timothy Shute?<sup>2</sup> He was of Trinity Coll., Oxford and died 1682, æt. 77.

The church plate consists of a silver paten, two chalices and an alms dish, the last given by the Rev. J. Charter in 1821. One of the chalices with its cover is ancient; the other with the paten is inscribed with the Holdsworth arms.

There are memorials here, of Thomas Boone, 1679 with arms of Boone and Upton; of Mr. Roope, who died at Bilboa, 1667; and of Miss M. Roope, 1739; and a curious figure inlaid in white marble with arms carved over the head and a quaint inscription:—

"Here lyeth buried the body of Robert Holland, who departed this life the 16th Nov. 1611. Beinge of the age of 54 years, 5 months & odd dayes.

<sup>1</sup> Athenæ Oxon, i, 422. Fasti 202, Ib.

<sup>2</sup> Le Neve.

Here lies a breathless body and doth show  
 What man is when God claims what man doth owe  
 His soul a guest, his bodye but a trouble  
 His tyme an instant & his breath a bubble."  
 "Come Lord Jesus, Come quickly —"

When I visited this Church some years since, I was told that it was dedicated to St. Clement. It is also, so stated by Ecton, "Thesaurus rerum Ecclesiasticarum," and likewise in the lists of those ejected for Nonconformity in 1662, preserved at the Record Office where John Flavel is described as of "*St. Clement's, Dartmouth.*" Dr. Oliver, however, says that "Ecton was mistaken," and that the church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene; and thus it now appears in his list of Dedications, in the Calendar of the Diocese, and elsewhere.

The Registers of Births, Marriages, and Burials commence in 1653 and are contained in one book.

In the Tor Abbey Cartulary, now at the Record Office, are several deeds and instruments relating to Townstall Church.

1. Deed of Wm. Fitz-Stephen, concerning Townstall Church in which there is mention of his wife Isabella.
2. Confirmation of Wm., Bishop of Exeter. (William Brewer, 1224).
3. Another Confirmation by the same Prelate.
4. Another, by Richard, Bishop of Exeter. (Richard Blondy, 1245).
5. Agreement between Abbot and Convent of Torre and Gilbert Fitz-Stephen of the Chantry of the Chapel of Norton, dated 1251.

6. Deed of Richard Fitz-Stephen, concerning certain small plots of land at Townstall, 13 Ed. I, 1284.
7. By the same, concerning two acres and a half of land lying in the Manor of Norton, 16 Ed. I, 1287.
8. Deed of Gilbert, son of Richard Fitz-Stephen, concerning the advowson of Townstall Church, anno 1294.
9. Agreement between Abbot and Convent of Torre and Parish of Townstall, anno 1372.
10. Agreement between the Mayor of Dartmouth and the Abbot of Torre. Recites the obligation of the Abbot, John de Berkedon, to find a Chaplain for the new Chapel of Clifton, Dartmouth.
11. Deed of Edmund, Bishop of Exeter. Taxation at 20 marks of the Vicarage of Townstall. (Edmund Stafford, 1395-1419).

## ST. SAVOUR'S CHURCH.

The Chapel of the Holy Trinity, Dartmouth, commonly called St. Saviour's Church, is appendant to Townstall, and from the peculiar character and richness of its decorations, it is one of the most interesting churches in this county. It comprehends chancel, nave, separated from the north and south aisles by five arches, north and south transepts, a south porch, and a western tower, containing eight bells. On either side of the chancel are doors leading to the rood stairs, which are of stone, and are enclosed in external octagonal turrets. The projection of the rood loft remains, and surmounts both sides

of the elegant Perpendicular screen; it is carved with foliage, vine leaves and grapes, has a double crocketed cornice and the groining beneath it exhibits exquisite fan tracery, with handsome bosses at the intersections. The screen itself is covered with chromatic decoration and gilding; on the lower panels may be seen the well-known figure of St. Anne, pointing to the words, "Radix Jesse floruit." St. Bartholomew, with knife, St. Matthew with the Carpenter's Square, St. Philip with the Cross, St. Jude with the Club, St. Andrew, S. Thomas, St. Matthias, and St. John with the Chalice, together with several others, amongst them, if my memory serves me the four Doctors of the Western Church, St. Jerome, St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, and St. Gregory the Great. There are trefoiled sedilia and a piscina remaining at the side of the altar. The table is supported by carved and painted figures of the four Evangelists, and over it is Brockedon's great picture, "Our Lord raising the Widow's Son," which gained the prize of one hundred guineas at the British Institution. The eastern window was removed in 1617. The ancient priests' door on the south side has been blocked up; what is now the vestry door, on the north side originally led to the crypt, which still extends underneath the chancel to which entrance is now afforded by a modern doorway. The pulpit is of stone, painted to correspond with the screen, it is carved and has tabernacled recesses, which at one time contained figures of Saints, and which have been since filled with the following devices in wood, coloured and gilt:—

1. A lion passant gd. imperially crowned surmounted by a royal crown, with circlet of crosses patecé, fleur-de-lys, and strawberry leaves.

2. A rose, stalked and leaved surmounted by a royal crown, encircled as above.
3. The thistle, similarly surrounded.
4. Fleur-de-lis, similarly surrounded.
5. The harp, similarly surrounded.
6. The portcullis, similarly surrounded.
7. The letters C.R. within a chaplet.

These additions were probably made in an excess of loyalty, during the visit of King Charles II, who spent a week in the town in 1671.

An image bracket still remains in the south transept. The font is plain and octagonal. The arcading of the first three bays on the north side of the church, is supported by clustered columns whilst in the mouldings of the circular arches they support I noticed Early English flowers and heads. Two of the corresponding piers on the south side are similar to these, but although the arch of the third bay is still circular, the mouldings are of a later period. Westward of these, the last two openings on the north, are beneath pointed arches standing upon short thick engaged piers. Opposite, the arches are also pointed but the supporting columns are octagonal. The tower is square and embattled and has four crocketed pinnacles. The south porch is also embattled and has over it the arms of the Borough of Dartmouth (the work of one Bowden, Aug. 1620, who was paid 10s. by the Corporation). The door itself is very remarkable, and has been engraved in the first volume of the Devonshire portion of the "Magna Britannia." It is covered over with a curious ornament in wrought iron representing heraldic lions (or lions of England) impaled on a tree,

which with its roots and branches extends all over the wood work. There are several interesting sepulchral memorials in this church. That to the memory of Sir John Hawley, the founder of the chancel is a large brass, with three figures under a highly ornamented triple canopy. The knight is attired in acutely pointed bascinet and camail hauberk and gussets of interlaced chain mail. The edge of the skirt of the hauberk is formed of small bunches of rings, his brassarts and vambraces are ornamented with an invected pattern and his gauntlets are armed with gadlings. Instead of a jupon, he has taces with a fringed border. His bawdric, to which his sword, and anelace are attached, is adorned with flowers and buckles. He has cuisses, genoulières, with gussets of mail behind, and jambs to protect his legs. His feet are protected by sollerets, and rest on a lion. His left hand grasps his bawdric, his right holds that of one of his wives, who with their faces turned towards their husband, have their hair plaited on both sides, with jewelled fillets and small kerchief. They wear kirtles, and over them, sideless gowns with rosettes in front. Two dogs with bell collars lie at their feet. The inscription is as follows :—

✠ “*Hic jacet venerabilis vir Joh'es Hawley istius cancele fundator qui obiit MCCCmo die decembris anno d'ni M—— | (1437) dextra jacet ux eius prima uo'ie Joh'na | que obiit MDo die Julii anno d'ni Millo CCCmo nonagesimo q'ro. in parte (sinistra) | Alicia que obiit vii die Januar anno d'ni Millo CCCmo tercio quor animabus propicietur Deus Am——.*”

Another brass, without any inscription, is described by Dr. Oliver, “*Ecclesiastical Antiquities,*” i, 217, as “a

female figure bespeaking considerable antiquity, sixteen inches long. On the head is a kind of *Norman cap* falling down to the shoulders behind—a brace over each shoulder unites itself and is carried in a point as low as the waist; the hands are raised in the attitude of prayer and are covered with gloves extending to the elbows.” The lady is dressed in a long gown, with girdle, and tight body sleeves, fur cuffs and a fur tippet and has the “wire” head dress. The date is the latter end of the fifteenth century, about 1470.

There is still another brass, with the figure of an aged man with short hair, a ruff and close gown edged with fur; over his head are three shields of arms.

1st Shield, quarterly 1st and 4th—a chevron—(Staplehill); 2nd and 3rd — three roaches haur. in pale — (Muschamp).

2nd. — three butterflies volant (Muschamp).

3rd. — on a bend, 3 horse shoes — (Ferrers).

Underneath is the following inscription—

“Gilbart Staplehill, once Maior  
Behold thyself by mee  
I was as thou art now  
And thou in tyme shalt be  
Even dust as I am now,  
So doth this figure paynt to thee  
The forme and state of eache degree.

The Church plate of St. Saviour’s consists of two silver gilt flagons of 86 ozs.; two chalices, 54½ ozs.; one paten, 18 ozs., the gift of William Hayne, and inscribed with his arms. There is also an Apostle spoon.

The Registers of Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, commence alike in 1658.

Bishop Stafford, October 23rd, 1415, granted a license to remove from this church the body of Sir John Dabryncourt, to the Norbertine Church of Dale, co. Derby.

In Bishop Brantingham's "Register," vol. i, fol. 30 (the original deed is at the Record Office), is a copy of a deed, quoted by Dr. Oliver, and dated Tor Abbey Chapter House, October 20th, 1372, by which the Abbot binds himself and his successors to provide for the daily services in the *new Chapel of the Holy Trinity* at Dartmouth, dedicated October 13th in this year. Its cemetery was consecrated on the Thursday following, and the whole of the land appropriated to this chapel, appears to have been about an acre. Should divine services ever be omitted through the fault of the Abbot, then the Rectorial Tithes of Townstall, were to be sequestered until one hundred shillings had been paid for each omission to the Mayor and Commonalty of Dartmouth. This indenture was made between the Abbot and Community of Tor, of the first part, Thomas Burgeys, Vicar of Townstall of the second part, John Clerk, William Harry, William Knowle, William Rede, John Mather, Roger Pole, Gilbert de Fawey, John Hauley, William Croft, John Brasutere, Walter Worthy, and John Cuolle, parishioners of Townstall but residents of Dartmouth, of the third part. Probably at this time the church was enlarged by the addition of the chancel and converted to its present use. That the body of the building had existed previously to 1372, is shown by the style of the architecture. It is said to have been the site of an early monastic establishment, of which all traces have been lost.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Monas. Dioc., p. 170.



A few years previously, anno 1325, Bishop Grandisson had licensed some hermits of St. Augustine's rule to have a chapel in Dartmouth and in 1344, three of these arrived, one of whom styled himself Bishop of Damascus, opened a second chapel, assumed the power of an ordinary, and seems altogether to have given our Diocesan a considerable amount of trouble. After this, these hermits are entirely lost sight of. There was a chapel dedicated to S. Clarus at Dartmouth, which was licensed by the same Bishop, June 12th, 1331, "pro parochianis de Tunstall senio confractis, et alias debilitatis." This chapel afterwards belonged to the Hawleys. Bishop Laey, 28th July, 1437, licensed Nicholas Hauley, Esq., and *Elizabeth* his wife, to have service performed for them by a Chaplain, throughout his Diocese. He may have been married twice, as it is shown by the "Visitation of Devon" of 1564, that he was the husband of Jane Hext of Kingston, Staverton. She had, however, an elder sister *Elizabeth*, who is stated in the same pedigree to have been the wife of John —— (surname omitted).

On the fronts of the galleries and in various other parts of this church, are numerous shields of arms, some of them several times repeated. Many of these have suffered much from time to time by injudicious attempts to restore them; incorrect tinctures have been introduced, and in some instances erroneous charges, and this has made it somewhat difficult to identify them. They mostly commemorate local benefactors, or else persons, who as Trustees, have been associated with the various Charities. Some few of them, however, occur on grave-stones and in the glass of the windows. The following are the blazons of the most remarkable:—

*Chancel.*

1. Staplehill, quartering Roache, Muschamp and Ferrers.

2. Or, a fesse dancettée Sa. Roger Vavasour, killed in fight, 1696.

3. — a fesse wavy Gu., betw. three escallops Or. Hayman, 1606. Impaling Arg. on a fesse betw. three legs coupéd at the thigh Sa., an annulet Or (Gamon).

5. Or, a bend engd. cotised Az., a crescent for difference (Hanbury).

6. Erm. on a bend fusilly Gu. three escallops (Plumleigh). (These arms also occur on one of the galleries).

7. Vert on a chevron betw. three escallops Arg., a crescent Sa.—for difference—(Shapleigh). (In another part of the church, this coat is quartered with Az. on a bend betw. three fleur-de-lys, Or a lion pass. gd. Gu.)

8. Arg. a chevron counter compony Gu. and Or. betw. three greyhounds cour. Sa. (Hayne.)

This shield seems to have been compounded out of several coats attributed to Hayne. John Hayne was one of the Trustees of the will of John Lovering, who left certain Almshouses to Dartmouth, for the use of the widows of Seamen in 1671.

Hayne of Dartmouth had a new coat granted by the College of Arms in 1702, viz.: Or, on a fesse invecked Az. a rose, Arg. betw. two plates; in chief a greyhound courant Sa.

The old coat of Hayne of Hayne, co. Devon, was "Arg. a chevron Gu. betw. three martlets Sa." Haynes of Shropshire bore, "Arg. on a fesse Gu. three bezants betw. as many demi greyhounds courant Az."

9. Checky Or and Sa. a chief Arg. gutty de sang (Coleshill).

10. Gu. two pallets engd. Or, over all on a bend Arg., three griffins' heads erased, Sa. (Slaming, tinctures incorrect).

11. The Shapleigh quartering, as No. 7.

12. Arg. three lions ramp. Gu. (Palmer.)

13. Sa. a chevron, Erm. betw. three escallops Or (Lovering).

*Nave.*

14. Arg. masonry Sa., a chief indented of the second (Reynell).

15. Arg. two bars Gu.—Martin.

16. Sa. a fesse wavy betw. two estoilles Arg. (Drake).

17. Sa. on a base wavy Arg. and Az. a lion pass. Or; in chief three bezants on a canton of the fourth an escallop betw. two palmers' staves of the first (Hawkins).

18. Gu. a saltire vaire (Champernowne).

19. Gu. a chevron Or (Ley ?)

20. Or, three torteaux (Courtenay).

21. The royal arms debruised with a baton (Charles Fitz-Charles, Lord Dartmouth).

22. Gu. on a bend betw. two escallops Arg. a Cornish chough pp. int. two cinquefoils Az. on a chief Arg. a rose betw. two fleur-de-lis Gu. (Petre —).

23. Az. a bend engd. Arg. cotised Or (Fortescue).

24. Gu. a chevron betw. three lions gambs Arg. (Whiteway).

25. Arg. three piles in point Az. (Bryan).

26. Hawley (as previously blazoned, vol. i, p. 370).

27. Cheeky Or and Sa. on a fesse Gu. a crescent for difference (Aclund).

28. Staplehill, as before.

29. Arg. two Cornish choughs in pale Sa. on a chief of last, three bird bolts of first.

30. Arg. the stem of a tree coupéd and eradicated in bend ppr. (Holdsworth).

31. Sa. a chevron betw. three bulls' heads erased Or (Gurney or Gournay).

32. Gurney impaling Cholwich. Apparently three chevrons and a label of three points. (The correct blazon of this coat is, Per. pale Or, and Arg. three chevrons Sa.; over all a file of as many lambeaux Gu.)

33. (On brass).—On a bend engd. betw. two water bougets, three leopards' faces Gu. (Hunt).

(The Hunts of Exeter and Chudleigh, are traced to about the year 1500 in the Visitation of 1620. They continued at Chudleigh many years afterwards, and in the church there are memorial inscriptions for Thomas Hunt, 1602, *Bennett* Hunt, 1643, Nicholas Hunt, 1639, Frances, wife of John Hunt, 1672. The *Bennetts* were of Whiteway in the same parish. John Bennett, Gent. of Whiteway, 1629, John Bennett, 1670, Henry Bennett, 1673. The arms of Hunt were Az. on a bend betw. two water bougets Or three leopards' faces Gu.)

34. Arg. on a cross engd. Gu. a crescent Or in first quarter a cinquefoil Az. (Awdyan, Benefactor, 1548).

35. Sa. a chevron Erm. betw. three pelicans vulning themselves ppr. (Culme?)

36. Arg. a cross in first quarter a crescent Sa. All within a bordure Gu. (Wotton?)

(William Wotton, 1682, gave a rent-charge on his land of *East Cullombe*, for the better maintenance of a godly orthodox preaching Protestant Minister in the parish of Blackawton. William Wotton, by will, dated 22nd Aug., 1689, gave an annuity of £5 to the feoffees of St. Saviour's, Dartmouth, for charitable purposes. (It will be seen that the coat differs from that of Wotton of Great Englebourne). The arms, without the bordure and the crescent, occur in stained glass at Widdecombe-in-the-Moor, alongside the Courtenay shield, and commemorate the marriage of Edward Courtenay with Alice Wotton).<sup>1</sup>

37. Arg. on a fesse betw. three lions ramp. Sa., as many mullets of the field (Wheeler).

38. Arg. a chevron Sa. (Richards).

39. Az. a cross moline Arg. charged with a crescent (Marshall).

40. Sa. a lion ramp. betw. two flaunches Or (Prestwood).

41. Erm. on a bend Az. a mullet betw. two garbs Or. Modyford (Cr. Bart, 1661).

42. A chevron betw. three escallops (Pollard).

43. Gu., on a base wavy of six Arg. and Az.—the hull of a ship—in the centre of which sits a king in royal robes crowned with an open coronet, his dexter hand holds a sceptre his sinister a mound; on either side a lion ramp. gd. resting their fore paws on his shoulders, all Or.

The Arms of the Borough of Clifton, Dartmouth Hardnesse. These arms, which with some slight variations are used for the Borough Seals, may possibly have been adopted in commemoration of the embarkation of William

<sup>1</sup> "Ashburton and Its Neighbourhood," p. 67.

Rufus, from Dartmouth, for Normandy in 1099 ; it has been supposed that they refer to King John, and he also appears to have come in here by sea from Rochelle in 1214. It was not until the reign of Henry III, that Heraldry was reduced to anything approaching a regular system, and it was then that the Charter of Incorporation, said to have been originally granted to the Borough by King John, was confirmed. In the Corporate Seals the crescent and the star occur which was a badge of Richard I, and also of King John. It is not at all known at what period these arms were granted to Dartmouth ; there is a tradition that they were procured by the exertions of Sir John Hauley in 1347, and it was certainly about this time that duly authorised heraldic bearings were much sought after, since Edward III divided England into two provinces under Kings of Arms, Surroy for the South, and Norroy for the North, and it was one great part of the duty of these functionaries to prevent any assumption of arms by persons not entitled to them and to investigate, and when necessary to protect the rights of those who were already possessed of them. The Corporation as shown by their accounts, paid the "Heralds on their Visitation, in 1620, for registering the Townes Arms, 10s."

In the same year they paid Nicholas Townsend, "for gilding the Town Arms over the Porch and for making the Tables of Arms in the Church."

Lysons,<sup>1</sup> having remarked that the Manor of South Town, together with St. Petrock's Church and the Castle, was given at an early period by Fitz-Stephen to Flem-

<sup>1</sup> "Magna Britannia," Devon, ii, 158.

ing, adds "the Church of St. Petrock, situated within the ruins of the old Castle contains nothing remarkable. It had been called the Chapel of the Virgin Mary, before the foundation of a Chantry, dedicated to St. Petrock in the reign of Edward III." The first mention of the Chapel of St. Petrock, occurs in Bishop Lacy's "Register," August 19th, 1438. Thirteen years subsequently, the same Prelate granted an Indulgence for the repairs of a Chapel, dedicated to "St. Michael and St. Mary, called Holywell."

The little Church of St. Petrock, stands immediately behind the Castle, and close to the site of the ancient manor house, long the residence of the Southcote family. It was without doubt a chantry chapel, and was probably built by the lord of the manor. It has a low tower containing five bells with a dwarf spire, which Maton says in his "Western Counties," published in 1797, "were built by the townsmen not many years ago." It was always a chapelry dependent upon Stoke Fleming, and the Rector of the latter Church is still the patron. Some time previously to 1822, it received an augmentation from Queen Anne's Bounty, and was separated from its Mother Church and became a perpetual Curacy. It is now styled a Vicarage. The panels of the gallery were filled with shields of arms as at St. Saviour's, and there are also some interesting brasses of the Roope family. The ruins of the manor house are enclosed by a wall and ditch. The parish includes only seventy-five acres of land, and the Incumbent has twenty-five and a-half acres of glebe, situated in the parish of Blackawton. The Chapel of St. Barnabas, stands in Higher Street,

Dartmouth, and was built by subscription in 1831, at a cost of £2,000. It is a plain quasi-Gothic structure and is held with St. Petrock.

There are many interesting old houses in Dartmouth, in the "Butter Row," in the Fosse Street, and in the "Shambles" or Higher Street. Those in the "Butter Row," are five in number, and were erected between the years 1635 and 1640, by a merchant named Hayman, who has been already mentioned in these pages, for himself, so tradition says, and for his five unmarried daughters. The houses all formerly communicated with each other by doorways on the first floor.

As I have said already, King Charles II visited Dartmouth in 1671, and remained a week there. A memorial of his visit was discovered some years ago, when these houses were undergoing repairs. Some square wax candles were then found with the royal arms painted upon them.

The outside of these dwellings are covered with grotesque carving of a very singular description.

There is an ancient house in Fosse Street, which is apparently older than those in the Butter Walk. It is to be lamented that these fine old buildings with their wooden frame-work, rich carving, piazzas, and gables should be rapidly giving place to modern erections. Many of the fronts are supported by brackets carved in the similitude of the lion and griffin, but a larger number of them have been demolished in recent years; until lately the oldest part in the town consisted of two narrow lanes running parallel with each other, and along so steep an acclivity that the pavement of one was nearly on a



level with the roof of the other, and the communication between them was by flights of steps. The *Britannia*, training ship for naval cadets has been for many years moored at Dartmouth. There are really two ships the *Britannia* and the *Hindostan*, joined together by a covered gallery and in connection with them there is a good landing quay, boat shed, bathing beach, gymnasium, cricket field, and bowling alley. Here the two sons of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales resided for several years in order to acquire a naval education, and although our future king has now thrown in his lot to a certain extent with the Army, yet, as "heir of the kings of the sea," he must always feel pride in knowing that he learnt to be a sailor first in that land-locked harbour, from which more than a hundred ships sailed in the long-ago, to help his great ancestor, Richard of the Lion Heart to prosecute the third Crusade.

#### THE CHARITIES OF DARTMOUTH.

1. Alexander Awdyan, by will dated 8th February, 1548, gave all his lands to his wife for life, charged with certain payments, and after her death to William Dinham and his heirs, upon condition that he should pay yearly 5s. for the maintenance of the conduit in the south parish; and "to a true preacher of the word of God for one sermon to be preached at St. Petrock's or St. Saviour's once a year," 3s. 4d.; and to twelve poor men and women when they received the Sacrament at Easter and Christmas, 6d. each on both occasions; and to the Mayor of Dartmouth for the time being 6s. 8d. for his

labour; the money to be disbursed by the said Mayor "and three of his bretheren;" and to be distributed "as long and as far as the revenues of the said land should be able to pay the same and no further."

At the time of testator's death, the rent of these lands amounted to £3 0s. 4d., per annum.

Until 1792 the distribution was annual; from that date until 1785 it took place every third or fourth year. Since then, I believe, it has been allowed to accumulate, and is given away at irregular periods at the discretion of the Mayor according to the intentions of the donor.

2. William Ley, by his will dated 23rd June, 1599, gave to the town and poor people of Dartmouth £40, towards the building of an alms-house, or hospital for the use of poor people of the town. The house to be built within two years of testator's death, otherwise the gift to be void.

A house was built on the road leading from Dartmouth to the Castle, and an inscription placed upon it stating that it had been erected with Mr. Ley's gift. The house contained six rooms which were inhabited by six persons, two from each of the three parishes. Richard Kelly, gave by his will in 1633, 20s. yearly to this alms-house. About the year 1810, the Corporation exchanged this house for a more commodious one which is now occupied by eight or ten poor persons.

3. There is an alms-house known as the "Widows' houses," supposed to have been erected by a Mr. Street, to which the said Richard Kelly in 1633, gave an annuity of 20s. a year.

The houses are occupied by eight or ten poor widows.

Adjoining are some apartments which are let for a sufficient sum to keep the buildings in repair.

4. Thomas Fortescue, by will dated 10th of November, 1595, and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, gave to Lewis Fortescue, the son of his brother Nicholas, that part of his tenement upon the New Quay of Dartmouth, which Dr. Saule then held of him, to pay the whole rent of 13s. 4d. yearly due to the town of Dartmouth; another part of the said tenement, inhabited by Henry Collins, he gave to the town of Dartmouth and parish of East Alvington the rents and profits to be employed by receivers "in providing meat, fire, candle, night keepers, or such like for the poor of both those places, and, after their death, shrouds." This charity ceased at the expiration of Mr. Fortescue's lease which appears to have been granted for eighty years.

5. The poor of Dartmouth participate in Sir John Acland's Bread Charity, their share being £2 12s. per annum, for the provision of thirteen loaves of bread weekly, to be given to as many poor people.

6. John Shapleigh, by his will dated 13th February, 1627, left £100, to be lent for twelve months without interest, but upon proper security for repayment at the expiration of the year, to decayed ship owners. If his will was not performed and the said £100 was not employed according to his meaning in every respect, then, upon the first default the Mayor, bailiff, and burgesses of Dartmouth, were to pay the money to the Mayor of Great Totnes and his bretheren, and, under similar conditions the said £100 was to be lent to decayed merchants of Totnes. In December, 1643, it was agreed at a Corpora-

tion meeting "that Mr. Mayor, and the Overseers shall have power to dispose of £8 which is for the use of £100, given by Mr. John Shapleigh, the elder, deceased."

On the 29th March, 1638, it was agreed and ordered that "out of £8 paid by the Executors of Mr. John Shapleigh, there shall be 40s. given in money to decayed ship owners if any such be known, and the rest by Mr. Mayor and four of his bretheren in apparel to the poor" of the Borough.

On the 12th May, 1638, there is an entry that "upon this day the full sum of £8 was distributed in clothes and money, being the gift of Mr. John Shapleigh, which he gave to the use of the poor of this Corporation."

On the 2nd of May, 1665, there is a note of the conveyance by Richard Shapleigh of Orchester, Devon, of certain tenements, &c., for the use of the town in satisfaction, and for the sum of £160 due to the town for a legacy of £100 with the interest in arrears, which sum had been left by his grandfather.

23rd March, 1666, the deeds of these houses, &c., were taken out of the chest to be delivered to Mr. Kelly, that he might hand them over to Mr. John Ley of Totnes, for the payment of £6 per annum, to the poor of Dartmouth for ever. In February, 1668, there is a memorandum of these deeds being retained in the Dartmouth chest.

No trace is to be found of the distribution of this annuity of £6 subsequently to 1694. It does not appear that the £100 given by John Shapleigh was ever applied according to his intentions.

7. Mr. Thomas Paige, about the year 1636, appears to

have given the interest of £40, to the use of the poor. The sum of £2 8s. per annum in respect of this legacy is still paid by the Corporation.

8. In 1641, John Plumleigh by deed, gave to the town, a close of land at Ford Head, as a place for the inhabitants to dry and bleach their clothes in, and the herbage for the poor. The grass is now let for £6 a year. Adjoining is a meadow of half an acre, in which the inhabitants have the right to wash and dry their clothes, for which purpose wells and tables are provided.

9. In 1673, Walter Jago, John Hayne, and Arthur Holdsworth, who appear to have been Trustees, although it is not known for whom they were acting—purchased for £600, what is known as the Forder estate, situate in the parish of Blackawton, and consisting of a house, garden, and 55a. 1r. 12p. of land. The rents were to be distributed as follows:—The sum of 10s. was to be deducted; out of which 3s. 4d. was to be paid yearly for entering the accounts, and 6s. 8d. to be spent in refreshments for the Trustees on the day of distribution on the 1st or 2nd of December. After this deduction, one-fifth part yearly was to go towards the maintenance of a preaching Minister in St. Petrock's Church, and in default, the said fifth to be distributed amongst the poor: one-fifth part towards the better maintenance of an able schoolmaster who should keep school, and therein teach the Latin tongue and educate children within the Borough, provided that the Mayor, &c., continue to pay him the yearly sum of £10 without any deduction on account of this gift. Otherwise the said fifth to be distributed amongst the poor. Another fifth part towards the maintenance of another

able schoolmaster, to teach the English language, writing, arithmetic, and the art of navigation. In default, this fifth part also to be distributed amongst the poor. Another fifth part to be distributed to the poor of St. Saviour's in the said Borough. The last fifth part, to be for the benefit of the poor of the parish of St. Petrock.

The Forder estate was sold a few years since for £2,921, and the money was invested in three per cent consols, realising £89 2s. 5d. per annum. £17 3s. 6d. is paid to "the preaching Minister of St. Petrock's;" £34 7s. 2d. is distributed amongst the poor of St. Saviour's; £17 3s. 7d. amongst those of St. Petrock's, and the remainder £3 4s. 7d. is deducted for expenses in connection with the charity.

10. Philip Ley of Totnes, by will dated 5th August, 1663, left £100 to his son, John Ley upon trust, the interest to be distributed amongst the poor of Dartmouth at the discretion of his son and his heirs. The interest £6, was paid in 1667, but since 1694 all trace of this benefaction has been lost.

11. George Prestwood, Recorder of Dartmouth who died in 1670, gave £50, the interest for the benefit of the poor. At the annual election of Mayor, the poor were regaled with meat and bread at the expense of the Corporation, and this distribution was stated to be in respect of Mr. Prestwood's gift. The money is still spent in providing relief of this nature.

12. John Lovering, by will dated 18th March, 1671, and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, gave a certain messuage and tenement in Ford Lane, to be converted into several tenements or dwellings for the use of poor superannuated seamen and seamen's widows. He

also gave £500—£300, for the necessary alterations; and the balance to be laid out in land to raise an annual rent for repairs. His son John Lovering was sole executor. Mr. John Hayne and several others to be overseers to his will.

The houses were given to certain poor seamen and seamen's widows, during good behaviour, until they were unfortunately burnt down in 1794. The site is now let for about £2 per annum.

13. Thomas Boone, by will dated 14th March, 1677, gave to the poor, an annuity of £10, to issue out of his moiety at Townstall, to be paid by his right heirs male on St. Thomas' day for ever. This money is now paid by the Seale family as owners of Mount Boone. A doubt having arisen some years since, as to who were the right heirs of the donor, the late Mr. Seale in 1791, applied to a Mr. Boone, then a Commissioner of Customs, and others supposed to be relatives, and obtained their consent to his carrying out the intentions of the trust. The sum given is divided annually amongst the poor of the three parishes.

14. John Mayne, merchant of Exeter, by will dated 30th May, 1680, gave to the towns of Barnstaple, Bideford, and Dartmouth, £200 each, on condition that £600, or £700 more should be raised within four years of his death, in each town to be employed in erecting schools. It appears that the Corporation of Dartmouth, had no knowledge of this legacy, until the four years had expired and it was consequently never paid.

15. Richard Langdon of Totnes, merchant, by will bearing date 17th May, 1707, gave to poor house-keepers

of Dartmouth, for ever, £6 per annum, charged upon his house and garden, thereafter the death of his kinswoman Joan Smith, who then resided in it, to be distributed half yearly.

16. John Richards, gave by will, as shown by one of the old books of accounts of the Overseers of the poor of St. Saviour's, £100 for the use of poor people of Dartmouth. Eustace Budgell and others were his executors. Neither the principal sum nor interest thereon ever appears to have been paid.

17. John Peter, included this parish in his several benefactions ; 20s. per annum are left to the poor of Townstall, and a like sum to those of Dartmouth out of the great tithes of Cornworthy.

				£
18.	Mrs Rabbidge, Dyer in 1601 gave	-	-	10
	Mrs. Joyce Hayman ,, 1608 ,,	-	-	44
	Capt. Richard Dawes ,, 1613 ,,	-	-	19
	John Luscombe ,, 1613 ,,	-	-	10
	John Gourney ,, 1613 ,,	-	-	5
	John Martin ,, 1613 ,,	-	-	7
	Ribert Gyles ,, 1626 ,,	-	-	10
	Robert Martin ,, 1627 ,,	-	-	20
				<u>£125</u>

These benefactions have been consolidated, and the interest of the money is spent annually in providing shifts for poor women of St. Saviour's. The interest amounts to £7 10s.

19. Joan Rounsevall, by will dated 17th January, 1654, gave to the poor of St. Saviour's the interest of £10.



She also gave to those of South Town £5, and to those of Townstall, £5. Ten shillings per annum is divided amongst the poor of St. Saviour's in respect of this charity.

20. Laurence Wheeler, by will dated 20th April, 1662, proved in P.C.C., gave a yearly rent-charge of £2 12s., to be distributed weekly amongst the poor in one dozen penny loaves.

21. William Wotton, by will dated August 22nd, 1689, gave to the feoffees of St. Saviour's, the yearly sum of £5 to issue out of his tenement, called South Whimble, in the parish of Broadlist, "for teaching poor children to read the English tongue." They were to be of St. Saviour's parish.

22. There is an ancient trust deed belonging to the parish of St. Petrock, dated 16th March, 2 Henry III, from John Fleming of South Town, to Robert Richardson and eleven others, of all his messuages and tenements in Kingswear and in South Town. The lands in Kingswear have long since been lost sight of; those in St. Petrock's had the rents devoted to the maintenance of the water pipes, conduits, &c., in South Town. There are two public conduits and I believe that they are maintained out of this fund.

23. William Plumleigh, who died in 1647, gave 24s. a year, to be paid yearly out of land in the North Churchyard, to twelve poor widows of St. Petrock's parish at Shrovetide. It appears to have been leasehold property. All trace of the benefaction has been lost.

24. By articles of agreement made in 1821, the Rev. John Charter, gave £100 Navy 5 per cent stock, the

dividends to be given to industrious poor parishioners of St. Petrock's.

25. There are certain "Church lands" in the parish of Townstall, the earliest deed connected with which is dated 15th June, 1560. They are believed to have been the gift of Richard Smale and others. The rents and profits are applied to repairs and other purposes connected with the Church of Townstall. There is an annual meeting of the feoffees at Lady-day.

## CHAPTER XV.—PART I.

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## THE PARISH OF BROAD-HEMPSTON.

Broad-Hempston, in the hundred of Heytor and the Archdeaconry and Deanery of Totnes, was originally in the Deanery of Ipplepen; it is about four miles distant from the three towns of Ashburton, Totnes and Newton Abbot. The population of this parish inclusive of the hamlets of Ford, Bearton, Wenton, Halswill, and Bicatton, amounted in 1881 to 567 persons residing over 2,047 acres of land.

The statements of the county historians, Lysons and Risdon, relative to the early ownership of the property in this parish require a great deal of explanation.

The first merely says that “the manor belonged to the baronial family of Cantilupe, whose heiress brought it to West,” whilst we read in Risdon, page 153, “near neighbours are the Hempstons, which were written Hanveston, when the kings of this land held there in demesne.”

The two manors of Broad-Hempston and Little-Hempston, were certainly “near neighbours,” and the record of Domesday clearly proves that in the reign of Edward the Confessor (A.D. 1042 to 1066). The former was the property of the Saxon Ordulf.

It was then written Hamistone, not "Hanveston," and was afterwards given under Norman rule to Robert, Earl of Mortain, under whom in the year 1087 it was held by Hamelin. The following is a literal translation of the entry referring to this property in the Exchequer Domesday:—

"The land of the Earl of Mortain.—Hamelin holds from the Count Hamistone; Ordulf held it T.R.E. (in the time of King Edward), and it paid tax for two hides. The arable land there is ten carrucates; in demesne there are two carrucates and three serfs and ten villeins, and nine cottagers (bordarii); there are four acres of meadow and ten acres of pasture and twelve acres of wood; formerly they were worth forty shillings, but now they are valued at sixty shillings."

This Robert, Earl of Mortain (as it is usually written), in Normandy, was half brother to William I, who gave him a very large share of the land of this conquered country; in Devonshire alone he became possessed of seventy-six manors; and 246 with two castles and the earldom in the neighbouring county of Cornwall. In all the king is stated to have given him 797 manors in different parts of England.

Upon the death of the Conqueror, his son, William Rufus (having previously procured a recommendatory letter to Lanfranc, the Primate), hastened to England before the arrival of intelligence of the demise of the King. The Archbishop at once assembled a certain number of bishops and a few of the principal nobility, and proceeded to the ceremony of crowning the new monarch (September 26th, 1087). His accession, however, was

distasteful to a very powerful body of the Norman barons, who would for many reasons have preferred the succession of the Conqueror's eldest son, Robert, to the throne of England. The Earl of Mortain and his brother Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, availed themselves of this feeling, and engaged their partisans in a formal conspiracy to dethrone the new King. William, however, having gained the affections of the English by general promises of good treatment, and of concessions in the matter of the forest laws, was soon in a situation to take the field against his adversaries, and by the rapidity and energy of his movements speedily crushed the rebellion. He pardoned his half-uncle for his share in this attempt to dethrone him, and permitted that nobleman to transmit his estates and honours to his only son, William. The date of the earl's death is uncertain; it is known that the aforesaid William succeeded his father previously to the year 1097, since in that year the prelate Odo died at Palermo, and William, Earl of Mortain, claimed, in addition to his other titles and estates, that of Earl of Kent, as heir to his uncle, a claim that King Henry I was not at all willing to admit.

I believe that the manor of Broadhempston remained with the earldom of Mortain until the reign of King John at which time it was probably given to William de Cantilupe. At the commencement of the year 1215 the English barons made that forcible and remarkable protest against the conduct of the king which resulted in the so-called conference at Runnimeade and the concession of Magna Charta.

After they had taken possession of the metropolis, on the 24th of May, they sent letters to all the nobility and

gentry throughout the land who had not yet joined them, and invited them to make a common cause and fight for their liberties. Amongst the number of those to whom these letters were addressed occurs the name of William de Cantilupe; but I can find no record to encourage the assumption that he was persuaded to join in the rebellion. Evidence is in existence which proves that he obtained not only lands but a wife by the favour of the King, and we can only consider therefore that he obtained these marks of Royal consideration as a reward for his fidelity.

This William de Cantilupe or Cantelupe, married Matilda D'Oyly,<sup>1</sup> by whom he had with other issue, William (died 25 Henry III), who married Milicent, widow of Almeric, Earl of Euraux and daughter of Hugh de Gournai. He had issue, William, who married Eva, daughter and co-heir of William de Braose, a descendant of Juhel de Totnes, and Risdon says that her father left her the important barony once owned by her powerful Norman ancestor. Lysons remarks "that in the reign of King John, Henry Novant, and William Braose, grandson of Juhel de Totnes, held the barony in moieties. Novant's moiety descended to the Valletorts; Bruce's passed by marriage to Cantilupe, who eventually became possessed of the whole. William de Cantilupe had three children

<sup>1</sup> This marriage is proved by the "Hundred Roll."—"Milo de Bohun holds the manor of Gussich Dynaunt, which was at some time forfeited to the lord, the King, through a certain Roland Dynaunt, a Norman; and the King gave the said manor to Matilda D'Oyly, but they know not why, which Matilda was afterwards the wife of William de Cantilupe, and which manor after Matilda's death came to the hands of Humphrey de Bohun, the son of the sister of the said Matilda." Gussich Dynaunt was situated in the county of Dorset."

by his marriage with Eva Braose—George, Milicent, and Joanna. George died without offspring, and his two sisters became co-heirs. Milicent, in No. 36 of the Cartulary of the priory of St. Nicholas, at Exeter, describes herself as daughter and heir of William de Cantilupe, and the grand-daughter of William de Braose; she married first John de Montalt, and secondly, Eudo la Zouche. Her sister, Johanna, became the wife of Henry de Hastyns, and the Totnes barony came to Milicent's share at the partition of the property with this sister's son, John de Hastyns. "They say that the borough of Totnes is that of Eudo la Zouche, from the inheritance of his wife Milicent, and it is held from the lord the king in chief, but they are ignorant by what service, and it was the demesne of King Henry, the son of King William, and the same King Henry gave the said burgh to Roger de Novant, and there are many fees alienated from the castle of the said burgh, but they know not by what means nor at what time."<sup>1</sup> "Milicent de Montalt was summoned to answer to the lord the king by what warrant she claimed to have view of frank pledge, &c., in Totnes, and free warren and wreck of the sea in her demesne lands there without license, &c. And Milicent comes and says that she holds the aforesaid liberties from inheritance of George de Cantilupe in partition with John the son of Henry de Hastyns, who is under age and in custody of the lord the king."<sup>2</sup>

The "Hundred Rolls" also prove that King John gave William de Cantilupe the manor of Eyton in Bedfordshire, "which had become forfeited to the crown." This estate

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Hund.  
F<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Plac. de quo Warr.

descended to Milisent de Montalt and the Royal gift was confirmed by King Henry III, who also in the 38th year of his reign (3rd May, 1254), had granted her father, by deed, dated from Milhaud, in Normandy, the right of free warren for ever "in all his manors which he at that time possessed in England," provided however that such land was not situated within forest bounds.<sup>1</sup>

The following is the translation of an extract from the same authority 4 Edward III, A.D. 1331, which proves my statements relative to the descendants of William de Cantilupe:—

"William la Zouche of Harryngworth (co. Bedford), was summoned to answer to the lord the King concerning a plea by what warrant he claims to have in his manor of Eyton, view of frankpledge, infanganthef, weif, and free warren in all his manor lands, &c. ; and William comes through Thomas de Clere, his attorney, and with reference to all the aforesaid liberties in all the aforesaid manors taken exception against for acquittances and warren he says that a certain William de Cantilupe was seised of the aforesaid manors to which these liberties belong and have belonged from ancient time, and of them he died seised ; and from William himself the property lawfully descends to a certain George as his son and heir ; and from George himself because he died without an heir from himself, it lawfully descends to a certain Johanna and Milisent, as his sisters and heirs, between whom the aforesaid manors, with others, have been divided."

Then follow the names of the descendants of Johanna, viz. : John Hastyns, John, and Lawrence, who was then

<sup>1</sup> Plac de quo Warr.



representing the one sister, as was William la Zouche his mother Milicent. Although unnecessary, perhaps I may as well mention that in another plea concerning this same manor of Harryngworth, in which William la Zouche is again summoned to prove his right to certain liberties, his mother's identity with the heiress of Totnes is clearly proved. "*Milisente de Montialto matri predicti Willielmi cujus heres ipse est.*"

When the manor of Broad-Hempston was given to William de Cantilupe, it was to be held from the "Honour of Mortain," which (added to other circumstances already detailed) makes me confident that he was indebted to the favour of King John for its acquisition. It must be remembered that this monarch for some years held this Norman earldom.

"Item—*Joannes de Cantilupo tenet manerium de Hemmeston Borard de heredibus Gulielmi de Cantilupo, et ipse heredes de domino Rege in capite per servicium feodi duorum militum, de honore de Mortoynge.*"<sup>1</sup>

John de Cantilupe died, 17 Ed. II, and was the son and heir of John de Cantilupe of Snitfield, co. Warwick, who was the third son of William de Cantilupe and Matilda D'Oyly, and the grandfather of Eleanor, wife of Thomas West, ancestor of the Lord Delawarr.

"*Dicunt quod maneria de Hemmiston Borard et Hemyston Parva (Little Hempston) sunt libera maneria habentia furcas et assisas panis et cerevisiæ, et capiunt emendam a tempore a quo non extat memoria, sed nesciunt quo warranto.*"

We have seen what warrant William Cantilupe had

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Hund.

for exercising his many and great privileges. Reference to the authorities to which I have been referring so freely will shew my readers that he possessed lands and estates in several counties, and there can be little doubt that he was always a trusted servant of the reigning sovereign, since he was able, as we have seen, to obtain confirmation of his immunities and privileges. He gave about the year 1243 the manor of Halton Faledder and a moiety of the manor of Gillingsworth to the Abbot of Fountains. Both these estates were situated in Yorkshire.<sup>1</sup> He also bestowed the advowson of the church of Broad-Hempston upon the Prior and Convent of Studley, in Warwickshire. He moreover, seems to have assisted King Henry III in that monarch's resistance to the exorbitant demands of the Pope, who at the close of the year 1244, being driven out of Italy by the Emperor, had repaired to Lyons, where, from the refractory spirit of the people, his abode was rendered very uncomfortable. His Holiness therefore engaged the College of Cardinals (the number of whom he about this time increased, by the creation of twelve additional ones, with the privilege of wearing a red hat) to write to the King of England, with a view to his temporary settlement in this country, but Henry, who at first appeared ready to comply, was prevented from taking this step by the advice of his Council, who represented to him the avarice and corruption of the Roman See. An inquisition then taken proved that the value of English benefices held by Italians under Papal presentations amounted to sixty thousand marks a year. The Pope (Innocent IV) summoned that which

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Hund.

is known in history as the Thirteenth General Council to meet at Lyons at Midsummer, 1245, and insisted upon the attendance of nearly all the English prelates.

The English bishops, abbots, and representatives of chapters, when summoned by papal authority to a council abroad, had been accustomed to send a deputation of four of their number ever since the Church of England, after the Conquest, had been convened to such foreign councils; but on this occasion the most earnest entreaty of the English King only availed to procure the exemption of three or four prelates.

The Pope was at this time anxious to set on foot another crusade, for the expenses of which the council ordered a "twentieth to be laid for three years upon all ecclesiastical revenues, to be paid into the hands of the papal commissioners; but our bishops and abbots refused their assent." Through the hands of sundry commissioners, amongst whom I find the name of William Cantilupe, the English nobility sent a letter to the Pope complaining of the invasion of their rights of patronage in filling up vacancies in churches and monasteries with non-resident Italians, who carried the revenues out of the kingdom, and detailing many other extortions. The commissioners were further directed to support the rights of the realm by every means in their power, and they appear to have carried out their instructions with the utmost integrity; but they obtained no redress. In a "bull," published soon after, Innocent certainly appeared to grant the petition as far as it concerned the "right of presentation;" but this "bull" could at any time be set aside by a clause of "non obstante." He demanded a prebend in every

English Cathedral, and a church of forty marks from every abbey, and priory for the collation of himself and his successors ; but this was rejected. And Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, William de Cantilupe, and the rest of the Commissioners, withdrew from the council, protesting that an annual tribute of a thousand marks should not be paid to gratify the avarice of the See of Rome.

Both Westcote and Risdon state that William de Cantilupe held two fees in Broad-Hempston in the reign of Henry III, but for reasons which I have already adduced there can, I think, be little doubt but that he became possessed of this manor by the gift of that monarch's predecessor. In Domesday the name is simply written "Hemmeston," but during the sway of the Cantilupes it is written "Hemmeston Borard," and the present name is accounted for by the latter word, which was without doubt a corruption of "bord" or "bordland," a term used to distinguish land kept by the lord in his own hands for the maintenance of his own board or table. After the Cantilupes ceased to own this property, I find it described for many years as "Hemmeston Cantelow" or Cantilupe. The heirs of William de Cantilupe were, as we have already seen, his two daughters, Milicent de Montalt, who afterwards married Eudo la Zouche ; and Johanna, who married Henry Hastyns. His son George, who left no issue, and his daughter Johanna appear to have died before him. During his lifetime he alineated the manor of Broad-Hempston to his uncle John de Cantilupe, already mentioned, and in the deed of enfeoffment there is no mention whatever of this son George, or of Johanna. In the nineteenth year of the reign of Edward I (A.D. 1291),

“John de Cantilupe was summoned to answer, &c., by what right he claims to have view of frankpledge and an assize of bread, &c., in Hemmeston Berard, &c., without licence;” and John comes and says, with respect to the view of frankpledge, he has none, nor does he claim to have any; and with respect to the assize of bread and beer, he says that William de Cantilupe held the aforesaid manor of Hemmeston together with the said liberties, who enfeoffed the same manor, together with the said liberties, to a certain John de Cantilupe, the father of John himself, and summoned “ad warrentizandum” Milicent de Montalt and John de Hastyns, who is under age, the heirs of the aforesaid William, by the deed of the said William, which he produces, and which proves that the said William gave to the aforesaid John the said manor, together with the said liberties, and bound (‘obligavit’) him and his heirs to the warranty.

Risdon says “John de Cantilupe, a younger son of the Lord Cantilupe, was made Baron of Hempston, and called to Parliament in King Edward the First’s age, who had Nicholas, Lord Cantilupe of Hempston.” Lysons includes the name in his list of baronial families *not* summoned to Parliament. We have seen, however, that Risdon was wrong as to the relationship. The name of William de Cantilupe is included in Dugdale’s lists, 2nd of Edw. II, but none of the line of John of Snitfield had ever summons to Parliament.

Nicholas de Cantilupe, “Lord of Hempstone,” had a daughter Eleanor, who brought this manor to her husband, Sir Thomas West, a member of the noble family of Delawar. The first notice I have found in original

records of the Wests in connection with Broad-Hempstone, occurs in the year 1387, 10th of Richard II, when by an "inquisitio post-mortem" Thomas West, gentleman, is declared to have died, seized amongst other estates of the "maner of Hempston Cantilow." After this date it is to be remarked that the addition Cantilow, or Cantilupe, is invariably adopted instead of "Borard or Berard," which latter term I have already endeavoured to explain. Alicia, wife of Thomas West, Knight, died possessed of this property in 1396, and she held it from the Castle of Totnes by the payment of the forty-sixth part of a knight's fee, and this is again referred to upon the death in the same year of William la Zouche of Haryngworth, Lord of Totnes, since amongst his property there is mention of "Hempston Cauntilo" as being held by the said payment from the Castle of Totnes, from which by like payments were held land in South Huish, Brixton, Ridmore, North Bovey, Wodeford, Raddon, and Allerford, in all twenty-eight fees, which explains Westcote's remark at page 411 of his "View of Devonshire," to the effect that "many services are due to the Castle of Totnes."<sup>1</sup>

Thomas West was the owner of Broad-Hempston in the 7th of Henry IV (A.D. 1406), and was succeeded by "Thos West, chevalier," who upon his death in 1417

<sup>1</sup> The first Thomas West, who married Eleanor Cantilupe was created Knight of the Bath, 19 Edward II. His son Thomas, was engaged in the French War of 1387, and died 3rd September that year; his wife Alice was a sister of Lucy Fitz Herbert, Prioress of Shaftsbury. He left issue, Thomas, his son and heir, born 1366, who was knighted in 22 Richard II, and married Joan, daughter and heir of Roger, Lord De la Warr and left issue, Thomas and Reginald.

(4 Henry V), was followed by Richard, or Reginald, West, who seems to have departed this life in 1451 (29th of Henry VI).

The first Lord Delawarr was summoned by writ under that title in the year 1299. Thomas West, died s.p. 1415, his brother Reginald was summoned to Parliament as Baron De la Warr, 1437, and was succeeded by Richard, his son and heir, then 19 years of age; he married Catherine, daughter of Robert, Lord Hungerford, and left issue, Thomas, K.G., 2 Henry VIII, who died 17 Henry VIII, and left issue Thomas, died 1554 without issue. He was succeeded by William, son of his half-brother George, who served in the Army at the siege of St. Quintin, 1556, and was succeeded by his second son Thomas, as Lord De la Warr. The commencement of English colonization dates from the reign of James I. Raleigh's endeavour to found a settlement in North America in the district he had named Virginia, out of compliment to the Queen, proved a failure, but in 1606 James granted charters to two companies—the London or South Virginia Company and the Plymouth Company—in consequence of which James Town, in the Bay of Chesapeake, was founded in the following year, and was kept from perishing by the courage and fortitude of James Smith. In 1610, the Lord Delawarr of that day proceeded thither as Governor of Virginia, with a fresh body of emigrants, and from this time the colony flourished and increased. In 1761, West, Lord Delawarr, was created the first earl of that name and Viscount Cantilupe, the latter title being of course adopted in commemoration of the connection of the family of West with the ancient lord of Broad-Hempston,

and the title of Cantilupe, is still borne by the eldest sons of the Earls of Delawarr, and their ancestral shield is, moreover, supported on the dexter side by a *wolf*, coward Arg. gorged with a plain collar Or. The motto of this family, "Jour de ma vie," alludes to the capture of John, King of France, at the battle of Poitiers.

It appears by an "inquisitio post-mortem" that Richard West, Lord Delawarr, died in 1477 (16 Edward IV), seized of the manor of Hempston Cantilowe, which remained with his successors until the year 1570, when it passed by purchase to a member of the ancient family of Rowe, "who continued to reside at Bearton, in this parish for nearly two centuries and a half. Mr. Giles Hussey, the artist, who adopted the theory of drawing his portraits according to musical or harmonic proportion, resided some years at Bearton with his nephew, the late Mr. Rowe, and died there in 1738. Having succeeded to an ancient family estate in Dorsetshire, he bequeathed it to his nephew, who assumed the name of Hussey, and when Lysons wrote his history (A.D. 1822), Bearton was the property of his widow, and occupied as a farmhouse."<sup>1</sup>

Prince, in the *Worthies of Devon*, gives us the history of Serjeant Rowe, who lived in the reign of Henry VIII, and who married Agnes, eldest of the two daughters of William Barnhouse, of the neighbouring parish of Staverton.<sup>2</sup> He was the son of Sir William Rowe, of Totnes, "a man of very good rank," and by his marriage with Agnes Barnhouse, he acquired Kingston, in Staverton, the ancient inheritance of the latter family, and left it to

<sup>1</sup> *Magna Britannia*, p. 269.

<sup>2</sup> *Ashburton and its Neighbourhood*, p. 142.



his son, and the family had resided there seven generations, when Prince completed his "Worthies" (August 6th, 1697). It was probably John Rowe, the son and heir of Serjeant Rowe, who bought the manor of Broad-Hempston from Lord Delawarr, in 1570, since his father (the date of whose death is unknown), took his Serjeant's degree on the 18th November, 1511, and there is no evidence of his existence after 1527, when his name occurs as witness to a deed. John Rowe, the younger, died in 1592, rather more than eighty-two years of age, and was buried in Staverton churchyard. The Rowes may have occasionally resided at Bearton during two centuries and a half referred to by Lysons, but Kingston was their chief habitation, and the house there was rebuilt by John Rowe in 1743.

Soon after this date it is probable that the family removed to Bearton, and Kingston House was ultimately sold to Mr. Thomas Bradridge previously to the year 1792. John Rowe of Kingston, was High Sheriff of this county in 1688, and died during his shrievalty. He appears to have been a Romanist, and to have been placed in office by his party to further the ends of James II. Prince says, "He lieth buried under a flat stone in Staverton Church aforesaid, having this inscription—'Here lieth John Row, Esquire, who died high sheriff of the county of Devon, A.D. 1688.'"

Sir Bernard Burke remarks—"The late John Rowe of Bearton, Esquire, the descendant of John Rowe, serjeant-at-law, temp. Henry VIII, took the name of Hussey on inheriting the estates of Hussey of Marnhull, co. Dorset."

It is possible that the erection of the new house at

Kingston crippled the resources of the Rowes. I have already said that the property was sold before the year 1792, but previously to this it had been deemed expedient to dispose of the manor of Broad-Hempston, which was purchased first by Champion and afterwards by John Tozer, who acquired it about 1785. It afterwards became the property of the Palks, and Mr. Edward Palk was the owner in 1844; and I believe that it still continues in this name, Mrs. Palk being the present proprietor.<sup>1</sup> The gross estimated rental of this parish is £5,389.

The parish church, standing in a large and neatly kept churchyard, occupies high ground at the south-western end of the village, and comprehends chancel, nave opening into north and south aisles, beneath five moulded arches supported upon clustered piers with foliated capitals; a south porch, and a tower at the western end containing five bells.

It is not known to what saint this church was dedicated, but reference to the register of Bishop Stafford (vol. i, fol. 52) proves that it was rebuilt in the year 1402, and I found no evidence of architecture of earlier date than this in the existing fabric, which when I visited it was much in need of restoration. In the chancel there is a single sedile under a pointed arch, and a small and very plain piscina with a single drain hole. The window on the north side has been blocked, and the well-proportioned arches of those south and east have been in a measure destroyed; the ancient priest's door remains in its proper position. The whole interior is choked and

<sup>1</sup> Refer to vol. i, p. 291, *et seq.*

disfigured with an accumulation of plaster and white-wash, and the original chancel arch has been manifestly destroyed or concealed. The roof of the nave is comparatively modern, but those of the aisles are coeval with the erection of the present church, and contain some good bosses of foliage; and I noticed amongst those in the north aisle the red rose of the house of Lancaster, the badge first used by King Henry IV; another has four small heads carved upon it similar to one in nearly the same position at the western end of the north aisle of St. Andrew's, Ashburton. They have all been disfigured with red paint, whilst the cross-ribs have been coloured blue. The wall plate is well carved in vine leaves, and upon it at the north end occurs a shield inscribed with the remains of two letters, *M* and part of a *V* or *W*.

In the south aisle the bosses are rather more elaborate, and are interspersed with nodi; about the centre of the ceiling there is a well executed representation of a grotesque head with a forked beard, and at the eastern end another head is represented attired in a close steel cap. The ancient screen has been much mutilated, and is coarsely coloured (with a taste similar to that displayed in the decoration of the roof) white, black, yellow, and green. It extends across the nave and aisles, and the two parclooses, which originally enclosed north and south chantry chapels, still remain. The cornice has been destroyed, but the lights in the upper portion are filled with good Third Pointed tracery; the figures of the saints in the lower panels have been obliterated. Should the restoration of the church be undertaken, I am convinced that this beautiful screen would amply repay

careful and judicious treatment at the hands of a skilled workman.

The font probably dates from the commencement of the fifteenth century; it is octagonal, and is adorned with quatrefoils, squares, and shields, charged alternately with two keys, and two swords in saltire.

There are four windows on the south side, and five on the north, of four lights each, and filled with good Perpendicular tracery; the door on the north side has been closed. The window at the end of the north aisle has been partially blocked; the corresponding one in the south aisle contains some fragments of ancient glass, and the diamond-shaped panes exhibit alternately the "wings conjoined in lure" of Barnhouse, and the "Lamb" of Rowe; in the centre are the ancient arms of the latter family, Az. a chevron Gu. between three paschal lambs. The whole of the western end of the church has been choked with plaster, &c., and has been disfigured by the erection of a cumbrous gallery. I remarked an old parish chest of oak with a carved moulding remaining in one of the seats.

In front of the centre of the Chancel, is a gravestone with the following inscription:—"Hic jacet Guilelmus Jesse vir vere Reverendus, Hujus Ecclesiæ Per triginta Septem ferme annos Vicarius; qui obiit Vicessimo Septimo, die Martii Anno Domini 1679, Ætatis Sux 64." There is a second inscription for Elizabeth and William Jesse, 1645-6. On the north side of the chancel there is a mural tablet in memory of Robert Warreyng and Ellinor, his wife, 1656. Arms—a chevron charged with three fleur-de-lis betw. as many lions pass. Impaled with a tree. Beneath is a record of the deaths of Mary, the

wife, and Avis, the daughter of Robert Warreyng, the younger, together with a quaint poetical effusion. The arms beneath are impaled with a fess wavy, between six crosses crosslet. The south porch has a roof similar to those I have already described. In the aisle, there are the remains of an aspersion on the north-east side. The tower is low, square, and embattled, and is provided with a plain projection, which terminates at the second has string course, and contains the belfry stairs. It a Pointed doorway, with the dripstone following the course of the arch; but the large window has been tampered with, and its arch has been either destroyed or concealed. The church is supported by plain buttresses, and the north door, although blocked on the inside, still remains. It is contained in a double buttress, has an almost circular arch, and was probably a seventeenth century insertion. There is a rood projection remaining on the north side. The chancel is defined on the outside, which is not very frequently the case in churches in this district. The north-eastern end of the exterior of the fabric has been disfigured by the erection of a vestry which partially blocks two windows. There are several fine yew trees in the churchyard, one of them being of great size, and apparently of some antiquity.

An ancient almshouse stands close to the churchyard gate. It possesses some good Perpendicular windows, and one of them has ornamented spandrils; it has also a Third Pointed doorway with a square head. In the year 1291 (according to the valuation made by the direction of Pope Nicholas), the Rectory of Broad-Hempston

was assessed at £5 6s. 8d. per annum, and the Vicarage was only valued at £1 per year. In 1535, Richard Middelmore was the Vicar, and his clear income was £25 per annum.

As I have already said, the church of Broad-Hempston, together with the patronage of the Vicarage, was given by William de Cantilupe to the Prior and Convent of Studley, in Warwickshire, and this gift is referred to in a deed of Edward III, reciting by *inspeximus*, and confirming a previous confirmation by Henry III of various gifts which had been made to this Priory. The following is a translation of the portion of this document referring to Broad-Hempston:—"The gift also which William de Cantilupe by his deed made to the Prior and Convent of the place aforesaid of the Church of Hemeston with its belongings, as much as pertained to the patron, to the sustentation of the brothers of the hospital, which the father of the aforesaid William erected before the gate of the priory aforesaid, and to the sustentation of the sick and poor flocking to the same hospital." William de Cantilupe gave other lands to this Warwickshire priory, which he appears to have originally acquired from the gift of Eustace de Mortein.<sup>1</sup>

At the dissolution the Rectory of Broad-Hempston was valued at £34 a year; the rectorial tithes were afterwards sold, and in 1618 Robert Gunsley, Rector of Titsey, in Surrey, gave them to the towns of Rochester and Maidstone for charitable purposes. The right of presentation, however, appears to have been reserved, and it

<sup>1</sup> Dugdale, *Monas. Ang.*, vol. vi, 187-8.

is still in the hands of the Crown. The present Vicar, the Rev. F. T. Chamberlain, was instituted in 1874, and I have to thank him for readily permitting me to inspect the registers of the parish. On the whole they are illegible and badly kept, and the earlier ones have been lost or destroyed; those remaining, however, were repaired at the expense of the parishioners in 1856, and commence: baptisms, 13th April, 1681; marriages, 12th September, 1681; burials (second entry), 8th August, 1678. The church plate is plain, but handsome and massive; a portion of it was the gift of the Vicar, the Rev. Samuel Whaley, in 1712; it consists of one chalice, two patens, and an alms dish. In Brice's "Weekly Journal," published at Exeter, 10th of September, 1725, appears an advertisement of a sale by auction of the library of the late "Rev. Mr. Samuel Waley, Vicar of Broad-Hempston and Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral." The same journal, 17th May, 1728, mentions "that the Rev. Thomas Pollen has lately been presented to the Vicarage of Broad-Hempston."

There was no institution to this Vicarage for nearly four years after Mr. Whaley's death, which occurred in 1724. Mr. Pollen succeeded him in 1728, and was in his turn followed four years later by John Wolrige, who was presented in 1732, and remained Vicar of Broad-Hempston for the long period of forty-four years. The Vicarage House is some distance from the Church; there are thirty-seven acres of glebe, and the tithe rent-charge amounts to £266 a year.

John Petre (to whom I have already frequently referred

in previous articles), gave in 1570 an annuity of twenty shillings out of the great tithes of Cornworthy to the poor of Broad-Hempston.

William Jesse, Vicar of the parish, gave in 1679 to the poor of the parish a farm called Pitt for the residue of a term of a thousand years. This farm, which is situated in Broad-Hempston, consists of about thirty acres of land. Mr. Jesse had acquired the tithe of all the garb, corn, and grain of the said tenement in 1659 from Thomas Eles in consideration of the payment of a sum of £9. The great tithes of a field in the parish called Gandrell are also received by the churchwardens, but it is not known who was the donor. Two annual sums of 2s. and of 1s., the first called Webber's gift, and the second known as that of Mrs. Lake's, are payable out of two fields in the parish, and are also received by the churchwardens. I read in the report of the Charity Commissioners that all the sums I have referred to were formerly distributed amongst the poor, but that afterwards they were employed in the education of the village children. John Evans, by a codicil to his will dated 21st of May, 1805, gave ten sixpenny loaves (to be distributed by the proprietor of the estate called Barter's tenement) to the second poor of Broad-Hempston on the evening before Christmas Day for ever. There are three gift houses with small gardens, situate near the church, reported to have been formerly given by a Mr. Prestwood for the benefit of the second poor, but no document relating to them is found in the parish.

In the last chapter, I stated that, although the Rowes



continued to reside at Bearton in this parish, they had sold the manor previously to the year 1792, and that it was purchased first by Champion, and afterwards by John Tozer. The *Exeter Flying Post*, 18th of November, 1768, contains an advertisement of a sale by auction of the freehold estates of John Rowe, Esq., including the site of the Barton of Kingston, and the Manor of Broad-Hempstead (*sic*), with other lands in Staverton, Ipplepen, Wolborough, Totnes, Buckfastleigh, Stoke Gabriel, and Widecombe-in-the-Moor; the last is described as having "a genteel house thereon;" and the whole of the land amounted to one thousand acres, the value of which was £1,010 per annum. Mr. Rowe, however, does not appear to have been able to find a purchaser at this time, for the property is again advertised in *Trewman's Exeter Flying Post*, on the 13th of November, 1772, and it was probably then, or at the commencement of 1773, that Mr. Champion became the owner of the Manor of Broad-Hempston. But as I have already said, the old manor house at Bearton remained the property of the Rowes, and was actually their residence until 1788, when Mr. John Rowe removed to Dorsetshire. It was ultimately bequeathed by him to his widow.

In the vestry of the parish church is a small framed picture of the arms of John Petre; but as wrong tinctures have been employed, I shall describe them here according to the blazon of Sir Bernard Burke. Az. on a bend between two escallops Or, a Cornish chough Sa. inter as many cinquefoils Gu. Crest, two lions heads erased and endorsed, the dexter or the sinister Az. each gorged with

a plain collar counterchanged. Beneath these arms there is the following inscription :—"The armes of John Peters, Esqr, Customer of Devon and City of Exon, who dyed ye 3rd Feby 1576 ; he hath given 20s. yearly in fee for ever to the parish of Broadhempstone for the poor, which money must be paid by the Parish of Cornworthy according to his last will and testament. His body lyeth in St. Thomas Church without Westgate Exon."—An account of this family will be found in "Ashburton and its Neighbourhood," p. 121, *et seq.*

## CHAPTER XVI.—PART I.

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## THE PARISH OF LITTLE-HEMPSTON.

The village of Little-Hempston, in the Archdeaconry of Totnes, to which it is now attached for Ruridecanal purposes, is situated in the Hundred of Haytor, and until recently was in the Deanery of Ipplepen. In 1871 it had 231 inhabitants, living in fifty-three houses, upon 1,270 acres of land. The Manor is the "Hamistone" of the Exeter Domesday, and was, originally, the property of Earl Harold, but after the Conquest was held by King William in demesne. At a very early period it acquired the name of Hempston Arundell (by which it is still commonly known) in consequence of its having been the property for several generations of lords of the powerful house of Arundell, to whose descendants in the female line it belonged until late in the fifteenth century, when it passed to the connexions of the husband of one of these, whose posterity still own it. Among the warriors, who came to this country with the Norman William, was a certain "Roger," called by early historians "De Hirundine," "Herenile," or "Arundell." That the name of Arundell is derived from the Latin there can be no question; and there can be as little doubt that "De

Hirundine" is a punning allusion to the arms of the family, Arg. six swallows Sa. But it must be remembered that these arms were almost certainly assumed at a later date than the Conquest, for evidence points to the fact that armorial bearings were not made use of by the Norman invaders, since, to go no further, the Bayeux Tapestry, in which minute details of dress, &c., are carefully depicted, contains nothing which can be looked upon as an heraldic representation, the only approach thereto being a plain cross charged upon the flag of one of the transports. It is, moreover, tolerably clear that in all instances where Norman knights are pictured with heraldic shields, the charges at all events, were added subsequently; that the blazons for them were invented by the monastic chroniclers and others; and that the anachronisms which are constantly met with (such as quartered and impaled coats), show clearly that they must have been devised long subsequently to the Conqueror's death, as Marshalling by Impalement was not practised for nearly three hundred years after this date, while quartered coats were not used until the end of the thirteenth century. Armorial distinctions do not seem to have been employed in England at all until the twelfth century, and there was certainly no definite system in respect of them until the reign of Henry III; it is, consequently, necessary to look further than this source for the origin of the name of Arundell; and as the different "Rogers," "Roberts," "Williams," "Baldwins," and "Ralplis," who came here in 1066, were all distinguished by some sort of affix, descriptive of origin, office, habitation, or personal prowess

it appears to me to be probable that the Roger in question was at first known as Roger "de Arundine," that is, metonymically, Roger of the arrow or lance; and that in after years the similarity of the words "Arundine" and "Hirundine," despite their perfectly diverse signification, suggested the adoption of the coat armour I have referred to; in which case the arms were derived from the name, instead of the name from the arms.

It must not be forgotten that the Duke of Norfolk bears the title of Earl of Arundel by feudal tenure, confirmed, however, by special Act of Parliament in 1433, as the owner of the Castle of Arundel, in Sussex. This castle, which is shown by Domesday to have existed in Saxon times, was called after the town situated on the banks of the River Arun, a name probably given it by the Roman soldiers, "de Arundine," in consequence of the *reeds* which grew upon its banks. The late Mr. J. R. Planché, Somerset Herald, in his account of the Earls of Sussex says:—"In 1067 the Conqueror, having established himself on the English Throne, passed over to Normandy, whence he returned after a short stay with his Queen, Matilda; and it was on this occasion that he was accompanied by Roger de Montgomery, whom he is said to have made first Earl of Arundel, and subsequently Earl of Shrewsbury." There is nothing, as far as I can discover, to connect Roger de Montgomery with the Arundells of the West. The first of the latter, as I have already stated, was Roger de Arundell, who is believed to have fought at Hastings, and to have received, in return for his services, a grant, as shown by the Domesday Record, of twenty-eight lordships in Somersetshire, in-

cluding the Manors of Halsee, Hiwis, Wiseglestone, Destone, Cerletone, Aixie, Opecedre, and Cedre. His son, Robert, in the 5th of Stephen, 1140, paid tax for lands in Dorsetshire and Wiltshire, and was a benefactor to the church of Taunton. In the 7th of Henry II, Roger de Arundell, who was probably his son, paid £40 for the knight's fees he then held (I believe this to have been the same Roger who had obtained from King Henry I, a grant of the Manor of Hamistone, or Little Hempston). He was succeeded by his son, Nicholas, who may likewise have been the owner of Yewton, in the parish of Crediton. This Nicholas, appears to have been the father of John Arundell of Little Hempston, who was possessed of that property in 1243 (27th of Henry III), and also of Humphrey Arundell, who in 1231, by his marriage with Alice, daughter and heir of Sir John Lanherne of Lanherne, in the county of Cornwall, became the ancestor of the Arundells of Talvern and Trevice (which last are now represented by Lord Galway), as also of the present Lord Arundell of Wardour. The aforesaid John Arundell of Little Hempston, left two daughters co-heirs; the eldest, Arondella, married Richard Crispin of Wolston, in the parish of West Alvington; the youngest, Joan, a certain Walter de Bradestone. Richard Crispin and Arondella, his wife, had two sons, who both died without issue, William and Roger; the death of the latter occurred in 1314 (7th of Edward I). The Manor of Little Hempston then passed to Walter de Bradestone, son of Joan Arundell, who is shown by the "Feet of Fines," 18 Edward II, to have been living in 1324. He left a daughter his heir, who married Stretch, and was the mother of Sir John

Stretch, Knight, of Little Hempston and Wolston, who married Matilda, daughter and heir of John Molton, Lord of Pinhoe, near Exeter. Their son, Thomas Stretch of Pinhoe, Little Hempston and Wolston, died childless, and his inheritance descended to his sisters—Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Beauchamp of Lillesdon, county Somerset; and Cicely, who was childless at the death of her first husband, Thomas Bonville, but by her second, Sir William Cheney, had a son, John, who succeeded both to Pinhoe and to Little Hempston. This Sir William Cheney, brother of Sir Ralph Cheney of Upottery, was a great-grandson of William Cheney (and Felicia, his wife), who had obtained the Lordship of Roridge, in the latter parish, by grant of the Chapter of Rouen, in the reign of Henry III. He is described as “Lord of Pinhoe,” “*Jure Uxoris*,” and Sheriff of Devon in 1408. This office was held in 1434 by his son John, who, by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of John Hill of Spaxton, left issue a son, also called John (High Sheriff of this county in the 32nd year of Henry VI, and in the 1st, 2nd, and 13th of Edward IV; so that he was alive in 1473), and three daughters, married respectively to Strode, Stawell, and Courtenay. John Cheney appears from the Kirkham pedigree to have married Margaret, daughter of Richard Kirkham of Blackdon (who after her husband’s death became the second wife of William Bampfield of Poltimore, whom she survived, and subsequently married Grenville of Stowe). He left by her four daughters (co-heirs), Anne, married to Hussey, by whom she had a son Thomas; Elizabeth, who, by her husband William Clopton, left a son of the same name; Isabel, whose husband was Edward Walgrave, and who

had a son called John; and Ellen, the wife of George Babington. It appears from a Latin note appended to one of the Heralds' Visitations, that in the 23rd of Henry VIII (1532), the whole of the Manor of Pinhoe, together with the property of John Hill of Spaxton, descended to the aforesaid Thomas Hussey, William Clopton, John Walgrave, and Ellen Cheney, after the death of Genevieve, Lady Say, as cousins and co-heirs of Genevieve, daughter of John Hill, the brother of Elizabeth, wife of John Cheney, who, as I have before remarked, was High Sheriff of Devon in 1434. With regard to the marriage of Isabel (one of the daughters and co-heirs of the John Cheney who was alive in 1473), the statement made by Risdon ("Survey," p. 92), that she, whom he calls Mabel, "was married to Walgrave, as appeareth on a tomb at Buere, in Suffolk, who died in 1306," is manifestly an error, at least so far as regards the dates. Upon the death of the father of this lady without heirs-male, the Manor of Little Hempston came into the hands of the Willoughby family, according to Lysons, "by marriage with the heiress." I have found nothing, however, to substantiate this statement, although the family they mention most certainly acquired the property about this time, either by purchase or as next-of-kin to the Cheneyes in the male line. In order to explain the connexion between the two houses, I must go back to Sir Ralph Cheney of Roridge and Upottery, brother of Sir William Cheney, the second husband of Cicely Stretch. This Sir Ralph Cheney, married Joan, daughter and heir of John Pavceley, Lord of Broke, in Wiltshire, and had issue William, Lord of Broke, 2nd of Henry IV (1401), who married and had



issue Sir Edward Cheney, Knight, Lord of Broke, and first cousin, once removed to John Cheney of Pinhoe, who died, as we have seen, without male issue. This Sir Edward Cheney, married Alice, aunt and heir of that Humphry, Lord Stafford of Southwick, son of William Stafford of Hook, who as Risdon tells us (p. 359), was created Earl of Devon, 9th of Edward IV, but who was soon afterwards "conveyed to Bridgwater and had his head smitten off, having been Earl of Devon only three months and odd days." This Alice, by her second husband, Walter Taylboit, became the ancestress of the Strangways of Dorsetshire. By her first marriage with Sir Edward Cheney, Lord of Broke, she left two daughters co-heirs to their father's barony—Anne, married to Sir John Willoughby, Knight, of Knolle Adrian, Wiltshire; and Elizabeth, the wife of John Colshull. The former left three sons, Sir Robert Willoughby, Knight, William, and Richard, and the first of these, in consequence of the death of his aunt, Elizabeth Colshull, without offspring, succeeded to the Barony of Broke, *de jure*, although he is stated by Westcote to have been so created by Henry VII, in whose reign he filled the high office of Steward of the Royal Household. He is mentioned in the Visitation of 1564, as "Senescallus hospitii regis," and the same authority, with others, tells us that his wife was Blanche, daughter and heir of John Champernon of Beer Ferrers; and that being left a widow, she married, secondly, John Carew. By Lord Broke, she left issue a son, Sir Robert Willoughby, Knight, who succeeded to the Barony of Broke upon his father's death. He was twice married—firstly, to Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Richard

Beauchamp of Powick, by whom he had a son Edward; and secondly, to Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Gray, Marquess of Dorset, by whom he left two daughters—Elizabeth, married to John Paulet, Marquess of Winchester; and Anne, wife of Charles Blount, Lord Mountjoy, created Earl of Devon, by King James I, at Hampton Court, 24th July, 1603. Edward Willoughby, died in his father's lifetime without male issue; by his wife, Elizabeth Nevyl, daughter of Lord Latymer, he left three daughters—Anne, who died without issue; Blanche, who married Francis Dawtry, and who also died childless; and Elizabeth, the eldest, who was the wife of Sir Fulk Greville, Knight, of Warwickshire, by whom she had a daughter, Margaret, who married Sir Richard Verney, Knight, and died on the 26th March, 1631, æt. 70. Her grandson, Richard, third son of Sir Greville Verney, Knight, claimed the Barony of Broke in virtue of his descent from the last Lord Willoughby, after the death of William Verney, in 1683; and, the claim being admitted, he was called to the Upper House, on the 13th February, 1695, by the title of Lord Willoughby of Broke.

A pedigree of eleven generations of Knolles (of Knolle, county Somerset), is to be found in the Heralds' Visitation of Devon, 1564. It varies but slightly from the account given by Westcote of the same family (p. 474 of the printed edition of his work). Edmund, or Edward Knolles, the sixth in descent from Baldwin Knolles of Knolle, aforesaid, is described as of Little Hempston, and Lysons tell us,<sup>1</sup> that Robert Willoughby, Lord Brooke, sold the manor of Little Hempston to this Edmund, and

<sup>1</sup> *Magna Britannia*, p. 269, vol. ii.

that it was held by George Knolles, his son, at the time when Sir William Pole made his collections. According to the Visitation, this George Knolles was twice married—to Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of John Gaunt of Marchwood, Dorset; and to Mary, daughter of John Rowe of Staverton, Serjeant-at-Law, by whom he had a son named George. Westcote says, however, that it was this latter George, who married Mary Rowe (whose brother, John Row, according to the inscription on a memorial-brass, at Staverton, died in 1592), and that he had issue by her a son, George, and four other children whose names are not mentioned by the Heralds.

Although the Knolles' appear to have resided at Little Hempston, yet it is unlikely that they had anything more than a long lease of the property there from Lord Brooke, and, indeed, Westcote, the contemporary of Sir William Pole, correctly describes it as being "now" (1627-1642) the property of the Marquess of Winchester.<sup>1</sup> It descended to the posterity of Elizabeth Willoughby, who, as stated in my last article, married John Paulet, second Marquess; he died in 1576. They had, among other children, William, third Marquess of Winchester (who married Lady Anne Howard, daughter of the Earl of Effingham), and Elizabeth, wife of Sir William Courtenay of Powderham. William, the fourth Marquess, succeeded his father in 1598, and died February 4th, 1628. By his wife, Lucy, daughter of Thomas Cecil, Earl of Exeter, he had issue, John, third son, who being the eldest survivor, succeeded as fifth Marquess to the title and the family estates. This nobleman was eminently conspicuous in

<sup>1</sup> View of Devonshire, p. 405.

his time for his loyal attachment to King Charles I. He garrisoned his seat known as Basing, in Hants, and sustained a series of sieges which lasted for two years. Waller attempted to carry the house by assault three times within nine days, but was on each occasion repulsed with much loss; and afterwards, when Colonel Norton summoned the garrison to capitulate, the Marquess replied that "if the King had no more ground in England than Baring House, he would maintain it to the uttermost." His lordship, it is said by Collins (i. 85), caused the words, "*Aimez Loyaulte*" (now the family motto), to be written with a diamond in every window of his mansion. The siege commenced in the month of August, 1643. About September, 1644, the brave defenders were in sore straits for lack of provisions; but they were relieved by Colonel Gage, who marched from Oxford for the purpose, and succeeded in effecting his object with the loss of eleven killed and between forty and fifty wounded. At last the place was stormed and taken by Cromwell in person, who had under his orders six regiments, three of foot, and three of horse; while the Marquess was then supported by about 300 men, under Sir Robert Peake, who also had ten pieces of cannon in position. The letter to the House of Commons announcing the fall of the place is signed by Cromwell, and is dated October 14th, 1645.

The house was looted by the Parliamentary soldiers, and the effects in it were valued at £200,000. Many of the garrison were put to the sword, including one young lady, a daughter of Dr. Griffiths. The Marquess and Sir Robert Peake were sent prisoners to London. In less

than twenty hours after this assault Basing House presented nothing but bare walls and chimneys, a fire-ball said to have been thrown by Cromwell's orders having caused this destruction. This lamentable incident in the Civil War forms the subject of one of Charles Landseer's most popular pictures. Among the furniture destroyed, there is mention of one bed valued at £14,000, which had been probably provided for the use of Queen Elizabeth, who visited the first Marquess and was entertained with very great magnificence in 1560. Her Majesty was also the guest of the fourth Marquess in 1601. John Dryden, the Laureate, wrote the epitaph of the fifth Marquess, and feelingly refers to the sufferings he underwent for his allegiance to his Sovereign. His lordship died (being Premier Marquess of England) in the year 1674, and was buried at Englefield, Berkshire. An inscription on a flat stone at the foot of the monument was written and signed by Sir Edward Walker, Garter. This nobleman was thrice married—first to Jane, daughter of Thomas, Viscount Savage; then to Honora, daughter of Richard Burgh, Earl of St. Albans and Clanricarde; and lastly to Isabella, daughter of William, Viscount Stafford, who erected the memorial in the Church of Englefield. By his first wife he had issue a son, Charles, who succeeded him; and his second bore him four sons and three daughters. He obtained no reward for his loyalty to the ill-fated House of Stuart, but his immediate posterity appear to have adopted the principles of their ancestor, the first Marquess, who is said to have explained his successful career under four Sovereigns by remarking that "he was a willow, *not* an oak." At all

events, Charles, the sixth Marquess, was created Duke of Bolton, by William of Orange, on the 9th of April, 1689, and died February, 1699. His son Charles, the second Duke, went to Holland in the latter portion of King James II's reign, and was instrumental in effecting the change of Government which followed that Monarch's abdication, and he afterwards carried the Queen's orb at the coronation of William and Mary. At the time of Queen Anne's death he was one of the Lords Justices of Great Britain, pending the arrival from Hanover of King George I; and on the 16th October, 1714, he was made a Knight of the Garter. Like his grandfather, he was thrice married. His first wife, a fair girl of 15 (while he was but 18), was the Lady Margaret, daughter of George, Earl of Coventry. This marriage took place on the 7th July, 1679, and the Duchess died in February, 1682. By his second wife, Frances, daughter of William Ramsden of Byrom, county York, his Grace had two sons, each of whom held his title in succession. By his third wife, Henrietta Crofts, youngest (natural) daughter of the Duke of Monmouth, he had a son Nassau, who filled the appointment of Auditor-General of Ireland, and was a Knight of the Bath. His Grace died on the 27th February, 1729-30, and the honours devolved upon his son Charles, born 1685, who married Lady Anne, daughter and heir of John, Lord Vaughan, and died without lawful issue in 1754. He was succeeded by his brother, Lord Harry Paulet of Edington, Wiltshire, and M.P. for Southampton for some years. This Duke, by his marriage with Catherine, daughter of Charles Parry, left two sons and two daughters. Lord Charles Paulet, the eldest

son, succeeded as fifth Duke, but died *unmarried* in 1765, when the title came to his brother, Lord Harry, who left three daughters, co-heirs. His Grace was twice married. By his first wife, Henrietta Nunn of Eltham, he had Lady Mary Paulet, who became the wife of John, Viscount Hinchinbrooke, eldest son of the Earl of Sandwich, and her moiety of the manor of Little Hempston is held by the present Lord Sandwich; the other moiety has descended to the children of Lady Katherine, who was one of the daughters of the Duke's second marriage with Catherine Lowther, sister of the first Earl of Lonsdale of the creation of 1734. The Duke had also another daughter, Lady Amelia, born 1768, who was alive and unmarried in 1856. She is erroneously stated by the authors of the "Additions" to Risdon, to have been the wife of Lord Hinchinbrooke. Lady Katherine, married the third Earl of Darlington, who was created Duke of Cleveland on the 15th January, 1833, since which time her three sons have successively inherited the Dukedom. The youngest, Lord Harry Vane, born in 1803, became fourth Duke of Cleveland, 1864, and obtained the Royal License on the 18th November in the same year, to take the name of "Powlett" instead of Vane. He married, on the 2nd August, 1854, Lady Catherine, only daughter of the fourth Earl Stanhope, and widow of Lord Dalmeny, eldest son of the fourth Earl, and father of the present Lord Rosebery. His Grace has no children, and the heir-presumptive to his Barony of Barnard, only, is Henry Morgan Vane, Esq., of East Farndon, Northamptonshire, great-grandson of the Hon. Morgan Vane, brother of Henry, third Lord Barnard, who married

Lady Grace Fitzroy, daughter of the first Duke of Cleveland (son of King Charles II), who was grandfather of the first Duke of that name of the creation of 1833, who married Lady Catherine Paulet. Upon the death of the father of the latter lady, on the 29th December, 1794, the Dukedom of Bolton became extinct; but the Marquessate of Winchester, together with the lesser honours, devolved upon George Paulet of Amport, Hants (the youngest of the eight sons of Norton Paulet, great-grandson of William, fourth Marquess, who so honourably entertained Queen Elizabeth, as I have already mentioned), and his descendant is now, with the title of Winchester, premier Marquess of England. With respect to the present title of Bolton, the fifth Duke left a daughter, Jean Mary, upon whom he entailed the greater part of his extensive estates, in failure of the male issue of his brother. She married Thomas Orde, Secretary to the Treasury, in 1782, and also Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. In 1794, when his wife inherited under the settlement, Mr. Orde assumed by sign-manual the additional surname and arms of "Powlett," and was elevated to the Peerage, 20th October, 1797, as Baron Bolton of Bolton Castle, county York.

The manor of Buckyat, or Bokeyt, within the parish of Little Hempston, appears to be the "Bocheourde" of Domesday, which, at the Conquest, became the property of Robert, Earl of Mortaine, the Conqueror's half-brother, who was also lord of the soil of the neighbouring parish of Broad-Hempston.<sup>1</sup> It was for some years the residence of a family who took their name from it. The names of

<sup>1</sup> Ante p. 32.



John de Bokeyete and Stephen de Bokeyete occur in the year 1310.<sup>1</sup>

This family, whose arms were a stag's head, cabossed between three broad arrows, terminated with Agnes "Buckert or Buckhort," who married Richard Huckamore, described in the Visitation as of "Bucket," Esq. Her father was John Bokeyt. According to the Herald's Visitation, she had issue Thomas (but Westcote says John Huckmore), and thus drops one generation. Roger, son of John, according to *both* authorities, married Joan, sister and co-heir of Gregory Fulkerey of Buckland Baron, in the parish of Combeintinhead, and had issue Gregory, whose wife was Jane, daughter of William Walrond of Bovey. Their son, also named Gregory, married Alice Crewys of Chumleigh, and they had a numerous issue, five sons and seven daughters; of the latter, Mary, the eldest, married Thomas Yarde of Bradley. Her husband, by his first marriage with Agnes Strode of Newnham, had a son, George, who was the father of Edward Yarde of Churston and Dean Prior. This Edward died in his father's lifetime, when his widow, daughter and heir of Walter Northcote of Uton, Crediton, was re-married to Dr. Barnabas Potter (license dated 27th July, 1615), who was instituted to the Rectory of Diptford, *vice* Nicholas Shepherd, deceased, Patron, the King, in the minority of Frank Sture, August, 1615, and to the Vicarage of Dean Prior, on the resignation of Scipio Stucley, 4th October that same year.<sup>2</sup> Dr. Potter, who was born in 1578, was a Fellow, and eventually Provost of Queen's

<sup>1</sup> Feet of Fines, 3 Edward II.

<sup>2</sup> "Episcopal Registers."

College, Oxon. He was elevated to the See of Carlisle, and was consecrated at Ely House, Holborn, on the 15th March, 1628-9. He died in London, January, 1641-2, and was buried in St. Paul's Church, Covent Garden. John Huckmore, eldest son of Gregory Huckmore, and Alice Crewys, married Mary Floire, and had issue William, who took to wife Jane, daughter and co-heir of Sir Bartholomew Michell of Canington, Somerset, and had issue Gregory, William, and Charles. Sir Gregory Huckmore, appears to have been the last of the heirs (male) of his family. He died in 1678. His daughter married Sir Henry Gould, Knight, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, and had issue two daughters, co-heirs. The eldest of these ladies married Luttrell; and the youngest, Honora, became the wife of Richard, seventh Earl of Cavan, July, 1782. She died on the 1st October, 1813. In 1882, Mr. Thomas Whiteway was the owner of this property.

The estate in this parish known as Gatecombe (which must not be confounded with the *manor* of the same name situated at Colyton, and mentioned in the Exeter Domesday), was in the seventeenth century the property and residence of a family who appear to have lived for several generations at Totnes, and to have acquired money in business there. John Bogan and William Bogan were Mayors of Totnes in 1550 and 1551. Walter "Bougine" was of Totnes, merchant, and according to an inscription on a brass in the Parish Church there, which is mentioned by Prince, he married Prothesy, daughter of John Bodley of London, merchant (sister of the great Sir Thomas Bodley), and died 15th April, 1591, leaving six sons and

five daughters. Of these sons, William, who is described as "of Gatcombe, in the parish of Little Hempston," and whose will is dated April 2nd, 1658, married Joan, daughter and co-heir of Zachary Irish of Chudleigh, and had issue William, Walter, and Zachary. William resided at Gatcombe. Walter, by his will, dated 26th August, 1676, gave £20 to the poor of Little Hempston, as his father had done before him; and Zachary, the youngest, found a place amongst the "Worthies of Devon." He is said to have been an eminent Oriental scholar. His most elaborate work was a learned treatise on the phraseology of Homer compared with the Old Testament writers, and he was also the author of several devotional tracts. A detailed list of his writings will be found in Wood's "*Athenæ Oxonienses*" (vol. ii, p. 237). He was born in 1625, and proceeded to the University of Oxford in 1640. At first admitted to St. Alban's Hall, he obtained a scholarship at Corpus on the 26th November, 1641; but his studies were soon so seriously interrupted by the progress of the Civil War, and his sympathies (judging from the fact that his tutor was Ralph Button, a Puritanical Fellow of Merton) being probably with the Parliament, he retired to his father's house at Gatcombe and remained there until 1646, when he returned to college. He graduated B.A., October 21st, 1646, and in the year following became Fellow of Corpus, and proceeded to M.A., November 19th, 1650, ten years subsequent to the date of his matriculation. He died on the 1st September, 1659, and was buried by his brother William in the north cloister of his College near the Chapel. In consequence of the distractions of the times in which he lived, he

feared to leave money to the foundation of which he was a member, and therefore bequeathed £500 to the poor of the city instead. His portrait, stated to have been an admirable likeness, was placed in the Council Chamber at Oxford. His brother William left £20 to the poor of Little Hempston, and his will was dated April 12th, 1681. He appears to have had two sons—Zachariah and Walter. The will of the latter is dated 18th January, 1702, and his widow, Elizabeth, was alive in 1727. Zachary, by his will, dated 2nd November, 1693, also left £20 to the poor of his native parish; and these sums, together with another £20, left by the last-mentioned Walter (or rather with £9, all that remained of it undistributed), and about £49 arrears of interest, in all £138, were invested in the purchase of a field, the property of John Taylor of Totnes, called Dreadon, and situated in the hamlet of Luciford, within the parish of Little Hempston. The total cost of this field of ten acres, which afterwards formed the parish lands, was £210, and the balance appears to have been procured from the “public moneys and stock of the parish,” £40 of which however, was acquired by a legacy to the poor bequeathed by Christopher Blackhall. William Bogan of Gatcombe, the last male of this family, seems to have died early in the eighteenth century. By his will, dated 25th July, 1723, and proved at Totnes, he left an annuity of £10 out of the great tithes of Berry Pomeroy to the poor of his native village. The heiress of Bogan brought Gatcombe to Nelson, and by the latter family it was sold to James Chaster, whose devisees again sold it to Mr. Charles Cornish, in whose family it has continued; and the present owner is Major Charles Orchard Cornish

of Ashridge, Northtawton. Little Hempston is mentioned by Risdon as being free from tax and toll, commonly called "Custom free," by ancient demesne. This privilege is extended to many other parishes in this county, some of which acquired it, similarly, from their land having been originally in the hands of the King as demesne; others by charter, and a large proportion on account of pertaining to the Duchy of Lancaster.

## CHAPTER XVI.—PART II.

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## LITTLE-HEMPSTON CHURCH.

The parish church is situated in the valley of the rivulet known as the Herne, a tributary of the Dart, and at the western end of the village. It was very extensively altered during a fifteenth century restoration, and its characteristics, although generally of the Third Pointed style, present many remains of the earlier forms of Pointed architecture, more particularly of that known as Decorated work. It consists of a chancel, raised a step higher than the nave, which opens into the north and south aisles, beneath an arcade of five bays supported upon clustered pillars, the capitals of which are carved in foliage; a south porch with parvise over it; and a western tower containing five bells. The chancel is divided from the nave by a particularly handsome rood-screen. It is to be regretted that all traces of colour and gilding have disappeared from this, and that it has been painted a dark brown; nevertheless it retains much carved ornament of great delicacy and minuteness of detail—acanthus flower, vine leaves, clusters of grapes, and birds (among them the woodcock) adorn the cornice, and the projection of the rood loft, which still remains. The lower part is panelled, and without doubt once contained the customary figures of Saints,

Apostles, and Martyrs, while the upper portion is pierced with the usual pointed openings all filled with good Perpendicular tracery. The doors of entrance and exit to and from the rood stairs still remain : the latter are contained in an external octagonal turret. The east window has been restored, those on the north and south sides of the chancel are of Decorated date and their tracery is Early Third Pointed. The piscina, formed of the red sandstone lavishly employed throughout the building, has an acutely-pointed arch, a plain drain-hole, and is fitted with a shelf, a very usual arrangement, but the object of which is by no means certainly known. Some think that it was intended as a Table of Prothesis for the reception of the Elements previously to their oblation, but this from the small space afforded, seems almost impossible. Others fancy that it was provided for soap ; but the most plausible conjecture is that it was intended for the reception of the Holy Oil Cruet, an opinion which is substantiated by the fact that such a shelf is never found in churches which have a Chrismatory, that is, a recess usually found near the original position of the Font. In this instance, the Credence, or Table of Prothesis, was apparently in its proper position on the north side, since a square opening of the same stone as the piscina and with good mouldings still exists there. Recesses of similar form are constantly met with and are somewhat indiscriminately described as aumbryes or lockers, and it is somewhat difficult to distinguish the one from the other. In the latter case they were always fitted with doors, and traces of hinges should be looked for ; and they are also to be found in various parts of churches constructed in the thickness of the walls and

there seem to have served the usual purposes of cupboards ; but when placed on the north side and near the Altar they were always used to contain the sacred vessels and possibly the wine and oil required for the Service of the Sanctuary. The priest's door still remains on the south side. I was much impressed with the arcading ; the piers are not improbably relics of an earlier church, and may have been transformed into Perpendicular columns by the addition of the slender pilasters, which do not appear to have been included in the original design. The fifth bays, north and south, are lower, and the arches are more acutely pointed than the others, and they spring from slender vaulting-shafts. There are many good bosses of foliage in the roof, and some nodi. I noticed among them leaves twined into the form of the letter L, something similar to a boss at Ashburton in the south aisle, which is considered to have commemorated the re-edification of that portion of the sacred structure during the episcopacy of Bishop Lacy, 1420-1458. The red sandstone font is octagonal, it has a circular plinth, and the bevelled base is square with plain mouldings. The organ (by Speechley and Ingram) is beneath the tower arch. In the north aisle there is the effigy of a knight with crossed legs, clad in mail, with epaulières and a barrel helmet. On the face of the table-tomb on which the figure rests are five shields enclosed in quatrefoils, but the charges have quite vanished. It is generally supposed, however, to represent Sir John Arundell, Lord of the Manor in 1243. In the south aisle the door which leads to the parvise or priest's chamber is still to be seen, and here also are two interesting sepulchral memorials—a knight clothed in plate arm-



our, with shield, and wearing an oval helmet, his feet on a lion; and a lady in a wimple and long gown. These figures appear to have belonged to the latter part of the fourteenth century. They may possibly represent Sir John Stretch, Lord of this Manor, High Sheriff of Devon, 1380; and his wife, Matilda Molton, the heiress of Pinhoe. As illustrative of family history already referred to, I would also draw attention to a modern tablet concealing an interior window, which anciently opened into the church from the parvise:—"In memory of Charles Cornish of Gatcombe, who died May 19th, 1818, æt. 40. And of Charles James Cornish, his eldest son, Lieutenant, 16th Lancers, who died at sea, 1833, æt. 23. Also of Frederick William Cornish, second son, Captain H.E.I.C.S., Bengal Artillery, who died at sea off Cape Lagullas, May, 20th, 1851, æt. 40."

The north chancel-window contains some very interesting fragments of stained glass. I will first endeavour to describe them, and will then state what I have been able to discover as to their history.

In the tracery—The Tudor rose, fragments of the upper portion of elaborate canopies, and two shields; first, three crescents, Or (?) the lower charged with an annulet. Second, two wings, conjoined in lure (Barnhouse of Staverton).

In the lights—A figure with circular nimbus, arrayed in a blue vestment bordered with gold, holding a book in his right hand, the left hand gone. Second, a figure in vesture of similar colour, and holding a reed or long wand. Third, a figure coming up out of the water with fish playing around him, a staff blossoming in his hands. Two

kneeling figures with hands clasped in prayer—the female has a rosary. There are also fragments of an inscription; the words, “P. Aia Be \* \* \* Petre Suscipe Sancta,” can still be identified.

The late Rector of this parish wrote me, that he had “been assured by the widow of his predecessor, the Rev. W. Gower, that many years ago a certain Mr. Croydon, a glazier, of Totnes, was in the habit of saying that his father had been employed to repair some windows at Marldon Church and had not provided sufficient glass for the purpose. A bystander remarked that there was a rubbish-heap full of glass in the belfry. On investigation this proved to be the case, and when Mr. Croydon found on commencing to clean it that it was coloured, he obtained permission to appropriate it, merely on the condition that he at once ‘cleared it out of the way of the ringers.’” Sometime after this the Rev. Stephen Weston became Rector of Little Hempston, to which living he was instituted on the 17th January, 1784. He was the grandson of Dr. Weston, late Bishop of Exeter, and the son of Stephen Weston, Registrar of the Diocese. This accomplished scholar, Fellow of Exeter College, and afterwards a Fellow both of the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries, soon recognised the value of the glass which the good people of Marldon had so readily disposed of, and he became the fortunate purchaser of the whole of it for the sum of £10. He had two of the lights placed in their present position, but at the urgent request of Dr. Eveleigh, Provost of Oriel, who was then on a visit to Totnes, his native town, he gave the third light to him. At the general restoration of the church a few years ago

the glass was cleaned and relieved of an accumulation of whitewash, deficiencies were made good, and the quarried light in the centre was inserted by Messrs. Beer of Exeter, at the cost of the late Rector. Mr. H. Palk, who was 91 years of age when I last visited Little Hempston in 1877, stated that his father was churchwarden at the time this Marldon glass was obtained by Mr. Weston. Some small portions of it possibly had nothing to do with Marldon; *e.g.*, the arms of Barnhouse belonged to a family intimately connected with Staverton, a neighbouring parish to Little Hempston.

The church of Little Hempston has a very handsome appearance from the outside, as it is embattled and strongly buttressed; the buttresses originally ran up into pinnacles, but these ornaments have disappeared. The tower, which is square, is plastered; it is also crenellated, and has a curious porch entrance to an octagonal stair-turret on the south side, the arch of which, like most of the windows and doors throughout the building, is of red sandstone. The tower window is good, and the western doorway, although partly blocked up, still retains its pointed arch, surmounted by a moulded dripstone. The entrance into the north aisle is cut through a buttress. The south porch has a square-headed, Perpendicular doorway, with a worked weather-moulding, supported by corbels; that on the eastern side is the head of a Bishop, and, judging from the form of the mitre, probably is intended to represent Bishop Lacy, in whose time, A.D. 1439, the Church was almost, if not entirely rebuilt. Particulars may be found in his Register, iii, 198. The square parvise window has two lights, the heads being six-foiled,

with handsome deep mouldings in the jambs. There are also two slender image recesses, or tabernacles, in which the pedestals remain, ornamented with crockets, and finialed. On the eastern side of this porch I noticed the remains of a rude Gargoyle. There is a large yew tree on the south-western side of the churchyard, and the adjacent house, known as the Church House has a Perpendicular doorway of oak. The church of Little Hempston is dedicated to St. John the Baptist; it is mentioned in the taxation of Pope Nicholas (1291), where it is valued at £2 16s. 8d. per annum. In the *Valor* of King Henry VIII, Thomas Wode is mentioned as the Rector, and his income appears to have been £19 14s. 4½d. The late Rector, the Rev. Fitz-Henry Hele, who was instituted in 1837, effected the restoration of his church in 1863, and may be congratulated upon the result of his labours, the internal fittings being neat and appropriate. I have not forgotten his kindness, courtesy, and hospitality when I visited his church and parish. The present Rector is the Rev. W. D. Rundle, who was instituted in 1886. The early register-books are very imperfect. The marriages commence in 1539 with that of William Kade—"Imprimis, William Kade was married the 3rd day of May." The baptisms commence in July, 1645; and the burials in October, 1546. These registers have been neatly copied and, from 1730, they are in a carefully preserved book. I find that Mr. Weston, the Rector to whom I have already referred, and who resigned his preferments after the death of his wife, bequeathed a sum of £5 per annum in trust for poor persons (not being in receipt of parochial relief) of the parishes of Little Hempston, Mamhead, and

Marylebone. Will proved, P.C.C, 2nd April, 1830. The tithe rent-charge of this parish was commuted at £207 per annum, and there are fifty-eight acres of glebe, and a good modern residence, but the ancient rectory-house, which is almost unique of its kind, merits a particular description.

It is situated in a hollow, beneath the present parsonage, and is still in good habitable repair. The architecture is certainly not later than the fourteenth century, and portions of it, at all events, are probably considerably earlier; it is a good example of the "priest's house" of Chaucer's time. The walls are still perfectly sound and vertical, and the roofs are excellent. It stands in a very secluded situation, is surrounded by ancient ash trees, and is approached by an avenue of Wych elms. It is built round an interior court-yard, and the buildings form a quadrangle. The principal entrance is on the south-east, beneath an arched doorway, and the original iron knocker still remains. On the left is a small room with a narrow splayed window; on the right is the hall, which remains perfect. It is lighted by a large transom window, and contains the remains of an oaken panelled screen, on which I could faintly discern traces of chromatic decoration of a diagonal pattern. The square doorway retains its ancient hinges, the straps of which are terminated with a fleur-de-lis. The window is of two lights, divided by a transom, quirped and moulded, and the heads of the lights are cinquefoiled; on the exterior there is a label weather-moulding, and over it I noticed vestiges of a pointed arch, but whether a relieving arch only, or the remains of an earlier window, I am unable to say. The

roof is high pitched, and with plain oak timbering. In the corner of this hall there is a newel staircase, which ascends to an upper room, or "Solar"—

"Hastily than went thai all  
And soght him in the maydens hall  
In chambers high, es noght at hide  
And in Solars on ilka side."

At the top of the stairs is a square opening, which enabled the occupants of the room to observe the proceedings in the hall, a very usual arrangement in mediæval domestic architecture. Two windows on the south-east side of the hall and a doorway opposite have been blocked up. This room is of a large size (24 by 18 feet); it has been by some called a chapel, but there is no evidence of any license having been granted for a domestic chapel here, and it was most probably merely provided for household purposes. Returning to the entrance: on the left is a second door, affording access to the stairs which originally led to the chamber over the small room I have already mentioned, which was probably a lodge or servants' residence. The frames of the arched doors on this side are of oak; and with the exception of the small windows which light these two rooms all the openings were inwards towards the court. All other external lights are modern, save those which once existed on the south-east side of the great hall. Passing the lodge and the great hall we now enter the courtyard or "quad;" on the right we have the main portion of the dwelling, which is entered by a modernised doorway. The room used by the tenants as a kitchen has a communication with an important room (situated underneath the "Solar," or

withdrawing-room already described), access to which was anciently obtained through the doorway (now blocked up) near the staircase on the north-east side of the hall. This room measures 18 feet long by 12 broad ; it is now used as a best sitting-room, and is lighted by an oblong window filled with modern glass. One of the brackets of a high mantelpiece still remains here. The present back-kitchen, and the dairy beyond it, form the third side of the square ; and there is a bedroom over each living room except the great hall. The fourth side is formed by the farm buildings, stable, shippen, barn, &c. ; the first of these is still entered by its original doorway. The house is built of limestone, but many of the arches, &c., are of Moorstone ; the oak woodwork is in good preservation ; the stairs which lead to the "Solar," at the end of the hall, are enclosed in an exterior projection in the corner of the courtyard. It is to be hoped that this ancient and interesting residence will be preserved for many years to come. The plan appears somewhat similar to the ancient Vicarage in the neighbouring parish of Ashburton, which was taken down some years since. Like Little Hempston, it possessed, as shown by a Terrier dated 1679, "*a gate-house with two chambers, a kitchen and two little rooms, a parlour, six chambers and a study, a malt-house, cider-house, stable, shippen, and pound-house.*" During the Great Rebellion the Rev. John Strode, of the Newnham family, was Rector of Little Hempston, and also of Dittisham. His house was plundered, his books burnt, and he himself was placed in great peril, the Parliamentarians having declared that if they could catch him they would kill him and hang up

his quarters before his gate. He managed to escape, however, but his preferments were sequestrated. His wife, a daughter of Reynell of Ogwell, and his six children were turned out of doors, and one Edmund Tucker obtained possession of Dittisham and retained it for fifteen years, during which period the Rector was placed in great straits, as he could not procure payment of his "fifths." Tucker, too, worried him with several lawsuits in respect of land on lease; and although the Rector obtained verdicts which show, says Walker,<sup>1</sup> that the complaints against him, "even according to the law of those times," must have been manifestly unjust, yet the plaintiff, "by the interest of his great friends," always secured himself against the payment of damages. Walker says, also, that at Little Hempston, William Strode had to make way for a certain Thomas Friend, who enjoyed the living through the usurpation, and at the expiration of it gave it up again to its rightful owner, "and was a very honest sober man." There may possibly be some mistake here, however; and it must be remembered that Walker confessedly went a great deal by hearsay. In the lists preserved at the Record Office of those Nonconformists who in 1672 applied for preaching licenses, in accordance with the Declaration of Indulgence, the name of John Knight, M.A., occurs as having been ejected from the Rectory of Little Hempston in 1662. Walker says, that Mr. Strode survived, although in a sickly condition, until about seven years after the Restoration.

<sup>1</sup> "Sufferings of the Clergy," part ii, 356.



## CHAPTER XVII.

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THE PARISH OF WOLBOROUGH.—GENERAL DESCRIPTION  
AND HISTORY.

The ancient parish of Wolborough is situated in the hundred of Haytor, and the Archdeaconry of Totnes; at the re-distribution of Deaneries, already referred to in these pages, it was separated from Ipplepen to which it anciently belonged, and is now attached to the Deanery of Moreton.

The name is variously written in old documents, Ulgerburge, Woleburg, Wolleburge, and Wulveburge,

The Saxons are shown to have held their land by two kinds of tenure. The first and oldest was by oral tradition which they termed "Folkland," and the second called Bocland, signified that they had books, or manuscripts, in evidence of their right to their possessions, since after the introduction of writing, property was regularly conveyed by a deed or charter. Previously to this, a turf from a field, a piece of thatch from the roof of a dwelling, or some equally trivial token, was all that was necessary to give a purchaser a legal title to the tenement or soil.

There are instances of conveyances of this kind even as late as the Conquest. We are told that when Duke William landed at Pevensey on a certain memorable Nov-

ember morning, he stumbled, and fell upon the beach as he reached the shore. In such an age of superstition an event of this nature would have been considered as an evil omen and would probably have dispirited his followers, had he not with ready wit, at once filled his hands with sand and cried out loudly and cheerfully "See Seigneurs, by the splendour of God I have seized England with my two hands, without challenge no prize can be made, and that which I have grasped I will, with your good help maintain." On hearing these words one of his knights ran forward, and snatched some turf from the roof of a hut and brought it to the Duke, exclaiming, "Sire, come forward and receive 'Seizin,' I give you 'Seizin' in token that this realm is yours." "I accept it," replied William, "and may God be with us."

"Bocland," was granted by our Saxon kings with the concurrence of the Witena-gemôt, or great national council. It could be held by freemen of all ranks, and was exempt from all public burthens, except those called the "trinoda necessitas" or liability to military service, and from contributing to the repair of fortresses and bridges (burhbôt and brigbôt). It could be bequeathed to females, but only in "usufruct," and at the death of a female holder it reverted to the male line. I need scarcely say that from this tenure the various "Bucklands" in this and other counties derive their name.

The manor of Wolborough, was probably held as Folkland, and I should imagine was at first called Ulwin, or Alwinburge, after Alwin its first recorded Lord, who was one of the seventeen, greater, or King's Thanes in the reign of Edward the Confessor.

This Saxon noble appears to have been a large landed proprietor in this county, two of his estates were also called after him "Alwinestone," as recorded in the Exeter Domesday, in which, however, Wolborough is not mentioned. After the Conquest we hear no more of these traditionary holdings, all those which then remained became "terræ regis" or crown lands, excepting a remnant, of which there are even now slight traces in the "common lands" of the present day.

At the Conquest, Wolborough having fallen into the hands of the king, it was bestowed upon his trusty follower "Alured Brit, or Brito." The reference to it in the Exchequer Domesday may be thus translated—

"The land of Alured Brito."

"Alured himself held Ulgeburge, Alwin held it in the time of King Edward and it was taxed for three hides and one virgate of land. The land is for fifteen ploughs. In demesne there are two carrucates, and five serfs, and nine villeins, and nine cottagers, with six ploughs; there are twelve acres of meadow, and fifty acres of pasture, and fifteen acres of underwood ("silvæ minutæ") valued at sixty shillings."

The authors of the "Magna Britannia" rightly give "Wolborough" as the modern name of Ulgeburge, in their analysis of the Domesday Record, but they afterwards erroneously state that the manor of Ugborough ("Ulgeberge") belonged at the time of the Survey, to Alured Brito. The manor of Ugborough was never written "Ulgeberge," and Alured Brito never owned it, since, under the name of "Olueberie," it passed from Siward

the Saxon Earl of Northumberland, into the hands of Baldwin de Brion, the Norman Sheriff of Devonshire, under whom it was held by Ralph de Briwere, the ancestor of a subsequent owner of Wolborough, whose daughter and co-heir Alice, brought it to her husband Reginald de Mohun.

Alured Brito, must have stood high in his master's favour, for he contrived to obtain from him twenty-two manors in this county, besides a half-hide of land in Whimble, and a house at Exeter. About the year 1222 (6th and 7th Henry III), a certain Thomas Brito, gave to the Church of St. Edburg of Burncester (Dio. Oxon), and to the Prior and Convent thereof, "for the souls of Gilbert Basset and his wife Egeline de Courtnai, and for the safety of his own soul, and those of his father and mother, and of the parents of 'his friends' the Bassets, ten acres of land in the field of 'Magendune,' the metes and bounds being duly described in the deed." There was a family known as Britt, Britse, or Britiza, whose arms were—Sa. a fesse Arg. betw. 3 escallops Or, and who flourished for eight generations at Halwill, in the parish of Brixton, but there is no evidence that they were descendants of Brito, and more probably, when surnames became general, they took their name from their residence at Britriceston, or Brixton. After Alured's time the manor of Wolborough, became the property of Ingelram, or Angram Fitz-Odo, under whom it was held by Anthony de Brueria, as sub-tenant. Its lords held this manor by knight's service, and as an acquittance they usually paid the Crown the sum of nine shillings at Michaelmas. Anthony de "Brueria," was succeeded by his

son William, who sold his right in the property to a certain William de "Brigwere," with liberty to alienate it. This new owner, in consideration of his homage and service, and for the sum of forty marks of silver, became possessed of "totam villam de Wolveburga, cum advocacione ecclesie, et cum omnibus pertinentiis suis." If he should alienate it, his grantees would have the right of fishing at Wolborough "super Terram de Teynge." Dugdale says that the first mention he had seen of this family was in the 26 Henry II, when William Briwere purchased lands in Devon; this must have been the Lord William of whom I am speaking. We have seen that he acquired Wolborough from one of his own name, but it is uncertain whether they were otherwise connected, but that the latter had been settled here at this period for more than a century, is shown by the record of Domesday, where the name of Ralph de Brueria occurs as a sub-tenant under Baldwin the Sheriff. The names of "Briguerre" and "de Bruera" existed contemporaneously in Normandy, but, whether they were previously related or not, "William de Bruera" appears to have married the daughter of William, Lord Briwere, since the latter's son, William, granted the former four librates of land in the parish of Woodbury, with Engelesia his sister, in free marriage, and this land the grantor had inherited from his uncle, William de Albemarle. If Engelesia died without heirs, then the said land was to revert to her brother. William de Bruera with the consent of "Engelesia, his wife," conveyed to William Briwere, all his land in Grendle in recompense for the Manor of Holbeton which the latter had given them for their support during their joint lives. This deed

## DEVONSHIRE PARISHES.

was confirmed by Engelesia and Reginald, son of Geoffry de Albemarle, and there was also a further confirmation by Geoffry de Albemarle himself. William Briewere, the elder, or as he is usually styled William, Lord Briewere, was, as is well known, the munificent founder of Tor Abbey, which he colonized from Welbeck in Nottinghamshire, on the 25th March, 1196, upon which day seven monks from that place arrived at Tor, and took possession of the building there which he had then completed.

He had undoubtedly purchased Wolborough for the purpose of endowing his new foundation, since it is shown by the foundation deed that "he had given and yielded to God and the Church of the Holy Saviour of Torre, and to the Canons of the Premonstratensian Order serving God there, the *whole of his Manor of Woleburg with the advowson of its Church in the same manner as William de Brueria gave it to him 'for his homage and service, and for forty marks of silver.'*" This grant was duly confirmed by Beatrix de Valle his wife.

King John, as shown by the Charter Rolls, in the second year of his reign, not only confirmed to the Abbot and his brethren, the various gifts of the founder including "villam de Wolleberge et ecclesiam ejusdem ville cum omnibus pertinentiis suis," but he also granted them sundry additional privileges; and the Bishop of Exeter, Henry Marshall, by his deed dated Chudleigh, 17th June, 1206, approved of the appropriation of the church and its advowson, and until the dissolution of Tor Abbey, 23rd February, 1539, the manor and church of Wolborough formed part of its possessions.

It was about the commencement of the thirteenth

century, and therefore, very soon after the monks had obtained possession of Wolborough, that the Abbot of Torre began to grant building leases for the land in the valley which forms the northern extremity of the parish, and which was then known as the hamlet of Schireborne. Houses were soon erected and the little cluster of dwellings were at first described *as the* "Nova Villa," which name was soon translated into "Nyweton Abbatis," or Newton Abbot (The New Town of the Abbot). Here, by charter of the 3 Henry III, the Abbot was given license for a market on Wednesdays, and for a fair for three days on the Vigil, the Feast, and the day after the Feast of St. Leonard.

Walter le Barber of Tavistock, granted to the "Church of the Holy Trinity of Thor," certain messuages and tenements with their appurtenances, situate in the "New Town." This land is called "terra Pictoris" in the deed in which it is particularly described.

Ralph *de Nova Villa*, also released all his lands in "Cleye" to the Abbot of Thorre.<sup>1</sup>

In the year 1411, William Norton, then Abbot of Torre, was compelled to undertake an action against the Burgesses of "Newton Abbot," which was tried at Exeter Assizes, on the 4th March in that year, by the King's Justices, Robert Frenshe and William Gybbe.

The Abbot and Convent, as Lords of the Manor of Wolborough, and as impropriate Rectors of the Parish Church, complained of certain trespasses committed by the Burgesses in that portion of their manor aforesaid, called Newton Abbot, by having disseised them of a certain

<sup>1</sup> Tor Abbey Cartulary.

message there together with half an acre of land, and by having prevented the Abbey bailiffs from levying the tolls, customs, and other profits of the market, and fairs, and by having introduced clerics into St. Leonard's Chapel to the prejudice of the rights of the Mother Church of Wolborough. The plaintiffs further alleged that the said Burgesses, had illegally broken down certain fences and a gate in Wolborough, and had turned cattle into the pastures there, and that they had unjustifiably held Courts within the manor, in defiance of the orders of the Abbot.

The defendants in reply, justified their proceeding as to St. Leonard's Chapel, "which had been used by the Burgesses and inhabitants from time immemorial," they alleged that the land, said to have been disseised was situate in High Street, Newton Abbot, at the east-end of the said Chapel, and that shambles and stands were fixed there for the convenience of tradesmen, on fairs and market days, and that it was the established custom at other times for the inhabitants to similarly employ them. They also said that the Burgesses elected annually a head bailiff and other officers, that they had rented the tolls of the fairs and markets from the Abbot and Convent, and had duly paid the stipulated rent. With respect to the fences and gates in Wolborough, they stated that the Abbot's servants had blocked up an ancient church path, through a wood, between their town and Wolborough and they, therefore, considered that they had but exercised a just right in removing the obstruction; and with regard to the pasturage, they maintained, that it had been enjoyed by the tenants of the abbey from time immemorial.



The decision of the Judges was "that the free tenure of St. Leonard's Chapel, as well as the land occupied by the stalls and shamble, were clearly vested in the Abbot and Convent of Torre, who were entitled to all offerings, oblations, and profits of every kind. Saving these, the public were certainly entitled to the free use of the Chapel. That the Abbot and Convent were also absolutely entitled to all tolls, &c., in connection with the stalls and shambles, and the judgment was accompanied with a recommendation that these should be farmed to the head bailiff at a fixed annual rent.

The right of the inhabitants to the ancient Church path referred to, is, I believe, still maintained; it leads out of Wolborough Street by the western end of the old Parsonage house, and winds along the side of the hill until it unites with the modern road to Wolborough. The Manor Mill is still called the "Sherborne Mill," and is the only portion of Newton Abbot, which still preserves its original name.

Newton Abbot is an ancient Borough by prescription. There is no evidence that it ever possessed a Charter of Incorporation, or that it enjoyed Municipal privileges. Its Portreeve is still annually elected at the Court's Leet and Baron. In old records the "Præpositus Villæ" means no more than the bailiff of the Lord of the Manor, and it is shown by the answer of the Burgesses to the Abbot of Tor, that the latter as tenants of the Abbey, had been accustomed to elect such an officer from amongst their own body. By the laws of Henry I, the lord of the soil, answered for the town where he was resident, and where he was not, his seneschal, or steward, but if neither of

these could be present, then the "Præpositus" *i.e.* the bailiff, or reeve, and four of the most substantial inhabitants were summoned to appear before the Justices upon any necessary occasion instead.

Henry, son of Reginald, Earl of Cornwall, released the Abbot and all his dependents from all suit of the Hundred of Haytor, and from the yearly payment of the sum of twelve pence, which the Manor of Wolborough had been accustomed to return to him as Lord of the said Hundred.

It appears to have been anciently the custom to obtain an admission from the Sheriff, as to the legality of instruments by which property had been conveyed, and this was effected by having the deeds read and acknowledged in the County Court, or else in that of the Hundred. William de Raleigh, High Sheriff of Devon, 10 and 11 Henry III, gave his "*Literæ testimoniales de cartis donationis terre de Wulveburg, in pleno comitatu, lectis et confirmatis.*"

The acknowledgement as to the rights of the Abbot of Tor in Wolborough, was made on the day after the Nativity of St. John the Baptist in the year of the transference of William Briwere, Bishop of Exeter. This was in 1227, when the Bishop proceeded to the Holy Land, where he remained for nearly five years.

The deeds of Wolborough were exhibited by the vendor, William de Bruera, and the certificate of the Sheriff states "*quod ut nulli processu temporis veniat in dubium, hiis literis testimonialibus ad utriusque partis petitionem, sigillum nostrum apposui, et ad majorem securitatem.*"

It will be seen that the Abbot of Torre neglected no precautions to establish the validity of his title to

these lands which had been conferred upon him and his fraternity by the pious generosity of a private individual. Such precautions were then invariably taken, where land had been acquired by the Church, under similar conditions, nor were they neglected even when the donations emanated directly from the Crown. Grants, releases, and quit claims, were always sought from every one, however remotely connected with the land conveyed, or with its former owners, and as they could only have been obtained by the payment of heavy exactions, for the various concessions considered necessary, the frequent recurrence of such collateral assurances would seem to imply either a very insecure tenure of property, or a very uncertain state of the law, and there can be no doubt that the "Amor nummi" frequently overcame the scruples of the more powerful amongst the Laity, when, during unsettled periods of our history, they found themselves in a position to assert claims to property held by the Church, even in the days of its greatest power and influence.

In this instance, the concessions of Henry, son of Reginald, Earl of Cornwall, to which I have already referred, was followed by a release and further indemnity, in relation to the said lands, suits, and services, from Robert de "Curtenay," "to the Abbot of the house of 'Holy Trinity' at Thorre," and which exempted them especially from all relief, wardship, or scutage in respect of the lands of Ulleburg.

This Robert de Courtenay, who was made Governor of Bridgnorth in Shropshire in 1214, and became in the following year Sheriff of Oxfordshire, had the coinage of tin in Devon and Cornwall committed to him by King

John. He was the son of Reginald, the *first* of the name in England, and in right of his mother, was feudal Baron of Okehampton, Viscount of Devonshire and Governor of the Castle of Exeter. He was Sheriff of Devon, 1220-1. His release and indemnity to the Monks of Torre, was duly confirmed by his aunt Matilda Courtenay, who had been co-heir with his mother Hawise, in the Barony of Okehampton, and she also conveyed to the "Church of 'St. Saviour' of Thorre, all her rights in 'Ulleburg.'" Tor Abbey, is sometimes called in old documents, "The Church of St. Saviour," at others "The Church of the Holy Trinity." It appears to have been dedicated to the honour of the Holy Saviour, the Holy Trinity and the Blessed Virgin. The name of the place in which it is situated was always written "Thorre," or "Torre."

These confirmations of the Courtenays show that Wolborough was parcel of the great Barony of Okehampton, and thus it remained until the attainder of Thomas Courtenay, sixth Earl of Devon, who was beheaded after the battle of Towton, March 4th, 1466. His youngest son, John, was afterwards slain at Tewkesbury, May 4th, 1471. The arms of this family still remain in ancient stained glass in several of the windows of the Church, and their presence there may be thus easily accounted for.

Edward Courtenay, third Earl of Devon, commonly called the "Blind Earl," by deed dated Tiverton, 28th June, anno, 12 Henry IV (1411), confirmed to the Abbey of Tor, the grant of "William Briwer," de tota villa de Welleburgh. He was the son of Edward Courtenay of Godlington, third son of Hugh, second Earl of Devon of his name, and the arms of his brother, Sir Hugh Courtenay of Hac-

combe—Or, three torteaux, with the usual blue label, duly differenced with three mullets on each point; are preserved in a window on the north side of Wolborough Church.

The following genealogical account of the donor of the Manor of Wolborough, to the Abbot and community of Tor, is contained in the Cartulary of that Abbey preserved in the library of Trinity College, Dublin, and numbered E. 5, 15 :—

“William de Brewer,” the elder, had one son called William, who died without issue and was buried in the Abbey of Thorre. His inheritance descended to his five sisters as co-heirs, viz. :—Margerie, Grecie,<sup>1</sup> Isabel, Alicia, and Johane.

Margerie, eldest sister, married “De Fernac,” and had issue a daughter, Gondreda, who married Pagan de Charwerth, and had a son of the same name, who died s.p. and his inheritance descended to Patrick, “his brother,” who married a daughter of Earl Warrenne.

Grecie, the second sister, married “William de Brewes,” and had four daughters, Agnes, who married — son of Wallie, and died without issue; Matilda, the wife of William de Mortuo Mari; Eva, who married — de Cantilupo, whose son was “Gregory de Cantilupo,” and Eleanor, who was the wife of Uffrid de Borcey (Bovey).

Isabel, the third sister, was styled “De Dover,” she became the wife of Baldwin Bath, and had a son Hugh, who married and had issue Baldwin.

Alice, the fourth sister, married Reginald de Mohun,

<sup>1</sup> In the deed of settlement to which I have previously referred, she is called “Engelesia.”

who had a son John, who married and had issue, John de Mohun, *now* living.

Johanna, the fifth sister, was wife of William de Percy, and had issue by him four daughters, viz. :—Johanna de Ferlington, Agnes, wife of Eustace de Bayllo; Alicia, wife of Ralph Bermingham (she had issue William Bermingham), and Anastasia.

There are several discrepancies between this monkish chronicle, and other existing records of the families of which it treats; it has one great advantage over these latter however, in that it must have been compiled at a very early period, since it mentions *John*, son of John de Mohun, *as then living*. His father died in 127 $\frac{8}{9}$ . He himself lived until 133 $\frac{0}{1}$ , and between these dates, therefore, the account must have been entered in the Cartulary.

William Briwere, the younger, died in 1232, and was buried in the Abbey Church. He confirmed his father's gifts to the Abbey, of Ilsham and Coleton, "pro salute anime mee et Johanne uxoris mee, et pro animabus domini Wilielmi Briwere patris mei, Beatricis, matris mee, et omnium antecessorum, et successorum meorum." His wife, mentioned in this deed, was Joan, daughter of William de Vernon, sixth Earl of Devon of the Redvers family, and sister of Mary, wife of that Robert de Courtenay, whom I have previously mentioned as having granted a quit claim to the monks in respect of the Manor of Wolborough. I have also referred to the settlement he made on his sister (Grecie), there called Engelesia, upon her marriage, with "William de Bruera," whose name as given in this deed appears to be identical with that of the "William de Bruera," son of "Anthony de Bruera," who

had conveyed to his father the property at Wolborough, and if this is the case, William de Bruera of Wolborough, must have been the same person, as William de Braose, or Bruce, who is known to have been the grandson of Judhel of Totnes, and who divided that Barony with Henry de Novant, during the reign of King John. This is shown by the descent in the Cartulary, which tells us that "Grecie," or Engelesia—elsewhere I have found her called Grisald,—by her marriage with "William de Brewes," called William de Bruera, in the settlement—had a third daughter Eva, who married De Cantiluppo, and had issue, a son Gregory, and a daughter Eleanor, who married Uffred de Bovey. Of the latter, I have found no further mention and she probably died without issue. It is shown by other authorities that *Eva, daughter of William Braose, was the third wife of William de Cantilupe*, and her children are stated to have been George, not Gregory, Milisent, and Joanna. George died childless in his father's lifetime, as also did Joanna, but her grandson John de Hastyns, and her daughter Milisent de Monte Alto, are shown to have been the right heirs of her husband William de Cantelupe.<sup>1</sup>

Alice, the fourth sister of William Briwere, the younger, married Reginald de Mohun. There appears, however, to be a mistake here in the account left by the monks, who state that her son was called John, and that he had a son, John de Mohun, "now alive." Alice Briwere, married Reginald de Mohun, in the sixth year of King John, 1204, and survived her husband who died in 1213, leaving a son, Reginald, who married twice; first, the sister of Humphry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, by whom he had a son John,

<sup>1</sup> Plac de quo Warr.

who married Joan, daughter of Sir Reginald Fitz-Piers, and secondly Isabel, daughter and co-heir of William de Ferrers. (The arms of Ferrers in ancient glass are still in Wolborough Church).

In the Plea Rolls, may be found one concerning the rights of John de Mohun, and of his wife, Johanna, in the Manors of Ulleburgh (Wolborough), and Braworthy in co. Devon, and in other Manors in Berkshire, Dorsetshire, and Somersetshire, setting forth the several titles of the said John de Mohun and Johanna respectively. Reginald de Mohun, duly executed a deed of Confirmation of the several gifts to Tor Abbey, by William, Lord Briwere, and Beatrice de Valle, his wife, and also by William Briwere, the younger.

On the 1st September, 1545, the Manor of Wolborough, with the demesne lands were purchased from the King by "John Gaverock, gentleman," and Jane, his wife, for the sum of £592 14s. 2d., but the advowson and patronage of the Rectory was retained by the Crown. He had been Steward of the Manor under the Abbot, at a yearly stipend of £3, and just previously to the dissolution, he had obtained from the latter, a lease for sixty years, at an annual rental of twenty shillings of "Rowseshill and Rowses garden, within the Borough of Newton Abbot, and another tenement and garden, bounded on the north by the High Road to Totnes." He had a son, Richard Gaverock, who died without issue, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Alice, and Susan, who were alive in 1567, and who married into the families of Drew, Marshall, and Heyman. He appears to have also acquired by purchase other property belonging to the Abbey of which I shall



speak hereafter, and to have obtained possession of the "Tor Abbey Cartulary, or Lieger Book," since a memorandum at the commencement of this manuscript states that it belonged "to the heirs of John Gaverock, gentleman," and we learn from another note that "it was delivered into court for the Queen's use on the morrow of the Purification, in the 21st year of Elizabeth. It is evidently a transcript of an earlier record, since it is in the same handwriting throughout, the character of which is of the date of the fifteenth century. The entries relating to Wolborough will be found on folios 13 to 20 inclusive, to most of which I have already referred in these pages.

According to the "Valor Ecclesiasticus," the annual value of the Manor of Wolborough at the dissolution, amounted to £49 18s. 3½d., derived from "Redditus assisi de liberis tenentibus, convencionoriis tenentibus, terrarum, barton. cum firma molendini, et redditibus domus marcati, infra burgum de Nuton, per annum £38 1s. 8d."

"De finibus terrarum vendicione bosci, cum perquisitis curie et aliis proficuis communibus annis £11 16s. 7½d." Out of this the bailiff of Wolborough, Thomas Barbor, received a salary of twenty shillings a year.

The Manor of Wolborough was soon afterwards sold to Sir Richard Reynell, a Cadet of the House of Ogwell.

Upon August 2nd, 1537, Thomas Yard of Bradley, Esq., became the purchaser of the Manor and Borough of Newton Abbot, the annual value of which amounted to £10 17s. 7½d., derived from "Redditus assisi de liberis burgensibus, ibidem per annum £7 2s. 9½d.

De perquisitis curie et aliis proficuis ibidem communibus annis £3 14s. 10d. The Borough Charter for Newton

Abbot, appears to have been granted by King Henry III, in the year 1270, the deed according to Stirling, was in 1830 in possession of the late Rev. R. Lane.<sup>1</sup>

It has been recently suggested in two papers, read before the Members of the "Devonshire Association," "that Newton Bushel and Newton Abbot, were originally included in one Manor, and that that Manor was the 'Newentone' of Domesday." The author of these papers admits, "that it is remarkable, that Newton Abbot,<sup>2</sup> is known by a name which did not become appropriate to it until 1196, and Newton Bushel by a name which did not apply to it before 1261," and the circumstance "that Newton Bushel with Teignwick is in Teignbridge hundred, and Newton Abbot with Wolborough is in Haytor hundred," he considers points to a very early severance of the properties. I find nothing to support this suggestion. There are three ancient Manors written "Newentone," in Domesday, and these correspond with the three modern ones known as Newton St. Cyres, Newton Ferrers, and Newton Tracy, whilst the Manor written "Nietone" in Domesday, and which formerly belonged to the Monks of Bodmin, is that which is now called Newton St. Petrock.

That portion of Wolborough Manor, now called Newton Abbot, was originally known as "Scirburn," by its Saxon owners, and being interpreted, signified the "clear brook," a name evidently given to it in allusion to its situation on the southern bank of the little Loman or Lemon.

It may have been the "Siredone, or Sirebone," of the Exchequer Domesday, which at the Conquest, as in the

<sup>1</sup> Stirling's "History of Newton," 1830.

<sup>2</sup> Trans. Dev. Assn., vol. xvi, 435, vol. xviii, 319.

Confessor's time, was held by Aluric, the King's Thane; but in any case it must have been appendant to Wolborough, because, although, not mentioned by name, it is included in the gift of the whole vill, or Manor of Wolborough, by William, Lord Briwere, to the Monks of Tor. It is shown also by the pleadings, in the suit of the "Abbot *v.* the Burgesses of Newton," that the latter was "parcel of the Manor of Wolborough."

Newton Abbot is occasionally mentioned in early deeds connected with the Abbey, but is invariably described, not as Newton, but as "Nova Villa," or New Town, and there can be little doubt, but that it acquired this designation during the first quarter of the thirteenth century, when the enterprise of its clerical owners had enlarged it with more important dwellings, and had procured the advantages of a weekly market and an annual fair, for this little hamlet which had hitherto consisted of a few scattered cottages surrounding the Manor Mill upon the south bank of the "Scirburn," or "Limen stream."

It then became *the New Town of the Abbot at "Scirburn,"* and the market is actually described as being situated in his Lordship's Manor of "Schireborne Nyweton;" similarly, that portion of the Manor of Bradley, situated upon the north bank of the same stream, when it came a few years later into the hands of Robert de Bussel, soon became covered with houses, and known as Nova Villa de Bussel, or Newton Bushel.

## CHAPTER XX.—PART II.

THE PARISH OF WOLBOROUGH—THE LAY LORDS  
OF THE MANOR.

The co-heirs of John Gaverocke, sold the Manor of Wolborough, to Sir Richard Reynell, Kt., of the Middle Temple, and Autumn Reader there in the 12th year of the reign of James I. Sir Richard, who held an office in the Exchequer, is said to have amassed great wealth, and he probably purchased this property on account of its propinquity to his father's house, at Ogwell, where he had been born and reared.

The Reynells were originally a Somersetshire family, but removed to Cambridgeshire at an early date, when they acquired much land in the latter county by marriage with Maud, daughter and heir of Everard de Trumpington.

In the reign of Richard II, however, Walter Reynell (son of Walter of Battington, co. Cambridge, by his wife Joan, daughter and heir of John Bassingbourne), married Margaret (daughter and heir of William Strighull, or Style, by his wife Elizabeth, or Constance, daughter and heir of Galfrid Malston of Malston, in the parish of Sherford), and in right of his wife, Walter Reynell, at his death in 1384, was found seised of the Manors of East Ogwell, Malston, and other property in this county. His son, Stephen, by his wife Agnes Chichester, had three sons, and a daughter, Alice Trevelyian.

Walter, the second son, his elder brother Robert dying without offspring, inherited the estates. He distinguished himself greatly in the French Wars, was present at the battle of Agincourt, October 25th, 1415, and was subsequently Governor of Calais. He represented Devonshire in Parliament in 1455, and died in 1475. He had married, about the year 1411, Joan, daughter of William Walrond of Bradfield, and had two sons, Walter, who died without issue, and Robert, who succeeded to the property, also three daughters, Eleanor, Strechleigh (whose second husband was William Fowel of Fowelscombe), Mary Champernowne, and Joan, whose arms with those of her husband, Pyne of Upton Pyne, are still to be seen on the capital of one of the pillars of the south aisle of the parish Church there.

Robert Reynell, married Thomasine Hache of Wolley, and their son Walter, by his wife Radegunde, third daughter of Philip Coplestone of Coplestone, had four sons, John, Thomas, Nicholas, and Edward; and two daughters, Margaret, who married first, Richard Sake, a Yeoman of the Guard, and afterwards John Champion, and Joan (Huckmore), whose second husband was Pry of Colebrook.

Walter Reynell, bequeathed Ogwell to his eldest son John, but gave Malston to Thomas his second son, who married Cicely, daughter of Edmond Mathewe. His eldest grandson, Edmund, had a second son also called Edmund, who married Mary, daughter of Hugh Fortescue, and went over to Ireland and was the ancestor of the Reynells of Castle Reynell, co. Westmeath.

His fourth grandson, Richard, was of Creedy Wiger,

in the parish of Upton Hellions, and married Mary, daughter and co-heir of John Periam of Exeter and Shobrooke. John Reynell of Ogwel (eldest son of Walter, and Radegunde Coplestone), married Margaret, daughter of William Fortescue of Wood, and had issue, Walter, who died s.p. Richard of East Ogwel, Roger, and John; and two daughters, Emma, wife of William Wivell of Crediton, and Alice, who married her neighbour William Soper of Woodland.

John the fourth son, born 1524, was the ancestor of the Reynells of Newton Abbot, who continued to reside there until the death of the Rev. John Reynell in the year 1800. Richard, second but eldest surviving son, married Agnes, daughter of John Southcote of Indhio, in the parish of Bovey Tracy. Prince has included him amongst his Devonshire Worthies, and remarks "This Richard left behind him five sons, whereof *three* are knights." ("Four," he says in a marginal note, "it should have been, unless one of them might be knighted after the writing hereof")—"All which sons, even from their infancy, he ever with godly care, and great charge maintained in the schools of vertue and learning, viz., at the Universities, Inns of Court, their princes Court, travels into Germany, France, Italy, &c. All which sons being vertuously disposed are at this day serviceable in some good degree or other to the Kings Majesty and their country." With reference to Prince's marginal note, I should explain that he had obtained his information, as he admits, "from a manuscript, in a sheet of paper I received from the very hopeful young gentleman, the present heir of the family, Richard Reynell, Esq., entituled "a particular, touch-

ing the name, inheritance and antient descents of the Reynells."

The family consisted, as Prince says, of five sons:— 1, Sir Thomas Reynell, Knt. ; 2, Josias Reynell, who died s.p. ; 3, Sir Richard Reynell of Ford ; 4, Sir George Reynell, Marshal of the King's Bench, who married twice, and was the ancestor of the Reynells of Rivershill, co. Hants. (His eldest son, Carew Reynell, was of Exeter College, Oxford, B.A. 1617, and his third son, Richard, was of the same College, 1627). 5, Sir Carew Reynell, who was Cupbearer to Queen Elizabeth, and married the daughter and heir of Sir Francis Hungerford. There was also a daughter Margaret, who was first the wife of Arthur Fowel of Fowelscombe, and afterwards married Sir Edmund Prideaux, Bart.

Sir Thomas Reynell the eldest son, received the honour of knighthood, at the Coronation of King James I. He built the present residence at West Oghwell, which has however been more than once altered and added to, in 1589. He was twice married. By his first wife, Francis, daughter of John Aylworth of Polsloe, near Exeter, he had three sons, Richard, Thomas, and Walter, and five daughters, Jane, Francis who married Vaughan, Agnes, Lucy who married Welch, and Mary. The marriage license of Valentine Pomeroy of Binley, with Jane, the eldest daughter, is dated 23rd January, 1615, and that of John Thimbell of the University of Oxford, with Agnes, the third daughter, 15th August, 1620.<sup>1</sup> Mary, the youngest daughter, was first the wife of Dean Goodwin

<sup>1</sup> "Episcopal Registers."

of Christ Church, Oxford, and afterwards of Dr. John Prideaux, Bishop of Worcester.

Of the sons—Thomas, the second, was Server-in-Ordinary to King Charles I, and I shall have occasion to refer to him again. He married a daughter of Sir Henry Spillar, and had two sons, Thomas Reynell of Laleham, and Henry Reynell of Shepperton, both in co. Middlesex. The granddaughter and heir of the latter, Hester Caroline, married the Rev. David Williams, who assumed the name and arms of his wife's family. Sir Thomas Reynell, by his second marriage with Anne, daughter of Sir Henry Killigrew, and relict of Sir Jonathan Trelawney, had one son, Edward, who, Prince says, "was in the seventeenth year of his age or thereabout, sent to Oxford, and admitted Fellow Commoner of Exeter College, on the 30th May, 1629, where he continued some years under the care of a noted tutor—I suppose his brother-in-law, the famous Dr. Prideaux, the Rector, who had married that vertuous gentlewoman, his sister, Mrs. Mary Reynell."

The caution book of Exeter College, transcribed in 1639, from an older book, begins with this entry—

"1629, Maii 30. (Tradita) Magistro Bodley bursario £6 pro Edvardo Reynell, ad mensam sociorum admisso per dominum Rectorem, J<sup>o</sup> Prideaux, Rector, Laur. Bodley burs."

"Juli 21, 1632. (Reddita) Magistro Gulielmo Hodges £6 pro Edvardo Reynell socio commensali, Guil. Hodges, Edv. Reynell."

Edward Reynell appears to have first followed the law as a profession, and was a member of the Middle Temple.

<sup>1</sup> "Reg. Coll., Exon.," Boase, 63.



He was afterwards ordained, and became Rector of Ogwell. He was the author of several works, including the life and death of his Aunt Lucy, Lady Reynell, published in small 8vo. A list of his writings may be found in Wood's "Athenæ Oxonienses," and also in Prince. The latter author tells us that he was never married, and much addicted to melancholy, and that he ultimately terminated his existence, by suffocating himself in a small bason of water, at the parsonage house of East Ogwell, in the year 1663.

Sir Richard Reynell, the eldest son, was knighted at Ford House, by King Charles I, 15th September, 1625. He married his kinswoman, Mary, daughter and eventually co-heir of Richard Reynell of Creedy Wiger, and of his wife, Mary Periam, and their marriage license is dated 10th January, 1616. He died, 10th February, 1684, aged 64, and left issue, Thomas Reynell, eldest son, Sir Richard Reynell, second son, and two daughters, Mary (Huckmore) and Elizabeth.

Sir Richard, the second son, was Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, and was created a Baronet of that Kingdom in 1678, and represented Ashburton, in Parliament in 1689-90. His son, Sir Richard, second Baronet, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Reynell of Laleham, and grand-daughter of Sir Thomas Reynell, Server-in-Ordinary to Charles I. He was the ancestor of Major-General Sir Thomas Reynell, sixth Baronet, K.C.B., who commanded the 71st Regiment at the battle of Waterloo, and at whose death the baronetcy expired.

I should have mentioned that Sir Richard Reynell, built the north aisle of East Ogwell Church, which communi-

cates with the nave of that structure by four obtuse arches, and to which *various* dates have been ascribed.

The note of the license in Bishop Hall's Register, is as follows:--

“2nd May, 1632. Dominus Episcopus in Palatio suo Exon. concessit venerabili viro domino Ricardo Reynell, de Ogeuill militi, licenciam pro edificatione Insule adjacentis ecclesiæ de East Ogeuill.”

Sir Richard's eldest son, Thomas, succeeded him at Ogeuill, in 1648. He was born in 1624, and frequently represented the neighbouring Borough of Ashburton in Parliament from 1658 to 1688. He was High Sheriff of this county in 1677, and appears to have been a very active Magistrate, and especially between the years 1653 and 1657, during which years marriages were required by Parliament to be performed before a Justice of the Peace; his signature is then constantly to be met with in the Register books of Ashburton and the neighbouring parishes for many miles round.

He was of Exeter College, Oxford in 1640. He was twice married, first, to Mary, daughter of John Bennet, by whom he had two daughters, Elizabeth, the wife of James Coplestone, and Mary, who married John Whitrow of Dartmouth. By his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of James Gould and relict of William Vincent, he had two sons, Richard, his successor, and Thomas, who is supposed to have died without issue, and another daughter, Anne, who married Sir William Morice of Werrington. He died in March, 1698. His eldest son, Richard, who was M.P. for Ashburton, 1702-1710, never married, and died in 1735, when he left the Ogeuill estates to his

niece, Rebecca Witrow, who brought them to her husband, Joseph Taylor of Denbury. To their son, Thomas Taylor, the Bishop of Exeter, 22nd January, 1734, confirmed an aisle in the church of Denbury, and also granted him a license to erect a monument in the same church to the memory of his father, Joseph Taylor, and to make a cave or vault there, and he had also permission to construct a gallery and four seats there for the use of the parishioners.<sup>1</sup>

He married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Adam Pierce, and had issue, Pierce Joseph Taylor of West Ogdwell, who by his wife, Charlotte, fifth daughter of the Rev. William Cooke, Dean of Ely, and Provost of King's College, Cambridge, had a son, Thomas William Taylor, born 13th July, 1782. He was a Major-General in the Army, Companion of the Bath, Colonel of the 17th Lancers, and Lieutenant-Governor of the Royal Military College, at Sandhurst. He married Anne Harvey, daughter of John Petrie of Gatton, Surrey, and left issue, Pierce Gilbert Edward Taylor, late of West Ogdwell House, Arthur Joseph Taylor, Fitz-William Taylor, the present respected Rector of East and West Ogdwell, and Arch.-Priest of Haccombe, and the late Major-General Reynell Taylor, J.P., who died at Newton Abbot.

This fine old property has now passed out of the hands of the descendants of its ancient owners, since it was sold some few years ago to Mr. Daniel Robert Scratton, J.P., and D.L. for Essex, and J.P. for Devon, who now resides at West Ogdwell.

I must now return to Sir Richard Reynell, who after he had amassed a fortune in London, came back to his

<sup>1</sup> "Epis. Registers."

native county to spend it, like many a *true* son of Devon has done, both before, and since the time in which he live. The opportunity of acquiring property so closely situated, not only to the home of his fathers, but to his maternal relatives as well, for his mother was, as I have said, a daughter of the house of Indhio, in the neighbouring parish of Bovey Tracy, must have been singularly attractive to him, and it is considered that he built the "fair house at Ford," in the year 1610. I say considered, because there appears to me to be a strong probability that he only altered and added to a previous residence upon the same site, and it is shown by an indenture dated 40 Elizabeth, 20th December (1597), that a certain "John Drewe, Gentleman," had previously lived there, since, in this deed he is described as of Ford.<sup>1</sup> The present house, is anything but a mansion, according to the modern acceptation of the term, but it is a large and comfortable dwelling, standing in a pleasant lawn on the banks of the river Aller and near the foot of Milbourne Down. It has five ornamented Elizabethan gables, and the wings and porch project slightly from the main building, thus forming the letter E. There are thirteen windows in the front, all mullioned and divided by transoms, and the string course has been diverted to form label weather mouldings over the lights in the upper story of the porch and wings. The entrance is in front and leads into an ordinary sized hall and the dining room on the same floor has a handsome mantle-piece, a finely moulded ceiling, and a recess for the sideboard supported by four classical pillars. The staircase is broad and convenient, the draw-

<sup>1</sup> Wolborough Feoffee Deeds.

ing room has an arched ceiling, springing from moulded figures and is ornamented with foliage; over the front windows of this room are the arms of Waller, impaled with Reynell.

The chamber in which the Prince of Orange is said to have slept, is still, I believe, known as the "Orange room."

Here Sir Richard Reynell had the distinguished honour of twice receiving his Sovereign King Charles I. It was on the 15th September, 1625, in the first year of his reign, that his Majesty, then on his way to Plymouth, arrived at Newton Abbot. The king came from Crewkerne where he had passed the previous night, and avoiding Exeter on account of the plague which was then rife there, crossed the river below that city, probably at Maddeford, and made straight for Powder ham, where he was met by the High Sheriff of the County, Sir Simon Leach. His suite consisted of the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Derby, Lord Holland, Sir Robert Killebrew, and the Lords Essex and Arundell, together with several others of his household, and amongst them his Server-in-Ordinary, Thomas Reynell, younger brother of the then "Squire" of Ogwell, and a nephew of Sir Richard's.

Great preparations had of course been made for the proper reception of Royalty, and the neighbouring gentry appear to have sent in contributions of fish, flesh, and fowl, with a very liberal hand. The complete list of the bucks, does, sheep, fowls, salmon, partridges, pheasants, and quails, which must have filled the Ford larder to repletion, has been already copied from "Chapple's Collections," re-printed by the authors of the "Magna Britannia," and has since appeared in the small history

of Newton, published by Stirling in 1830, and more recently in the "Transactions"<sup>1</sup> of the Devon Association, so I need not reproduce it here. King Charles arrived at Ford, on Wednesday evening. On the Thursday after dinner he conferred the honour of knighthood upon his host's nephew the "Squire of Ogwell," Richard Reynell, and upon his brother Thomas, who was one of his Servers-in-Ordinary,<sup>2</sup> and said to each of them "God give you joye," which words he subsequently repeated to their wives, whom he affectionately kissed before his departure for Plymouth. At the same time His Majesty knighted John, son of Walter Yonge of Upton Hellions, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Strode of Newnham, and whose mother was Jane, daughter and co-heir of the Lord Chief Baron John Periam. His ancestor, Walter Young of Bassildon, co. Berks, had been fined, first of Queen Mary, for not accepting the above distinction. The expense of this grand entertainment cost Sir Richard Reynell, £28 13s. 5d.

The King must have been accompanied by a considerable retinue as, in addition to the Lords and Gentlemen-in-waiting, whose names I have given, it is shown by the accounts of the Plymouth Corporation,<sup>3</sup> that when he arrived at the latter town he was attended by—

His Gentlemen Ushers in daily waiting.

Gentlemen Ushers of the Privy Chamber.

Serjeants at Arms.

Knight Harbinger.

<sup>1</sup> "Transactions Devon Association," x, 233.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Ric. W. Reynell's Diary.

<sup>3</sup> "Transactions Devon Association," x, 234.

Knight Marshal.

Gentlemen Ushers quarter waiters.

Servers of the Chamber.

Yeomen Ushers.

Grooms and Pages.

Footmen.

Four Ycomen.

Gate Porters.

Serjeant Trumpeter.

Trumpeters.

Surveyor of Ways (a very necessary officer at this period to such an expedition).

Yeomen of the Fields.

The Coachman.

Yeomen Harbingers.

A Jester.

On Saturday the 24th of the same month, the King returned to Ford, and was again hospitably entertained by its loyal owner at an expense of £55 5s. The provisions for the entertainment were on the same elaborate scale as before and included: two hogshcads of beer, one barrel of Canary, and thirty-five quarts of white wine. "Barnacles, larks, sea-pyes, and gulls," were amongst the contributions to the feast from the neighbours. On Sunday the King attended divine service at Wolborough Church, and, says Sir Richard Reynell in his diary, "At my unkell's suite *cured* a child which was troubled with the king's evil." On the following day His Majesty took his departure, and returned to Mr. Pawlet's house at Hinton, near Crewkerne.

Sir Richard Reynell, married Lucy, daughter of Robert

Brandon, Chamberlain of the City of London, and died 24th January, 1633, aged 77. His wife, who founded the pleasant houses at the bottom of Church Hill, for the widows of four clergymen of the diocese, survived him until 1652. Her life was afterwards written by her husband's nephew, the Rev. Edward Reynell, Rector of East Ogwell, as I have already remarked.

Sir Richard and Lady Reynell, had an only daughter, Jane, who died in the same year as her father, May 1633, and was buried at Wolborough. She was the first wife of the celebrated Parliamentary General, Sir William Waller, and had issue by him two sons, viz., Richard, baptised in Exeter Cathedral, 28th October, 1630, who died without issue; John, who died in infancy, in the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street, London, and was interred with his mother at Wolborough; and a daughter, Margaret, who ultimately inherited Ford, and was the direct ancestress of the present Earl of Devon. Sir William Waller frequently resided at Newton with his wife's relatives, and is described as of Ford, three years before his father-in-law's death, 10th July, 1630, when he became one of the feoffees of the Wolborough parish lands. The parish documents also show that he built a new market house at Newton Abbot 1634, and he afterwards engaged in litigation with William Yarde of Bradley, as to the ownership of the said market, which, it will be noticed, appears to have been included in the Manor of Wolborough, which was purchased of the Crown by John Gaverocke; and there is no mention of it in the particulars of that portion of the property situated at Newton Abbot which was subsequently acquired by Mr. Yarde. How-



ever, it was ultimately determined that the market did really belong to Mr. Yarde, and Sir William had to renounce his claim to it and to pay the costs of the action, and he says in his "Recollections," "My endeavours to supplant Mr. Yarde in his possession of the market of Newton Abbot, *though upon a dormant title*, yet proceeding from a covetous end, was justly punished by the loss of the thing sued for, and in all that befell me in the King's Bench."

Sir William who was born in 1597, was like the poet of the same name, descended from the ancient family of the Wallers of Spendhurst, co. Kent. He was educated at Magdalen College and Hart's Hall, Oxon., and afterwards went to Paris. He commenced his military career in the service of the Confederate Princes against the Emperor, and upon his return to England he received the honour of knighthood. Shortly afterwards he married Miss Reynell of Ford, and became strenuous in his opposition to the Court. He appears to have had a violent quarrel with his wife's first cousin, Sir Thomas Reynell, who was, as I have already stated "Server-in-Ordinary" to the King, or as Lord Clarendon describes him, "one who had the honour to be a menial servant to the King in a place near his person; which in that time was attended with privilege and respect from all men. These two gentlemen discoursing with some warmth together, Sir William Waller received such provocation from the other, that he struck him a blow over the face, so near the gate of Westminster Hall, that there were witnesses who swore 'that it was in the Hall itself,' *the Courts* being then sitting."<sup>1</sup> For striking a blow within the precincts

<sup>1</sup> Clarendon, iv, 113.

of the Court, Sir William was thrown into the "Star Chamber" and heavily fined, a large proportion of the fine being given to his adversary. This made him so angry that he is said to have thrown in his lot with the Presbyterians whilst rankling under a sense of injustice, and having been returned to the Long Parliament, as member for Andover, he opposed the demands of the King by every means in his power, and upon the commencement of hostilities, accepted the position of second in command of the Parliamentary army, under the Earl of Essex. He obtained several signal successes in the West of England, but was afterwards defeated at Roundaway Down, near Devizes, and at Cropready Bridge, in Oxfordshire. He was considered one of the great supports of the Presbyterian party, and was one of the eleven members impeached of high treason by the army, and was finally expelled the house and committed to prison. On the Restoration, he was again returned to Parliament as one of the representatives for Middlesex, but he did not take much further interest in public matters. He married a second time and left a son called after him, who was educated at Wadham College, Oxford, was afterwards knighted, became a Justice of the Peace for county Middlesex and member of Parliament for Oxford. He, however, got himself into trouble with the ruling powers, and being left out of the Commission of the Peace in 1680, he retired to Holland and did not return to this country until the advent of William of Orange.

Sir William Waller, the elder died at his seat, Osterley Park, Middlesex, 19th September, 1668, aged 71. He was buried 9th October, in the middle of the chancel, or

in the upper part of the nave of the chapel in Tuttle Street, Westminster.<sup>1</sup> The assistance of the Heralds at his obsequies appears to have been dispensed with, and, perhaps to save expense the services of an heraldic painter were retained instead, who is said to have provided a helmet and banner, the former with a wrong crest, which were duly suspended over the grave, but shortly afterwards, these were taken down, defaced and thrown aside by the authority of the Officers of the College of Arms, who at that period were accustomed to exercise the power with which they were entrusted in order to prevent the assumption of improper armorial bearings. Wood says, that his first wife, Jane Reynell, "dying at Bath, was buried in the south transept of the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul there; over whose grave is a very fair monument erected and thereon the statues of her and her husband lying at length." Dr. Oliver also, tells us that Lady Waller was buried in Bath Abbey. It would appear however from the memorial inscription, that her body was subsequently removed to Wolborough. Her daughter Margaret, succeeded to Ford and to the other property at Newton. The house during the rebellion had experienced all the horrors of Civil War and had been three times taken by either party, until it was finally captured by Sir Thomas Fairfax; it must have been a sad time for poor "Dame Lucy Reynell," who must have been the sorrowful witness of all these troubles as she survived her husband Sir Richard for nearly twenty years, and her death did not take place until 1652.

Margaret Waller, brought Ford and the rest of her pro-

<sup>1</sup> Wood.

perty at Wolborough to her husband, Sir William Courtenay, eighth of that name at Powderham. Sir William was created a Baronet in 1644, but disdained the title, and could never be persuaded to take out his patent. He was invariably so styled however in the various Commissions sent him by the King. His wife Margaret, brought him nineteen children, and died January 19th, 1693. Sir William survived until the 4th August, 1702, when he expired in the 74th year of his age. It was in his time that Ford House was again rendered memorable by the visit in 1688 of the Prince of Orange, on the 7th of November in that year. Upon this occasion, there was a marked difference in the hospitality and rejoicing which had been accorded at the previous Royal visit. The Prince found no one to receive him excepting the servants, for Sir William was naturally anxious to avoid compromising himself, but he had given directions as to the provision of suitable accommodation for his august but unwelcome guest. The Prince slept at Ford on that night, and the next morning, somewhat to the relief of the inhabitants, left for Chudleigh *en route* for Exeter.

Sir William Courtenay's eldest son, Francis, had died in his lifetime, he was therefore succeeded in the title and estates, by his grandson, Sir William Courtenay, second Baronet. Sir William, who was M.P. for the county of Devon, married in 1704, Lady Anne Bertie, daughter of James, first Earl of Abingdon, and died in 1736. He had issue five sons and four daughters. He was succeeded by his third, but eldest surviving son, William Courtenay.

Sir William Courtenay, the third Baronet, who had been born in 1710; married in April, 1741,

Lady Frances Finch, daughter of Heneage, second Earl of Aylesford. Upon the 6th May, 1762, he was created Viscount Courtenay of Powderham Castle, and died ten days subsequently to his elevation to the peerage.

He was succeeded as second Lord Courtenay by his only son, William Courtenay, born 30th August, 1742, who married Frances, daughter of Thomas Clack of Wallingford, Berks. This marriage, according to the various peerages, was solemnized 7th May, 1762, but the licence granted by the Bishop of Exeter is dated 17th December, 1763. By this marriage, Lord Courtenay, had an only son, William, born 30th July, 1768, and thirteen daughters. Lady Courtenay, died December 14th, 1778.

William, third Viscount, succeeded to the title upon the death of his father, 14th December, 1788. His Lordship was the direct lineal descendant of Hugh, Earl of Devon, and Margaret, his wife, grand-daughter of Edward I; on the 15th March, 1831, a petition which he had presented to the House of Lords, was decided in his favour, and by it he established his rights to the third Earldom of Devon, which had been created by Queen Mary, 3rd September, 1563, in favour of Edward Courtenay (son of Henry Courtenay, Marquess of Exeter, who had been beheaded 9th January, 1539), "to hold to him and his heirs male for ever."

Edward Courtenay, died unmarried at Padua, 4th October, 1566, and the earldom had thus remained dormant for the long period of two hundred and sixty-five years.

The new Earl of Devon never married. Upon his death 26th May, 1835, the Viscounty of Courtenay became

extinct and the earldom, together with the baronetcy, devolved upon his second cousin, William Courtenay.

William Courtenay, who thus succeeded his kinsman, as eleventh Earl of Devon of the name, and third of the creation of Queen Mary, was the son of the Right Rev. Henry Reginald Courtenay, Lord Bishop of Exeter, and of Lady Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas Howard, second Earl of Effingham, and grandson of Henry Reginald Courtenay, M.P., who married Catherine, daughter of Alexander, first Earl Bathurst, who was the second surviving son of Sir William Courtenay, second Baronet, and younger brother of the first Viscount Courtenay of Powderham.

His Lordship who was born 19th June, 1777, was Clerk Assistant to the Parliament previously to his succession to the title. He was High Steward of the University of Oxford and held various other offices. He married, first, 29th November, 1804, Lady Harriet Leslie, daughter of Sir Lucas Pepys, Baronet, by Jane Elizabeth, Countess of Rothes. She died 16th December, 1839; and his Lordship married, secondly, 30th January, 1849, Elizabeth Ruth, daughter of the late Rev. John Middleton Scott, and niece of the Earl of Meeth.

His Lordship who died 19th March, 1859, had by his first wife three sons and a daughter, and was succeeded by his eldest son, William Reginald, the present highly respected and popular Earl of Devon, of Powderham Castle and *Ford House*, and Lord of the Manor of Wolborough.

## CHAPTER XVII.—PART III.

## THE HISTORY OF WOLBOROUGH.—THE PARISH CHURCH.

The Parish Church of Wolborough, dedicated to St. Mary, is situated upon an eminence about three quarters of a mile south-west of the Market Cross of Newton Abbot. From the neatly kept churchyard, which is approached by an embattled lych gate, a magnificent view of the surrounding country may be obtained. The sacred structure is lofty and well proportioned, and is altogether a good example of the architecture of the fourteenth century in which it appears to have been either rebuilt or to have received very extensive alterations and repairs. It has of late years been carefully restored by the exertions of the present Rector, aided by the active co-operation and assistance of the Earl of Devon, the patron of the living. It consists of a nave separated from north and south aisles by an arcade of six bays, supported upon clustered Perpendicular piers with the capitals carved in foliage, two shallow transepts on either side, both screened by parcloles, a south porch and a tower at the western end containing four bells.

The circular font of fine red gritstone with its cable and chevron moulding is of Norman date, and appears to be the only relic of the original church now remaining at

Wolborough. Three of the ancient bells have curious inscriptions in Latin, one of them "Sum rosa pulsata mundi Katerina vocata." This bell has also a shield of arms which may be blazoned as a chevron between three laver pots, the arms of the Guild of Bell founders. Another is inscribed "In diu celorum Xre Placiat tibi Rex sonus iste"—and the third, "Protege Prece Pia quos convoco Sancta Maria." There was once another smaller bell, I have heard, which was removed to St. Leonard's Chapel and broken by clocking.

The chancel which is twenty feet in breadth is perhaps earlier than the rest of the present fabric. The priest's door remains on the south side, and there is also a square headed piscina with a handsome ogee arch and trefoils in the spandrils. The reredos is of modern construction but of Third Pointed character, it was erected in 1833 at a cost of £70.

An organ chamber and a new vestry were erected on the south side of this chancel in 1881. There are north and south chancel chapels, both screened by parcloles. In the latter may be seen a tomb under an obtuse arch with the inscription "Orate pro anima Will<sup>m</sup> Balcull (?) obiit vi die Augusti A<sup>o</sup> d'ni MDXVIII." This tomb is in the founder's place; on the eastern end of the exterior of this aisle are the figures MDXVI, which would seem to show that it was rebuilt in the year 1516; but Dr. Oliver assumes, without alleging any reason that the date is intended to mean 1546.<sup>1</sup> There was a family called Balcull, resident at Wolborough in the fifteenth century, and amongst the parish documents I have found the name of

<sup>1</sup> "Ecc. Ant.," i, 148.



Thomas Balcull, attached to a lease dated 22nd October, 1498.

During the construction of the new organ chamber, a fine example of an hagioscope (an opening originally provided to enable the worshippers in the aisle to command a view of the altar), was discovered and laid open. There is also an aspersion, or holy water stoup remaining on the south-western side of the porch. The beautiful screen which extends across the nave and aisles, has a delicately carved cornice of vine leaves and grapes, and four tabernacles, or recesses, from which the images have been removed, adorned with crockets and finials. It has of late years been carefully restored and is rich with chromatic decoration and gilding. The panels in the lower portion are filled with the figures of Apostles, Saints and Martyrs, each with the emblems by which they are usually distinguished, and I have been therefore able to easily identify most of them. Some of them, however, have become so much obliterated as to render them quite unrecognizable, and in a few instances, they have entirely disappeared, but this is scarcely to be wondered at when it is considered that they were all for many years concealed beneath a coating of common house paint, which it was found very difficult to remove without destroying the original colour beneath it.

Across the Church from north to south, there are thirty-six compartments :—

1. A Bishop, with pastoral staff.
2. St. Aidan, Bishop and Confessor, with his crosier.
3. St. Gertrude, Abbess, with a loaf.
4. St. Ursula, Virgin and Martyr. Holding an arrow and surrounded with smaller figures.

5. St. Wulfstan, Bishop and Confessor.
  6. St. Sidwell, with her scythe.
  7. St. Catherine, with her sword and trampling on an infidel.
  8. St. Dorothy, with basket of flowers.
  9. Sir John Shorne, with the boot (will be referred to subsequently).
  10. St. Honorius, with a baker's shovel }
  11. St. Cosmo, with pestle and mortar. }
  12. St. Damien (both physicians).
  13. St. Julian.
  14. St. Irenæus, with crosier and book.
  15. Isaac, with the bundle of wood, according to parochial tradition. It appears to me however to much more probably represent St. Faith, Virgin and Martyr, whose usual emblem was a bundle of rods.
  16. A figure holding a knife. Doubtless intended for Abraham, but the figures in both these compartments have been re-painted.
  17. Bishop.
  18. Bishop.
  19. Abbot.
  20. Priest, with tonsure.
- These four panels have also been re-painted, they are on the central doors and the figures were intended for the four doctors of the western Church, who are usually found in this position, viz., St. Jerome, habited as a Cardinal; St. Gregory, with the triple crown as Pope; St. Ambrose, as a Bishop; St. Augustine, as a Monk,
21. St. Appollonia, with the tooth.
  22. St. Loys, with a hammer.

23. St. Edward, King and Confessor.
24. St. Hugh, Bishop and Confessor.
25. A figure giving the Benediction.
26. A figure in profile, with book.
27. St. Damien repeated, with bottle.
28. Probably St. Cosmo repeated, as the Saints are usually found together. It has been usually considered, however, to be intended for Moses, with the tables of the law.
29. ———
30. ———
31. St. Barbara, with her tower.
32. St. Helena, with the Latin cross.
33. A female figure, with palm branch. } both
34. A female figure, with sceptre. } re-painted.
35. St. Veronica, with the Sudorium.
36. ———

No. 33 may be intended for St. Anastasia, and No. 34 for the figure of the Blessed Virgin.

The parcloles separating the chancel chapels and the two transepts are of the same character as the screen. The lower portion of the latter on the south side is divided into fifteen compartments.

*South transept—east to west.*

1. St. Jerome.
2. St. Ambrose.
3. A figure in a red cloak.
4. A figure, with two swords.
5. A figure, with a blue book.

6. }  
 7. } The Annunciation, as shown by the almond  
 8. } tree, which is flourishing in a pot.  
 9. —  
 10. St. Roche.

The figures have been re-painted, the three last have been *prepared* only for this operation and the originals are *very* indistinct.

11. —  
 12. —  
 13. Figure with a banner, thereon a Maltese cross.  
 14. Figure of a Bishop.  
 15. Figure with legs locked together—(St. Leonard).

*North transept—east to west.*

1. St. James the Greater, with staff and book.  
 2. St. Stephen, with stones in his chasuble.  
 3. St. Paul, with the sword.  
 4. St. Bartholomew, with the flaying knife.  
 5. St. Andrew, with the saltire.  
 6. } St. Peter ?  
 7. } St. John ?  
 8. } St. Thomas ? } These figures have been obliterated.  
 9. St. Jude, with a club.  
 10. St. Philip, with the spear.  
 11. St. Matthew, with a square.  
 12. St. Simon, with a saw.  
 13. Figure of a Bishop, crosier turned outwards.  
 14. —  
 15. Figure of a Bishop, as above.  
 16. St. James-the-Less, with long cross and book.

All the figures on this parclose are quite in their original condition, and have neither been re-touched or re-painted and this makes them the most interesting of the series.

Some of these figures are seldom to be found elsewhere. I would instance the representation of Sir John Shorne, on the ninth panel of the nave screen. "Sir" was a title frequently given to such of the clergy as had not graduated at either of the Universities, "Sir" John Shorne was one of the uncanonised Saints and was prayed to in cases of ague. He was a very devout man and Rector of North-Marston in Buckinghamshire and he flourished about the close of the thirteenth century, and consecrated a well to which multitudes of people at one time resorted. There is a legend respecting him something similar to that related of St. Dunstan. He is said to have confined the "Devil" in a boot—and he is therefore usually represented, as at Wolborough, holding a boot in his hand, out of which issues the head of his prisoner surrounded with flames of fire. His figure is shown on several screens in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, but I know of no other instance in Devonshire. There is also the representation of St. Gertrude, Virgin and Abbess, with her loaf (No. 3), and of St. Honorius, the Bishop, holding a baker's shovel (No. 10). Neither of the latter occur elsewhere in England I believe. I fancy that these figures were painted by the Monks of Tor, and as there were probably several foreigners in that community, and many others of them doubtless came from distant counties, the singularity of several of the saints may be easily accounted for. The screen at Buckland-in-the-Moor which was also probably their work exhibits

some extraordinary paintings on its back, or eastern face, to which I have more than once drawn attention, but their signification I have never yet been able to explain quite satisfactorily.

The brass eagle, used as a lectern is also of excellent workmanship, it is believed to have been concealed during the great rebellion upon Bovey Heath and to have been restored to its proper place in the Church when the war was ended. At its base are four sejant lions.

Amongst the foliage on the capital of one of the piers immediately outside the chancel and upon its interior side, I noticed the figure of a pig, emblematic of the pollution of the world. On the respond, on the north side are two other animals, one apparently an ox, a symbol of St. Luke. The other, which has been much mutilated, is holding a shield. There is an ancient image recess in the north transept.

There are four old paintings on panel of the four Evangelists, which for some years were placed on the top of the screen, still preserved in the Church. From the dress of the figures, I should imagine them to be of late seventeenth century date.

St. John (with his eagle near him), is employed in writing his gospel.

St. Matthew, with heavy grey hair, beard, and moustache, has the figure of an angel on the right hand, and is pointing to his gospel which is in front of him.

St. Mark, has a lion's head close to him, on the table at which he is writing.

St. Luke, in half armour, is identified by the head of a black ox, which appears above his shoulder.

There are many remains of ancient glass in the various windows throughout the building. In the eastern window, which is a Perpendicular of five-lights, I noticed the armorials of Neville, quartering Montagne, and impaling Monthermer; and in the fifth light, the well-known coat of Godolphin—Gu. an eagle displayed with two necks, Or. A square window, which was originally over the priest's door, on the south side, contains the inscription:—"Orate pro omnibus benefactoribus, qui istam fenestram vitrari fecerunt."

In consequence of the alteration and extension of the fabric to which I have already referred, the wall was removed, but the window was re-inserted in the new wall on the same side of the chancel in 1881.

In the south wall, westward of the porch is a very interesting window, which was carefully restored in 1878. It well merits the attention of the antiquarian or herald.

It appears to commemorate the founders and early benefactors of the Church, since the first and sixth lights contain shields charged with the monograms of Warren l'Ercedekne of Haccombe (son of John l'Ercedekne c. 1328), and of his wife, the daughter and co-heir of John Talbot.

Second, the arms of Briwere or Bruere. Lord William Briwere was one of the earliest recorded benefactors of the Church of Wolborough (which appears to have been invariably served, before the Reformation, by a Canon from Tor. The only 'Curate' met with in earlier times being Jno. Whitechurch, 14th February, 1449).

Third, Lucy, impaling l'Ercedekne. Eleanor, eldest daughter of Warren l'Ercedekne, married Sir Walter Lucy and from them descended the Lords Vaux.

Fourth, Arundell of Talvern, impaling l'Ercedekne, he having married the second daughter of Warren above-mentioned.

Fifth, De Vere impaled with l'Ercedekne. De Vere was the husband of Philippa, the youngest daughter of Warren aforesaid.

The following are the blazons of these interesting coats—

*Briwere, or Brewer*, Gu. two bends wavy Or.

*Lucy*, Gu. three Lucies haur. Arg. impaling

*Archdeacon*, Arg. three chevrons Sa.

*De Vere*, quarterly Gu. and Or., in first quarter a mullet Arg. impaling Archdeacon.

On the opposite side of the Church, in the second window from the western end of the building, are several other ancient shields, viz. :—

*Scrope*, Az. a bend Or., a label of three points.

*Courtenay*, Or. three torteaux, a label of three points Az. each charged with as many mullets.

*De Vere*, as above, impaling Archdeacon.

*Beaumont*, Barry vair and Gu, with Courtenay as above.

In another window on the same side are preserved the arms of *Yarde of Bradley*, Arg. a chevron Gu. between three water bougets Sa. ; and also those of *Ferrers*, Arg. on a bend Sa. three horse shoes of the field.

In addition to these armorials, there are numerous fragments of ancient coloured glass, which will well repay careful inspection. Amongst these I particularly noticed, the eagle of St. John, with the words from the commencement of his gospel, " In principio erat verbum ; " a cross



calvary, with circlet of thorns; "the Five wounds of Christ;" the ox, emblematic of St. Luke; SS. Cosmo and Damien, as on the screen *twice* repeated, the former with a bottle, the latter with long forceps; St. Jude, with the club; the angel of St. Matthew, twice repeated, and the head of St. Mary Magdalene, may be found in the north chancel chapel. Most of this glass, must have been in the original church, as it is all of a date anterior to the sixteenth century.

The huge erection over the vault of the Reynell family and which blocks a window on the north side of the chancel, is very handsome of its kind, but like similar tombs of the period at which it was constructed, it is sadly out of place in its present position.

It is constructed of marble and alabaster, and is surmounted by an arch, springing from two massive Corinthian pillars, the interior of which is profusely covered with cherubs, their wings expanded, interspersed with knots and stars, all heavily gilded. In front of the arch are the arms of Reynell—Masonry Arg. and Sa., a chief indented of the last. Impaled with Brandon, Ar, two bars Gu., over all a lion ramp. queued Or, pelletée.

Reynell Crest—On a mount vert a fox passant Or.<sup>1</sup> On either side of these arms are figures, holding a torch and a skull, and a torch and an hour-glass respectively.

Beneath the arch, on a marble table are the effigies of Sir Richard and Lady Reynell. The knight is attired in the armour of the seventeenth century, and his wife in the ordinary costume of the same period. At their

<sup>1</sup> This crest was derived from Strigull. See Reynell Pedigree, *ante*.

heads, is a figure of Proserpine, and at their feet, another of Saturn, with his scythe and hour glass.

Beneath them, on a marble slab, is the full length image of their daughter Jane, Lady Waller, and on the ground underneath, the infant figure of the latter's son John Reynell Waller, who died in the parish of St. Bride, Fleet Street.

The Latin inscription, much obliterated, states that the monument has been raised to the memory of Sir Richard Reynell, Knight, of Ford, died January 24th, 1633, in the 77th year of his age, and of Lady Lucy Reynell, his dear wife, as well as Lady Jane, his daughter, lately wife of Sir William Waller, Knight, who died at Bath, 18th May, 1633, and now lies under this tomb. Also of John Reynell (Waller), their son who, dying in London an infant, was buried under this monument 1634.

There are also several English inscriptions in rhyme, and the representation of two hands united:—

“ Friends you who read our names this counsel take,  
Which we beyng deed our living names do speak  
Care, learn, live and dye rich.”

“ For the religious Lady Lucy Reynell, only wife of Sir Richard Reynell, Knight, who left earth until the Resurrection day, April 18th, 1652.”

Under this is another verse, the first letters of the lines forming her name.

There are several modern memorial windows, which add much to the appearance of the sacred structure, and a few mural tablets; amongst the latter, are two in the south aisle, for Thomas Babb, December 12th, 1810, æt. 56 (he was Lieut.-Col. of the Haytor Regiment, of Volunteers);

for S. Babb, Lieutenant, R.N., and for his brother John Babb, Merchant, who were both lost at sea, March 6th 1817.

There are also inscriptions on leger stones in the nave for Beardon, 1604-1627, and for Ann Trose, "Servant to the family at Ford nearly 50 years."

In the north aisle, are buried, members of the Manning family, 1637-1673; John Beardon, 1638; Colcott, 1650; The Rev. John Reynell, Incumbent of Wolborough, 1698, and his son Thomas, 1699.

In the transept, lies Nathan Stode, 1670, and in the north chancel chapel, Bradford, 1793, Sloman, 1798, and Freke, 1789.

In the south aisle, there are inscriptions for Mawry, 1605; Moore, 1663; Matthew, 1688; Pellington, 1702; The Rev. William Buckland, Incumbent of Wolborough (died of Gout, 1760), and for Elizabeth Harris, 1764.

In the south transept is buried, Samuel Chapell, "Free of Merchant Tailors' Hall," son of I. Chapell of this parish, 1669.

The Church is quite plain on the outside. The tower is low, square and embattled, and the staircase is carried up in the thickness of the wall. The south porch is also crenellated, the interior doorway is square headed with deep mouldings, the jambs carved in foliage with grotesque heads at the bottom. The outside doors with their heavy iron hinges, are apparently co-eval with the structure. The weather moulding of the window of the south chancel chapel, is terminated by corbel figures holding shields.

The Parish Registers commence in 1588, and profess to be—

“ A true copy of Christenings, Weddings, and Burials, within the parish of Wolborough, in the county of Devon, 15th November, 1558.”

In one of these books is the following declaration—

“ I William, Lord Viscount Courtenay, do allow and permit Mr. ——— to have the use of a seat on the south side of the middle ayle in Wolborough Church, viz., the 2nd from the ayle leading from the great door, and on the east side of the last mentioned ayle, and that the said—— enjoy the same, he being at the expense of the necessary repairs, during my will and pleasure, or until I, my heirs exors. adm. or assigns do revoke the same.

Signed, Courtenay, 1768.

The name of the grantee has been erased, and the following note is appended to this permit—

“ This seat is now unapplied by his Lordship, but there are a few of the children of the family of ——— (Pollington), who continue to dare to dispute his Lordship’s grant and to intrude there, notwithstanding they have been forbidden by T. Hugo, in his Lordship’s and his own name.” (Mr. Hugo was the Incumbent from 1760 to 1778).

An inventory of the Church plate was made in 1749. It then consisted of one silver flagon; one silver chalice; one silver paten; one silver bason; one silver hafted knife. The flagon, the paten, and the knife are still in use, but in 1838, the chalice and bason were exchanged for two new chalices; and in 1753, a silver bason, for private baptism, and a chalice with a cover for the Communion of the sick were purchased and added to the rest of the silver.

There are several of the ancient oaken benches remaining in the north chancel chapel.

On a table over the gallery it is set forth, that "this Church was beautified in the year 1710, at the expense of the feoffees, T. Lethbridge, and W. Jones, Churchwardens.

The arms of Courtenay of Powderham—Or, three torteaux, with the crest "A dolphin naiant and embowed pp.," carved in oak, are at the western end of the building.

A church probably existed at Wolborough, at a very early date, and the Norman font is perhaps now the sole relic of that building. We have seen that William, Lord Briwere, by his deed in 1196, gave the advowson to the Abbot of Tor. In the taxation of Pope Nicholas (1288-1291), it is valued at £3 6s. 8d. per annum.

In the *Valor* of Henry VIII—*The Rectory* of Wulburgh, then leased to Joan Scose, widow and executrix of Henry Scose, for a term of seven years, is set down at £20 13s. 6d., and from thence there was an annual payment to the Archdeacon of Totnes, for procurations 2s. 5d., and to the Bishop and his successors for *visitation annually* 19½d. But Bishop Vesey states in his Register, that the fee of the triennial visitation was "de Abbate de Torre pro Rectoria de 'Woulboro' 5s."

When the King sold John Gaverocke the Manor of Wolborough, he reserved the advowson of the Rectory for himself, and it was then that the Rectory must have been changed into what is termed a "Donative Curacy," and thus it remained after the Crown had, at some subsequent date, transferred the patronage to the Lords of the Manor.

These "Donatives" are peculiar inasmuch as they merely require the collation of an ecclesiastic by the Patron without institution by the Bishop, and they are not

subject to Episcopal Visitation. There have been very few of them in this country in modern times, although some say, that, "donation" was the only way anciently of conferring a Church living, and that institution by the Bishop was unknown previously to the reign of Henry II; and Pope Alexander III in a letter to Thomas á Becket, severely criticises what he calls the "prava consuetudo" of investiture by the Patron alone. Donatives are not subject to lapse, either to the Bishop or Crown, but the Patron is bound to present, or be compelled by the Ecclesiastical Courts. The Incumbent has to subscribe the usual declaration and take the oaths enjoined by the statutes, and to assent to the thirty-nine Articles like the rest of the Clergy, but if upon a vacancy, the nominee of the Patron submits to institution, the preferment ceases to be a Donative and is then subject to the usual Episcopal supervision. Previously to the Reformation, the Church Service appears to have been provided for by the Canons of Tor, since then, as there have been no institutions, the various Incumbents are not mentioned in the Bishop's Registers, and this makes it somewhat difficult to give anything like a correct list of them. I have, however, recovered the following names from the Parish Registers, and other documents connected with the Church—

1. John Calkyn, "Chaplain," occurs 1312. He is mentioned in the deed of Richard Lananor, 6 Edward II, amongst the feoffee papers. He was probably the stipendary Priest, as it is shown by the Chantry Rolls that there was a "Stipendarye" in the parish Church of Wolborough, "to fynde a Pryst and repayr ye paryche Church." Yearly value of the lands, &c., £5 18s. 2d.

2. John Whitchurch, 14th February, 1449. The only pre-Reformation Rector met with by Dr. Oliver.

3. Matthew Sanderland, occurs 1558. He must have held the curacy for nearly fifty years.

4. Philip Smith.

5. John Comming.

6. Thomas Foster.

7. Stocks, probably succeeded in 1620.

8. Johnson, probably succeeded in 1628.

9. William Easton.

10. N. Downing.

11. William Yeo, M.A., 1643. He was ejected for Non-conformity in 1662, and was several times obliged to leave his dwelling and hide in the fields to escape arrest. Upon the publication of the "Declaration of Indulgence" he applied for and obtained a preaching licence in 1672. He died in 1699, *æ*t. 82.

12. J. Buckley, occurs in 1685.

13. John Reynell, succeeded the same year. He died in 1698, and was buried in the north aisle of his Church.

14. William Eveleigh — 1700.

15. Walter Elford, 1701.

16. Robert Sadler, 1727.

17. Mannister Barnard, 1731.

18. Robert Chute — 1732.

19. Charles Bertie, LL.D., 1739. The Hon. Charles Bertie, LL.D., Professor of Natural Philosophy at Oxford, youngest son of James, first Earl of Abingdon, and brother of Lady Courtenay. He had been instituted to the Rectory of Kenne, upon the presentation of Sir William Courtenay, 27th August, 1726, was preferred to this

“ Donative ” 1739, and on the 15th November, 1740, he was also presented to the valuable Rectory of Honiton. Patron Sir William Courtenay of *Ford*. He died on the 15th February, 1746, æt 69, and was buried at Kenne. He continued to hold Wolborough until his death, and was succeeded by

20. William Buckland, 1746. This Incumbent was buried in the south aisle of his Church, and his stone has a Latin inscription, which states that he died of Gout. He was followed in 1760, by

21. William Davie. He died in Church whilst reading the second lesson, and was succeeded by

22. Thomas Hugo, 1778.

23. Edward Honeywood, LL.D., 1793. Dr. Honeywood, was a younger brother of Sir John Honeywood, who had married Frances, eldest daughter of William, second Viscount Courtenay, by his wife Frances Clack. Lord Courtenay had previously presented him to the Rectory of Honiton, 6th December, 1788. He was admitted to a Prebendal stall in Exeter Cathedral, 12th July, 1799. He married Sophia Long, and left issue a daughter. He died on the 1st and was buried at Honiton, 7th December, 1812, æt 50. He was succeeded at Wolborough, by

24. William C. Clack, 1813. Mr. Clack, was the son of the Rev. Thomas Clack, Rector of Kenne (whose sister Frances had become the wife of Lord Courtenay). He held this preferment, with Moreton-Hampstead, also in his Lordship's gift, for fifty-two years, and died at Moreton in 1865. He was succeeded by

25. Harry Tudor, who upon the presentation of the Earl of Devon, was duly instituted and inducted to the



Rectory of Wolborough in that year. Mr. Tudor was also preferred to a Prebendal stall in Exeter Cathedral in 1885.

He resigned for the Rectory of Lustleigh in 1888, and was succeeded by the present Rector, the Rev. A. H. Simms. My best thanks are due to Mr. Tudor for his kindness, and attention to my enquiries and for much valuable information which he has from time to time assisted me to procure.

I have found in the Bishop's Registry at Exeter, a "caveat" entered 26th August, 1624, against the admission of a Clerk to the "*Rectory*" of Wolborough, "*nisi prius vocetur,*" Thomas Wistlake, Senr., George Colcott of "Nuton Abbot," or Timothy Shutt, Clerk, of the City of Exeter.

The ancient Chapel of St. Leonard, which is mentioned in Bishop Grandisson's Register, May 29th 1350, was removed some years since. It consisted of a nave 55 feet long by 20 feet in width, and a square embattled tower at the western end about 60 feet high which still stands. and contains a peal of six bells. Close to this tower, are the remains of the ancient market cross which consists of an octagonal block of granite 50 inches in diameter and 21 inches in thickness, an inscription on which sets forth that the first declaration of the Prince of Orange was read from thence "by the Rev. John Reynell, Rector of this Parish, November 5th, 1688."

This statement appears to have no foundation whatever in fact.

A very careful journal, of the proceedings of the Prince, from the time he left his palace at the Hague to his arrival

at Whitehall, is in existence, from the pen of the Rev. John Whittle one of the Chaplains to the Expeditionary force, it was printed in 1689 and is now very scarce. From this diary we learn that the Prince left the Hague on November 1st, and landed on Monday the 5th November, 1588. He did not commence his march until the 6th, *which at once shows the incorrectness of the date on the Cross at Newton.* On the 7th, however, the Prince with his followers drew nigh to Newton Abbot, when, Whittle says, "he went to Ford House within a short distance of the town." Sir William Courtenay the then owner did not wish to compromise himself, so he was "not at home" when his august visitor arrived, but he had left directions as to the provision of suitable hospitality and accommodation, and the Prince slept there without doubt and on the following day the 8th proceeded to Chudleigh and from thence to Exeter. But, says Whittle, "On the march to Newton Abbot a certain divine went before the army and finding that t'was their Market day he went unto the Cross or Town Hall, where, pulling out the declaration of the Prince of Orange, with undaunted resolution he began with a loud and audible voice to read as follows"—

Then follows the declaration—

"He, the Divine, "Told the people that he would go and visit their Minister and cause their bells to ring." "He thereupon went to the Minister's house and was courteously invited in and desired to sit down." He then asked for the keys of the Church "for to welcome the Prince of Orange into England with a peal," but Mr. Reynell replied "Sir, I am ready, for my own part to serve

his Highness in any way, but of my own accord cannot give the keys, but you know you may command them or anything else in my house in the name of the Prince of Orange."

The keys were then peremptorily demanded and Mr. Reynell directed his visitor to the clerk's house and the bells were ultimately rung.

The new Chapel of St. Leonard is situated in Wolborough Street, and is a large commodious modern building suitable for the purpose for which it is intended and it has of late years been enlarged and re-seated.

The foundation stone was laid on the 20th September, 1834, "amidst a large concourse of people," and it was consecrated by the Bishop of Exeter, November 24th, 1836. The total cost of the structure was £2,614 2s. 9d. and the site was given by the Incumbent, the Rev. W. C. Clack. The seats in this chapel are entirely free in the morning and one side of it, upstairs and downstairs, is always free. It has a handsome chancel, and over the altar is a large painting of our Saviour bearing the Cross, copied and presented by the late Rev. R. Bradford, from the original painting in Magdalen College Chapel, Oxford.

Near the Chapel stands the ancient Parsonage House, which has not been occupied as a clerical residence for many years; it is small and inconvenient. A little further west, is the old Manor House, which in several deeds is described as "the great house in Ulborough Street." The exterior has been modernised, but some of the rooms still retain their original form and have curious moulded ceilings, with foliage, tracery and grotesque figures.<sup>1</sup> It was probably erected by the Gaverockes.

<sup>1</sup> Stirling's "History of Newton."

## CHAPTER XVIII.—PART I.

—  
THE PARISH OF HENNOCK.

The picturesque village of Hennock, situated on an eminence overlooking the valley of the Teign, is in the hundred of Teignbridge and deanery of Moreton. It comprises 3,469 acres of land, inclusive of the chapelry of Knighton and the hamlets of Warnhill and Kelly. The total number of the inhabitants (according to the census returns of 1881) was 384.

The Saxon Alnod (one of the King's Thanes), was compelled by the Norman Conqueror to resign his land of "Hainoc" into the hands of Baldwin, the Sheriff, under whom it was held for some years by Roger Fitz-Payne.

Baldwin de Brion, to whom I have several times referred, was one of the most illustrious of the Norman generals, and after the Conquest was made by his Royal master hereditary sheriff of this county and Baron of Okehampton. He was one of the sons of Gilbert, Earl of Brion, who was murdered in Normandy, and grandson of Richard, Earl of Ewe, and therefore nearly akin to William, who bestowed upon him no less than 181 manors in Devonshire, as proved by Domesday, and granted him the custody of the Castle of Exeter, which he had built at the King's command.

The family of Fitz-Payne doubtless first acquired importance from holding land under such a distinguished person as Baldwin, for the name literally means Robert, the son of the peasant (*Robertus filius pagani*). Cheriton, in the hundred of West Budleigh, passed from the Stantons by marriage to the Fitz-Paynes (who do not appear to have remained long at Hennock) early in the thirteenth century, and has ever since been called Cheriton Fitz-Payne. This family is declared by Lysons to have become extinct in the male line about the reign of Edward I, when the heiress married Austell. Still, John Fitz-Payne must have held a very good position in the county many years after the date given in the *Magna Britannia* as the period of the failure of the heirs male of his house, since he was High Sheriff in the second year of the reign of Richard II, A.D. 1379.

Not long after the Conquest a family who denominated themselves "de Hainoc" were settled at Hennock; one of them was called Roger, and his son, William "Lord of Heniock," had issue Beatrix, who married Sir Gerrard de Clist, Knight. This lady being sole heir to her father brought the property to her husband, and with the Clists it remained for several generations. Sir Gerrard was probably a son of the house of Clist of Clist Gerald, within the parish of Broadclist the different members of which appear to have been generally called Gerard or Gerald; the last at Clist Gerald, Gerald de Clist, died in the reign of King John, leaving his daughters co-heirs, two of whom married Valletort and Franckcheney. The branch of this family who settled at Hennock were great benefactors to the neighbouring Abbey of Tor, and the

cartulary of that house proves that Philip de Salmonville gave to the abbot and convent the advowson of the church of Hennock. Lysons says that this gift was made in the reign of Richard I; it was confirmed by Beatrix, his wife, and by William, the son of Gerard de Clyst, from which I infer that Beatrix, heiress of William, Lord of Hennock, married this Philip de Salmonville after the death of Gerard de Clist, and that the former only possessed the power to alienate the rectory *jure uxoris*, and that it was necessary for him therefore to obtain the concurrence of his wife and of her son by her first husband, her natural heir. Whenever this gift was made it was not confirmed until the episcopacy of Bishop Simon de Apulia, who was consecrated A.D. 1214; but it must be remembered that our See had then been vacant since the 26th October, 1206, the complication relative to the succession to the See of Canterbury and the subsequent interdict having prevented the appointment of a successor to Bishop Marshall during the long period of eight years. It is certain that Bishop Simon confirmed the grant of the church of Hennock to the abbot and convent of Tor, since amongst the contents of the cartulary above referred to is a deed endorsed "*Confirmacio Symonis episcopi Exon., de ecclesia de Hennok, in proprios usus canonicorum.*" My inference relative to the second marriage of Beatrice de Clist is substantiated by another cartulary of Tor Abbey, where she is described as "*Beatrice, the daughter of William, the son of Roger,*" whereas in the first authority to which I have referred her confirmation is thus endorsed—"*Confirmacio Beatricis uxoris predicti Philippi de cadem,*" that is concerning the church of Hennock.

There was some land in Hennock called the land of Flode, which appears to have been held by one Richard de la Flode, and upon his death the custody of his property, together with the wardship of his heir, devolved upon William de Clist. I cannot find that there is any estate in Hennock now called Flode (which is expressly stated to have been within the manor), but amongst the deeds I have referred to there is one from William, the son of Robert Lancelyn, concerning the land of Hywis (Huish), in la Flode; and in another there is reference to the "hill of Wellesmore." I find in the Ordnance map a place called Warm Hill, and a little south of it there is an estate written Kuish, which is doubtless the Huish described as being within Flode. Gerard of Clist, who seem to have been as lord of the manor, the real owner of Flode, gave it to Nicholas, the chaplain, vicar of Chudleigh. This must have been during the first half of the fourteenth century, since there were two vicars of Chudleigh called Nicholas—one bequeathed six shillings and eight pence to the fabric of the cathedral in 1303; and the other (Nicholas Coffin), was instituted on the 20th June, 1337, and probably retained his preferment eleven years, since the next presentation is dated 28th March, 1348. The grant of the wardship and marriage of the heir of Richard de la Flode was confirmed to Nicholas, the chaplain aforesaid, by William de Clist. These deeds, moreover, prove that Nicholas, vicar of Chudleigh, had a daughter, Joanna, married to Martin of Babbicombe, and he granted all his claims in the free dower of his wife in Flode to Adelard, chaplain of Beydon. The vicar of Chudleigh had previously granted this Adelard a half

furlong of land in Flode, and also the custody and wardship of Richard de la Flode, and this was confirmed by the lord of the manor, then Richard Tremenet, the manor of Hennock having by this time passed to him through his marriage with Isabel, daughter and heir of William de Clist.

One of the family of Flode (their modern name would be Floyd or Flood) was called Alicia ; she married Walter Parmenter, and had a son also called Walter. Her husband, with her consent, gave all his inheritance in Flode to the Abbot of Tor at a certain rent. Mariota, or Maria, daughter of Richard de la Flode, bestowed one furlong of land from the same estate, as defined by metes and bounds, upon the same abbot.

All the property which Adelard (or as he is sometimes called, Ayllard), chaplain of Beydon, obtained from time to time from the Flodes, from Nicholas vicar of Chudleigh, his daughter, and her husband, was given by him to the same abbey, so that in the end the abbot and community of Tor possessed nearly, if not quite, all the Flode property, together with a rent-charge payable out of the estate of Huish ("juxta la Flode"), and all these grants were duly confirmed by Richard Tremenet, as the representative of the Clists, lords of the manor of Hennock. With respect to this Adelard and his office of "Chaplain of Beydon," I find that within the church of Ramsbury, in Wiltshire (before the Conquest the seat of a bishopric, which afterwards became united to Sherborne, and was eventually translated to Old Sarum), there existed an ancient prebend, called the Prebend of Ramsbury with Beydon, valued in 1535 at £52 per annum, out



of which there was a charge of £5 6s. 8d., "for the pay of one chaplain for celebrating divine service in the church of Beydon." Richard de la Flode gave to the chaplain of Beydon a half furlong of land, together with a garden in Hanock, in exchange for a piece of land previously granted. This, with the rest of Adelard's property in this parish, passed eventually to the community of Tor (*the then rectors of the church of Hennock*), and "there is now pertaining to the glebe land of Hennock a small plot, or vegetable garden, apart from the other fields, and generally let off to some poor cottager at a rent of 5s. a year." This is very probably the piece of ground referred to in the deed. A cottage in the parish is still called Baden or Beydon, and has been known by that name from time immemorial. With respect to the two interesting cartularies from which I have been quoting—the first of them was long in the custody of the Queen's Remembrancer of the Exchequer, and it is called the "Tor Cartulary, or Leiger Book." It is a thick folio volume, written on vellum in a large and clear hand, and appears with few exceptions to be in the same handwriting throughout. The first three leaves contain fragments of Papal bulls headed "Papalia," and then follow the instruments to which I have alluded. This book was carefully examined by the late Dr. Oliver,<sup>1</sup> who gives the history of its preservation. It appears that after the dissolution of Tor Abbey, John Gaverock, the purchaser of Wolborough, became possessed of it. A memorandum at the commencement states "that it belonged to the heirs of John Gaverock, gentleman." Two other memo-

<sup>1</sup> "Mon. Dioc.," p. 178.

randa furnish the information that it was delivered into Court for the Queen's use on the morrow of the Purification, 21st year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by a person called in one place Richard Melford, of the Inner Temple, and in another William Melford. A few entries are as late as the reign of Edward IV, although the charters and instruments are generally undated, but the mention of Bishop Simon of Apulia, and of Nicholas, vicar of Chudleigh, enables us to assume with safety the dates of those connected with Hennock.

The second cartulary is a manuscript classed in the Trinity College Dublin Collection, as E 5, 15, and entitled "The Cartulary of the Monastery of Thorre, in Devonshire." It is on vellum, extending over 170 leaves of two pages each in small quarto. The pages have been numbered by a modern hand. Its records extend from the reign of King John to 1409, which latter is believed to be the latest express date in the collection. The records copied are exceedingly numerous, and amongst them are twenty-five deeds relative to Hennock. This volume is stated to have been presented by William Barry, A.M. to the College library. Stamped upon the first leaf is a seal exhibiting the crest of a stag's head, the whole stag appearing on the shield with the motto "Veritas vincit," and the words Sig. Rich. . . . Co. . . . Nortar . . . . 1668," in an outer circle.

The heiress of Tremanet brought Hennock to the family of Dymock in the reign of Edward III (1327-1377). The Dymocks were also the owners of the manor of Manaton in the same hundred, and the heiress of this race brought both the estates to her husband, who was

called Britricheston, and who was the lord of the manor of Britriceston or Brixton, in the deanery of Plympton. This ancient family had been settled in Brixton (from whence it called itself) from a very early date, but failed in the male line in the reign of Henry III, when the husband of the elder co-heir took the name of his wife, and their posterity remained there for nineteen descents according to Risdon; Lysons says for seven generations.

The heiress of Britricheston, or Brixton, brought all the three manors of Brixton, Hennock, and Manaton to Wyvill, and by a member of the latter family the last two estates were sold to the Southcotes, who possessed Hennock in the reign of Charles I. Matthew Lee was lord of the manor together with Knighton, in 1773, and they were sold by him to Richard Inglett, whose ancestors had been for some years resident in the neighbouring parish of Chudleigh. The Templers (afterwards of Stover, in the parish of Teigngrace), succeeded Mr. Inglett at Hennock, Mr. James Templer having purchased it of him in 1775, and from him it descended to his grandson, Mr. George Templer of Stover. The Duke of Somerset now owns a considerable portion of the land. That part of the manor of South Bovey, lying within the parish, is the property of the Earl of Devon. It is possible that the manor of Knighton may have been the "Nietone" of Domesday, which, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, belonged to "the Priests of Bomine" (Bodmin). I am aware that the Priory of Bodmin possessed the manor of Newton St. Petrock at the dissolution of monasteries, and some may say that this "Nietone" mentioned in the Survey is merely the ancient manner of writing Newton.

This, however, is not the case; the various manors afterwards called Newton are none of them spelt thus, and besides Newton St. Petrock in the reign of William the Conqueror was parcel of the manor of Shebbear, and this last, under the name of Bere, was then the property of Brictric, the Saxon, Lord of Gloucester; and the Priory of Bodmin did not acquire it until it had been through the hands of Jeffrey, Bishop of Coutance, Chief Justiciary of England. When it afterwards reverted to the Crown it was given to the Prior and community by King Henry I.

But the priests of Bomine possessed "Nietone" many long years before this, even in "that day in which King Edward the Confessor died." These ecclesiastics are reckoned amongst the English Thanes in the Exeter Domesday, and Leland supposes them to have been the secular priests of Bodmin, settled there before the foundation of the Priory. The canons of Bodmin were deprived of a great deal of their land immediately after the Conquest by the Earl of Mortain, half-brother to the Conqueror, and their priory was refounded by Bishop William Warelwast (who governed the See of Exeter between the years 1107 and 1137), who settled in it regular canons of the Augustinian order. There was a very ancient chapel at Knighton, which for many years was used as a barn, but I have been unable to discover anything as to the date of its dedication. Polwhele says, "It is situate in the middle of the village. There was a field that belonged to the chapel, and called Chapel Park; it is now sold off, the length and breadth of the old chapel, 24 feet by  $14\frac{1}{2}$ ." This structure was subsequently enlarged and converted into a Wesleyan

meeting house. The present chapel in this village is an unpretending structure, built of flint and limestone in 1841-2, with the sum of £900 raised by subscriptions and grants. It is dedicated to St. Paul. It became the church of a separate ecclesiastical district in 1880, formed out of the parishes of Hennock, Bovey Tracy, and Kingsteignton. The living is a chapelry in the gift of the vicar of Hennock, and the Rev. P. R. Sandilands is the Incumbent, with an income of £230 per annum, and a population of 547.

Beneath a very large chestnut tree at Hennock stood an ancient cross, which has, I regret to say, been removed within the last few years.

## CHAPTER XVIII. PART II.

## HENNOCK CHURCH.

The parish church stands in a small churchyard in the centre of the village, and is dedicated to St. Mary. It comprehends chancel, nave opening into north and south aisles beneath four debased arches, supported upon clustered columns of the Perpendicular style of the reign of Henry VII, a south porch, and a tower at the western end containing four bells. There is no exterior or interior architectural definition of the chancel, which is merely a continuation of the nave, but the rood screen is still retained, and extends across the aisles, thus separating the eastern end, with its north and south chantry chapels, from the other portion of the church. The windows have been generally restored, but one on the south side of the chancel has a quatrefoil in the head, which seems to prove that it belonged to an older structure than the present, which it is hardly necessary for me to remark was merely rebuilt in the fifteenth century upon the site of a much more ancient church. The priests' door also remains in its proper position on the south side of the chancel, and the stairs, which once led to the rood loft, with the apertures for exit and entrance, are on this side also. There is a particularly interesting Norman font, with rude carvings, supported upon four slender piers of green stone, and a thick circular pedestal in the centre. The

window in the south chancel chapel has been filled with stained glass in memory of a member of the family of Wills of Kelly, 1856. I noticed on the north side four angels in fourteenth century glass. In another window were previously to the "restoration," figures of the four evangelists with their names on labels; and also the following armorials:—

*Lucy*—Gu. 3 fish haurient Or.

Bishop *Boothe*, 1465-1478—Arg. 2 boars' heads erased and erect Sa. a label of 3.

*Chichester*—Checky Or and Gu. a chief Vair.

*Chudleigh*—Erm. 3 lions ramp. Gu.

*Stourton*—A bend Sa. (should be Sa. a bend Or.) between 6 fountains. James Chudleigh, married Margaret, daughter of William Lord Stourton, 1476.

During the "restoration" quantities of ancient stained glass were removed from the north aisle, chiefly in a fragmentary state, consisting of portions of figures of bishops and priests in full robes, the birth of our Saviour, and the adoration of the Magi. I did not see this glass myself, so I am unable to offer any opinion about it; but it was evidently a great mistake not to replace it in the windows, as enough of it appears to have remained to intimate pretty clearly what the general designs were. I believe that a great quantity of valuable glass is still permitted, even in these days, to be carried away from churches by workmen simply because it is considered to be dirty, incapable of restoration, and therefore worthless. During the same restoration I am informed "about twenty square tiles were discovered ornamented with scriptural emblems." These tiles are

frequently found in churches, and although some call them "Norman tiles," yet there is no evidence, I believe, to prove that any have been noticed in England of earlier date than the thirteenth century. These tiles were generally ornamented with various designs, and the process of their manufacture has been thus described—  
"The thin squares of well-compacted clay having been fashioned and probably dried in the sun to the requisite degree, their ordinary dimensions being from four to six inches, with a thickness of one inch, a stamp, which bore a design in relief was impressed upon them, so as to leave the ornamental pattern in *cavetto*; into the hollows thus left on the face of the tile clay another colour, most commonly white or pipeclay, was then inlaid or impressed; nothing remained except to give a richer effect, and at the same time ensure the permanence of the work, by covering the whole, in the furnace, with a thin surface of metallic glaze, which being of a slightly yellow colour, tinged the white clay beneath it, and imparted to the red a more full and rich tone of colour. Tiles of this kind with armorial and other decorations have been frequently found in churches and in excavating the ruins of abbeys, and one ornamented with the Holy Lamb is represented in the "Gentleman's Magazine," new series, xii, 597. One of those found at Hennock had a representation of the Holy Lamb and Flag; and it is worthy of notice that in the church of Buckland-in-the-Moor (which was also for many years intimately connected with the Abbey of Tor), there are still some of these tiles, many of them partially hidden by the present seating. Those visible bear traces of a considerable amount



of decoration, and some of them have portions of an inscription stamped upon them in relief in the manner I have described.

The altar table is made from the front of an ancient parish chest which used to stand in the chancel, and a plain image recess or "tabernacle" has been laid open at the eastern end of the north chancel chapel.

The ancient Perpendicular screen, which has been repaired, is of the same character as others which I have already described in these pages and elsewhere. Amongst the figures of the saints in its lower panels I noticed St. John, with the chalice; St. Peter, with two keys; St. Jude, with his club; St. Paul, with the sword; St. Stephen, with the stones in his chasuble; St. Philip, with the long cross, and St. Matthias; St. Lawrence, with his gridiron; St. Gertrude, virgin and abbess, with a loaf; St. Margaret, trampling on the dragon; and a representation of the Annunciation. The almond tree flourishes between the Angel Gabriel and the Blessed Virgin, and this makes me consider that this church, which I have already said is devoted to St. Mary, was so dedicated upon the Festival of the Annunciation. There, are, moreover, two figures in good preservation of an abbot, and a bishop, several figures in monastic habit, and one of St. Anastasia. The roof is cradle or wagon headed; that portion immediately over the screen is painted in gold and colours, and has a few good bosses of foliage, vine leaves, and grapes. The interior of the church is very neat and clean. The work of restoration was nearly finished at the period of the death of the late vicar and patron the Rev. R. Riley. The new open seat-

ing is of oak with a quatrefoil carved in solid in the bench ends.

The porch once had a parvise over it ; the aspersorium, or holy water stoup, still remains on its north side. The tower is square, and plainly built ; its height to the parapet is 44 feet. There is a good western doorway, and the entrance on the south side has a Pointed arch with a deep moulding. The exterior of the church is well-buttressed, and I am told that the four ancient bells have Latin inscriptions. I noticed in the church the well-known arms of Yarde of Churston Ferrers, impaling Hody, of Netheway, in Brixham.—Arg, a fesse indented point in point Vert and Sa. between two cotises counter-changed. They are beneath an inscription to the memory of Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher Hody, and relict of George Yarde, A.D. 1672.

Another stone has a Latin inscription to the memory of Bartholomew Geale of Knighton, yeoman, who died 29th November, 164—, aged 74.

There are or should be also inscriptions remaining for *Gale*, with arms—a fesse fretty ; and for *Hyne*, a hind passant, a label of 3, impaling Hody as before.

The parish Registers are of the earliest date, commencing 1538. The birth of Edward VI is thus mentioned, “The eleventh day of October, the year of our Lord God 1537, was borne Prince Edwarde, which was the 29th yeare of our Sovereigne Lord King Henry VIII, by the grace of God King of England, France, and Ireland. God send him good oldinge and his father a long and prosperous reigne. Amen. Thomas Herle, Vicar of Hennock.”

There are several quaint entries in these books (which are in good preservation) concerning former vicars. They prove that there was a "pestilence" at Hennock in the year 1574, and that the small-pox raged there in 1603. No records appear to have been kept during the year 1545. I have heard it stated that every man-servant in this parish paid one shilling, and every maid-servant sixpence annually as duty to the vicar. These offerings are now discontinued.

Simon Rede, the last Abbot of Tor, surrendered his abbey into the hands of King Henry VIII on February 23rd, 1539. He must have foreseen the speedy dissolution of his house, and it appears that he was not unmindful of his own interests, for in the preceding year he had alienated a considerable amount of its property, inclusive of "The whole our Rectory, and the Tithe of Wheat of the Church of Hennocke, as well as all our messuages, lands, and tenements, with their belongings in Hennocke aforesaid, together with all rights and profits pertaining or belonging to the said rectory," to John Southcote and John Parre, to hold the same from Michaelmas then last past, under the yearly rent of £10. In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, amongst the spiritual possessions of the late Abbey of Tor, is the following entry (translation):—"Heniocke, in the deanery of Moreton and diocese aforesaid. The rectory in the same place is valued by the year, with sanctuary lands and all other profits belonging to the said rectory, £10."

Up to this period the services of the church of Hennock appear to have been provided for by the Canons of Torre.

The great tithes were purchased of the Southcotes in

1631, by the Chamber of Exeter with £400 given in 1615, by Dr. Lawrence Bodley, aided by £200 given two years afterwards by Thomas Moggridge, for the endowment of a lectureship in the city of Exeter. It appears by the parish books that between the years 1648 and 1692 the Chamber of Exeter endowed the vicarage with the great tithes, subject however to a payment of £42 a year to the Mayor of Exeter on account of the aforesaid lecture, and £7 per annum to the lord of the manor. The right of presentation to the vicarage has passed through various hands, and it is now vested in the family of Riley, the present patron being Mr. Richard E. Riley, scholar of Jesus College, Cambridge, and son of the late Rev. Richard Riley, twelve years vicar and patron, who acquired it through his wife from the Misses Wood of Ireland. The present Vicar of Hennock with Knighton, is the Rev. J. F. N. Gillman, who was instituted in 1875. He has twenty acres of glebe.

I have to thank Mr. Henry F. Riley for his courteous attention to my inquiries; he informed me that the rectorial tithes are received by the trustees of the late Dr. Bodley, and that at some former date they were separated from the vicarial, so that the arrangement to which I have referred above does not seem any longer to exist. The impropriators receive £186, whilst the rent-charge as commuted and received by the vicar amounts to £233 per annum.<sup>1</sup>

John Stooke of Trusham, about the year 1692 gave a tenement called Knowle, within the parish of Hennock,

<sup>1</sup> With reference to the Bells (already mentioned), the 1st is an Alphabet Bell, from A to K; the 2nd and 4th are dated 1637; the 3rd is inscribed with an Invocation to the Virgin.

the rent to be applied to the provision of four threepenny loaves to be given to four poor people inhabitants of the almshouse in the parish weekly for ever, provided that they constantly attended church and duly received the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The Charity Commissioners report that this rent, which issues out of a field now called the "Parish Meadow," is not given away weekly in bread according to the will of the donor, but quarterly in sums of 3s. 3d. each to four poor widows of the parish, who have been appointed at a parish meeting to receive it, due care being taken however that (as far as the performance of their religious duties are concerned) they come under the terms of the deed. When once appointed they are considered entitled to receive their shares unless they marry or quit the parish.

Elizabeth Gribble by her will May 2nd, 1726, gave to the poor of the parish £5 to be paid to the vicar for the time being, the interest to be annually given at Christmas to such poor people of Hennock not receiving parish pay as he should think fit.

## CHAPTER XIX.—PART I.

## THE PARISH OF NORTH BOVEY.

The village of North Bovey, about two miles distant from Moretonhampstead, is in the hundred of Teignbridge, and in the deanery of Moreton, and is situated upon the banks of the beautiful river, the West Teign, sometimes called the Bovey River. The soil is peaty, resting on granite, but yields good crops of barley, oats, and grass. The parish includes 5,654 acres of land, and the population in 1881 was 439.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, two manors of Bovey, or as they were then written, "Bovi," were held by "Joannes." At the Conquest these estates appear to have been given to Juhel de Totnais, under whom they were occupied by Turgis. One of these must have been that now known as South Bovey, within the parish of Hennock, and which, as stated in a previous chapter, now belongs to the Earl of Devon. In North Bovey, according to the record of Domesday, Turgis held one hide and three rods of land. These manors must not be confounded with the neighbouring manor of Bovey Tracey, which in the year 1187 was written "Bovelie," and which was taken from its ancient owner, the Saxon Edric, and given to Jeffrey, Bishop of Coutance, an historical celebrity who seems to have combined the three professions

of the army, the law, and the church, for he was Lieutenant-General of the Army at the battle of Hastings, and was afterwards appointed Chief Justiciary of England.

I cannot say how long Turgis or his descendants continued to reside upon the manor of North Bovey, of which it must be remembered they were merely the tenants. As I have already stated elsewhere, Juhel, Baron of Totnes, was accused of conspiracy and banished the kingdom, in the reign of William Rufus, and as a necessary consequence, his estates were sequestrated by the Crown. His manors of Tetcott (in the hundred of Black Torrington), Blackaton (in the parish of Widecombe), and North Bovey were given to De la Ferbe, and William de la Ferbe, is afterwards described as having been possessed of them.<sup>1</sup> The tenure of property in those days, however, was by no means secure. After a very few years the De la Ferbes appear to have lost North Bovey, and the rest of their property and the three manors above mentioned, once more alienated to the king, were given in the year 1214 to William Pipard, who appears to have been the ancestor of a once powerful family of that name.

I say the ancestor, because, I believe that this William Pipard was the first of his race who achieved any distinction in this county, and his social influence was probably due to his marriage with a co-heir of De Pola, Lord of South Pool, in the hundred of Coleridge.

Immediately upon the accession of Richard the First, that "lion-hearted" monarch at the instigation of Pope Clement III, commenced his disastrous expedition known as the Third Crusade, the object of which was to retake

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Pat., 16th King John.

the city of Jerusalem, which had been captured by the Sultan Saladin two years previously. William de Pola, the son of Nicholas, accompanied the English King, who was allied with Philip Augustus of France and Frederick Barbarossa of Germany. The last monarch was accidentally drowned, Philip returned to France, and Richard of England made a truce with Saladin, but was arrested in Germany on his way home, and was only released upon payment of a heavy fine.

I cannot learn that William de Pola ever returned to Devonshire, or that he left a son. Prince says that his daughter Joan was the wife of Sir Guy de Brian of Tor Brian, in King Henry the Third's reign, and it was through this alliance, I presume, that the latter family obtained the manor of Pole, in Slapton, where they resided for several generations. He was succeeded at South Pole, by Maurice de la Pole, who is stated to have been the owner of Compton, in the parish of Marldon (which estate must have been acquired by the marriage of Alice, the heiress of Angier, Lord of Compton, with one Ralph de la Pole, in the reign of Henry II). He left two daughters co-heirs, one of whom married William Pipard, the owner of North Bovey.

It appears by an *inquisitio post-mortem* 51 Henry III, that William Pipard had held lands in Devon called "Blakeden;" and again in 1286 (14 Edward I), Thomas Pipard is declared to have died seized of the manors of Blaketon and North Bovey. The family continued their descent in the male line until the reign of Edward III, and in the year 1344 William Pipard was High Sheriff of Devon. He left issue two daughters, Margaret and



Matilda. Margaret married Sir Gerard Lisle, or Lisle; and Matilda bestowed her hand upon Sir Gilbert Hamlyn. Lysons in the "*Magna Britannia*," under the head of North Bovey, says:—"The manor was at an early period in the family of Pipard, from whom it passed by successive female heirs to the Lords Lisle and Berkeley. A daughter of Thomas, Lord Berkeley, brought it to Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and a daughter of the Earl of Warwick to Nevil, Lord Latimer." This statement is partly correct in the main points, but appears to me to require further explanation. William Pipard, the last of his name, left North Bovey with other estates to his daughter Margaret, who married Warine de L'Isle, who died 1383 (6 Richard II), and had received summons to Parliament as a Baron, from 43 Edward III to 5 Richard II. They left a son, Gerard de L'Isle, who died without issue and a daughter Margery (called after her grandmother, Margaret Pipard), who married Thomas, Lord Berkeley, and had issue a daughter, Elizabeth Berkeley, who brought the property to her husband, Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. Margaret, daughter of Lord and Lady Warwick, married John Talbot, the stout Earl of Shrewsbury, so well known to readers of English history. At the time of this marriage he was a widower with three sons, and the result of this alliance was a fourth son, John, who, as the eldest begotten of Margaret Beauchamp, assumed his mother's title of Lisle. Towards the latter end of the year 1452, the Gascons sent deputies to Henry VI with an offer of recovering Guienne, if they could be assured of proper help from England; the Lords of Caudale and L'Esparre were the agents to this country, and their pro-

positions met the hearty concurrence of Queen Margaret and the Council. The Earl of Shrewsbury, although he was eighty years of age, readily accepted the command of the expedition upon this occasion, and embarked on the 18th October with four thousand men, with the promise that more troops should immediately be sent after him. He landed near Bordeaux on the 21st of this month, and his expected reinforcement followed him as had been arranged, and amongst his principal officers was his son John, Viscount Lisle.

Shrewsbury at once took the field, overran some parts of Guienne and recovered Fronsac, Castillon, and many other places with as much rapidity as the French had conquered them. The King of France, when he received the news of these transactions, was marching towards Lyons with thirty thousand troops in order to chastise his son, the Dauphin, but when he found that it was necessary to oppose himself to a foreign enemy he speedily adjusted his domestic quarrel, and detached ten thousand men, under Chabannes and the Earl de Penthiore, to make head against the English Earl in Guienne. Penthiore laid siege to Castillon, which defended itself bravely for some months, and the besiegers in June, 1453, were joined by the other half of their force under Chabannes.

The Earl of Shrewsbury was at this time at Bordeaux with about 7,000 men. He was undecided as to whether he should raise the siege, fearful of the difficulties he must encounter from the superiority of the French and their strong situation. He had heard, moreover, that the main body of the hostile army, under the orders of De Clèrmont, was rapidly advancing, and he knew that he must

act at once if he wished to avoid opposing himself, with his scanty numbers, against an enemy nearly thirty thousand strong. Under these circumstances he marched out of Bordeaux and attacked the besiegers with the greatest intrepidity. The four thousand men under De Chabannes were soon defeated, but the victors were attacked in rear by the French cavalry, which obliged the English general to face about and form two fronts against ten thousand men. Overpowered by multitudes our soldiers were compelled to give way, and the Earl was mortally wounded by a musket shot in the thigh, and his horse was also killed under him. He ordered his son to "retreat and preserve himself for a more fortunate occasion;" but Lord Lisle disregarded these commands, and fell fighting over the body of his dying father. The next day Castillon surrendered, and (if Calais be excepted) this country was left destitute of French possessions. The remains of the father and son were conveyed to England, and it is known certainly that the former was buried at Whitchurch, in Shropshire. The Viscount Lisle was succeeded by his son Thomas, who died without issue (his mother was Joan, daughter and co-heir of Sir John Chedder, Knight). His estates reverted to his sister Elizabeth, who became the wife of Sir Edward Grey. Upon the accession of King Edward IV, the family of Grey became very illustrious in consequence of the King's alliance with Elizabeth Woodville, the widow of Sir John Grey of Groby, who had been slain on the Lancastrian side at the battle of St. Albans (A.D. 1461). Two children were born of the marriage between Edward Grey (who was created Viscount Lisle, 7 Henry VII), and Elizabeth

Talbot. Their son John Grey, Viscount Lisle, married Margaret, sister of Lord Herbert (afterwards created Earl of Huntingdon, and who was the husband of the Queen's sister, Mary Woodville), who died in 1504, and left issue an only daughter Elizabeth, who was the first wife of Henry Courtenay, Earl of Devon, created Marquess of Exeter in 1525; but as she died without children, she was succeeded in the barony by her aunt, Elizabeth Grey, who married first, Edmond Dudley, and secondly, Sir Arthur Plantagenet, who was afterwards permitted to assume the title of Lisle in 1541. He was a natural son of King Edward the Fourth, by Elizabeth Lucy, the daughter of a man called Wyatt, of Southampton. She was a person of low extraction, but having attracted the Royal attention she left her husband to become the King's mistress, and bore him two children, Arthur, above-mentioned (who was afterwards created a Knight of the Garter, and constituted Lieutenant of Calais in the year 1523, 14 Henry VIII), and Elizabeth, who married Sir Thomas Lumley. Arthur Plantagenet, Viscount Lisle, left no son; of his three daughters co-heirs, the eldest appears to have transmitted the title of Lisle to her posterity, and in the reign of Charles I, it was borne by the son of the Earl of Leicester. Frances Plantagenet, her younger sister, married first, Sir John Basset, by whom she had issue Sir Arthur Basset, High Sheriff of Devon, 16 Elizabeth, and the direct ancestor of the Bassets of Heanton Court, in the parish of Ashford, who afterwards removed to Umberleigh in that of Atherington, when they had acquired the latter by a marriage with an heiress of Beaumont. Francis Basset, who died in 1802, was the

last of this branch. He left no issue, and bequeathed his estates to his nephew, Mr. Joseph Davie, who assumed the name of Basset.

The family of Basset, descended from Osmund Basset of Stoke Basset, in Oxfordshire, and became connected with this county by the marriage of Sir Alan Basset with Lucy, daughter of Sir William Peverell of Sampford Peverell, who gave as her portion the manor of Whitechapel, in the parish of Bishop's Nympton, and upon this property her descendants continued to reside for many generations.

Frances Basset, daughter of Sir Arthur Plantagenet, survived her husband, John Basset, whose grandfather, also called John, had acquired the Heanton and Umberleigh property by his marriage with Jane, daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Beaumont. She endeavoured to console herself in her bereavement by taking a second husband, and by so doing became the direct ancestress of a very illustrious Devonshire worthy. Her second choice fell upon Thomas Monk of Potheridge, High Sheriff of this county in the year 1564 (6 Elizabeth), and she had by him a numerous issue. The eldest, Anthony, had a son, Sir Thomas Monk, who died in the sheriff's prison of this county on the 30th June, 1627. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir George Smith of Maydeworthy, or Madford in the parish of Heavitree, and half sister to Grace Smith, wife of Sir Bevil Grenville. Their eldest son, Thomas, married Mary, daughter of William Gould of Hays, but had no children. The second son, George, was the famous Duke of Albemarle, called by Prince "The great glory of our country and our kingdom." I have alluded to the imprisonment of his father for debt,

and it appears that this circumstance was the indirect means of George Monk becoming a soldier, although his biographer says, "being a second son he was always designed for one." King Charles I at the beginning of his reign visited Plymouth to inspect his fleet in view of the expedition against Spain. Sir Thomas Monk, who appears to have been equally renowned for his loyalty and impecuniosity, sent a message to the Sheriff expressive of his ignorance as to the number of "writs" there might possibly be in existence against him, and with a request that he might be permitted to visit Plymouth to assist in the reception of the Sovereign without danger of arrest. The Sheriff promised the Knight the necessary protection, but afterwards treacherously seized the opportunity to arrest the confiding debtor in the presence of most of the gentlemen of the county. This conduct so exasperated his son, George, then not seventeen years of age (he is stated to have been born on Tuesday, December 6th, 1608), that he immediately went to Exeter, sought out the Under Sheriff, and having first expostulated with him for his falsehood and insincerity, afterwards inflicted upon him severe corporal chastisement, and to avoid the results of his breach of the peace, he fled the county and joined the army, taking with him a recommendation to his kinsman, Sir Richard Grenville. He carried the colours of his regiment in the expedition to the isle of Rhu in 1626, under Sir John Burroughs. He belonged to the King's forces during the early part of his career, and ultimately attained the rank of colonel in the Royal army, but he appears during this period to have been chiefly employed abroad and in Scotland and Ire-

land ; upon his return from the latter country he was presented to the King at Oxford. He was soon after taken prisoner by Fairfax, although he was without any command at the time, and was for some years confined in the Tower of London by order of the Parliament, during which period the King sent him a present of £100 for his support in prison. It is stated in a note to the 1810 edition of Prince, that " he commanded a brigade at Namptwich," and in that capacity was taken prisoner by Fairfax. It is probable, however, that he had no such authority, but that he was merely sent by the King upon a visit of inspection to the regiments stationed there. He was frequently offered his liberty if he would declare against his Sovereign, but he always steadily refused to do so, and it was not until the year 1647, when the last of His Majesty's garrisons in England had surrendered by his order, when his armies were disbanded and he was himself a prisoner, and when all hopes of success to the Royal cause were absolutely at an end that Monk reluctantly consented to accept a commission in Ireland under his connection the Lord Lisle (son of the Earl of Leicester). The charge frequently brought against him, therefore, that he was a traitor to his party both immediately before and subsequent to the restoration of monarchy, is absurd. His associations and predilections were essentially loyal, although after he had once accepted command under the Parliament his personal regard for Cromwell may have induced him to go beyond his original intentions ; but he scarcely took the trouble to dissemble his attachment to Royalty, nor is this to be wondered at when we recollect that he quartered " France and Eng

land" on his ancestral shield, and although the lions and lilies were debruised with a bâton, still the blood of the kings of England was in his veins, and he was the grandson, but three times removed of the fourth King Edward.

The origin of the name of Monk is sufficiently curious, and I give it on the authority of Prince. The family were originally called Le Moigne, and at last one of them who was a monk became the heir to the ancestral property, upon which event he procured a dispensation from his religious vows, and was permitted to return to the temporal state in order that his house might be continued, and his descendants for several generations called themselves "Monachus," but afterwards adopted the English rendering of the word. The name of Monk became extinct in this county in the year 1687, when Christopher, the only son of the great Duke of Albemarle died.

I fear that I have digressed somewhat, but all the descendants in the female line of the ancient lord of North Bovey were of great distinction in their generation, and I am convinced therefore that Devonshire men will be glad to trace the connection between the Berkeleys, Beauchamps, Talbots, Plantagenets, and Monks, and the old west-country house of Pipard.

The family of Beauchamp of Elmley Castle, county Gloucester, claim descent from Hugh de Beauchamp, one of the companions in arms of the Conqueror, and of this powerful stock was the renowned Guy, Earl of Warwick. Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, left three daughters, Margaret, Countess of Shrewsbury, Alianor, first Lady Ros and afterwards Duchess of Somerset, and Elizabeth, wife of George Neville, Lord Latimer. In the partition



of the property Lady Latimer inherited North Bovey. Lord Latimer (created Baron, 1432) was descended from George, a younger son of Ralph, the first Earl of Westmoreland. His great-grandson John Neville, Lord Latimer, who died 1542, married secondly Catherine Parr, who afterwards married King Henry VIII. He left issue by his first wife, Dorothy, sister and co-heir of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, John, Lord Latimer, who died 1577, and left four daughters co-heirs, viz., Catherine, Dorothy, Lucy, and Elizabeth. Their descendants were the owners of the Bovey property in 1630, when Risdon finished his Survey, and it must therefore have been in their family nearly two hundred years. The Marquess of Winchester presented to the rectory, which was always attached to the manor, in 1670. About the year 1700, if not at an earlier period, the family of Langdon, became the possessors of this property. They had been settled in the parish for many previous years, and were probably descendants of "Hugh Langdon, a citizen of Exeter," who purchased the adjoining parish of Manaton, in the reign of Henry III. Mr. John Langdon, the last of his name in this neighbourhood, resided at Park, in the parish of Bovey Tracey, of which latter manor he was also the lord. Upon the death of his only daughter, in 1747 he bequeathed it, together with North Bovey and other property, to his brother-in-law, Sir William Courtenay of Powderham, afterwards restored to the peerage by the title of Viscount Courtenay.

Edward Courtenay (the son of that Henry, Earl of Devon and Marquess of Exeter, who was attainted and executed in the reign of Henry VIII) is well known in history on account of the secret love which he is stated

to have inspired in the breast of Queen Mary, although he is declared to have slighted her for her sister, the Princess Elizabeth. He lived a prisoner for some years in the Tower, and was afterwards exiled, but he died twelfth and last Earl of Devon, at Padua, in 1556 (3 Philip and Mary). The descendants of the four sisters of his great grandfather Edward, the ninth Earl, were found by an *inquisitio post-mortem* to be his heirs, and the possessions of the elder line and the dormant claims to the baronies of Okehampton and Plympton were distributed amongst the families of Trethurfe, Arundel, Mohun, and Trelawney.

The name of Courtenay was, however, continued by Sir William Courtenay of Powderham, whose connection with the Earls of Devon, I will here briefly state.

Hugh Courtenay, the tenth Earl of this county, but the second of his name who enjoyed that dignity, married Margaret, grand-daughter of King Edward I, and daughter of Humphrey de Bohun, eighth Earl of Hereford, and acquired the Powderham estate as his wife's dowry. He settled it upon his sixth son, Philip, who became the common ancestor of the branches of his house, afterwards settled at Molland, Wotton, Cheriton Fitz-Pain, and elsewhere. The Sir William Courtenay, who inherited North Bovey was his direct descendant, the head of the house, and in actual possession of the family property, and the fourteenth in lineal descent from Sir Philip. He was called to the peerage in 1762 by the title of Viscount Courtenay. The earldom remained dormant, however, until 1831, when it was revived by a decision of the House of Lords, as previously stated. The present Earl of Devon is the lord of the manor of North Bovey.

It is shown by the Hundred Roll that in the reign of Edward I. "Margery Pipard had gallows and an assize of bread and beer within the manor of North Bovey, and that her ancestors had enjoyed these privileges from time immemorial, but that no one could tell by what warrant."

The same authority also proves "That this manor was a member of the barony of Totnes," and that it fell into the king's hands in the year 1271 (being held from him in chief), on account of the death of Edmund Pipard in that year. The Crown held the manor on this occasion from the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin to the Feast of St. Michael, and received the customary rents, &c. Thomas Pipard then pleaded for the restitution of the property on the ground that he was the brother of the aforesaid Edmund Pipard. After the manor was restored to him, Richard Clifford, "Escheator of the King," is stated to have assumed the custody of him and his land, on the ground that he was *non compos mentis*, which, however, does not appear to have prevented him from "giving him in marriage to a certain niece of his." "Et ipsum maritavit cuidam nepte sue quo warranto ignorant."<sup>1</sup>

A fair was formerly held here on the Monday following the first Sunday after the festival of St. John the Baptist, to which saint the church is dedicated, but I can gain no information as to whom it was granted, nor have I been able to find any reference to the original charter.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Rot. Hund. Hund de Teignbridge."

<sup>2</sup> THE COURTENAY EARLDOMS.—*Thomas Courtenay*, sixth Earl of the name, a staunch Lancastrian, was taken at Towton, and beheaded at York, April, 1462. *Hugh Courtenay*, his brother, was attainted and beheaded at Salisbury, 4th May, 1466. *John Courtenay*, their younger brother (together with his kinsman and heir-at-law, Hugh Courtenay, of Bocconock), was killed at Tewkesbury, 14th May, 1471. His arms, th

points of the label differenced with three mullets, are in a window on the north side of Wolborough Church (pp. 96 and 132 *ante*.) With his death the elder line of Courtenay became extinct, and the title equally so by attainder. *Hugh Courtenay*, of Boconnock, was grandson of Hugh, second Earl, and son of Hugh of Hacombe, brother of Edward, third Earl. He left a son, Edward. This Edward obtained restitution of Tiverton Castle and of most of his sequestered property, and was elevated to the Peerage as Earl of Devon by patent 26th October, 1485, and died Earl of Devon in 1509. His son, *William*, never succeeded to the earldom; he married Katherine, daughter of Edward IV, but was attainted and sent to the Tower by his brother-in-law, Henry VII. Henry VIII released him from prison, but did nothing more for him. His wife probably resided at Colecombe Castle, where their daughter, Margaret, "above thirteen years of age in 1512," died, and was buried in Colyton Church. Their son, *Henry*, was in high favour at first with his Royal cousin, who restored him in blood and honours, permitted him to assume his grandfather's title, and to succeed as second Earl of the last creation, and advanced him to the marquise of Exeter, patent dated 18th June, 1525. He, however, soon incurred the king's suspicion, and with his son Edward, was sent to the Tower, attainted and beheaded 9th January, 1539. *Edward Courtenay*, then twelve years old, was kept in prison until the accession of Queen Mary, who released him, restored him in blood, but not in honours, and created him Earl of Devon by a fresh patent dated Richmond, 3rd September, 1553, "To him and his heirs male for ever." He died unmarried, at Padua, 4th October, 1556, and his heir male was *Sir William Courtenay*, of Powderham, Knight, seventh in direct descent from Philip Courtenay, of Powderham, sixth son of Hugh, second Earl. This Sir William, who was killed at S. Quentin the following year, should have at once succeeded to the earldom, but perhaps he feared to offend the Queen by any allusion to it, since the last Earl had slighted her affection for him in order to make love to her sister, and had then given up the latter to save his life. His son was of good repute in the county, was High Sheriff in 1581, and laid the foundation of the Irish property, concerning which his grandson wrote to Mr. Yarde, of Bradley, a letter still preserved at Powderham, in which he speaks of the "five or six and thirty thousand acres of land" around his old castle there, most of it "as good as any in my manner of Alphington, and yett I am foret to sett y<sup>t</sup> for lesse at twelve pence an acre, which goes to y<sup>e</sup> heart of mee." His wife was Margaret Waller, and the descent from him will be found pp. 120 *et seq. ante*, but he was the sixth William Courtenay of Powderham, *not* the *eighth* as misprinted in the text.

## CHAPTER XIX. PART II.

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## THE CHURCH OF NORTH BOVEY.

The parish church of North Bovey stands in a small churchyard, and is situated close to the well-wooded and picturesque village green, and comprehends chancel, nave opening into north and south aisles, beneath an arcade of five bays, supported upon octagonal monoliths of moorstone of Second Pointed date; a south porch, and a western tower containing six bells.

The interior of the sacred structure is neat, clean, and in good repair, and it is to be regretted that it is much disfigured by an accumulation of plaster and whitewash. The eastern window is of Perpendicular date, but those on the north and south sides, although mutilated, date from the First Pointed or Early English period, and the ancient priest's door still remains in its proper position. In the chancel roof I noticed amongst the bosses the heads of Edward I., and of his two queens, Eleanora of Castile and Marguerite of France. A fourth has the three rabbits, their ears meeting and forming a triangle, which design is prevalent in several churches on the borders of Dartmoor, as I have previously noticed.<sup>1</sup>

The four-leaved flower, characteristic of the Second Pointed period, occurs on the wall-plate. There are still

<sup>1</sup> "Ashburton and its Neighbourhood," p. 66.

remaining many oak benches and some ancient choir stalls. On one of the bench ends may be discerned the letters W.P. (probably an allusion to William Pipard, the ancient lord of the manor), and on another is the representation of a grotesque head with a forked beard.

The beautiful Perpendicular screen had, when I saw it, its original decoration concealed by many coats of brown paint. It has a good cornice of vine leaves and grapes, and the lights are filled with Third Pointed tracery. The saints in the lower panels are at present obliterated, but the jambs of the doorway are adorned with carved representations of the Holy Apostles, each one standing under an elaborate crocketed and finialed canopy, and I recognised the well-known emblems of St. Peter, St. John, St. Philip, St. Paul, St. Thomas, St. Andrew, St. Matthew, and St. Stephen. There are two parcloles separating the chancel from the north and south chapels, but there were no traces of piscinæ, or of the doors of exit and entrance to the rood loft, these being all concealed beneath the plaster I have already referred to.

The font is octagonal, and has a moulded pedestal. There are numerous fragments of ancient glass in the various windows, and amongst them I remarked the emblems of the four Evangelists. The nave roof is modern; the church is fitted with open sittings, but there are more than thirty ancient benches remaining in the nave and aisles. The porch is probably of Decorated date; the four-leaved flower occurs here, and the doorway opens beneath a well-proportioned arch. The tower, if it is earlier than the end of the fifteenth century, must have been considerably altered at that period. Its arch is ex-

cessively debased, and the western window has apparently a circular head. It is well buttressed, and has four pinnacles and a pointed doorway, and an octagonal stair turret on its north side. There is also an external rood turret. The lords of the manor have always presented to the rectory, and the present patron is the Earl of Devon.

I find from the Taxation of Pope Nicholas that in the year 1291 this rectory was valued at £8 10s. 11d. per annum.

In the reign of Henry VIII. (A.D. 1535), Robert Wymerley was the rector, and his preferment had nearly doubled in value since the former assessment. After the usual outgoings had been paid, he received £22 10s. 3d. a year. The present rector is the Rev. W. H. Thornton, who was instituted in 1866, and I have to thank him for his attention and kindness when I visited his church and parish. He has twenty-six acres of glebe. I find from an inspection of the parochial registers that the earliest, which is in good condition, is endorsed "A Record of Births, Marriages, and Burials from 1572 to 1693."

There are several interesting examples of ancient way-side crossès remaining in this parish, and one of them, known as Hale or Yaal Cross, on the road from Beeter to North Bovey, is stated by Mr. G. W. Ormerod<sup>1</sup> to be, with the single exception of the one at Bovey Tracey, the only example of a Maltese cross which has come under his notice in this district. It appears to have formerly stood on the edge of a hollow, made by persons carrying away friable gravel granite, but Mr. Ormerod, on the occasion of his visit, drew the attention of the then curate of the

<sup>1</sup> "Trans. Devonshire Association" 1874.

parish to its dangerous position, and in 1868 Lord Devon caused the cross to be set up a little to the rear of the original position, on a firm foundation. It has been stated that this cross was a station which pilgrims visited on their way to Tavistock Abbey. The height of the cross is about six feet, the bottom of the shaft is quadrangular and perpendicular for twelve inches, and then the edges are chamfered and the sides incline inwards towards the arms. It stands on a quadrangular pace bevelled off at the top corners to form the upper face into an octagon.

The cross on the green, does not appear to have been the original village cross, or, if it is, a portion of it must have been broken off, since the shaft is not as broad as the socket. Mr. Ormerod says, "As the shaft does not taper in, probably some other cross stood here formerly." It is a plain, massive cross, measuring about five feet two inches, and it stands on a square pace. This cross was thrown at some period into the Bovey Brook, and remained there for some years, but shortly after the passing of "An Act for the relief of Her Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects," 13th April, 1829, the then curate of the parish, Mr. Jones, rescued it from its ignominious position, and caused it to be set up in its present position.

It is probable that many crosses still remaining were originally set up merely as boundary stones. The idea of erecting them for this purpose originated in the supposition that no one would be sacrilegious enough to remove or interfere in any way with the symbol of salvation, as shown by an inquisition made in 1557 (4th and 5th of Philip and Mary), concerning the boundaries between Dartmoor and Brent Moor. The Commissioners caused all the boundaries



to be marked with stone crosses, and conclude their report, in words which may be thus translated :—“Through which certain crosses, signs worthy of a Christian, we believe that the aforesaid mete and division of Brent Moor may be known and recognised for ever, so that ignorance in the future, which is hostile to truth, may never have the power to take away and destroy the knowledge of the aforesaid metes’ limits, divisions and bounds.” There is an example of a cross of this character at North Bovey, on the moor, near the Moreton and Tavistock Road, and about five miles from Moreton-Hampstead ; it is known as Bennett’s Cross, but the letters W.B. carved on it mean “Warren Bounds.” The height of the shaft is about six feet four inches, and tapers in gradually towards the top.

Hospit or Stumpy Cross is also mentioned at page 394 of the 1874 Transactions of the Devonshire Association. It is marked in the Ordnance map as “Bovey Cross ;” it is only twenty-two inches high, and has the letters M N O B incised on to it to indicate the roads to Moreton, Newton, Okehampton, and North Bovey. Mr. Ormerod, when speaking of this cross, remarks that the origin of the name Hospit Cross is not known.” There can, I think, be no doubt whatever that the word Hospit is derived from the Latin “*hospes*,” a guest. The cross may have marked sanctuary ground, or it may have once stood near an Hospitium or guest-house. In the Transactions above referred to, Mr. Ormerod has given faithful illustrations of the handsome cross at Yaal, and of that upon Bovey Green.

There are divers tenements at North Bovey, which have been freely inhabited by paupers of the parish, whilst the

rent of the church-house has been appropriated to the repair of the church. The earliest trust deed connected with this estate bears date 22nd and 23rd October, 1744.

The Rev. Thomas Parr, rector of the parish, who died in 1733, gave £3 yearly for the education of poor children of North Bovey for ever, to be paid out of the estate known as Higher Langdon.

Robert Tapper, of Fursdon, 9th May, 1813, gave £4 a year to be paid out of Lower Langdon quarterly for ever, to be distributed in bread among such poor people as should regularly attend Divine service and receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, on the four quarterly days on which the same should be laid out in shilling loaves, and be placed over the seat where he usually sat in the said church, on a shelf to be provided for that purpose; and he particularly directed that the said loaves were to remain there during the morning service.

The Charity Commissioners remark upon this gift that about sixty loaves were distributed by Andrew Sawdye, who married the testator's sister, and who was the owner of Lower Langdon in 1815, but that since that time there has been no distribution in respect of the donation. They add that the gift is void under the provisions of the Mortmain Act, and cannot be enforced.

## CHAPTER XX. PART I.

—  
THE PARISH OF LUSTLEIGH.

Lustleigh, or "Listleigh," is situated in the hundred of Teignbridge, the archdeaconry of Totnes, and the deanery of Moreton. It is about nine miles distant from its post town (Newton Abbot), with which it is connected by a branch of the South Devon Railway, and in 1881 it returned a population of 366 persons, distributed over 2,939 acres of land.

Lustleigh is one of the numerous manors written in Domesday "Liege," or "Lege," and the only guide we have as to its Saxon owner is our knowledge that at the Norman Conquest it became the property of "Judhel de Totenais," who held three manors of Lege, which in the days of Edward the Confessor pertained respectively to Alebrix, Osmer, and Alwin, the King's Thane.

The priory of St. Mary, of Cornworthy (which stood midway between Totnes and Dartmouth), is supposed to have been founded either by Judhel or one of his successors in the honor or lordship of Totnes for nuns of the Order of St. Augustine. It was endowed with land within the manor of Lustleigh, and also with the manor and rectory of Cornworthy, and with the rectory of Clawton, which were likewise the property of Judhel.

When Judhel, or Juhel, was banished from England, a considerable portion of his estates was given by William Rufus to Roger de Novant, who does not, however, appear

to have obtained possession of Lustleigh, which early in the reign of Henry I. was held by Galfridus, or Geoffery de Mandeville, who had been appointed by the latter monarch Warden of the Castle of Exeter, and who had also been enriched with the gift of the hundred and manor of Wonford. He was succeeded by his daughter, who married William Fitz-John. Their descendant, William Tilly, forfeited his property on being convicted of treason in the reign of King John, and upon his attainder Robert de Mandeville, a connection of the aforesaid Geoffery, used his interest at Court to such good advantage that he managed to secure to himself the reversion of the lands of the elder branch of his family.

In the reign of Edward I. (1272) Lustleigh had passed into the hands of the knightly family of Widworthy, in the hundred of Colyton. William de Widworthy, the then possessor, was succeeded by Sir Hugh, who married the daughter and co-heir of Sir William Reigney, knight. They had issue one daughter, Alicia (who is erroneously called by Risdon, the "sister of Sir Hugh Widworthy"). She married Prouz, of Gidleigh Castle, in the hundred of Wonford, and had a son, Sir William Prouz, whose granddaughter, Alice, the only child of his third son, Sir Hugh, inherited the manor of Lustleigh. This Alice Prouz was twice married, first to Roger Mules, by whom she had issue one daughter, also called Alice; and secondly to Sir Robt. Dinham. She was succeeded by her daughter, above-mentioned, who married John Damarell, by whom she had two daughters, co-heirs, Clarice and Joan, who divided the property between them, and who were married respectively to Berry and Durnford.

In the reign of Henry V. (1413) William Burleston conveyed this manor to Sir John Wadham, and in his family it remained until the year 1609, when, upon the death of Nicholas Wadham, who married Dorothy, daughter of Sir William Petre, and left no children, the manor was divided between his three sisters, Joan, married to Giles Strangways, of Dorsetshire, and secondly to Sir John Young, of Bristol, knight; Florence, first married to Sir John Wyndham, of Orchard Wyndham, Somersetshire, secondly to Charles Farringdon, of Farringdon, Esquire; and Ann, married to Nicholas Martin, of Athelhampston or Aldmeston, in Dorset, Esquire.

Nicholas Wadham, of Edge, Meryfield, and Lustleigh, had about £3,000 a-year derived from his various estates. Partly through his wife, and partly by his own care, his income became increased £800 a year in land, and he also accumulated £40,000 in money. He had no child, and he resolved to devote the increase of his estate to some good use, but determined that his paternal acres should descend in due course to his rightful heirs.

At first he thought of founding a college at Venice for youths of the English nation, wishing to obtain an education in accordance with the doctrines of the Church of Rome, in which religion his wife, the daughter of Queen Mary's secretary, had of course been reared and educated. Some of his friends, however, persuaded him to change his mind, and to spend his money in England, and he accordingly proceeded to purchase a site for the erection of a new college within the University of Oxford, to be called after his name. Before he could commence the work, however, he was removed by death, but his wife strictly

and honourably carried out all his intentions, and in 1613 she founded Wadham College, Oxford, upon the site of an old monastic edifice which formerly belonged to certain Augustinian friars, who taught theology and philosophy there at a very early period. For these buildings Dorothy Wadham gave £500, and the College, which was finished in less than three years, cost £10,816. No portion of the University has undergone less alteration than Wadham, but the structure is still firm and compact. The College forms a quadrangle 130 feet square, and the only additions to the original are a building of three stories, erected on the south of the front in 1693, and twelve sets of rooms added about the middle of the present century. The foundation was to consist of one warden, fifteen fellows, fifteen scholars, two chaplains, two clerks, one manciple, two cooks, two butlers, and a porter; and having obtained the royal leave of King James I., in the year 1612, she sent a charter of incorporation for the said warden, fellows, &c., together with a book of statutes for the better government of the house. The statutes prove that she was a liberal-minded woman, for setting aside the natural prejudices she must have entertained for the reformed religion, she directed "that all the scholars should resort to divine service as it is now professed; that the warden must be born in Britain, that he must at least be Master of Arts, and lead a single life,<sup>1</sup> and that if he be preferred to a bishopric that he must forthwith leave his wardenship. That the fellows may profess what faculty they please, and must quit their fellowships within eighteen years of their being regent masters; that they are to be chosen out of the

<sup>1</sup> An Act of Parliament to annul this prohibition was obtained in 1806

number of the scholars, and the scholars to be three out of Somerset, three out of Essex, and the rest out of Great Britain."

The first Warden of Wadham was Robert Wright, D.D., admitted April 20th, 1613.

Two-thirds of the manor of Lustleigh appear to have been disposed of in lots to the various lessees soon after the death of Nicholas Wadham, and the remaining third was sold more recently by the Hon. Percy Wyndham, under the powers of the Land Tax Redemption Act. We find from the "Hundred Rolls" that the lord of the manor erected gallows, and claimed to have the power of inflicting capital punishment.

Risdon speaks of Barnhouse, in this parish, as having been the ancient possession of the Barnhouse family. This is now called the manor or reputed manor of Barne Court.

Lustleigh Cleve, generally considered to be one of the most romantic spots in the county, is a vale which runs nearly parallel with the one in which the village is situated. The outlines of the hills forming this singular valley are rocky and barren, but at its narrow entrance there are some thick woods. The rocks are so numerous that it is rather difficult to gain the top of the hill, but the ascent amply repays the trouble taken to achieve it. A small logan stone is pointed out on the top of the Cleve, near which are what are known as the "Peck Pits," the remains of ancient tinworks. Lustleigh was visited by a terrific thunderstorm some years since, when the lightning struck the church, and inflicted great damage both to it and to some of the houses situated in its neighbourhood.

## CHAPTER XX. PART II.

## LUSTLEIGH CHURCH.

The parish church, situated in the centre of the village, is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and comprehends chancel, nave opening into a north aisle beneath four arches supported upon clustered Perpendicular columns, a south transept, a south porch, and a western tower containing four bells. The eastern window, which has been restored, is filled with stained glass, illustrating the birth, crucifixion, and burial of our blessed Lord. The chancel contains also two Early English windows in good preservation, that on the north being a single, and on the south side a double lancet. Entrance to this part of the building is still afforded by the ancient priest's door, which has been restored. On the north side of the altar there is a good example of an Easter sepulchre of First Pointed character. It was used previous to the Reformation for the purpose of a representation of the entombment of our Lord: the crucifix was placed in the sepulchre with great solemnity on Good Friday, and continually watched from that time until Easter Day, when it was taken out, and replaced upon the altar with especial ceremony. As I have already<sup>1</sup> said, in this country the sepulchre was most commonly a temporary wooden erection. Lustleigh

<sup>1</sup> "Ashbunton and its Neighbourhood," 100, 101.



possesses another interesting relic of pre-Reformation times in the presence of the small brackets, each perforated with three holes, from which the Lent cloth used to be suspended in order to veil the glories of the high altar during the forty days. Durandus mentions two Lent cloths, one between the nave and choir, and another (as in this instance) between the choir and altar. On the south side of the chancel is a very beautiful Early English double piscina, with a trefoil in the head, and three trefoiled and triangular-headed sedilia of equal height and of the same date. The north aisle is of much later date than the chancel, and was probably built by some member of the Dinham family about the middle of the fourteenth century. It is lighted by square Perpendicular windows, and contains the effigies (under two very obtuse arches) of a knight and his lady: he has his right hand on his shield: she is habited in a long gown. We read in Risdon's account of Lustleigh:—"Another tomb there is arched over, where some say the Lord Dinham and his lady were interred whose pictures are to seen very glorious in a glass window having their armories between them, and likewise on their surcoats escutcheons of arms." If Risdon's information was correct these memorials must have been raised for Alice Prouz and her second husband, Sir Robert Dinham; but the painted glass mentioned by our author has long since disappeared, and there is nothing left to warrant my offering any positive opinion on the subject.

The font, of Norman date, is circular and massive, and is ornamented with a cable moulding, and was once surrounded by six pillars, the capitals and bases of which now only remain. The south transept, which is

entered beneath a good two-centred arch, was probably originally erected for a mortuary chapel, and once contained the figure of a cross-legged knight, which has been now removed to the side chapel at the end of the aisle. This monument is also mentioned by Risdon ;—" In an aisle of this church is a tomb with the statue of a knight cut thereon in stone, on whose shield are three lions between six cross crosslets, by which I conceive it was one of the family of Prouse." The arms have now disappeared. Sir William Prouz ordered by his will to be buried among his ancestors in this church, but his executors interred him at Holberton. His daughter Alice petitioned Bishop Grandisson that the body of her father might be exhumed, and buried according to his desire, and thereupon a mandate was issued to that purpose.<sup>1</sup> This mandate has been printed in Risdon, and Westcote. The screen, which extends across the nave and aisle, is of Perpendicular date, and has a good cornice of vine leaves and grapes. The lower part is divided into twenty-four compartments, and the figures of the saints are carved in relief. Most of them carry labels, and do not appear to be distinguished by any particular symbols, and I could only recognise the figure of St. Barbara with her tower. The doors leading into the chancel have long been taken away, but I was glad to find that, through the zeal and energy of the then respected rector, this beautiful memorial of the faith and piety of our ancestors was undergoing correct and careful restoration. The rood stairs still remain, and the doors of entrance and exit open beneath very debased arches. The south porch, which contains an aspensorium with a

<sup>1</sup> "Ep. Reg. Grandisson" ii. 131 b.

square basin in good preservation, is of Perpendicular date, but the arch of the interior door is probably earlier. The tower, which has a lofty and almost circular arch, contains a western window filled with good Perpendicular tracery; the walls of the north aisle are supported by plain cushioned buttresses, and there is an ancient yew tree on the north side of the churchyard.

I also examined some very ancient glass which had been taken from the church during its restoration (which at the period of my visit was hardly completed), and which it was intended to replace as nearly as possible in its old position. It was in good preservation, and from the circumstance of the figures being single, of the prevalence of ruby and deep blue in the colouring, and of the absence of canopies, I considered that it was of Early English date, and probably among the most ancient examples of this kind in the county. In which opinion my late friend, Mr. R. J. King, concurred. I was particularly struck with the figures of the Blessed Virgin with the Infant Saviour, of a crowned figure in a purple mantle, and holding a staff and book; of an archbishop habited in his pontificals; and with the spirited representation of St. Margaret with her crozier, trampling upon the dragon. At the threshold of the church is an inscribed stone, four feet in length, and a foot and a half in breadth, the size of the letters being about six inches. An accurate *fac-simile* of the inscription may be seen in Lysons' "Magna Britannia." There is a crack through the stone. It does not appear to have any reference to the church, and was probably selected for its present purpose on account of its size. There is no tradition in the parish relative to it, nor can it

be ascertained when it was placed at the entrance. Copies of the inscription have been transmitted to antiquarians, and have been brought before the notice of learned societies, but no accurate information has ever been obtained on the subject. Some have conjectured that the characters are Runic, and others have suggested that they were rude marks formed at random. Mr. Morrier is reported to have seen at Nakshi Rostam, near Persepolis, a Greek inscription containing similar letters, which may be seen in the first volume of his "Travels through Persia." A late well-known local antiquary remarks, "It will certainly be a subject of enquiry how it was possible for Greek letters to be found on a stone at Lustleigh." He accounts for it by quoting from Cæsar (Book 6, c. 13), to prove that the Druids made use of Greek letters, "Neque fas esse existimant ea literis mandare, quum in reliquis fere rebus publicis privatis que rationibus Graecis literis utuntur." He confesses that he runs the risk of being laughed at, and the idea, one must allow, seems rather far-fetched. Is it not more probable that the Lustleigh stone is an ancient gravestone with the inscription partially effaced?

Between the church and the railway station is the "Bishop's stone," a block of granite in a hedge adjoining the road about five feet in height. It appears to have been the pedestal of a cross, and was probably originally erected by one of the Bishops of Exeter. The form of an escutcheon may still be traced on it, and the sword and a portion of one of the keys pertaining to the See of Exeter. A tradition prevails that the arms were those of Bishop Grandisson, who once passed through Lustleigh and dined on this stone.

A steep ascent leads to the parsonage-house, which is most beautifully situated, and commands a most exquisite view; the house contains a fine Hall with an early English roof, which was discovered and laid open a few years since. This portion of the house is of cruciform shape, and has every appearance of having been built for ecclesiastical purposes. I can find no record of any chapel there. Can it be possible that its existence is connected with the interest the prioress and community of Plympton had in the parish? A short distance from the village between S. Harton and Manaton, some old buildings still remain in a farm-yard which doubtless were connected with the Priory. They are of monastic character and have pointed windows and doorway in good preservation.

Sir William de Widworthy presented Peter de Taunton to the rectory of Lustleigh, December 19th, 1262. In 1291 (according to the taxation of Pope Nicholas) the rectory was valued at £4 13s. 8d. a year, It appears from the "Valor Ecclesiasticus," that in the reign of Henry VIII. the rector of Lustleigh was Stephen Whyte, who received from various sources £16 7s. 2½d. per annum.

I have sincere pleasure in acknowledging the courtesy and attention of the late rector of Lustleigh, the Rev. F. Ensor. He died at an advanced age, and was succeeded by his son-in-law, the Rev. Prebendary Tudor (see Wolborough *ante*), 1888. The registers are contained in eight books. The earliest is in fair condition, and includes the baptisms, marriages, and burials from 1631 to 1784.

The sacred vessels are very handsome, and consist of a chalice, two patens, and a flagon. The chalice was the

gift of Edward Basill, rector of Lustleigh, who died January 6th, 1697, aged 65. The rest of the plate was presented by the late Rev. William Davy, of whom I have spoken already in my "History of Winkleigh," to which vicarage he was preferred shortly before his death in 1826. He is remarkable for his literary labours, having printed twenty-six volumes of his own sermons upon a press which he set up at Lustleigh. Upon the title page of the first volume are the words, "Lustleigh, Devon, Printed by himself, Fourteen copies only M.D.CC.XCV."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Manor of Winkleigh," p. 42.

## CHAPTER XXI. PART I.

—  
THE PARISH OF DENBURY.

Denbury, in the hundred of Haytor and the Archdeaconry of Totnes, is now included in the Deanery of Moreton, but was formerly in that of Ipplepen; it is a scattered village, pleasantly situated about three miles from Newton Abbot, and extends over 1,050 acres of land, with a population—according to the last census return—of 331.

It has been stated that this parish acquired its name from having been the burial place of a host of Danish invaders, and one author remarks, “on a high down near the village are still to be seen traces of an encampment supposed to be of Danish origin.”

I consider that Denbury is probably derived from the two words “Dan” (or Den”) signifying a dwelling in low ground, and “Berry,” which was a very usual Saxon termination to the name of a place, and that the compound word means literally the *valley town*. As regards the camp, there is no evidence whatever to prove that it was constructed by the Danes, whose invasions were always of a temporary and predatory nature, and who did not establish themselves for any length of time in the country. The position, which is a very strong one, is about half a mile distant from the village upon the high ground known

as Denbury Down, and is the eastward of a chain of forts between Dartmoor and the valley of the Dart (having Hembury Castle, near Buckfastleigh, on the west), and is probably of Saxon origin. In form it appears to be nearly oval, and to contain about eight acres of land. One account describes it as 200 paces from east to west, and 180 from north to south, but it would be impossible to verify this statement, since the whole enclosure is much overgrown with bushes and underwood. On the south and east is a double dyke of considerable depth; on the west and north there are but little vestiges of any ditch, the hill having been apparently fortified simply according to its natural requirements.

The manor of Denbury, written in the Exeter Domesday *Devenaberie*, was in the reign of Edward the Confessor, the property of Aldred, Archbishop of York, and under Norman rule it pertained to the Abbey of Tavistock. Livingus, the second Abbot of Tavistock, was promoted to the see of Crediton in 1032, and upon the death of his uncle, Brithwold, Bishop of Cornwall, he succeeded in uniting that diocese in perpetuity to his own see. In 1038 King Harold appointed him to the bishopric of Worcester, which he continued to hold with Crediton until his death on Sunday, March 23rd, 1046. He was succeeded first at Tavistock and afterwards at Worcester by Aldred, a monk of Winchester, who is noticed in the chronicle of Lambeth, A.D. 1053, for his pilgrimages and for offering a golden chalice at the sepulchre of Christ at Jerusalem. In his life, by Thomas Stubbs, the Dominican, in the "*Decem Scriptorum*," it is stated that he was translated from Worcester to York in 1060, during the



reign of Edward the Confessor, who probably conferred upon him the manor of Denbury. He consecrated the last of our Saxon kings, and appears throughout his life to have been always the trusted servant of the reigning sovereign.

After the Battle of Hastings the two potent earls, Edwin and Morcar, in concert with Stigand, Archbishop of Canterbury, proclaimed Edgar Atheling, and endeavoured to put the people in a posture of defence. The Londoners, however, having received a repulse from 300 Norman horse, the terror which the citizens had experienced from the previous success of the invaders was renewed, and when William passed the Thames at Wallingford he found that Edwin and Morcar had retired into their own provinces, and that Stigand, the Primate, was waiting there to make his submission to him. The Conqueror, however, was not prepared readily to forgive him, and refused to be consecrated by him, pretending that he had received his pall in an irregular manner from Pope Benedict IX., who was himself an usurper, and he therefore conferred the honour upon Aldred, Archbishop of York, the Lord of the Manor of Denbury; and Westminster Abbey was the place appointed for that magnificent ceremony, at which Aldred in a short speech asked the English whether they agreed to accept William as their King. The Bishop of Coutance put the same question to the Normans, and both being answered with acclamations, Aldred administered to the Duke of Normandy the usual coronation oath, and then anointed him and put the crown upon his head. In 1068 our Archbishop was selected to perform the same office for Matilda, King William's Consort, upon her arrival in

England; and being thus in favour at Court, we can hardly be surprised to find that he was no sufferer in the redistribution of property, and it was doubtless through his exertions that the Abbey of Tavistock retained the eight manors which they held in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and obtained the five new ones of which they are stated to have been the Lords in Domesday, making with Denbury (the gift, as it is only natural to suppose, of Aldred himself) a total of fourteen.

Robert Champeaux, or Campell, who was elected Abbot of Tavistock in 1285, obtained for Denbury (which in ancient records is described as a borough) in the first year of his benediction, a market on Wednesday and a fair for three days at the festival of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin.<sup>1</sup> This fair is also noticed in the reign of Edward II., but the days are not mentioned.<sup>2</sup> A cattle fair is now held there in the month of September, but the market has been long discontinued.

An inspection of the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" of King Henry VIII, proves that at the dissolution of monasteries the manor rents of Denbury were valued at £23 5s. 10¼d. per annum, whilst those pertaining to the Borough increased the rental by the sum of £5 6s. 9¾d. The Abbot of Tavistock was in the habit of paying the bailiff of Denbury (who in the year 1535 was called John Lacche) 13s. 4d. a year.

It is well known that John, Lord Russell, ancestor of the present Duke of Bedford, obtained from King Henry in consideration "boni veri et acceptabilis servicii," and of a further pecuniary sacrifice, nearly the whole of the

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Cart. 14th, Ed. I.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. 12th, Ed. II.

possessions of this magnificent Abbey; the grant, which is referred to in a previous chapter,<sup>1</sup> contains mention of Denbury in words of which the following are a translation:—"We give also and yield, by these presents, and for the aforesaid consideration, to the said John Russell, knight, Baron Russell, the whole our borough of Denbury and all the manor of Denbury." In another part of this deed the King grants him "all the profits and emoluments of sundry parish churches," and amongst them those pertaining to this rectory—"et rectorie, et ecclesiarum, parochialium de Virgenstowe, *Denbury* et Whymple." William, the fifth Earl of Bedford, was created Marquess of Tavistock and Duke of Bedford in 1694, and for many generations the Denbury property remained in the hands of this family.<sup>2</sup>

The Reynells of East Ogwell appear to have purchased the manor in the seventeenth century, in the fourth year of Richard II. (1381). Walter Reynell accompanied the Duke of Bedford (John Plantagenet, uncle of the reigning sovereign Henry VI.) in his memorable expedition to France in 1428, when the raising of the siege of Orleans by Joan of Arc gave rise to one of the most singular revolutions that is to be met with in history.

For many years, as I have already shown, the descendants of this ancient stock were amongst the most

<sup>1</sup> Vol. 1, p. 265.

<sup>2</sup> See the history of this family, vol. 1, chap. xii, part 2. At page 287 it appears by an error of punctuation that the "Red deer were extirpated in the neighbourhood of Tavistock by the Duke of Bedford in 1870-75." The full stop should be placed after the latter figures. The hounds were sent down for the purpose by the fourth Duke, who died 15th January, 1771.

important of our county families, and their well-known armorial bearings—"Arg. ; masonry sa, a chief indented of the second"—may still be seen in many of our parochial churches and elsewhere.<sup>1</sup> Richard Reynell, Lord of Denbury, died without issue in 1735, and by his death the elder branch became extinct. His half-sisters married Whitrow, Copleston, and Morice ; and the heiress of Whitrow brought the estates (inclusive of Denbury) to Joseph Taylor, by whose descendant they were sold to Mr. Scratton, the present proprietor of East Oghwell, a few years since.

The family of Froude have some estates in Denbury, and are the owners of the picturesque manor house of sixteenth century date, which probably occupies the site of a much older dwelling, since it is situated close to the church—an almost invariable arrangement where a monastic community were the lords and patrons.

The lower part of the ancient market cross, which has, I believe, been restored, remains in the village street, a small portion of its shaft was used to form a kind of finial to a cumbrous mass of masonry erected near it.

Several old houses here have plain doorways, dating most probably from the last quarter of the fifteenth century.

<sup>1</sup> Ante chap. xx, part 2.

## CHAPTER XXI. PART II.

—  
PARISH OF DENBURY—THE PARISH CHURCH.

The parish church of Denbury is a plain and unpretending structure consisting of a very deep chancel, nave, north and south transepts, a south porch, and a low tower at the western end containing five bells. The ancient screen has been removed, but a parclose of sixteenth century date still separates the nave from the southern transept, which latter, from the reign of Queen Anne, was used as a place of interment by the Taylor family.

The font of red sandstone is circular, and has an antique moulding characteristic of the Norman style, and the church of Denbury is mentioned in the Taxation of Pope Nicholas, as finished in 1291 ; but little if any of the early building now remains. A church here was dedicated to St. Mary during the Episcopate of Bishop Stapledon on the 27th of August, 1318, and at that time doubtless the present chancel was erected in place of the ancient structure which had probably fallen into such decay as to attract the attention of that munificent restorer of churches, Robert Campell, then abbot of Tavistock. At first sight the chancel appeared to me to be of early English date. The five windows on its north and south sides (filled with modern stained glass), are all lancets of two lights each, precisely similar, however, to one in the

vestry of Ashburton Church, which I have good reason to believe dates from the year 1314.<sup>1</sup> The piscina, which has a broad angular projection and a deep and very curious drain hole, is surmounted by an ogee arch of Early Second Pointed character. The priests' door remains on the south side, and amongst the nodi in the roof may be seen the "Lacy knot," and several bosses carved in good perpendicular foliage.

The nave and transepts were probably added during the episcopacy of Bishop Lacy (1420 to 1458), and before this date I consider that the church consisted of nothing but the present chancel. The transept windows have been well restored and contain good examples of perpendicular tracery, but those in the nave which have been also renewed are capable of considerable improvement. The entrance to the staircase, which once led to the rood loft, has been partially blocked, but the arch still remains on the eastern side of the north transept, whilst high up on the north wall of the chancel may be seen the narrow doorway which once afforded admission into the church from this staircase.

In the south transept is a heavy mural tablet of white marble with a long Latin inscription commemorating the virtues of Joseph Taylor, erst Captain of the Royal Navy, and who commanded the flag-ship which was stationed at Plymouth at the time of Queen Anne's death. Amongst the tasteless decorations usually found upon funeral monuments erected at this period are the conventional skulls, and a medallion portrait of the deceased ; whilst

<sup>1</sup> "Ashburton and Its Neighbourhood," p. 18.

nearly opposite, there hangs a naked sword, apparently of the fashion of the early part of the eighteenth century, and which was, therefore, I presume, his property, together with a helmet, which he certainly never wore, surmounted by an heraldic monster, intended possibly to represent his crest. "A Lion pass. arg.," but which when I saw it was coloured in stripes of black and white, and much needed heraldic attention.

The interior of the church is particularly neat and clean, and it was repaired and reseated at the expense of Miss Froude, of Denbury House, and other subscribers about the year 1846, a very bad period for church restoration. The greatest praise is due to the present rector for his lavish decoration of the chancel, which is both costly and beautiful. The walls behind the altar rails are lined with encaustic tiles of very good design. The tower, like the nave and transepts, probably dates from the fifteenth century, and the western window and doorway are both of this period ; it is unbuttressed, but embattled, and the staircase is on its north side. The present ugly roof, pierced with dormer windows, is comparatively modern, and much lower than the original, as proved by an inspection of the outside of the tower, but the ceiling of the south porch appears to have been left untouched. The transepts and chancel are supported by plain buttresses. There is an external rood projection, partly hidden by the vestry, and the woodwork of a north door which has been blocked on the inside, in the angle between the tower and the wall of the nave. On the south side of the churchyard there is an excessively fine yew tree.

The profits of the rectory of Denbury are not included  
2 c<sup>2</sup>

in the possessions of the dissolved abbey of Tavistock, from which it is clear that the abbots exercised only the right of patronage there, in point of fact the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* absolutely proves that the monks made the rector an annual payment out of the manor rents, "Et Walteri Michel, rectori de Denbury, et successoribus, suis pro capitali redditu ab antiquo tempore consueto 1s." At this time the said Walter Michel, according to the same authority, was in receipt of an income of £12 7s. 3d. per annum. The patronage still remained with the Duke of Bedford up to the year 1836; afterwards it was purchased by the Rev. John Richard Bogue, who was for some years curate there to the late Ven. Archdeacon Froude, and who enlarged the rectory house, a very comfortable residence, in 1847. The present rector is the Rev. James H. Reibey, who was instituted in 1859, and who has eighteen acres of glebe. He informed me the altar plate, which is very handsome, was given to the church by Joseph Taylor in 1773, and that the parochial registers commence alike in 1559.

The Rev. Richard Serle, M.A., who was instituted in the year 1642, was very soon ejected by the Puritans, and was replaced four years later by a Presbyterian of the name of Bickle, who does not seem to have profited much by his act of usurpation since he was dismissed in his turn for Nonconformity in 1662, and was turned out of the rectory together with his wife and ten children, and once had his house stripped of his furniture because he refused to pay a fine which had been inflicted upon him. He is stated to have been insane for twelve months before his death in 1702; however, he held possession of



Denbury rectory for a period of sixteen years, and its rightful owner, Mr. Serle, does not appear to have lived to be restored to his preferment.

There are several ancient feoffments relating to the parish lands. The first is dated 20th March, 2nd and 3rd Philip and Mary (1555-6), by which John Prideaux, serjeant-at-law, enfeoffed John Gilbert alias Vicary and others and their heirs of a messuage and tenement with the appurtenances called Poundhayes, situate in the parish of Denbury, to the support and reparation of the parish church.

The next deed bears date 23rd September, 23rd Elizabeth (1581), by which John Boteler and William Holford granted to William Gilbert alias Vicary and others and their heirs a messuage or tenement, bakehouse, curtilage, and garden, situate at Denbury, to the intent that they should employ the rents and profits to such charitable and good uses as by the major part of the parishioners (householders) should be agreed upon. When all the trustees save four should be dead provision is made for the election of new ones.

The next trust is dated 20th March, 1603. William Vicary alias Gilbert and others granted Richard Culling and others and their heirs all the messuage and tenement called Poundhayes, and the house called Church-house, in the parish of Denbury. No trusts are declared by this deed.

No part of this parish is now known by the name of Poundhayes.

A more recent appointment of trustees of these lands was made on the 14th July, 1807, when several houses,

and a close of land called Denbury Down, containing by estimation an acre and a half were conveyed by the three co-heiresses of the surviving feoffee to the Rev. Robert H. Froude, and others and their heirs, upon trust that they or the major part of them should meet yearly on Easter Monday in the church house and after deducting incidental expenses should apply the balance of the rents to such charitable and good uses as they should agree upon, either for the reparation of the parish church, amending the highways, or relieving the poor thereof and such like.

Mr. John Peter, by will dated 1570, gave to the poor of the parish £1 per annum, payable out of the sheaf of Cornworthy. I believe that this annuity is distributed among such of the poor not receiving parochial relief, as are selected at a vestry meeting. In commemoration of this bequest the arms of Peter, painted on canvas and framed, are hung up in the vestry.

The Charity Commissioners state "that in the returns made to Parliament in 1786, John Simming gave to the parish £10, then producing an interest of 10s., to be laid out in the purchase of books for poor children. I have not been able to verify this by the evidence of any document, but I find that the parish have been in the habit of expending ten shillings per annum in the purchase of Bibles, which have been distributed every two or three years among such poor children of the parish as have been chosen to receive them at a meeting of the parishioners."

## CHAPTER XXII.

## THE PARISH OF SOUTH BRENT.

South Brent, in the hundred of Stanborough, and in the deanery of Totnes, is a small market town, with 1,298 inhabitants, about eight miles from Ashburton, on the old road to Plymouth.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, and at the time of the taking of the Domesday Survey, the Abbey of Buckfastleigh possessed two manors of Brent. The first entry of these two manors in the description of the Abbey property runs thus: "Abbas Habet i mansionem que vocatur Brenta quam tenuit Alwinus Abbas eâ die qua Rex Edwardus fuit vivus et mortuus et reddidit gildum pro ii hidis," &c. The next entry, commencing in similar terms, probably refers to Brent Tor, in the hundred and deanery of Tavistock, and which eventually became the property of its magnificent monastery, the Abbots of Tavistock having probably acquired it either by purchase or exchange with Buckfast.<sup>1</sup> South Brent, however, remained with its ancient possessors until the 25th February, 1538, when Gabriel Dunne, the last Abbot of Buckfast, surrendered his convent into the hands of King

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Brooking Rowe, in his account of Buckfast Abbey, Transactions Devon Association, vol. viii, p. 881, says "The two Brentas stand for manors, *both probably in the parish of South Brent.*" I cannot tell upon what grounds he formed his opinion for there is no Manor of Brent mentioned in Domesday, as the property of Tavistock Abbey.

Henry VIII. On the 11th of September in the preceding year he had leased to John Southcote, of Bovey Tracey, and Anthony Burleigh, the tithes of sheaf and hay of Brent for sixty years at £20 a year, and from the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* we find that he had been in the habit of deriving an income of £121 6s. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., from this property alone, which must have been amongst the most important and valuable of the Abbey possessions.

Sir William Petre (of whom I have already spoken in my account of Tor Brian),<sup>1</sup> is said to have obtained from King Henry VIII. the "Manor of Brent, alias South Brent, and the Rectory of the parish church of Brent," and, what is more extraordinary, on November 25th, 1555, Pope Paul IV. confirmed him in this grant of ecclesiastical property. But, despite this statement, in 1559 the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, were Rectors and Proprietors of the Church, and Sir William was merely Patron of the Vicarage. In Bishop Turbeville's Register is a copy of the release of a certain yearly payment of four shillings issuing from this parish church, made by the aforesaid Sir William Petre (who had then become principal Secretary of State to Philip and Mary) to Philip and Phrear, the then Vicar, and his successors. I have also alluded to Mr. Phrear in my account of Dean Prior,<sup>2</sup> and have stated there that an appeal for augmentation of the Vicarage of Brent was made on his behalf to the Dean and Canons of Christ Church, and in Turbeville's Register (fol. 48) may be seen "A composition for the union and the annexation of the

<sup>1</sup> "Ashburton and Its Neighbourhood," chap. xxiii.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* Chap. xx.

Rectory of the church of Brent to the Vicarage in the same place." The composition states that the Rev. Philip Phrear having declared that the Vicarage of Brent was so poor and slender in its "fruits, returns, and incomings," as to have been altogether forsaken by a fitting pastor, that he, the Bishop (considering that "whosoever served the altar should live by the altar" "equum esse ut qui altari servit, de altari vivere") had interested himself with the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church at Oxford, the Rectors and proprietors of the parish church of Brent, and that they, with the council, will, and express consent of the honourable man, Sir William Petre (the true and undoubted patron of the Vicarage), had consented to give up all the tithes, rights, and emoluments, spiritual as well as temporal (reserving to themselves, however, an annual pension of £20) for the proper augmentation of the Vicarage.

Philip Phrear was Vicar of Dean Prior and Brent, and in 1553 was patron of Holne and presented William Avery to that Vicarage. He acquired this latter patronage from the Crown, who had assumed it upon the suppression of St. John's Hospital.

The parish of Brent includes the small hamlets of Aish, Charford, Harbournford, Lutton, Wenton, and Brent Mill. A fair on Brent Down was granted to the Abbot of Buckfast about the year 1350, to be held for three days at Michaelmas.<sup>1</sup> In the year 1778 the fairs were altered to the last Tuesday in April and the last Tuesday in September. I find from the Hundred Roll that the Abbot had the power of inflicting capital

<sup>1</sup> Cart Rot., 25th-27th Edwd. III., No. 170.

punishment. Most of the land was sold off some years since, and now belongs to the executors of the late Sir Walter Carew, Dr. Butter, and many smaller owners. I believe that the manor itself is now the property of Mrs. Bayliffe. "On Brent-hill are ruins which have been stated to be those of an ancient chapel." I can find no record of a chapel on this hill either in the Chantry Roll or elsewhere, but I have heard the following explanation of the origin of the building :—About the year 1790 one Mr. Nicholas Tripe, surgeon, built a large house for a residence at the head of East-street, Ashburton (now known as the Golden Lion Hotel). From his bedroom he could see the summit of Brent-hill, and he erected there a *windmill*, in order that he might amuse himself by watching it from his bed in the early morning. The remains of this windmill have since been mistaken by some for the remains of an ancient ecclesiastical structure.

In the year 1557 (4th and 5th Philip and Mary) an inquisition was made concerning the boundaries between Dartmoor and Brent Moor. Out of the 10,100 acres of land belonging to the parish, 6,312 acres only are cultivated, the rest being open common in the south-east angle of Dartmoor, where the hills rise boldly from the valleys of the Avon, and the Erme. The evidence given before the three Parliamentary Commissioners (John Predyaux, John Rudgeway and Thomas Williams), proved that the waste called Brent Moor extended by ascending a certain valley or place in which two waters, called "Lez Glasez," met (in quo due aque vocate Lez Glasez simul concurrunt in unum"). The witnesses having given fuller evidence as to the boundaries, the Commissioners ordered

that stone crosses, inscribed "Bunda de Brentmore," should be placed upon Three Barrow Beacon and Wester Whitboro, and at Buckland Ford and Welbroke. And they, moreover, declared that they adopted these crosses, in order to preserve the boundaries, they assuming that no one would take down, remove, or destroy such holy symbols. "Per quas quidem cruces, Signa Christiano digna, credimus, quod predictæ mete, et divisæ de Brentmore pariter imperpetuum cognoscerentur," &c. Sir William Petre is buried in the Church of Ingarteston, in the county of Essex. The monument to his memory is thus described by Prince:—"On the north side of the altar in Ingardeston Church is a bed raised about four-foot-and-a-half high and seven long, curiously canopied over, and adorned on the sides with marble pillows, whereon lie the statues in full proportion of Sir William Petre and Anne his second wife." Sir William died 13th January, 1572; his brother John (the Customer of Exeter), in 1570, and the latter is interred in the parish church of Brent. A branch of the ancient family of Le Pruz, commonly called Prowse, who inherited the lands of Ashton under Haldon, from the Hilions (seven knights of the latter name having held them from the time of the Norman Conquest), had an estate called "More," in this parish. In the year 1692, Arthur, the son of Solomon Hele, of Stert, married Elizabeth, daughter of Prowse, of More, in South Brent. Palstow, in Brent, belonged to the Abbey of Buckfast, and the occupiers paid a rent to the Community, amounting to £3 a-year.

## CHAPTER XXII.—PART II.

## BRENT CHURCH.

The parish church, dedicated to *St. Petrock*, though in some documents it is assigned to *St. Patrick*, is a large and very ancient fabric. It has been restored, and it is suprising to notice the number of walled-up arches in the different parts of the building. The interior of the church has not been replastered, but the bare stone has been pointed, and these old arches can therefore be seen distinctly. The church consists of a chancel, nave opening into north and south aisles, beneath six pointed arches, supported upon octagonal columns, with moulded capitals, north and south transepts, a small porch, and a low tower at the western end, containing six bells. The rood screen was found to be so much decayed, that it was considered impossible to restore it, and it has therefore been removed, but the door leading to its gallery remains on the southern side. I presume that the church was enlarged at the time this screen was first placed there, since two of the arches were built in a peculiar form in order to admit of its erection; besides, many of the details at the eastern end of the building appear to be of Perpendicular date, whilst the western end of the fabric is decidedly of Decorated character. On the north side of the chancel there is a large low arch (now blocked) which may have



once contained an altar tomb, or it possibly may have been an Easter sepulchre.

There is a large square-headed piscina on the south side, and one old sedile, the spandrils enclosing shields, bearing respectively a cross quarterly and a saltier. Two new sedilia have been added; the ancient priest's door remains in its proper position. There are square piscinæ of Perpendicular date in both the north and south chancel chapels. High up in the eastern wall of the south transept was discovered, during the recent restoration, an arched recess, which, upon being opened, was found to contain many pieces of carved and painted stone, including the fragments of one large image; they are preserved at the Vicarage, and very likely are the remains of the ancient altar, and of the statue of the blessed Virgin, which were secreted here when the Act of 1559 was passed, reviving Edward's laws, and directing all images, to which adoration had been paid, to be destroyed, and directing a communion table to be set up where the high altar formerly stood. On entering the church by the south porch, I noticed that the old oak-door, with its ancient key, still remained, and there is an aspersion, or holy water stoup, on its eastern side. The Norman font is in good preservation and is decorated with the zigzag and band ornaments. The tower is square and massive, and has no staircase; it has a Norman arch, and there are also two very perfect circular arches (stoned up), on its northern and southern sides. The upper windows (Norman) are divided by small shafts, with imposts of long stones reaching entirely through the wall. There can be little doubt that the

church has been several times restored (or I may almost say rebuilt), and that upon each occasion a very considerable portion of the old erection has been utilized. At the western end of the south aisle is a small building with a room over. In excavating the lower part for the purpose of fixing a heating apparatus many skeletons were discovered, affording evidence that it was originally used as a mortuary chapel; the upper room has been for years used as a vestry. The windows of the church are principally of the Perpendicular order, but one good example of the Decorated style remains at the western end of the north aisle, and it has been recently filled with stained glass. I noticed several inscribed grave-stones to the memory of former vicars: J. Gandy, Prebendary of Sarum, 1672; John Wilcocks (Prebendary of Exeter, collated 12th Ap. 1681), and 43 years Vicar, 1715; Walter Taylor, Vicar, 1664; and Thomas Acland, third son of Sir T. Acland, Vicar, 1735. In the south transept there is a memorial for the family of Prowse. Before the Reformation this church was most probably served by a canon from Buckfastleigh. Philip Phrear, who was admitted on July 25th, 1550, was succeeded by Richard Fountain, May 8th, 1561. Dr. John Gandy (above mentioned) who was buried in 1672, was Chaplain to Dr. Davenant, Bishop of Salisbury. In the year 1642, his Prebendal stall (Torleton, in the Diocese of Salisbury), was put under sequestration and given to a Parliamentarian called Briten.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> According to Le Neve, "Fasti," ii, 656. There were no collations to the Prebendal Stalls at Sarum, between the years 1638-9 and 1660. Gandy's name does not occur, neither is there any note of his death, but

Mr. Gandy was at that time residing at Brent, and about the year 1644 he was arrested as he was going to church, and carried prisoner to Dartmouth, whither he went in his habit, his bible in his hand. He was frequently threatened with death by his captors, and was not released until he had paid the sum of £100 as ransom. His house was several times ransacked by the soldiers, and his wife and children illtreated. About the year 1645, he was totally dispossessed of his living, and his wife and family (in his absence in London) thrown out of doors to beg or starve, Mrs. Gandy having with her a baby of but a few weeks old. The intruder who was to succeed the rightful Vicar, and who was called Felinger, and who had been rescued from beggary by the Vicar's father, was present whilst the ejection was taking place, and watched the troop of horse whilst they barbarously turned Mrs. Gandy and her children out of the house; the soldier who was most conspicuous in this act of cruelty being a man whom that lady had recently freed from prison by the payment of his debts. After he had been dispossessed, he was compelled to sell the choicest of his books to support himself in London, but towards the latter end of the usurpation he was permitted to hold the rectory of Bridport, where he continued until the Restoration, when he had his preferments given back to him, became a Doctor of Divinity, and retired to end his days at Brent Vicarage, and as I have already stated he is buried in the South Chancel Chapel of his Church.

The late Vicar and Patron, the Rev. F. Cole, was succeeded by his son, the Rev. W. S. Cole, in 1866, to whom Robert Frampton was collated to the Prebend of Torleton, and installed 15th Aug., 1672.

my best thanks are due for his kind attention to my enquiries. He informed me that he still pays the yearly pension to Christ Church. During my visit to his Vicarage (which is situated in a large lawn and sheltered by ancient trees, with the river Avon flowing through it), he showed me a fine copy of Missal. Rom. Paris, 1526 ; a copy of the "Breeches" Bible (quarto imp. apud Londinum) by Robert Barker, 1615 ; and a curious and valuable manuscript, consisting of sundry short treatises, and including "A Treatise on ye Fabrique and use of the Astrolabe by ye famous clerke Sir Geffry Chaucer, Knight." There are thirty-two acres of glebe, and the population in 1871 amounted to 1,449 persons.

The parish lands comprise sixty-four acres and five houses which have been long vested for the use of the poor. John Wilcocks (formerly vicar) endowed a free school, with three acres of land, to which the Rev. Thos. Acland, his successor, added another acre in 1733. The poor have 40s. a year out of the great tithes of Cornworthy. Lord Petre, as Lord of the Manor of South Brent received certain free rents of the value of £7 14s. 4d., and these free rents were anciently charged with a payment to the poor of £20 a year ; and the Rev. Robert Bradford, in 1800 left £10, the interest to be spent in providing Bibles for four poor children belonging to this parish.

## CHAPTER XXIII. PART I.

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THE PARISH OF HARFORD.

Harford, in the hundred of Ermington, the Arch-deaconry of Totnes, and the Deanery of Plympton, is a small parish on the river Erme, about two miles distant from Ivy Bridge. The population numbered 182 according to the last census, in 1871 it comprised 171 inhabitants living in 27 houses, on 2,050 acres of land. The vicinity of the South Devon Railway does not appear to have benefited this picturesque village, as there were 28 houses there in 1811, and these had decreased to 25 in 1821; but in the last year there were 199 parishioners, against 182 in 1811. Since then, however, a portion of the land has been absorbed by the Ecclesiastical district of Ivy Bridge, which was formed out of the four parishes of Ermington, Cornwood, Ugborough, and Harford in the year 1835. The Manor of Harford was the property of Ordulf in the time of Edward the Confessor. This noble Saxon (who must not be confounded with Ordulph, the gigantic son of Ordgarius, Duke of Devon) was at that time a considerable landowner in this county, for in addition to this property, he is shown by Domesday to have also held the Manors of Alverdiscot, Alwington, Bigbury, Beer-Alston, Bratton, Crideholde, Frithelstock, Hempston Lege, Raddon, Wic, and one or two Manors in

St. Mary Church ; and all these, at the Conquest, were given to the King's half-brother, the Earl of Mortaine. Besides these Ordulf held Lamerton, Were, and Hanston, together with the Manor of Broadclist, which last was afterwards assumed by the Conqueror himself.

The period of the death of Robert of Mortaine is by no means certain. It has been frequently stated that he left an only son William. As a matter of fact, he was twice married, and had two sons, both of whom are referred to in his grant of the Manor of "Ludahanum" to the Priory of St. Michael's Mount, "Pro anima mulieris suae defunctæ *Mathildis* et pro viventi *Almodi* et pro *pueris* eorum. . . . Robertus filius comitis Moretonii. . . et Willielmus ejus alter filius," &c. Upon the death of Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, A.D. 1097, William, who had then succeeded his father, claimed, as his uncle's heir, the Earldom of Kent. The King, Henry I, not only refused him this honour, but called upon him to prove his right to his other estates. Earl William, in disgust, retired to Normandy, where he broke out into open rebellion. His property was, of course, seized by the Crown, and on September 28th, 1106, he was taken prisoner at the Battle of Tinchebrai. Some authors state that he died in prison, while others declare that his life ended in the cloister after he had been for some time a monk at Bermondsey.

Although Robert, Earl of Mortaine, had received the Earldom of Cornwall and 793 manors scattered over 20 counties, and although most of the King's

<sup>1</sup> "Luduhani," mentioned amongst his possessions in the Domesday Survey.

relatives and chiefs had received similar rewards, yet it is somewhat remarkable that none of the Conqueror's sons appear as possessed of land in Domesday with the single exception of his illegitimate son, William Peverell, who although he did not acquire any Devonshire land in the re-distribution, yet had 162 manors in the Midland Counties, his Northamptonshire land having belonged to Githa, the mother of Harold. The Peverells, however, soon became large landowners here, and although the branch settled in the south were in after ages distinguished by their different coat armour from that of Sampford, near Tiverton, yet they doubtless had a common ancestor with the Lords of Nottingham and Derby. The Hundred Roll shows that King Henry first gave to Matilda Peverell the Manor and Hundred of Ermington, and she was succeeded by Hugh Peverell in the same reign. It continued in this name for several descents. Sir John was the last, and his daughter married Sir Nicholas Carew, and brought him the Manors of Weston, Mamhead, Galmeton, and other lands, but not Harford, which appears to have been alienated before her time, and prior to the reign of Edward III belonged to John, Baron of Torrington, subsequently both East and West Harford were held by Hugh de Harston. Lysons says that the Harstons were settled here between 1327 and 1377, and that they were succeeded by Cole, and in the year 1622 Harford was sold by Christopher Cole to Sir Richard Buller and others, trustees probably for Williams, of Stowford, whose family became possessed of it about

this time." There are several manors of "Stafort," variously written, mentioned in the survey, and I will not attempt here to identify that which is known as "Stowford," and which is situated within this parish. It is the East Harford referred to by Risdon as one of the manors held by the Baron of Torrington, and it also belonged to the Peverells. It was at an early period in the possession of one "Matthew, of Ivybridge, whose daughter, Margaret, brought it to her husband, William Dymock, whose three sons held it in succession and died without issue. By means whereof the Lord Bonville, by a deed in tail, got this land, which, upon the attainder of the Duke of Suffolk, came to the Crown, and was bought by Adam Williams, ancestor of Williams, a man of rare gifts and excellency, learned in the laws, and Speaker of the Parliament in the reign of Queen Elizabeth." This Thomas Williams, who was Speaker of the House of Commons in 1562, was the son of Adam Williams, of Stowford, by his marriage with Alice, daughter of Thomas Prideaux, of Ashburton. He married Emylu, daughter and co-heir of William Cruwys, of Chumleigh, by his wife Margaret, sister of Antony Pollard, of Horewood, and by her he had two sons, John and Thomas, and four daughters, Joan (who married Philip Cole, of Slade), Anne, Elizabeth, and Thomazine.

This pedigree is continued in the Visitation of 1564. Westcote adds, "That John Williams married Joan, daughter of Richard Drewe, of Hayne, and had issue;" and we are told by Risdon that the issue was "Thomas," who "lately enjoyed this land." In



the parish church there is a memorial to the Speaker, who died in 1566, to his son John, 1615, and to John Williams, 1716. I have a note also of a memorial on the outside of the church, against the church wall, dated 1752, and which exhibits the Arms of Williams impaled with three demi-lions issuant from three castles. Thomas Williams, the grandson of the Speaker, is supposed to have sold Stowford in the reign of Charles I to the Saverys, who for some time resided there; it afterwards passed through the hands of Dunstirville, of Plymouth, Rivers, and Bowen. Mr. Rivers rebuilt the house.

The Manor of Hall was sometime in the Chudleigh family, who appear to have obtained their property in this neighbourhood by the marriage of Christopher Chudleigh, Knight, with Christiana, daughter and heir of William Strichley, of Strichley, in the adjoining parish of Ermington, by his wife Anne, sister and co-heir of John Gould, of Seaborough. The issue of this marriage was a son John, who died in the Straits of Magellan while on a voyage of discovery in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He married Elizabeth, daughter of George Speke, of White-Lackington, Knight, and by her had issue two daughters—Bridget married to Richard Carew, of Antony; and Dorothy, whose husband was Sir Reginald Mohun. His two sons, George and John, are both mentioned by Prince; John, who according to the Heralds' visitations, was aged 36 in 1620, was knighted by King Charles I., September 22nd, 1625. George, the eldest son, succeeded to Ashton, and married Mary, daughter of Sir William Strode, and had issue five sons and four daughters—John, aged 14; George, aged 8;

William, aged 5 , James, aged 4 ; Richard, aged 3 weeks—in the year 1620. The names of the four daughters were Elizabeth, Mary, Dorothy, and Anne. At the breaking out of the civil war Sir George, who had been when almost an infant deprived of his father, declared for the Parliament against the King. But he joined his Sovereign at Oxford in 1643-4, and the declaration which he at that time published has been re-produced by Prince, and the reasons he gives in it for his change of opinion are alike honourable, convincing, and satisfactory. Both Sir George and his son James were in Cornwall with the rebels in May, 1643. Sir George was detached from headquarters, and was ordered to march with 1,200 Dragoons to Bodmin in order to surprise the High Sheriff and the principal gentlemen of the county.

The King's forces immediately advanced upon the enemy's position at Stratton in order to take advantage of the absence of their Cavalry. James Chudleigh was in command there as a Major-General, and according to Clarendon, actually "ordered the battle," from which he says Lord Stamford "stood at a safe distance." In the route that followed, Chudleigh, with 30 other officers and 1,700 men, were taken prisoners and Stamford did not hesitate to say that he had betrayed him, and to send the same information to London. Clarendon praises his conduct most highly, and he appears to have done good service to the rebel cause ; however, he was so much stung with the ingratitude of his colleagues that after he had been about ten days in captivity he tendered his services to the King. They were accepted, and he became a colonel in the Royal Army, in which he soon

afterwards fell, killed by a musket-shot, during the siege of Dartmouth, just before that town yielded to Prince Maurice in October of the same year. Sir George Chudleigh, who married one of the co-heirs of Sir William Davie, of Creedy, died leaving three daughters. The title expired with Sir James Chudleigh, who was killed at the siege of Ostend in 1745. Colonel Thomas Chudleigh was the younger brother of Sir George, and had Hall for his inheritance, and, I believe, occasionally resided there, although he was Governor of Chelsea. He married his first cousin, Henrietta, a younger daughter of Hugh Chudleigh, of Chalmington, co. Dorset, and had a daughter, Elizabeth, who was born in 1726, and who in consequence of his death was left at an early age with but slender provision. Her mother, through the interest of William Pulteney, afterwards Earl of Bath, procured her an appointment at Court, as Maid of Honour to the Prince of Wales, mother of King George III. After this her career appears to have been very remarkable. Her wit and beauty soon procured her many admirers, and although her manner was characterised by the utmost levity, she is stated to have received a serious offer of marriage, from the Duke of Hamilton. She appears to have much wished to marry him, and had she done so the probability is that her after-life would have been very different from that which is recorded of her. While the Duke was on the continent it is said that one of her relatives succeeded in persuading her that she was slighted and forgotten, and these arguments induced her to consent to a secret marriage with a naval officer, Captain Harvey, afterwards Earl of Bristol, on

August 4th, 1744. After her marriage she continued to use her maiden name, and her refusal of several advantageous offers so offended her mother that to avoid her constant reproaches she was induced to go abroad, where she is stated to have been well received both by the King of Prussia and also at the Court of Dresden. She afterwards returned to England, and resumed her situation as Maid of Honour.

Her subsequent efforts, first to conceal and afterwards to assert her marriage with Lord Bristol, appear to savour more of romance than reality. Ultimately the Duke of Kingston made her a matrimonial offer, on which she endeavoured to procure a divorce from the Earl; and although he at first opposed her scheme, he at last consented to it, and she became the wife of Evelyn Pierrepont, and Duchess of Kingston, 8th March, 1769. On the Duke's death, in 1773, she was left mistress of a magnificent income, which she was not permitted to enjoy undisturbed, since the heirs of the Duke commenced a suit against her for bigamy. She was tried before the House of Lords and found guilty, but on her pleading the privilege of Peerage, the usual punishment of burning in the hand was remitted, and she was discharged on paying the fees of office. The remainder of her life was spent abroad, and she died at her seat near Fontainebleau, August 28th, 1783.

In Ballard's "Learned Ladies" there is a notice of Mary, Lady Chudleigh, daughter of Richard Lee, Esq., of Winscott, where she was born in 1666. She married Sir George Chudleigh, Bart. She was the author of a poem entitled "The Ladies' Defence,"

occasioned by a sermon against the sex, published in 1703. She also published a volume of Essays, in prose and verse, dedicated to the Electress Sophia. She died in 1710.

The manor of Hall now belongs to Lord Blachford, and the house is occupied by the tenant of the estate.

The Rev. John Savage, Rector of Harford in 1822 resided at Lukesland Grove, which estate, with Darts, he had then recently acquired by purchase. Lukesland Grove is now the property and residence of Mr. James Johnston McAndrew, the present lord of the manor of Harford.

## CHAPTER XXIII. PART II.

## HARFORD CHURCH.

The Rectory of Harford, which is valued in the King's book at £11 14s. 4½d., is now in the patronage of Mr. J. J. McAndrew. It was recently in that of the Rev. A. P. Bellamy, the late Rector, and of Lord Blachford. In 1835 it was in that of the late Sir J. L. Rogers, Bart., his Lordship's uncle, and of the heirs of the Rev. H. Julian. In the 3 Edward II (the day after the Feast of Ascension, 1310), the advowson of this rectory belonged to Isadola, the wife of John de Torriton (together with a certain messuage and tenement with its appurtenances in Harford). She then sold it to Hugh de Coleford and Margery his wife, subject to the payment of twenty marks, in two equal portions, at Easter and Michaelmas, during the lives of her husband and herself, and after their deaths, by the return of "one Rose" at the feast of St. John to her heirs, &c.<sup>1</sup> The Tithe Rent-charge amounts to £185 a year, and there are fifty acres of glebe. In 1291<sup>2</sup> it was taxed at £4 2s. p. a.

The parish church, dedicated to S. Patrick, stands in a neatly-kept churchyard, and comprehends chancel, nave, separated from a south aisle by an arcade of four bays supported upon slender, perpendicular columns ;

<sup>1</sup> Fines 3 Ed. ii.—No. 24.

<sup>2</sup> Taxatio—Nich. iv.

north transept, south porch, and a low, square tower at the western end containing three bells. The second is inscribed in "In nomine Patris." The third has a frieze of grapes and leaves, and was cast by Mordecai Cockey of Totnes, Thomas Williams being churchwarden. The tower staircase is carried up in the thickness of its north wall. At the period of my visit (20th July, 1875) I found that gradual repairs had been going on in the church for some time. The Rev. R. S. Borland, the then Rector, who had erected the organ in the previous year, was absent; but to the courtesý of his representative, the Rev. Frankland Tonkin, I felt much indebted. I noticed a fine trefoiled piscina on the south side of the altar, and a good example of an Hagioscope or Squint from the eastern end of the aisle into the chancel. The windows generally had very debased arches, and there was an entire absence of tracery, save in those at the eastern and western ends of the structure, which had been neatly restored.

The "Priests' door" opened into the aisle, at the eastern end of which a bracket, which had once supported an image, still remained. The granite font was plain and octagonal, and there were many good bosses of foliage existing in fair preservation. The Wall Plate had an inscription "I.H.S. Helpe us, Amen. Walter Hele Ps'on, 1539. I.H.S. Salus." Every rib of the cradle roof was carried into a twining stem or leaf. The south porch, which had been badly repaired, had a square-headed arch, and there was an aspersion on the eastern side of the interior door. The western entrance had been blocked up. In the churchyard I found a portion

of the ground walled off from the rest, and I was informed that it was thus separated as the property of the owners of Stowford. On the north side my attention was drawn to an old table-tomb, from which a brass had, at some time, apparently been removed. Since the institution of the Rev. A. P. Bellamy to the Rectory, in 1877, I believe that this interesting little church has been completely restored. The present Rector, the Rev. H. Rutherford, was instituted in 1882. There is no register in existence prior to 1724. The oldest book in the parish chest is a Church-rate Book of 1695. John Hake was then Rector, Richard Abbot, Churchwarden, and the principal names in the parish then appear to have been Williams, Stowford, Scobell, Prideaux, Rockwood, Underhill, Bowen, and Chubb. Among the disbursements is an item, "Bread and wine for Easter-day, 7s."

In 1703—Christopher Rockwood, Churchwarden—there is a somewhat singular entry. :—

"For the Church Bible, and for bringing of him whome, £1 12s."

The silver chalice and paten are comparatively ancient. On the latter is the following inscription and date, in dotted letters :—

LET SACRAMENTS AND PRAYER BE MORE IN FASHION;  
WE NEED NOT DOUT OR FEARE OF TOLLORATION.  
MAY 15TH, 1687.

The Rectory House was rebuilt by the Rev. W. Sanders, Rector, in 1843. He has entered in one of the registers an extract from a letter written by the Rev. — Hart, living in Cornwall, and dated January, 1832. It is as follows :—



“Forty years have passed away since I have seen Harford Church. I have no recollection of its style of building. If it were very old or characteristic I think I should remember it. The lord of the manor is supposed to have been the founder generally of the Parish Church. The Peverells were the lords of Harford in the time of Henry I. My great-great-grandfather, William Hart (most honourably mentioned in Walker’s “Sufferings of the Clergy” for his loyalty), was Rector of Harford in the time of Charles I. He rebuilt the parsonage-house, which was a ruin when I saw it.”

To this extract Mr. Sanders has added the following remarks :—

“The initials “W.H.” cut in granite were found in one of the porches of the old house. In taking down the old house to build the new one in 1843, the stone having the initial H was so much broken that it was put in the gateway at the east end of the present house, while the stone having the initial W was built into the new porch.

The Rev. William Hart is thus mentioned by Walker in his “Sufferings of the Clergy,” p. 417 :—

He was a man of an excellent life, and had by this means so much recommended himself to some of the neighbouring gentlemen that they preserved him, though with much difficulty, in his living. However, he was plundered by the soldiers, and summoned before the Committee to take the Covenant, when some of his friends getting him excused, one Major Pierce was so much enraged at it that he bid the parishioners pay him no tythes; and further told them that if *they would knock him off his horse and kill him* his friends should have no law of them.

I cannot close this chapter without reference to one of the most distinguished of the natives of Harford—one whose industry and talents caused him to attain a very high and responsible position among his fellow-men, and whose life and actions will never suffer by comparison with those of the other “worthies” included in John Prince’s “*Danmonii Orientales Illustres*.”

John Prideaux was born “at (or in the Manor of?) Stowford, in the parish of Harford, 17th September, 1578,” as his biographer says, “of honest and ingenuous parentage”; and adds, “to satisfy myself and others as to the birth of the learned Prelate, I purposely visited the house where he received his first breath, and found it a decent dwelling, healthfully situated, having about £30 a-year estate belonging to it, which hath been in this name and family, and still is, near 300 years, though held only by lease or copy; so that the Doctor was not of that mean and contemptible extraction some suppose he was.”<sup>1</sup> Dr. Prideaux appears to have been one of twelve children.

Through the patronage of the Fowel family he was sent to Oxford. He was admitted to a scholarship at Exeter Coll., Act Term 1596. He obtained a Fellowship in 1601; was elected Rector 4th April, 1612, which position he resigned 3rd August, 1642. He was five times Vice-Chancellor between 17th July, 1619, and 7th October, 1641. Regius Professor of Divinity 8th December, 1615-1642, and hence Canon of Christ Church and Rector of Ewelme, Oxon.; Vicar of Bampton 17th July, 1614, resigned 1634; Chaplain to Prince Henry, James I., and Charles I.; consecrated Bishop of

<sup>1</sup> Prince, p. 654 (edit. 1816), Wood’s *Athen*, Oxon., vol. 2, p. 130.

Worcester 19th December, 1641; died at Bredon, in Worcestershire, 20th July, 1650 in his 72nd year. In 1639 Dr. Prideaux, then Rector of Exeter, placed a memorial in Harford Church to the memory of his father and mother. For an interesting account of his life, and for a list of his writings, I must refer my readers to the works of Prince and Wood. I will only add of him an anecdote mentioned by the former, that when he was a boy he considered himself sufficiently qualified to become the parish clerk of Ugborough, but when he made application he found that there was another candidate for the office. It was, therefore, arranged that on the following Sunday the competitors should undergo a kind of *vivâ voce* examination, one of them was "to tune the Psalm in the morning and the other in the afternoon; he that best did please the people should have the place." Prideaux was unsuccessful, to his very great grief and trouble, and it is recorded of him that in his after-life he was accustomed frequently to say, "If I could have been clerk of Ugborough I had never been Bishop of Worcester."

## CHAPTER XXIV. PART I.

## THE PARISH OF SHAUGH PRIOR. GENERAL HISTORY.

Shaugh Prior is a singularly interesting and picturesque village, to which I have already referred as having been the first habitation of the Slannings in this county. It is situated in the Hundred and Deanery of Plympton and in the Archdeaconry of Totnes. The visitor who leaves Bickleigh and proceeds to Shaugh Bridge, where the Mew and Plym unite their waters, will find himself among some of the most beautiful scenery in the South of Devon. The two streams, almost covered by overhanging foliage, here rush onwards among granite boulders, while in front rises the far-famed Dewerstone, covered with wood, which descends in broken rocks to the bed of the river. Below the bridge formerly existed the remains of the mansion of Grenofen, which was the seat of the Slannings after they had become possessed of the Manor of Bickleigh, and here, tradition declares, they resided in much state and in the exercise of true Devonshire hospitality for many years. A little higher up the stream a steep and winding road, formed amid a labyrinth of rocks, ascends to Shaugh village, which parish, in 1879, had a population of 615, and by the census taken in 1881, 697 persons dispersed over 8,708 acres of land.

The important Barony of Plympton, which at the Domesday Survey became attached to the Crown, was

given by Henry I. to Richard de Redvers, or Rivers, who was created by that monarch Earl of Devon and Lord of the Isle of Wight, and who died in 1107. The Manor of Shaugh (sometimes written Shave, or Scaghes) probably derived its name from the Anglo-Saxon "*scæcga*," which signified *rough coppice*. It appears to have been held at an early date, under the Redvers family, by a certain Roger de Novant, who was the ancestor of a powerful baronial house, but who is not mentioned in the roll of Battle Abbey. The similarity between the letters *n* and *v* in early writing has frequently occasioned confusion, and thus we find the name of Novant variously spelt—"Nuatte" (Leland, Coll., 1, 80), Nuant, Novant, and Nonant. They probably took the appellation from their residence in Normandy, where there are several estates thus called, and one of them is said to have constituted an ancient Barony. After the disgrace of Judhel, Baron of Totnes, in the reign of William Rufus, Roger de Novant, who succeeded him in his honours, gave Shaugh to the Prior and Convent of Plympton, as shown in the confirmation by Henry II., which recites by "*inspeximus*," a charter of King Henry I., in favour of that monastery—"de feodo, etiam Rogeri de Nunant Westscirefort, quietam et liberam de omnibus rebus, exceptis danegeld et Murdro, sicut *idem Rogerus* eis concessit, et per cartam, suam confirmavit; *et de feodo ejusdem, Scaghes* (Shaugh) cum omnibus appendiciis suis."

The Novants appear to have held many fees in the Plympton Barony, as it is shown by the above Charter that all those lands were confirmed to the Canons Regular of Plympton which the Earl Baldwin de Redvers, *Wido*

*de Nunant*, Robert the son of Martin, and Matilda Peverell, his wife, and their "Vavasors" (*Vavasores Eorum*), [that is, those in dignity next to Barons] had given them; and from the *fee* of *Wido de Nunant* half Waleford, which Hugh de Waleford conceded to them. I presume that this *Wido de Nunant* was the son and successor of Roger, since he was contemporary with Baldwin, and with Richard de Redvers, the second and third Earls of Devon. In conjunction with the latter his signature occurs as one of the witnesses to the Charter of William Warelwast, Bishop of Exeter, which is preserved among the archives of that city, and which bears the following elaborate date:—"Datum Exonie, vi. nonis Julii, anno ab incarnatione Domini MCXXXIII., indictione xi., Epacta xii., concurrente vi., ciclo lune xiii., termino paschale ix., Kalendis Aprilis; de Pasche vii., Trigesimo tercio anno regni Henrici, gloriosi regis Anglorum. Testibus Ricardo filio, Baldwini de Ridvers, Widone de Nunant," . . . cum multis aliis." To the confirmation by the Chapter of Exeter, in the same archives, and of the same date, Earl Baldwin's own signature is attached. He died 2nd of June, 1155, and was buried at Quarre, in the Isle of Wight.

An inspection of the Exeter Domesday shows that the Carons of St. Peter of Plympton possessed two hides of land there at the period of the Conqueror's survey. At this time the foundation appears to have consisted of a Collegiate Church for a Dean and four Prebendaries, which, as Leland says, was established by King Edgar. This College was transplanted to Bosham, in Sussex, by William Warelwast, nephew of William the Conqueror,

who had been advanced to the See of Exeter upon the death of Bishop Osbern, the successor of Leofrie; although, in consequence of a dispute about investitures between the Church and the Crown, his consecration was deferred until Sunday, 11th August, 1107. The clerics, thus removed into a strange county, flourished in regular succession until the Reformation, and their five Prebends (styled Apuldurham, Chudham, Fontyngdon, Waleton, and Westbroke) were always in the gift of the Bishops of this Diocese. By their removal from Plympton Bishop Warewast was enabled to carry out a long-cherished scheme, and to found in their stead, in the year 1121, a new Augustine Priory, dedicated to "The Blessed Mary and S. Peter and S. Paul." Richly endowed by our princely Bishop, this new Priory of Black Monks continued to prosper, and constantly to receive accessions to its property until it ultimately became the richest house in the Diocese, and even exceeded the Mitred Abbey of Tavistock in annual value. The bones of its founder, who died September 26th, 1137, were deposited in the Chapter-house, and many early members of some of our most ancient families—the Courtenays, Valletorts, Strodes, and others—also found a last resting-place within the same sacred precincts. Its temporalities, in the year 1291, realised a gross sum of £53 per annum; and at the period of the dissolution the clear income amounted to £821 7s. 5d. The last Prior, John Howe, then received a pension of £120, and smaller gratuities were apportioned to eighteen of his brethren. The taxation of Pope Nicholas assesses the annual value of Shaugh at the end of the thirteenth century, in conjunction with Triselton

(Thrushelton), and Waterfall (Waleford?) at £3 14s. After the suppression of the Priory of Plympton, their manor, known as Shaugh Prior, was purchased by Slanning. John Slannynge, of London, gentleman, and Anthony Butler jointly acquired Hethfield, in this parish (which had belonged to Buckland Abbey), from the Crown, September 24th, 1546, and among the annuitants of the last Prior of Plympton I find the name of *Nicholas Slanning*, who, in addition to his pension, livery-gown, and meat and drink, was allowed four shillings yearly for the shoeing of his horse, as well as grass for the said horse, by the assignment of the steward of the Priory, or else five shillings yearly in lieu thereof. He had been bailiff of the Manor of Plympton under the Prior, for which he had received from the Convent an income of £53 4s.

From the Slannings the Manor of Shaugh Prior has descended with Bickleigh,<sup>1</sup> and is now the property of Sir Massey Lopes, Bart., M.P. There are several scattered manors and bartons in this parish, of which some, if not all, were probably held from the Prior of Plympton, and in nearly every instance some connexion is to be traced between their subsequent owners and the Priory. Thus, the Manor of Fernhill was acquired by the Strodes, who had long been connected with Plympton St. Mary, and of whom I have spoken in a previous chapter.<sup>2</sup>

An idea was prevalent at Shaugh some years since that Mrs. Mabbott devised the rents of Truelove<sup>3</sup> for the

<sup>1</sup> See Parish of Bickleigh, vol. i.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. i., p. 127.

<sup>3</sup> III.



residue of a term to the poor of Shaugh, but the Charity Commissioners were unable to discover any evidence of such a bequest save that afforded by some lines on a tablet in the church, which, from their quaintness, I shall venture to insert—

“ Here lies that pious loving wife and mother,  
With her three sons, you’ll scarce find such another ;  
Her course to Heaven full well she knew to steer,  
Leaving the poor about fifty pound a-year.  
Her flesh it will her memory ne’er can, rot ;  
And if you’d know her name, ’twas Ellen Mabbott,  
Died Nov. 13th, 1711, aged 24 years.”

## CHAPTER XXIV. PART II.

## THE MARTIN PEDIGREE. BARONS OF BARNSTAPLE.

It is stated<sup>1</sup> that Coldstone, in this parish, was the "seat of the ancient family of Martyn, and that the last of them, William Martyn, died in 1758, as appears by his monument in the church." The pedigree of Martin, as given by Westcote, p. 594, commences thus—

"Martin de Turon came into England with William the Conqueror, and was Baron of Kemys *alias* Camois in Wales, and *lord* of Combmartin and Martinshoe—his *sister* was Concha, or Conthes, wife of Calfurnius (otherwise Calprunius), Presbiter Britannius, and mother of St. Patrick of Ireland." These assertions have been repeated by Prince, on Westcote's authority, whose contemporary, Risdon, moreover interprets the word "Martinshoe" as "*the seat or home of the Martins.*" The Patron Saint of Ireland is generally supposed to have been born in the latter half of the fourth century. Nennius, Abbot of Bangor, in 620, speaks of him in his History of the Britons, and states that he died "fifty-seven years before the birth of St. Columba," consequently A.D. 464, and although some writers certainly state that his mother was "Conchesa, niece to St. Martin of Tours, yet it is difficult to understand how former

<sup>1</sup> Magna Britannia, Devonshire, Vol. 2, p. 437.

writers can have gravely persisted in the anachronism *that she was the sister of a man who flourished in the year of grace 1066*, when one "Marteine" (Battle Abbey Roll) is stated to have followed King William from Normandy to England. He does not appear, however, to have obtained any "spoil" in this county until long after the Conquest. So far from his having giving his name to Martinhoe, that parish is called after its church, which is dedicated to St. Martin. The manor there was known as "Matingeho" in the days of Edward the Confessor, as shown by the Exeter Domesday, and in 1087 it was held by a sub-tenant under Jeffery, Bishop of Coutances, Chief Justiciary of England, and some time the Conqueror's Lieutenant-General. I have found nothing to connect the Martins with this property at any period, but they gave their name to Combmartin (the church of which is dedicated to St. Peter) although they did not acquire this land even by the gift of William the Conqueror to Martin de Tours, as stated by Lysons—(Devon, ii., 136),—since that Monarch conferred it, together with the Barony of Barnstaple, upon Judhael of Totnes, a great portion of whose property in the North of Devon afterwards came into the hands of the Martins upon the death of Sir Jeffery Camvil, second husband of Matilda Tracy, in the reign of Edward I, after which his wife's property passed to Wiliam (Lord) Martin. It was in the year 1264 that Nicholas Fitz-Martin, the first husband of Matilda above-mentioned, obtained for Comb a market on Thursdays and a fair for four days at Whitsuntide. The elder line of Martin terminated with co-heirs about the year 1326, but the name was

perpetuated in this and the neighbouring counties by Robert Martin, uncle of the aforesaid Nicholas, from whom Sir Robert Martin, of Athelhampston, in Dorsetshire, born thirty-second Edward III, was fifth in descent. Sir William Martin, great-grandson of Sir Robert, of Athelhampston, by his second wife Christian, daughter of Sir William Paulet (and who had been previously twice married, first to Henry Hull, of St. Leonard's, Exeter, and second to Nicholas Chichester, of Ralegh), had issue Richard, and Elizabeth, married to John Carew, of Haccombe. Richard was Mayor of Exeter in 1533, and married secondly Margaret, the daughter of William Hurst, by whom he had Nicholas, Mayor of Exeter, 1574; Thomas, Mayor of Exeter, 1581; and William, Mayor of Exeter, 1590,

Nicholas, eldest son of the second marriage, had issue by his first wife Mary Yeo of Hatherleigh; William Martin (included among Prince's "Worthies"), he afterwards married Mary, daughter of William Strode, of Newenham. William Martin was Recorder of Exeter, elected 1605, and was the author of the "History and Lives of Twenty Kings of England." He was buried 12th April, 1617, at St. Petrock's, Exeter. He acquired Oxtou, in the parish of Kenton, from his relative, Nicholas Hurst, who died without issue, and left it to his son, Sir Nicholas Martin, of Oxtou, who was knighted at Newmarket, Saturday, 12th February, 1624; M.P. for Devon 1646, and High-Sheriff of the County, 1639. He died 25th March, 1653, and left William Martin, his son and heir, who was born at Oxtou, 1626, married Elizabeth, daughter of Shilston Calmady, and died in 1695, at Netherexe, when

the church bells of that parish are said to have tolled spontaneously. To return for an instant to the issue of Richard Martin and Margaret Hurst, William Martin, the third son, was twice married, first to Ann, daughter of Richard Parker, of Sussex, by whom he had Richard Martin, born at Otterton, who was a member of Parliament in 1601, and was elected Recorder of London in succession to Anthony Benn in September, 1618. By his second wife, Catherine, daughter of William Bogan, of Totnes, he had issue John, fourth son, Chamberlain of Exeter, 1613, and Town Clerk 22nd April, 1620; and four years later on the 20th of April, he was laid to rest in St. Martin's Church. William Clifford Martin, grandson of William of Netherexe, died owner of Netherexe and Oxtou in 1709 and without issue. The Oxtou estate afterwards passed to Esther, the widow of Swete, of Trayne in Modbury, who left it to her relative, the Rev. John Tripe, Prebendary of Exeter, who took the name of Swete by Act of Parliament in 1781. The Netherexe property, according to Lysons, vol. 2, p. 360, was bequeathed by William Clifford Martin to Young, and it will be seen from the above that there is nothing in their pedigree to show that they had any connection with Coldstone, in Shaugh.

It is probable that the Martyns, of Coldstone, were unconnected with them, and that they originally took their name from their residence at Martinstowe (wrd Maristowe, the seat of Sir Massey Lopes), of which *Manor one John Martyn was Steward under the Abbot of Plympton*. There is a short pedigree of Martin, of Totnes, in the Rawlinson M.S., included in Dr. Colby's

Edit. of the Visitation of Devon of 1564, which proves that Thomas Martyn, Mayor of the town of Totnes, married Christian, daughter of Richard Savery, of Great Totnes, and had issue ten sons and a daughter. The arms of Martin Arg., two bars Gu. were differenced with a crescent by the branch of Exeter Oxton and Netherexe as descendants of Robert, great grandson of Robert-de-Turon; in the case of the Martins of Totnes, I find the bars charged with three crosses paté Or. As to the remainder of the Shaugh property, the Woollcombes appear to have acquired Troulsworthy warren, in the reign of Edward VI. The Mattacotts, who held the manor of Wotter at the commencement of this century, are still represented there by Mr. Walter John Mattacott, the present occupier of this estate. The fee-simple, however, has of late been sold by the Mattacotts to Mr. C. S. Vallack. The Barton of Brixton, which belongs to Lord Morley, is supposed by Lysons to be the "Terra de Bricstanetun," which belonged to the Priory of Plympton. I am not inclined to trust implicitly to this identification, for it must be remembered that the Prior and Convent had property in the parish of Brixton, which is erroneously stated by the same authors to have been the "ancient inheritance of the Maynards;" but which was really only held by them as lessees, and at the suppression of religious houses Thomas Maynard was actually the Prior's Bailiff for this very Manor, then known as Shyrford, and had for his fee £6 Ss. per annum. In addition to the "Totam terram de Bricstanistuna cum bosco pertinente," referred to by Lysons, and which was given to the community at

Plympton by *Walter Gifford and his mother*, there was another estate known as Bruterewardam, which is mentioned in the "confirmation" in the same sentence as the Shaugh Prior property, and as like Shaugh, it was *also the gift of Roger de Nunant*, it is only natural to consider it as identical with the property in this parish now known as Brixton.

## CHAPTER XXIV. PART III.

## THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD OF SHAUGH.

The Parish Church, which appears either to have been rebuilt or extensively restored in the fifteenth century, exhibits all the characteristics of the Third, or Perpendicular period, of pointed architecture. It is dedicated to S. Edward, and comprehends chancel, a nave (opening into north and south aisles beneath an arcade of four bays, supported by clustered columns), a south porch, and a handsome tower at the western end, containing six bells. In common with nearly all the churches in the district, this interesting fabric was extensively renovated a few years since. The ancient screen has been removed, but the stairs which once led to it still remain, and are carried up in a rood turret on the north side. I was particularly struck with the font, which is of octagonal form and massive construction; the basin measures nearly nineteen inches in diameter, and at the time of my visit it was uncovered; a short time afterwards, however, the Rev. J. B. Strother succeeded to the Vicarage, and the Rural Dean drew his attention to the fact that some years previously a font-cover of singular grace and beauty existed in the church. This led to inquiries, and, ultimately, in an old linday, "amidst oats, and chaff, and straw," the greater part of the cover in



question was found almost hidden by the accumulated dust of years, and very much decayed and mutilated. To such an enthusiastic admirer of ecclesiastical furniture as the present Vicar, its condition, bad as it undoubtedly was, appeared anything but hopeless ; and it was at once determined to replace it in its proper position. As a preliminary step, however, it was sent to Exeter, and entrusted to the careful hands and correct taste of Mr. Harry Hems, who was able most successfully to restore it. This interesting work of art is now the pride and glory of the whole county, since no other example of such a cover is to be found in Devonshire, although several of a similar character are to be met with in the eastern counties, but they are most uncommon in England.

It is constructed of oak, and measures between eight and nine feet in height ; the base is octagonal, and the structure is built up in three stages. To the height of three feet the sides rise perpendicularly, and, working upon hinges, open like a triptich, when the font is in use ; the cants are filled with a running ornament of delicate design, and are surmounted by a finely-chiseled cornice. Above this, the structure again rises to the height of several feet, but with a diminished diameter ; the panels are perfectly plain, but the angles which run up somewhat in the form of pinnacles are enriched with carving, and have for finials the figures of eight tonsured priests. The cover then takes a spiral form, and the spaces between the ribs are beautifully ornamented with open-work of most elaborate detail, and the whole is crowned by a carefully executed statuette of a Bishop in his pontificals, and pastoral staff in his *left* hand, crook turned outwards,

while the *right* is raised in the act of benediction. The figures are particularly well carved; they had all been mutilated either by the Iconoclasts of the sixteenth, or by the fanatics of the following century. The figure of the Bishop, without head or hands, was carefully preserved in the study at Bickleigh Vicarage, by the Rev. G. R. Scobell, who gave it to Mr. Strother, the present Vicar of Shaugh Prior, when he was made acquainted with the proposed restoration of the font cover. It is fortunate that this beautiful cover, which for its stateliness and grace of proportion alone merits more than a cursory notice, should have resisted the many attempts made to destroy it, and that it should once more be restored to its old position in Shaugh Church in nearly as perfect a condition as when it was first constructed, apparently late in the fifteenth century.

I fancy that some remarks which I have already made when speaking of the rood-screens of Wolborough and of Buckland-in-the-Moor apply equally to Shaugh Prior. On these screens there are several panel-paintings which are quite unique in the West of England, and I account for them by the supposition that they were executed by members of the Monastic community at Tor, with which both those churches were connected; and as many of the monks had probably migrated to Devonshire from distant counties it was only natural that they should introduce novel forms of decoration with which they were personally familiar. Similarly the font-cover at Shaugh was very possibly the work of some recluse from Kent, Norfolk, or Essex, where like work is to be found occasionally, and it is noteworthy that a fragment of a font-cover of fifteenth

century date, with remains of gilding upon it, is noticed as existing at Plymstock Church, which, like Shaugh, belonged to Plympton Priory. The bosses in the chancel-roof are adorned with flowers and knots, and among them I noticed the well-known episcopal device the two keys and the sword. The chantry on the north side is screened off to serve the purpose of a vestry, and the eastern, which has been restored, is filled with Perpendicular tracery. The tower arch is lofty and of good proportion, and the responds are deeply moulded.

There is a memorial to Carrington, the poet ; born at Plymouth, 1777 ; died at Bath, September 2nd, 1830 ; buried at Combehay. It is placed on the wall of the south aisle. The embattled porch has a groined roof, which springs from vaulting corbels, among which I noticed a grotesque head. Over it there is a parvise or priest's chamber, to which access is afforded by a staircase carried up within a projection in the western corner. The stone seats on either side of the doorway are covered with oak. One of the original stone altars, with the usual crosses, five in number, deeply incised, is partly inserted in the north wall of the chancel, and has been in use, for some years past, as a credence table. Another similar stone slab is buried beneath the foot-pace of the altar.

The church is supported by plain buttresses, as is also the tower, which is lofty and handsome, and which has four large belfry windows with quatrefoiled heads. The pinnacles are crocketed and finialed, and the stairs are carried up within an octagonal turret on the south side. The churchyard affords an extensive and picturesque view, with Plymouth Sound in the distance, and several

quaint inscriptions and interesting memorials of the dead are to be found there. One of the former, to the memory of Sarah, wife of Robert Maddock, I have already mentioned. Another is noticed by Murray (*Devonshire*, edit. 1879, p. 229), and is described as "a grand old tomb, in which, as the story goes, lie the remains of two sisters, such twins in affection that the decease of the one was the death-blow of the other—

They grew together,  
Two lovely berries moulded on one stem ;  
So, with two seeming bodies, but one heart."

This is emblematically told by sculpture, representing the union of two hearts. At Lower Collard, which has of late years belonged to the Vicarage, and which was once, I have heard, the infirmary to the Priory, I noticed a stone staircase, and several old Perpendicular arches in the stables and doorways. The house known as the Old Vicarage is now the post-office, and the residence of the Mistress of the Shaugh Prior Board School.

Bishop Grandisson, from his Manor at Clist, March 3rd, 1334, confirmed to the Canons of Plympton, the Chapel of Shaugh. Just 200 years later, August 5th, 1535, Prior John Howe subscribed to the Royal supremacy, and on March 1st (30 Henry the VIII), he surrendered his Monastery with all its property into the King's hands. The tithes, &c., of Shaugh, then valued at £21 per annum, had been leased for a term of years to Richard Chaloner. The chapelry had evidently been usually served by one of the monks, since among the pensions granted to the community (the warrant for which was signed by "Thomas Cromwell, Jo. Tregonwell, Wylliam

Petre, and John Smyth) I find "To Henry Luxton, cvis., viiid., and serving the cure of Shaugh to have for his yerely wages sevyn pounds accompting his pencion for parts of the same."

The present patrons of Shaugh are the Dean and Canons of Windsor, to whom the rectory and church of Plympton with the chapels of Plymstock, Wembury, Shaugh, Sampford Spiney, St. Maurice, and Brixton were granted by Edward VI, Oct. 7th, 1547. Until recently the chapelry of Shaugh was held together with the perpetual curacy of Sampford Spiney. Walker (*"Sufferings of the Clergy,"* p. 423), remarks that "Wall was curate at the little chapelry of Shaw in Devon, and was turned out of it" (during the Rebellion). "They also defaced the church, which I have heard was very beautiful, carried away the materials, and, as I have been informed, wainscotted a public-house with part of them." The Rev. G. R. Scobell, now Vicar of Bickleigh, was the Vicar of Shaugh, when I visited the church and parish in 1875; and I must not omit to thank him for his courtesy and attention, which I have by no means forgotten. He was succeeded in 1878 by the Rev. J. B. Strother, the present Vicar, to whom my acknowledgments are also due for the very great interest he has taken in this work. There are 42 acres of glebe. In 1835 the population of Shaugh was 570, and the net value of the benefice £107 a-year. The parish land, which consists of six acres and a house, were purchased in 1627, 24th of June, from one John Hedde; it then consisted of a tenement and garden, called Woodland, and a barn and land within the Manor of Fernhill already mentioned; the amount paid was

£23 6s. 8d., contributed by 35 persons, whose names are annexed to the deed. The rents and profits were to be continually employed to the use, profit, and behoof of the poor of the parish of Shaugh. The house was converted into the Parish Workhouse in 1717, at the cost of £100. The land, tenement, and cottages now let for £26 per annum. Lady Modyford left £50, the interest of which was to be spent in bread, to be bestowed weekly among such of the poor as were not in receipt of parochial relief. A School Board for this parish was formed December 28th, 1874.

## CHAPTER XXV. PART I.

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## THE PARISH OF KINGS-TEIGNTON.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY.

This parish is situated about one mile from Newton Abbot on the Teignmouth Road, in the hundred of Teignbridge, the Archdeaconry of Totnes and the Deanery of Moreton. The population in 1881, inclusive of the hamlets of Preston and Gappah, amounted to 1,574 persons scattered over 3,983 acres of land.

The Manor was an ancient demesne of the Crown and was held as such by King Edward the Confessor, and at the Conquest passed into the hands of Norman William. The entry referring to it in the Exeter Domesday, which is fuller than that contained in the Exchequer copy of the same record, shows that it rendered geld for one hide and one virgate of land, which could be ploughed by sixteen ploughs, and of it, the King had one virgate and one plough in demesne, whilst the villeins had one hide and twelve ploughs. There the King had fourteen villeins, thirty bordarii, or cottagers, and three serfs, thirty sheep, fifteen acres of wood, and four acres of meadow. The Manor rendered fourteen pounds by weight and ten shillings by tale ; and when Baldwin received it, it rendered ten pounds by weight.

The mention of Baldwin in connection with this, and other Royal Manors, leads me to infer that such, like Kings-Teignton, as parcel of the hundred of Tainebruge, were situated within the Barony of Okehampton of which he was the Lord, his name does not occur in the Exchequer entry which is as follows:—"Rex tenet, Teintone. Tempore regis Edvvardi geldabat pro una hida et una virgata terræ. Terra est xvi carucis. In dominio est i caruca et iii serui et xiiij uillani et xxx bordarii cum xii carucis. Ibi iiii acræ prati, et xv acræ siluæ. Reddit xiiii libras ad pensum, et x solidos ad numerum."

The Manor appears at an early date to have been given to an ancestor of the "Burdon family." I shall adopt the modern spelling, but the name is also variously written "Burdin," "Bonaden," "Baverdon," and "Burydon." Risdon says that it was given by Henry I to Richard de Burdon, and it is proved by the Hundred Roll that Peter Burdon held it together with a moiety of the Hundred of Teignbridge, in the reign of Henry II (1154-1189), and that he had the power of inflicting the punishment of death within his Manor. Robert Burdon was Sheriff of Devon in 1282, and Mary, his relict claimed to hold land in dower in 1295. Robert Burdon or Bonaden, probably her son, was High Sheriff in 1318, and John Burdon occurs in 1370 and again in 1384, in which years Bishop Brantyngham licensed him together with Jane, his wife, to have divine service performed in their domestic chapel at "Burdonwere." "In capella sive oratorio infra mansionem eorundem de Burdonwere infra parochiam de Teignton Regis." Their son, John Burdon, who died in 1406, left issue a



daughter Ciceley, and thus the elder male line of this ancient family became extinct. A younger branch, probably descended from Peter Burdon above mentioned, were settled at Burdon in Highampton, about the time of Richard I—(1189-1199), and of these Robert Burdon or Burton was High Sheriff in the nineteenth and twenty-ninth years of Henry VI (1440-1450). Their Pedigree commencing with William Burden of Burden, twenty-first Henry VIII (1529), is entered in the 1620 Visitation of Cornwall, and is carried down to the issue of Robert Burden, who signs it; and who was buried at Highampton, 13th May, 1655. His father John Burdon of Burdon had a younger brother, Robert, who left four daughters coheirs, two of these were unmarried, the other two married Lanian of S. Breoke and Hawke (Lysons says Trehawke, of S. Cleder). Colonel Vivian commences with the Visitation Pedigree, and carries the line at Burdon down to the issue of Robert Burdon of Burdon, buried at Highampton, 5th May, 1766. In 1822 John Denis Burdon of Burdon was the representative of the family, the different members of which, like their relatives at Kings-Teignton, had been usually called Robert, Richard, and John. There are no arms registered for the Burdons, but the Lysons say that the Kings-Teignton branch bore "Arg. three pilgrims' staves in pale Gules," whilst they assign to those of Highampton, "Az. three candlesticks, and as many cross crosslets fitché Or."<sup>1</sup> But as the heraldic pilgrim's staff is not unlike a domestic candlestick, I think it probable that there is a mistake in the Blazon. There are several

<sup>1</sup> "Mag. Brit.," Devon., vol. ii, 136.

families of Burdon in other counties, one settled at Castle Eden, co. Durham, from the fifteenth century, and they—most of them—bear pilgrims' staves, some with the field crusily, and Sir Bernard Burke notices a Coat of Burdon or Bourdon, "Az. three hautboys, and as many crosses crosslet Or," but I can find no reference whatever to the "candlesticks," and the heraldic candlestick as shown in the arms of the "Founders' Company" is not like an ordinary candlestick at all, but has the appearance of two lilies without stalks placed in pale and reversed, and united with a double quatrefoil. Cicely, daughter of John Burdon of Burdonsware in Kings-Teignton, who died 1406, married Thorpe, and had issue John Thorpe of Kingsteignton, whose daughter and heir Thomasine Thorpe married Thomas Clifford. Like the Courtenays and Worths through their marriages into the Redvers family,<sup>2</sup> the Cliffords of Kingsteignton and Chudleigh, can show a descent from the Dukes of Normandy, since Walter de Clifford, first lord of Clifford Castle, co. Hereford, was the second son of Richard Fitz-Pontz, eldest son of Pontz, fourth son of William Count of Eu, who was the second son of Richard III, Duke of Normandy, who died in 996. Walter de Clifford had five sons and two daughters; from his son, Richard descended the Cliffords of Frampton, co. Gloucester, and his eldest daughter, who died a nun, at Godstow, near Oxford, is known in history as "Fair Rosamond." The eldest son, Walter Clifford, married Agnes, daughter and heir of Roger de Cundy, of Coventry and Glensham, co. Lincoln, and died in the year 1223. This Walter, according to the "Clifford

<sup>2</sup> Vol. i. Preface, and p. 64, *et seq.*

Collections," had two sons, and a daughter "Basilia," but according to Collins, he left five sons, Walter, Roger, Richard, Simon, and Gyles. He was succeeded by Walter, his eldest son, who married Margaret de Bruce, daughter of Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, by whom he had one daughter Maud, who married her kinsman William Longespie, grandson of William Longsword, Earl of Salisbury, son of King Henry II, by "Fair Rosamond." His next brother, Roger de Clifford, had died in 1231, but had been twice married; by the second wife, the Countess of Lorraine, he had no issue, but by Sybil, his first wife, daughter and heir of Robert de Ewias, and widow of the Lord of Tregoz, he had an only son, Roger who became fourth Lord of Clifford Castle upon the death, without issue male, of his uncle Walter in 1264. He married Avis, widow of John de Bottrell, and died in 1286, being then of advanced age, as he had been born at the commencement of the century. He was buried in Dore Abbey, co. Hereford. He had a son, Roger, who married Isabel, daughter and co-heir of Robert de Vipont, in whose right he obtained the lordship of Brougham Castle in Westmoreland, and caused an inscription, "**THIS MADE ROGER,**" to be placed over its gateway. He died in the lifetime of his father, as he was killed in a fray in the Isle of Anglesey on S. Leonard's Day, 1282. He left issue an only child, Robert, born at Eastertide, 1274, and who was, therefore, only twelve years of age when he succeeded his grandfather as fifth Lord of Clifford. He was summoned to Parliament by writ as Baron Clifford, of Westmoreland, in 1299 (29th December). He married Maud, daughter

and co-heir of Thomas, son of Richard de Clare, steward of Waltham forest, and fell fighting, as his father did before him, at the battle of Bannockburn, 25th June, 1314.

He left several children, one of them, Idonea, married Henry, Lord Percy; another John, was a Canon of Exeter, as shown by the Episcopal Registers. The eldest son, Roger, succeeded as Second Baron, he had been born in 1299 (2nd February), but he was cut off in the flower of his youth and fell a victim to the unhappy discord which then prevailed in England in consequence of the imbecility of Edward II. For conspiring with the Earl of Lancaster to form an alliance with the Scots, he was attainted and beheaded at York in 1321; but the attainder was reversed in the first year of Edward III, 1327, and his brother, Robert de Clifford, was permitted to succeed to the family estates and honours.

This Robert was born upon the festival of All Saints, 1305. He re-edified Skipton Castle, which had been sacked by the Scots, and saw some service in Scotland under the Earl of Warwick. He was married at Berkeley in the second Edward III, to Isabel, only daughter of Maurice, Lord Berkeley with whom he had a marriage portion of £1,000 and fifty marks; he died in 1343, and left behind him four sons. The eldest Robert, succeeded as fourth lord, he married Euphemia, sister of the Earl of Westmoreland, and died without issue in 1362, and was followed by his brother Roger, who was born in 1334, and is said to have been one of the best and bravest of all the Cliffords; he died in 1389. By his wife Matilda, daughter of Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick he had two daughters, and a son Thomas, who

became the sixth lord, but only survived his father two years. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas, Lord Ross of Hamler, and left issue John de Clifford, seventh Lord, Sir William, Governor of Berwick, and Sir Lewis de Clifford K.G. of whom presently.

John de Clifford, seventh Lord Clifford, was a Knight of the Garter, and died in 1422. His wife was Elizabeth Percy, daughter of Harry Percy ("Hotspur").<sup>1</sup> He was killed at Meux in 1422, and left a son Thomas, a minor at the time of his death, who was a staunch Lancastrian, and was slain at St. Albans, thirty-third Henry VI, (1455). His son, John, the next Lord Clifford, had a command at the Battle of Wakefield; he it was who stabbed young Edmund, Earl of Rutland, the third son of the Duke of York, an act of retaliation for his own father's death. He himself fell at Towton, March 29th, 1461. His son Henry was brought up in great poverty, and it was not until 1485, that, upon the accession of Henry VII, his attainder was reversed, and an Act was passed entitled "An Act to restore Henry, Lord Clifford in his honours, baronies, lands, and castles," &c. He had a command at Flodden, and seems to have always attended to his duties, but he loved a country life, and never went to London if he could help it. He died in 1524. He was twice married; by his first wife, Ann St. John, he left issue Henry, his son and heir and other children.

<sup>1</sup> "Clifford Collections," quoted by Col. Vivian, "Visitation of Devon," p. 195. But in another ped. I find her described as "Margaret" Percy and as a second wife. Collins, does not mention her at all and makes several errors in the descent.

Two years after his father's death, this Henry, Lord Clifford was advanced to the earldom of Cumberland, by patent, 17 Henry VIII. He died at Skipton Castle, 1542. His son Henry, the second Earl, married Eleanor Brandon, niece of King Henry VIII, and had two boys by her who died in infancy. By his second wife, Ann Dacres, he had two sons, George and Francis. He died in 1569. George, third Earl of Cumberland, was a very accomplished man, a great mathematician and skilled too in the art of war. He undertook several voyages chiefly at his own cost, and in this and other expensive amusements spent much of the family property. He died in 1605. His wife was Margaret Russell, daughter of the Earl of Bedford, and of this lady and her daughter I have already spoken.<sup>1</sup> It will be sufficient, therefore, for me to state here that Francis Chfford, succeeded his brother as Earl of Cumberland, and that upon the death of his son Henry, the fifth Earl, the title became extinct. But the Barony of Clifford, having been created by writ, was considered properly to belong to Ann, daughter of George, third Earl and Lady Margaret Russell; consequently in 1675, Thomas Tufton, Earl of Thanet laid claim to it and his claim was admitted by the House of Lords, he being the son of Margaret, eldest daughter and ultimately sole heir of the aforesaid Ann Clifford. This nobleman died without male issue, and the barony remained in abeyance amongst his five daughters until 1734, when it was conceded to Lady Margaret Tufton, who married Thomas Coke, Earl of Leicester, and had a son who died in her life-time; therefore upon her death in 1775, it was

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i, p. 276, *et. seq.*

allowed to the Southwells in virtue of their descent from Catherine, sister of the said Margaret, Baroness de Clifford. This Catherine married Lord Sondes, and with three sons who all died issueless, had a daughter Catherine, who married Edward, descended from Robert, second son of John Southwell of Felix Hall, co. Essex (whose elder son John was the ancestor of the Lords Southwell). Upon the death of Edward Southwell, eighteenth Baron de Clifford, in 1832, the barony again fell into abeyance between the issue of his lordship's deceased sisters, but was terminated in the following year in favour of Sophia, the only surviving child of the eldest. This lady married Captain John Russell of the Royal Navy, son of Lord William Russell, brother of the fifth and sixth Dukes of Bedford,<sup>1</sup> whose posthumous birth and melancholy death I have previously referred to. She died in 1874, and her only son succeeded to the title, but followed her to the grave in 1877, when his eldest son Edward Southwell Russell, became twenty-first Baron de Clifford of the creation of 1299.

The vault at Skipton which contains the bones of the De Cliffords from the dissolution of monasteries, down to the fifth and last Earl of Cumberland, was opened some years ago and the coffins were examined. Immediately under the covering stone was found the body of Henry, first Earl, and it appeared to have been that of a short and stout man with flaxen hair gathered into a knot behind the skull. By him were the remains of "Hotspur's" daughter, Margaret Percy. The third coffin contained the remains of Henry VIII's niece Eleanor

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i, p. 288.

<sup>2</sup> K<sup>2</sup>

Brandon and the skeleton was that of a tall and large limbed female. Henry, second Earl, was a tall and slender man ; something of the shape of his face could still be discerned and a long prominent nose was very conspicuous. George, the third Earl, had been wrapped in many folds of cere cloth, and the face was entire, but copper coloured. It showed that he was very like his portraits but that all his painters had omitted three large warts upon his left cheek. The coffin of Henry, the fifth Earl and of the Lady Ann Dacres, second wife of the second Earl, had been previously opened.

I must now return to the Cliffords in their connection with this county generally and Kingsteignton particularly.

John de Clifford, ancestor of the long and illustrious line of which I have been treating, had a younger brother, already noticed, Lewis de Clifford, who was a Knight of the Garter before the 7 Richard II, (1384), since he had a surcoat given him of " Violet in grain," " against the feast of St. George that year." He was a very brave man, and was probably on intimate terms with the Duke of Lancaster, with whom he had gone to France in 1373 ; and when the Duke's house in the Savoy was beset by the London mob in consequence of his open espousal of Wickliffe and his doctrines, Sir Lewis Clifford was one of three knights, who at the request of the Princess of Wales, went to his assistance. He was himself very much bitten with the tenets of the Reformers and identified himself with the Lollards, until at last his schismatical proclivities involved him in so much trouble that he openly abandoned them, and confessed his errors to the Primate. His will, dated 17th September, 1404, was proved 5th December the



same year, and is a curious mixture of quaint English and Latin. From the abuse which he heaps upon himself, it is abundantly evident that he was sincere in his submission to the Archbishop. He describes himself as "unworthi to be clepyed a Christen man," and adds "I most unworthi & Goddis Traytor recommaunde my wrechid & synfule Soule hooly to the Grace & to the grete mercy of the blessed Trynytie; & my wrechid Careyne to be beryed in the ferthere corner of the Chirche-zerd." He also charges his executors "that on my stinkyng Careyne be neyther leyd clothe of Gold ne of Silk," "ne stone ne other thing whereby any man may witt where my stinkyng Careyne liggeth."

The will shows, that he had a daughter married to Sir Philip la Vache, Knight, and to the latter he leaves, "My Masse Book, my Porhoos & my Book of Tribulacion." These are the only specific bequests. He leaves the residue to Sir Philip la Vache, to Sir John Cheynee and to Sir Thomas Clanbow, and appoints four executors to see his will performed. He married Eleanor, daughter of John, Lord Delaware, and left a son William, not mentioned in the will, who married Eleanor (or Elizabeth), daughter of Sir Arnold Savage, and died in 1438. He left issue two sons, Lewis and John, from the eldest of these are descended the Cliffords of Kent.

John, the second son married twice. By his wife, Alice Gainsford he had William Clifford, and by Florence, daughter of Sir John St. Leger, he had another son, Thomas, who married Thomasine, daughter of John Thorpe of Kingsteignton. The Thorpe pedigree is not entered in the Visitations of 1531 and 1564, and the

first of the Cliffords who appears in the "Devonshire Visitation" of 1620, is this Thomas Clifford, who thus commences the recorded pedigree of his family as far as Devonshire is concerned. He was of Borscombe in Wiltshire, and his son, William Clifford, who married Elizabeth Vaux of Odiam, co. Southampton, succeeded to the Kingsteignton property. He was followed by his son Henry, who married, according to the Visitation pedigree, a daughter of Hungerford, but according to Collins,<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth, daughter of William Carrant of Tumber, co. Somerset. He died in 1527, and left issue besides Anthony his son and heir, two other sons, Henry and Edward, and five daughters, one of whom, Mary was married at Chudleigh, in 1577, to John Dunning. Anthony Clifford of Borscombe and Kingsteignton, was born about 1541. He married Anna, third daughter and co-heir of Sir Piers Courtenay of Ugbrook, by which marriage the Cliffords became settled at Chudleigh. Anthony Clifford, died 12th September, 1580, and was buried in Exeter Cathedral. He left issue five sons and three daughters; of the sons, Henry, the eldest succeeded to the Borscombe and Kingsteignton property, and was married to his kinswoman, Mary, daughter and heir of James Clifford of Frampton. He subsequently married a second time, but left no issue by either wife, and his property descended to Simon Clifford his second brother, baptised, 4th September, 1569, at Chudleigh, who by his wife, Cicely Williamson, had a son Simon,<sup>2</sup> born in 1605,

<sup>1</sup> Peerage, 4,199.

<sup>2</sup> Simon Clifford, the elder, had a third son, Anthony Clifford, baptised, 27th February, 160<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, at Chudleigh. He became a D.D. and was Rector

whose son John (Prince and Clifford call him *James*), was buried at Kingsteignton, in 1685. He married a daughter of Horwell, and had two children, a son and a daughter. The son, John, died in his father's lifetime, aged 13, 1681, and was buried at Kingsteignton; the daughter, Mary, married Colonel Hugh Bampfield, only son of Sir Coplestone Bampfield of Poltimore, and was the mother of Sir Coplestone Warwick Bampfield, third Baronet.

Ware, the old seat of the Burdons, anciently, as I have previously noticed, called Burdonsware, remained in the Bampfield family, until the latter end of the eighteenth century, when it was purchased by Lord Clifford. In the "*Magna Britannia*" it is stated that "*Ware* was a seat of the Horwells, and passed by successive marriages to Clifford and Bampfylde." There is certainly an inscription in the Parish Church to Horwell of Ware, whose family may have had a lease, or else resided as tenants, upon this estate; the Cliffords having been non-resident and having usually lived at Borscombe, near Salisbury. The Horwells had acquired property in the neighbourhood by a marriage with a co-heir of Whiteway.

of Newton Ferrers. He married a daughter of Dr. Barnabas Potter, Rector of Diptford, 29th May, 1615, Vicar of Dean Prior, 4th October the same year. Dr. Potter who was subsequently Bishop of Carlisle, married secondly in 1615 (license dated 27th July), Elizabeth, daughter of Mary, widow of Sir Edward Giles of Dean Prior, by Walter Northcote of Uton, her first husband and relict of Edward Yard of Dean Court, which property he had inherited in right of his mother Christian, sister and co-heir with Sir Edward Giles, aforesaid, of John Giles of Bowden. Dr. Clifford had no issue.

I must, now endeavour to explain how the Cliffords have preserved their connection with this parish until now. Anthony Clifford, who married Anna Courtenay, left the Ugbrooke estate to his third son, Thomas Clifford. This Thomas, spent the first portion of his life in military and diplomatic pursuits, and when more than fifty years of age, turned his attention to divinity and proceeded to the degree of S.T.P. He was collated to a Prebend in Exeter Cathedral, 29th November, 1625, vacant by the death of Richard Bowden. He died in 1634, aged 62, and was buried at Chudleigh. He married Anna, daughter and co-heir of Hugh Staplehill of Bramble, in 1601. His second son, Thomas, baptised at Chudleigh, 1606, was admitted to the Vicarage of South Brent, 31st October, 1632, *vice* Nicholas Gyll, deceased. Patrons for this turn, his father, Dr. Thomas Clifford and Humfry Burrington. The eldest son, Hugh Clifford, baptised at Chudleigh, 15th July, 1603, served in the army and married, Mary, daughter of Sir George Chudleigh of Ashton. He was the father of Thomas Clifford, baptised at Chudleigh, 12th August, 1630, who was of the Middle Temple and M.P. for Totnes at the Restoration. He was knighted by Charles II, and was Comptroller of the Household, November, 1666, and on the 5th of the following December, was sworn on the Privy Council "for his singular zeal" in his Majesty's service. On the 14th June, 1668, he was constituted Treasurer of the Household. Upon the 22nd April, 34 Charles II (1672), he was created a Baron of this realm by title of Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, and in the following November, became Lord High Treasurer of England, by the delivery

of the White Staff, and by letters patent, Treasurer of the Exchequer. He married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of William Martin of Lindridge in the parish of Bishopsteignton, and had a numerous family. One of his daughters, Elizabeth, married Sir Henry Carew of Haccombe, another, Mary, Sir Simon Leach, K.B.; amongst the others were Amy and Anna, and the first appears to have married John Courtenay of Molland, whilst the latter died unmarried, 27th May, 1708, yet by some unaccountable error, the marriage license as entered in the Bishop's Registers, 3rd October, 1681, is for John Courtenay of Molland, with "*Anna*," daughter of Thomas, Lord Clifford of Chudleigh. Of the sons, three were called Thomas, after their father; the first two died in infancy, the third was of Queen's College, Oxford, but died at Florence in 1671, aged 19. His remains were brought home in an English frigate, and he was buried at Ugbrooke, in the chapel there dedicated to S. Cyprian which his father had built, and which had been consecrated by Bishop Anthony Sparrow, only eleven days previously to his interment therein on the 28th July in the above year. The fourth son, George, also died in his father's lifetime and without issue, consequently the title and estates descended to Hugh Clifford, the fifth son, who succeeded to the title upon the death of his father, who was buried in Ugbrooke Chapel, 16th October, 1673.

This Hugh, Lord Clifford, appears to have purchased from John Clifford of Ware, in Kingsteignton, his kinsman, probably after the death of John, the only son of the latter in 1618, the whole manor of Kingsteignton,

and the moiety of the hundred of Teignbridge, with the exception, as I have shown, of Burdonsware, or Ware Barton (subsequently, however, re-acquired by his descendant). From him, the present owner of this manor is sixth in direct descent, being great-grandson of Charles, who, upon the death of his brother, Hugh, without issue, 15th January, 1793, succeeded to the title as sixth Baron; and thus the manor of Kingsteignton, granted to the Burdons in the twelfth century, is still in the hands of their lineal descendant, Lord Clifford of Chudleigh.

Babcombe, or Bascombe in this parish was the residence of a branch of the Hele family, who all appear to have been descended from William Hele of South Hele, in the parish of Cornwood.

Thomas Hele of Bascombe, married a sister and co-heir of Charles Speccot of Merton, who died about 1685, and by this marriage the Heles of Bascombe, acquired the manor of Stapledon, in the parish of Cookbury. Another Thomas Hele, married Hals, whose arms impaled with Hele, are in the south aisle of the parish church. Rebecca, sister and co-heir of Matthew Hals of Kenedon, married Henry Trelawney, whose elder brother Jonathan, the third Baronet, as Bishop of Bristol, was one of the seven prelates sent to the Tower in 1688. He was in the same year translated to Exeter, and died Bishop of Winchester, 19th July, 1721. His wife was Rebecca, only daughter and heir of Thomas Hele of Bascombe, and by her he had thirteen children. The eldest of these, John, succeeded to the baronetcy, but died without issue in 1756, as did the rest of his brothers. One of these, Henry, who is not mentioned by Burke, was

lost with Sir Cloudesley Shovel, on the *Gilston Rock*, 22nd October, 1707. Of the daughters, Rebecca, married John Fownes Buller of Morval, and Letitia became the wife of her cousin, Harry Trelawney, son of Henry Trelawney and Rebecca Hals, and upon the death of her brother John in 1756, her husband succeeded to the baronetcy. Amongst the licences in the Episcopal Registry, I have found that of Warwick Hele of Exeter, with Grace Gilberd of Kingsteignton, 28th September, 1643.

The arms of Hele were Gu. a bend fusily Erm. ; those in Kingsteignton Church, have five fusils in bend sinister, and quarter Bolhay and impale Hals, as I have said above, under the dates 1631 and 1676.

Gappah, which is near Bascombe, appears to have belonged at an early date to the Bolhay family of Blackborough Bolhay, near Collumpton. The male line of the elder branch became extinct, and their arms, referred to above, were Arg. on a chevron Sa. three bezants (Lysons adds, between three torteaux). It is probable that the Bulleys since resident in the neighbouring parish of S. Nicholas (Shaldon), and whose arms are somewhat similar, viz. :—Arg. a chevron Gu. between three bulls' heads coupéd Sa.—are the descendants of a younger branch of this ancient race. Gappah Bolley, was the property of the Heles, and passed with Bascombe to the Trelawneys. Colonel Edward Trelawney, Governor of Jamaica, third son of the Bishop, died without issue, and left all the Kingsteignton property to his widow, a daughter of John Crawford. This lady, in 1788, devised it, together with Stapledon, in Cookbury,

which she also inherited from her husband, to her sister Mary, then wife of Daniel Stott, who left it to her daughter, by her first husband, Mary Trelawney Wigan, with remainder to her seven grand-daughters. Mary Wigan, married Rose Herring May, a member of the Council of Jamaica, and six of her daughters were living in 1822, and they appear to have sold the Kingsteignton property to Lord Clifford.

Whiteway, in this parish was the property of Osferd in Saxon times, and passed at the Conquest to Baldwin the Sheriff, under whom it was held by Ranulf or Ralph. It then rendered geld for half a hide which could be ploughed by two ploughs. Included in it was one acre of wood and a salt works, and it was worth at the period of the Survey fifteen shillings a year, but when Baldwin received it its value was only ten shillings.

This Ralph, the sub-tenant, may have been the ancestor of the Fulkerys, who resided at "Witewei" for several descents, when it passed in marriage to De la Torre. A younger son of the latter house adopted the name of his residence in the reign of Henry II. A daughter of Whiteway in the fourteenth century, brought the manor to Hurst. Robert Hurst is described as of Newton Bushel in the 2 Edward IV, (1462). The property descended to William Hurst, five times Mayor of Exeter, between 1524 and 1561. He married Julian Beare of Huntsham, and his eldest son, William, died before him, but married and left issue, a daughter and heir, Agnes, who married first, George Bodleigh of Dunscombe, in Crediton; secondly, Humphry Carew of Bickley. By George Bodleigh, she had issue two sons, William and



Mark. The eldest married Ann Dowrish of Dowrish, in Sandford, and had issue. Early in the seventeenth century the Bodleighs sold this manor to the Yardes, with whom they were previously connected, Joan, daughter of William Hurst, and aunt of Agnes Bodleigh, having married Thomas Yarde of Bradley. Richard Yarde of Whiteway, was buried in the Church in 1631, and the estate is now I believe the property of the Rev. T. J. Yarde of Chudleigh. The manor, or reputed manor of Preston (Priest's stone ?) together with the tithes of Kingsteignton and Yealampton were appropriated at a very early date to Salisbury Cathedral, and constituted a Prebend there in 1224, when the foundation was confirmed by Pope Honorius III. This stall has been usually known as the "Golden Prebend," and the Prebendaries of Kingsteignton had the patronage of the Vicarage. In 1835, the prebendal income amounted to £270 a year, whilst the profits of the stall next in value were £79, and those of the lowest (Yatesbury) only £3 per annum. The onerous duty of the Prebendary was "to preach twice yearly." The income from the estate and tithes fell subsequently into the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commisisoners, and the Bishop of Exeter now presents to the Vicarage. These tithes werecommuted at £ 253 per annum.

## CHAPTER XXV. PART II.

## THE PARISH OF KINGSTEIGNTON.—THE PARISH CHURCH.

The Parish Church of Kingsteignton is dedicated to S. Michael, and is mentioned in the "Taxatio" of 1291, where it is valued at £17 17s. 5d. p.a., and taxed at £1 15s. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. There are still remains of the original structure, the high altar of which was dedicated by Bishop Stapledon, May 1st, 1318. Very extensive alterations must have been made in the fifteenth century, and the present building appears at first sight to be entirely of Perpendicular date. It consists of chancel, nave opening into north and south aisles, beneath an arcade of five bays supported by Third Pointed columns, with foliated capitals, and a tower at the western end, eighty-two feet high, which contains six bells. The extreme length of the church inclusive of the tower is nearly one hundred feet, by about forty in breadth. The south porch with the lower portion of the aisle is earlier than the rest of the body of the fabric, which is constructed of cut red sandstone. The windows are generally good, and of Third Pointed date. The north aisle is longer than the south. The Font is octagonal, and of the fourteenth century. The priest's door remains on the south side of the chancel, in which as well as in the aisles there are the usual piscinae. The wagon roof of the nave contains some bosses, but

the original ones in the aisles have disappeared, and the same must be said of the screen, a portion of which was *in situ* until a comparatively recent date, and which, when seen by the late Dr. Oliver, contained "the well drawn figures of S. Catherine of Alexandria, S. Denys, S. Barbara S. Helena, and S. Genevieve." The stairs which led to the rood loft, were contained in an external projection which still remains on the north side.

Several chained books are still preserved here as at Tavistock. It was, as my readers are aware, usual, when printing was in its infancy, to fasten books in churches to a reading-desk, with a chain, in order to prevent their unauthorised removal; one of those at Kingsteignton, is a copy of Fox's "Martyrs."

The interior door of the porch, has a handsome cornice of vine leaves and grapes. I noticed here several inscriptions or memorials to families already referred to in connection with the parish, viz. : Clifford, Horwell, Hele, and Yarde.

A list of the Vicars is preserved in the parish chest, and their names have been already printed,<sup>1</sup> but I noted inscriptions to Nicholas Downing, died 27th March, 1666; to his successor, Richard Adlam, 1st November, 1676; to Richard Carpenter, 10th September, 1697, and to Christopher Beeke, instituted 1737, died 1798. Amongst the armorials, are those of Yarde, Hele, and Searle of Bellamarsh (evidently a member of the Cornish family of that name whose daughter and heir married Treffry) —Arg. a chevron Sa. betw. three doves ppr., and the arms of the Vicar, Richard Carpenter, who was also a

<sup>1</sup> Oliver's "Ecc. Ant.," vol. i, p. 177.

Prebendary of Exeter (collated 9th January, 1691-2, *vice* Thomas Croswaite, deprived), and Rector of S. Mary Major in that city—Paly Arg. and Gu. on a chev. Az. 3 crosses paté. Impaled with Gu. 2 chev. Arg. (Fitz-Robert?) Very similar arms, viz. :—Paly Arg. and Gu. on a chev. Sa. 3 plates, each, charged with a cross paté of the 2nd, were granted by “Ulster” to Carpenter of Barbadoes, 10th June, 1647. The same arms with, for crest, a church ppr. were granted to “Carpenter” in 1661. The Carpenters, of London, Herts, Gloster and Kent, bore nearly the same arms as those existing here, the difference being crosses crosslet, instead of crosses paté.

Several of the windows are filled with modern stained glass, the eastern one is a memorial to the late Vicar. The tower which is built chiefly of limestone is embattled and has crocketed pinnacles, the staircase is carried up in a buttress on its north-west angle. The doorway has a plain moulded arch. The tower arch differs rather from others in the immediate neighbourhood, and is very similar to that in Berry Pomeroy Church which is Early English. The belfry windows are of two lights and partake of the same character.

In 1536, John Olyver was the Vicar and at that time “Teynton Regis cum capella de Hywyk” was valued at £28 13s. 9d. a year.

The parish Registers do not commence until 1670, the earlier ones having been lost.

In accordance with modern requirements, the church was neatly restored in 1865. The present Vicar is the Rev. Percival Jackson, whose attention when I visited his church and parish, I am glad to acknowledge. He

has a good residence, and over twenty-one acres of glebe.

A late Vicar, the Rev. H. Woolcombe, afterwards Archdeacon of Barnstaple, built a large school-room for the use of the villagers in 1848, and to this the Rev. John H. Hext, who died Vicar in 1878, added another school-room for girls and infants at a cost of £300.

The earliest indenture of feoffment in connection with the parish lands, is by deed dated 24th of April, 1700, between John Tothill, and Elizabeth his wife, and her sister Mary Lee (the two latter being daughters and co-heirs of Roger Lee, the last feoffee of these lands), and Gilbert Yarde and others. There are other trust deeds connected with these lands dated, 1742, 1768 and 1805, all for appointing fresh Trustees. They appear to have been from ancient times the property of the parish, and consist of the Church House, and of several other cottages, messuages, orchards, &c., &c., the rents and profits of which were formerly applied partly to the repairs of the church, and partly to the distribution of money, blankets and clothing among the poor of the parish.

There is also an indenture, dated 2nd February, 1634, between William Stowell of the one part, and John Searle and others, inhabitants of Teynton Regis of the other part, relative to the sum of £50, the interest of which was to be applied to the benefit "of the honest and good poor people of the town and parish aforesaid," "either in money, bread, cloth, stockings and shoes, or else in the apparelling, or advancing of poor children to set them apprentices to husbandry, or some other law-

ful profession for ever." In the book relating to the charities of the parish this sum of £50 is called "Proctor's Gift."

There is an annual revel here at Whitsuntide. A lamb is then taken about the parish in a cart covered with flowers, and subscriptions are solicited towards the attendant expenses; it is ultimately killed and roasted whole in the middle of the village, but formerly these operations took place in the bed of the stream which flows through it, the water having been turned off for the purpose.

A somewhat similar custom is observed at Holne revel on St. John the Baptist's day, when by virtue of ancient usage a ram is roasted in a field called Play Park, situated behind the church. There is no doubt, but that in the early days of the church, her priests yielded in some measure to popular superstition, and in order to strengthen their position, consented to "graft Christianity upon Pagan rites." The ram roastings may have originated in the ancient "Baal worship," but I should imagine that the *immediate* origin of the carnival at Kingsteignton, is to be accounted for by the mediæval feasts usually held in country villages at Whitsuntide and known as "Church Ales,"<sup>1</sup> and these I have already explained. At Kidlington in Oxfordshire, a fat lamb is, or was<sup>2</sup> provided on the Monday in Whitsun week, and the girls in the town with their hands tied behind them run after it, and the one who catches it and holds it with her mouth is declared "Lady of the Lamb." The lamb is subsequently served up at the "Lady's feast," at which the successful damsel presides.

<sup>1</sup> "See Ashburton and Its Neighbourhood, p. 80.

<sup>2</sup> Brand "Popular Antiquities," vol. i, p. 323

The tradition at Kingsteignton thus accounts for this curious ceremony. The village experienced at some remote period a dearth of water, and the parish priest advised his flock to pray for it, whereupon it sprang up in a meadow upon the farm now known as Rydon, and since that time a lamb has been always sacrificed as a votive offering at Whitsuntide. This pond at Rydon, which is known as Fair Water, appears to be supplied from a spring on Haldon Hill, from which it flows down to Lindridge, and there loses itself in the fissures of the lime rock, through which it passes underground until it meets with some impediment which causes it to burst up through the meadow referred to. The water appears like a large pond, and in rainy weather, jets may be seen in many places springing up some inches above the surface. Even in a dry summer the stream supplied from this pond is, I believe, sufficient to work several mills.

## CHAPTER XXVI. PART I.

—

THE PARISH OF HIGHWEEK WITH NEWTON BUSHEL.—  
GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY.

The parish of Highweek, which until 1864, was a chapelry dependent on Kingsteignton, includes the two manors of Teignweek and Bradley, and comprises 2,422 acres of land with a population, according to the last census of 2,164 inhabitants.

It is contiguous to Newton Bushel, and the latter is apparently a portion of Newton Abbot since the small river separating the two parishes has been arched over; but there has never existed any parochial or other connection between the two places.

It has been recently stated in two papers published in the Transactions of the Devonshire Association, to which I have previously had occasion to refer,<sup>1</sup> that the earliest information we have respecting Highweek, comes from the Domesday Survey and that the modern parish perhaps

<sup>1</sup> "Transactions Devonshire Association, vol. xvi, 435, vol. xviii, 219, *ante* 102.



includes, besides the manors, I have myself mentioned, above "part of a third manor that of Newton."

The writer, who adduces no evidence in support of his assertions, further informs us that "Teignwick, one of the old names of Highweek appears in the Exchequer Domesday Book as *Wiche*, and in the Exeter Domesday as *Wica*," and that the first fact that can be stated with certainty about it is, that at the death of Edward the Confessor, on January 5th, 1066, the manor of Teignwick belonged to Ordulf"; that "the manor of Bradley and Newton were like that of Teignwick, transferred to Norman ownership after the Conquest"; that "in the reign of Henry I, the manor of Teignwick on account of the rebellion of its Norman owner, William of Mortaine, became forfeited to the Crown"; and in the second paper,<sup>1</sup> he identifies the manor of Bradley, as being first the property of "an Englishman named Edmer," and afterwards of a "Norman named Haimeric De Arcis or Emery d'Argues." His attempted identification of the Manor of Newentone or Newton I have remarked upon already.

I do not wish to disparage either of these papers; for most of the particulars contained in them, which, are not specified, their author confesses himself to have been indebted to one, now gone to his rest; whose opinion on antiquarian matters was of the highest value. Some of the statements are duly substantiated by reference to the Public Records, but those portions I have quoted, with several others, are unsupported by any evidence whatever and I must protest against the settlement, by simple asser-

<sup>1</sup> "Transactions Devonshire Association," vol. xviii, p. 217.

tion, of such a very complicated matter as the identification and early ownership of the manors of Teignwick, Bradley, and Newton.

There are no less than six manors of "Wic" in various spellings to be found in Domesday and, save in one instance, there is nothing in this record to guide us as to their local position, the exception being "Wicca or Wiche," which was an appendage of Talebreie, and held after the Conquest by Drogo, under the Bishop of Coutance. This manor appears to have been the estate now known as Buddles-week in the parish of Thelbridge. Another manor of "Wic" belonged to Aldret, the King's Thane. A third, written "Wic or Wice," from Brisbie, passed at the Conquest to Odo. A fourth, once the property of Ednod, was given to Baldwin, the Sheriff, under whom it was held by Rainor. A fifth manor of "Wyce" passed from Alward to Ralph de Pomeroy; whilst a sixth, that which has been *assumed* to have been Teignweek, belonged, as stated above, to Ordulf and the Earl of Mortaine. To these may be added another manor written Clisewic or Chisewic, which was also given to Ralph de Pomeroy, and is now known as Clyst St. George.

Therefore, of the six manors of "Wic" mentioned in Domesday, one as I have shown was, and is, situated in the parish of Thelbridge, and we have no evidence that either of those remaining was that now known as Teignweek, and they might quite possibly be identical with the five modern manors of Pancras-Week, Germans-Week, Week Dabernon in Milton Abbott; Wyke S. Mary in Chagford, or Week Manor, in the parish of Langtree.

I may also notice that there are four manors written "Taigne or Teigne" in Domesday, but there is nothing, as far as I am aware, to connect them with this parish.

The same difficulty as to satisfactory identification occurs with the manor of Bradley, since no less than five of this name are included in the Conqueror's Survey. First, "Bradaleia," which was taken from Hardolf and given to the Bishop of Coutance. Second, "Bradeleie," which the latter held in succession to Algar, and sub-let to Drogo. Third, "Bradeleie," which, at first the property of Ailwin, was afterwards bestowed upon Juhel de Totenais, under whom it was held by Ralph. Fourth, "Bredelie," which a Saxon Lady, "Ollivera, had to resign to Odo Fitz-Gamelin under whom it was held by Rainald. Fifth, "Bradeleie," which is stated in the papers under consideration to have been the Bradley of Highweek and which was doubtless originally the property of Edmer and afterwards of Haimer de Arcis.

Again, with respect to Newton, either of the following seven manors might be easily supposed to represent it if the evidence was not quite conclusive as to the non-existence of the name in connection with Newton Abbot and Newton Bushel until a much later period than that of the compilation of the Survey.<sup>1</sup>

First, Newentone belonged to Alric and passed to Godbold, the captain of the Norman crossbow-men. (The statement in the papers I refer to fixes definitely upon this manor "if rightly identified" as being "that portion of the Domesday Manor of Newton which

<sup>1</sup> *Ante*, p. 102.

is on the north side of the little river Lemon.") How the writer arrived at this conclusion I am really at a loss to imagine, and it will be noticed that he mentions "Newentone" as he does "Bradley," as if these names only occurred once in "Domesday." Had this been the case it would have been in some sort a confirmation of his assertion, but as it is not the case, I can only imagine that he trusted implicitly to his "friend's notes" and suggestions, and did not think it necessary to consult the original record for himself at all. The second manor is written "Nevetone" and passed from Alwod, to Baldwin, the Sheriff, under whom it was held by Ansgar. The third "Newentone" belonged to Donne, the King's Thane, both in the Confessor's days and at the Norman Conquest. The fourth, also written "Newentone" went from Elward the Saxon to Walter of Burgundy. (Hence the English surname of Burgoyne.) The fifth, "Nietone" was the ancient property of the Priests of Bodmin. The sixth, "Niuetone" belonged to Giroid, the King's Chaplain. And the seventh, "Niuuetone" was wrested from Edmyr by Robert, Earl of Mortain under whom it was held by Reginald de Valletort. And these seven ancient manors appear to have been identical with the seven modern ones known as Newton St. Cyres, Newton Tracy, Newton Ferrers, Newton St. Petrock, Newton in Chittlehampton, Newton in Aylesbeare, and Netherton, either in Farway or Comb-in-Teignhead.

We have had in the past much manufactured history and the discrepancies of ancient writers have been sorely perplexing to modern historical students; therefore in cases like the present it is much better to

begin with facts, since facilities unknown to our predecessors, exist for procuring these, and in no case to describe an uncertainty as a fact. When tradition is relied upon, it should, I think, invariably be admitted, and where a matter is merely possible all such adverse evidence as can conveniently be ascertained should be placed in array against it.

I have already stated that the manor of Kingsteignton was ancient demesne of the Crown, and was held as such by King Edward the Confessor, and it must be borne in mind that Highweek was from a very early date, probably from the first introduction into this country of the parochial system, merely an outlying portion of this parish. Churches were originally most of them built by Lords of Manors for the use of their tenants and the ancient parish was usually co-terminous with the manor, and I imagine that the Crown as owners of the manor of Teignwick, adjacent to the manor of Kingsteignton, incorporated the latter with the former parish and simply provided a Chapel of Ease there, in consequence of its distance from the parish church. Had the two manors of Teignwick and Kingsteignton belonged to different owners the strong probability is that the two parishes would have been from the first perfectly independent of one another. No evidence has been adduced in support of the assertion that "the manor of Teignwick came into the hands of the King through the rebellion of its Norman owner the Earl of Mortaine," and in support of it we have only the knowledge that the lands of this earldom were so forfeited and that one out of six manors called indifferently Wica or Wic, certainly

belonged to it. But, we find the Burdons possessed of the manor of Kingsteignton, together with a moiety of the Hundred of Teignbridge, by grant from the Crown, and at about the same period we also find a certain Lucas Fitz-John settled upon the manor of Teignwick, and in possession of another moiety of the same Hundred by virtue of a similar grant. Therefore, I think, that "the first fact that can be stated with certainty about Teignwick," is, that towards the end of the twelfth century, it was, by Royal concession, the property of one of the King's servants: Lysons says of John, the son of Lucas, who was butler to Henry II. Sir William Pole calls him "Lucas the boteler," and says that John, the son of Lucas succeeded him. Risdon tells us<sup>1</sup> that "this manor of Teignweek, King Henry II gave unto Lucas his butler, whose son forsook his allegiance to King John and fell to the French, so that all his lands were seized upon, and King Henry III gave this manor with Dipford unto Sir Theobald Englishville, who with the King's consent give it unto Robert Bushel his kinsman or adopted son."<sup>2</sup>

Westcote does not mention the King's butler Lucas at all, but he assures us that "Highwick (not Huic as some pronounce it, making it a pronoun, the dative case of Hic) yields us a pretty stream. This was held by Sir Richard Tremenet, *alias* De. Tribus Minutis, Knight, in the reign of Richard I."

As this is the only mention I have found of Tremenet in connection with Highweek, it may be well to remark

<sup>1</sup> "Survey," p. 136.

<sup>2</sup> "View of Devon," p. 439.

here, that Westcote appears to have confused this parish with Hennock, which the Tremenet family acquired by marriage with Clist, as I have shown in a previous chapter. They became extinct during the reign of Edward III, when the co-heirs married Dymock and Turnour.

Lucas, the son of John, appears to have been a bailiff of the Norman Exchequer. in the district of Rouen, in Normandy in the 9 Richard I, 1197-8. He seems to have previously held an office in the Royal Household, and if the county historians are to be credited, to have obtained a grant of Teignweek and Bradley, and also of the manor of Diptford in the Hundred of Stanborough from King Henry II; this latter manor also having from ancient times formed a portion of the Royal demesne. His connection, and that of his immediate successors, with Highweek has been carefully traced from documents at the Record Office and elsewhere, in the last of the two papers I have had occasion to mention.<sup>1</sup>

He appears to have alienated a small portion of the manor of Teignweek, now known as Mainbow, to his neighbour Geoffrey Gifford of Bickington. This land the said Geoffry gave to the Abbot and Convent of Tor, "for the good of his own soul and for that of Lucas Fitz-John, the latter having granted it to him by the service of the annual render of "one pair of gilt spurs at Easter."

The following deeds in connection with this property are included in the Tor Abbey Cartulary, preserved in Trinity College, Dublin.

Folio 54. "Grant from Geoffrey Giffard to the Abbot

<sup>1</sup> "Trans. Devon Assoc.," vol. xviii, p. 222, *et seq.*

of S. Saviour of Thorre of all his land in Mainbog with the gardens appertaining.”

“Grant by Luke Fitz-John in confirmation of said gift by Geoffrey Giffard.”

Folio 55. “Grant by Theobald de Anglica Villa confirming to the aforesaid Monastery the gifts of Geoffrey Gifford and of Luke Fitz-John, and also confirming the possessions, &c., of the Abbot of “Thor” in Teyngewyke.”

These deeds are also referred to in another Cartulary, at the Record Office and are endorsed as follows. (They are included with the deeds connected with Wolborough.)

*Wilviburga.*

“Carta Galfridi Giffard de terra de Maynbough (in manerio de Teignwike.)”

“Carta Luce filii Johannis data Galfrido Giffard.”

“Carta confirmacionis Theobaldi de Anglica Villa de terra de Maynbough.

“Confirmacio Theobaldi de Anglica Villa (de eadem terra.)”

This small estate is not mentioned amongst the possessions of Tor Abbey at the dissolution of Monasteries; it appears, however, to have been included in the Wolborough property purchased by John Gaverocke,<sup>1</sup> and with the latter was conveyed subsequently to Sir Richard Reynell of Ford. The late Mr. George Templer of Stover took it in exchange for other land, from Lord Courtenay and it is now, by purchase, the property of the Duke of Somerset, having passed with Stover. The

<sup>1</sup> Ante, p. 100, *et seq.*



Lords of Teignweek had the power of inflicting the punishment of death within their manor, and Mainbow farm is situated near a cross road known as "Forches," where the gallows "furcæ" were wont to be erected and where suicides were buried.

Teignweek was forfeited to the Crown in the year, 1204-5 (6 King John), when Normandy was separated from England. Lucas Fitz-John having then left England and re-established himself in his own country, received the same treatment that was meted out to the rest of the Normans, and both Teignweek and the manor of Diptford were taken away from him. Pole and Lysons tell us that the estate now passed to "Eustachius de Courtenay," but the real fact appears to have been that Eustachia de Courtenay (not Eustachius) was the wife of this Luke. She does not seem to have followed her husband to the "Rumois," but to have remained in England; and she applied to King John for permission to farm her husband's lands in this country in consideration of a money payment of fifteen marks. This permission was accorded to her by writ of 6 John, directed to the Sheriff of the several counties, and the writ proves her to have been a widow, because she was to have possession of all land which belonged to her as dower from her former husband, or as her own inheritance, or as the property of Luke her then husband.

Luke Fitz-John died at the commencement of the following reign, upon which his widow had a settlement in lieu of her dower of one hundred shillings to commence from Michaelmas, 5 Henry III, and the lands were committed to farm to Henry de Pont Audemer, who was

charged with payment of the annuity. He seems to have been succeeded by Theobald de Anglica Villa, who in 1234 was discharged by writ of the annual payment of one hundred shillings to Eustachia de Courtenay, and as this payment had been settled upon her for life, we may safely conclude that she was then dead.

This Theobald de Englishville, had at first only a life grant of Teignweek, as the King's bailiff.<sup>1</sup> He obtained a charter for a market on Tuesdays, to be held within the manor, in the 31 Henry III, and he must have subsequently obtained an absolute interest in the property, since in the year, 1262, he conveyed the whole of it by deed to his foster child, kinsman and heir, Robert Bushel, and as Bradley, which comprehended what is now known as Newton Bushell, was unquestionably included in this grant, and as it had been also held with Teignweek by Lucas Fitz-John, I am inclined to suppose that it had been always appendant to the latter, and that it is not identical with either of the manors of Bradley mentioned in the "Domesday Survey."

This grant having been duly confirmed by the Sovereign, the manor of Teignweek and the nominal manor or barton of Bradley, became the property of Robert Bushel and of his heirs for ever; by this time the property of the Abbot of Tor in Schireborne, had become covered with houses and acquired the name of "the New Town of the Abbot," and now houses arose in the lower part of the Teignweek Manor, by the enterprize of the Bushels, perhaps in rivalry of their powerful ecclesiastical neighbour, and speedily became known as "Nova villa de Bushel," or

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Pat., 5 Ed. III.

the New Town of Bushel, and thus the two settlements separated only by the Lemmen stream, were subsequently known as Newton Abbot and Newton Bushel, and became apparently one and the same town as we find them to-day.

The "Pleas by what Warrant" also show that Newton Bushel, like Newton Abbot, was not originally known as Newton since the jurors call it "Novelevile," and specify its position as in the portion belonging to Teignweek.

Robert Bushel (the earliest spelling of the name is Bussel), died, 53 Henry III (1268), and left a son and heir, Theobald Bushel, then a minor, who was placed under the guardianship of Henry de Bicklege, and Matilda his wife. During the minority of Theobald Bushel, records of certain legal proceedings which have been preserved, show that Bradley was then known as "Bardele." "On the Sunday next after the Feast of S. Lawrence, Aug. 10th, 2 Ed. I (1274), Sheriff Roger" (John de Wiger?) "and his clerk Ralph, and Adam de Hayward and Walter de la Burethe, ejected and disseised Theobald Bussel and Henry de Bickylet and Matilda, his wife, guardians of the said Theobald from his free tenement in Bardele."<sup>1</sup>

Theobald Bushel (I am adopting the modern spelling), married and left issue a son William, who in 1308, obtained from Edward II, a charter for two fairs at Bradley, one for four days at Ascension Tide, and another for two days at the Festival of All Saints. This William, died in 1346, and left a son and heir, William Bushel, who died without issue in 1359, when the property descended to his younger brother, John Bushel,

<sup>1</sup> "Trans. Devon Assoc.," vol. xviii, p. 226.

who married and left a son also called John, who died without issue in 1391. His wife Joan, who died 7 Henry V, afterwards married Isaack.

The following note at the commencement of the Herald's Visitation of 1564, relative to the succession of the Teignweek property will be of interest.

“ Dominus Rex H. 2 dedit istud manerium cuidam Lucas Pincernæ et Dapifero ejusdem et habuit exitum Johannem Lucas qui fuit subditus Regis Francorum quando Ducatus Normanniæ separatus fuit a regno Angliæ. Henricus 3 Rex Angliæ sæsibit in manus suas istud manerium et illud dedit cuidam Theobaldo de Anglishvile servienti Regis. Dictus Theobaldus habens nullum exitum de corpore suo, licentia Regis obtenta, dedit istud manerium Roberto Bussell consanguinio suo.”

The arms of “ Bussell *alias* Bushell ” (thus written in the Visitation), were three water bougets Sa.

Upon the death of John Bushel, without issue in 1391, his property went to his heir-at-law, Thomas Yarde, the son of his Aunt Elizonte or Eliza.

The Yardes took their name from their residence, Yard, in the parish of Marlborough, where they settled soon after the Conquest and were called “ At Yard.” The first “ At Yard ” mentioned in the pedigree, had issue William, who by Maud of Esse, or Ash, had Bryan At Yard, who married Lewe, daughter of Phillip Monk, and had William At Yard, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Gilbert de la Yeo, and was the father of Roger At Yard.

This Roger At Yard was the husband of Elizonte, or Eliza Bushel aforesaid, daughter of William Bushel, died 1346, whose son, Thomas Yarde, succeeded in her right

to the Teignweek and Bradley properties upon the death of his cousin John in 1391.

Thomas Yarde of Bradley, married and had issue Richard Yarde, who merely, as it would appear, because he belonged to an ancient family, is included in Prince's "Worthlies," pp. 770-772, edit. 1810; but all particulars as to Richard himself, are disposed of in three lines, and in the following words, "Richard Yard, of whom we are speaking was in his time a very eminent person, and by the distinguishing favour of King Henry VI, in the 21st year of his reign made High Sheriff of this county. When he died or where he lieth interred, I am not able to say." He increased the fortunes of his family by a good match, as he married, Joan, daughter and co-heir of William Ferrers of Churston (her sister married Ayshford), and by this alliance obtained the Churston property, which still belongs to his descendant the present Lord Churston. He died, 6 Ed. IV, but left issue Gilbert Yarde, who married Margaret, daughter of Sir William Wadham of Merryfield, and had issue a daughter, Joan, who married Thomas Gale, and a son, Roger Yarde of Churston Ferrers and Bradley, who married Joan, daughter of Richard Halse of Kenedon. Their eldest son, John, died in infancy; the second, Richard, married Margaret, daughter of William Bampfield of Poltimore, near Exeter, and had five sons and three daughters, of whom John, the second son deserves more than a passing mention.

He appears to have settled near Exeter, upon an estate known as "Traysbeare," in the parish of Clist Honiton, which has from an early date belonged to the

Dean and Chapter, and was appropriated to the maintenance of the Treasurer of the Cathedral and hence its name.

He probably selected this spot in consequence of its situation, near Poltimore, his mother's birthplace and he must have obtained a long lease in it, several times renewed since his descendants remained there for many generations. He is honourably mentioned by Hoker, the Elizabethan Chamberlain and historian of Exeter, for his valour at Clist Bridge in the year 1548, when Lord Russell was advancing to the relief of Exeter, then closely besieged by the malcontents of Sampford Courtenay in rebellion on account of the recent change of ritual.

The bridge being occupied by the rebels in strength, Mr. Yarde led the King's troops across the water and thus succeeded in turning their flank, and forcing them to retreat to the lower end of Clist Heath, where they were ultimately routed and dispersed, and thus Lord Russell was enabled to continue his march and raise the blockade of the city.

Prince says that he married Joice, the daughter of Sir Edward Gray, Knight. If so, the large table tomb, under an obtuse arch in the north aisle of Clist Honiton Church, in memory of "John Yarde of Traysbeare," 1575, was probably erected by his son and successor of the same name. At the back of this tomb is a large and interesting shield of arms—Yarde quartering Ferrers and impaling Wolacombe. The lady is shown by the arms to have been one of the three daughters of Alexander Wolacombe of Wolacombe, by his second wife Alice,

daughter of John Bradmore of Exeter. The blazon of the Wolocombe impalement is as follows—

Quarterly of five, 1st and 5th Arg. 3 bars Gu. a file of three points Sa. (Wolacombe).

2nd (grand quarter), quarterly 1st and 4th, Gu. a maunch Erm. (Mohun); 2nd and 3rd, Arg. 3 bars Gu. betw. 6 martlets, 3, 2 and 1 (Roskymer).

3rd, Or, seven lozenges in pile—(Giffard).

4th, Or, a cinquefoil Sa. a crescent for difference, Bradmore of Exeter.

Thomas Wolacombe, married Anne, daughter and heir of John Michelstowe, and of his wife Alice, daughter and heir of Stephen Giffard, which John Michelstowe was son of Joan, daughter and heir of Reginald Roskymer, whose ancestor would seem from the arms to have been the issue of Mohun and a co-heir of Roskymer. There is a strong probability of such a descent, through Killigrew, but the Visitation pedigree, as is frequently the case, has confused the earlier generations, and that of 1564, makes Margery, daughter and heir of Henry Killigrew, marry “Rescaswithe” (Reskymer), and leaves out Mohun altogether. The coat of Giffard too, as it appears upon the tomb is somewhat unusual.

Above the arch is another and more modern inscription, without date, for “Edward Yarde of Treasurers Bere.”

I am anxious to draw particular attention to these memorials, which have probably been lost sight of by the family, since they have not partaken in the recent restoration of the Church, and are now sadly in need of careful attention.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Sainthill of Bradninch, died in 1708, his only sister married  
2 O<sup>2</sup>

To return to the elder brother of John Yarde of Traysbeare, who was called Thomas, and was of Churston and Bradley. This gentleman married twice; his first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of John Levison, Serjeant-at-Law, of the county of Warwick. She was a niece of John Veysey, *alias* Harman, consecrated Bishop of Exeter, 1519; resigned "præ corporis metu," 1551; restored to his See, 1553, and died in the following year. Their eldest son, John, died in infancy, their second, Edward, inherited Churston Ferrers, married first, Agnes, daughter of William Strode of Newenham, and had issue Arthur and George. Arthur died young, but George succeeded to Churston, and married Christian, daughter of John Giles of Bowden, near Totnes, and sister of Sir Edward Giles, Knight of Dean Prior (another of Prince's "Worthies"). Their son, Edward Yard, married Elizabeth, daughter of Lady Giles, by Walter Northcote of Uton, her first husband, as I have mentioned elsewhere.<sup>2</sup> They had four children, Giles, Edward, Joan and Lettice, and of these, Edward Yarde, married Elizabeth Fownes of Plymouth, 13th April, 1636.<sup>3</sup>

This elder branch of Yarde continued in possession of

Thomas Yarde of Treasurers Bere, whose son took the name of Sainthill and resided at Bradninch. His grandson, Samuel Sainthill, died s.p., 1798, and his sister and heir married Rear-Admiral Thomas Pearse, they had issue Thomas, died, 1829; George, who married Raby Williams, daughter of Kellett Hewitt, and resided at Bradninch some few years since; Edward, and John who died an infant. There were also three daughters, Jane, Elizabeth and Mary. Upon the death of Mr. George Pearse, the whole of the Sainthill property in Bradninch was sold.

<sup>2</sup> "Ashburton and its Neighbourhood," 135.

<sup>3</sup> "Episcopal Registers."



Dean Prior and Churston until the death of John Yarde of Churston, in 1773. His brother Francis, of Ottery St. Mary, married a co-heir of Northleigh, and left an only daughter and heir, Susannah, who married 1763, Francis Buller, afterwards Mr. Justice Buller, who was created a Baronet, 13th January, 1790. Their son, Sir Francis, second Baronet, succeeded to Churston, and in pursuance of the will of his maternal great uncle assumed the surname of Yarde, but afterwards by sign manual added to it that of Buller. His eldest son, Francis, died in his youth; his second, John Yarde Buller, succeeded as third Baronet, was elevated to the peerage as Baron Churston, 2nd August, 1858, and was the grandfather of the present peer.

Upon the death of Elizabeth Levison, ancestress, as I have shown, of Lord Churston, her husband, Thomas Yarde, married a second wife, Joan, daughter of William Hurst of Exeter, and gave Bradley to his eldest son by this marriage, Thomas Yarde, who is described in the Visitation as "Lord of Tingwike." He married Mary, daughter of Gregory Huckmore of Buckyat in Little-Hempston,<sup>1</sup> but left no issue, and was succeeded by his brother and heir, Gilbert Yarde, who left a son, Thomas (died 1557), married to Joan, daughter of Robert Hurst of Modbury (died 1591), whose children were Joan, the wife of Matthew Hull of Larkbeare, and Gilbert, who married Joan, daughter of William Grigge of Exeter. They had a large family, and of them, the third son, Richard Yarde, was of Whiteway, in Kingsteignton and was buried in the church there in 1631.<sup>2</sup> Henry, the

<sup>1</sup> Ante p. 69.

<sup>2</sup> Ante, p. 269.

second son, married Christian, and had issue Gilbert Yarde. Gilbert, the son and heir (uncle of the last Gilbert), carried on the line at Bradley; he died suddenly in 1625, but by his marriage with Judith, daughter of Walter Hele of Newton Ferrers, he left with other children a son and heir, Walter (died 1654), who married Jane, daughter of Robert Savery of Rattery (she died also in 1654), and had issue, Walter (died 1655), James and Gilbert.

James Yarde, married Michal—(he died September 3rd, 1670), and had issue, Gilbert, who survived his father but a short time and died an infant in 1671 (August 10th), when he was succeeded by his uncle Gilbert; who by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Northleigh of Peamore, had issue Gilbert, who married Joan, daughter and heir of Henry Blackaller of Sharpham, and had issue Gilbert Yarde, who in the year, 1751, sold the manor of Teignweek, the west side of the Hundred of Teignbridge and the *barton* of Bradley to Thomas Veale.

Gilbert Yarde, the last of his name at Bradley, had two sons, Giles and James. Giles, purchased Trowbridge in Crediton, from Mr. Strode, whose father, Samuel Strode, had similarly acquired it from the Trowbridge family in 1720. He seems to have resided here and was buried in Crediton Church in 1790. After his death, his brother James, occupied Trowbridge House, which belonged to his niece, Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of the said Giles Yarde. John, son of the late Giles Yarde, who was born at Trowbridge, is the present owner.

Mr. Veale of Coffleet, having purchased the Yarde estate at Highweek in 1751, died without issue, and was

succeeded by his nephew, Thomas Lane, who by his wife Penelope Elizabeth, daughter and heir of the Rev. Thomas Tothill of Bagtor, had issue, Richard Lane, who subsequently took Holy Orders, and married Lucy, daughter of Nicholas Dennys of Tiverton, by whom he had with other issue, Thomas Veale Lane. The Lanes sold the property about 1840, to the Rev. F. S. Wall, and it now belongs to his daughter Miss Wall.

I may mention that Thomas Yarde, who bequeathed Churston to his eldest son by his first wife, Elizabeth Levison, and Teignweek to his eldest son by his second wife, Joan Hurst, and thus divided the property, had livery in 1509 on the following estates: Teignweek and the Hundred of Teignbridge West, Bradley, Newton Bushel, Newton Abbot, Churston Ferrers, Surly Castle, and Yarde in Marlborough, the earliest dwelling place of his race, and he had also a grant of lands in Little Dartmouth, and the advowson of the Rectory of Thurlestone. In his will dated, 4 and 5 Philip and Mary, mention is also made of property in Yarcombe, Clist Turberville, Bishops Clist and Ogwell, and all this land was divided for the benefit of his children, Edward, Nicholas, Peter, Mary, wife of John Symons, Serjeant-at-Law, and Joan, wife of Walter Hull of Larkbeare; these with a son, John, who died an infant, being the issue of his first wife. By his second wife he had only Thomas and Gilbert, who, as I have already shown, successively inherited Teignweek. This separation of the family property must have seriously crippled the resources of his successors at Bradley, which until his death, appears to have been the principal residence of the Yards. Then,

again, Gilbert Yarde, who probably purchased Whiteway in Kingsteignton, had a large family and appears to have once more divided the property, and to have left the latter to his second son, Richard ; still it is rather remarkable that Bradley should have changed hands in 1751, since Joan, daughter and heir of Henry Blackaller of Sharpham, must have then recently brought with her a very large accession to the family estates.

Bradley House, the ancient seat of the lords of Teignweek, is situated at a bend of the valley about half a mile west of Newton. It appears to have been completed, probably by additions and alterations to an older residence, about the year, 1428, when Bishop Lacy granted a license to Richard Yerde to have the divine offices performed, "capellâ suâ infra mansionem suam de Bradelagh juxta Newton Bushel."

This chapel, which, when I saw it some years since, was furnished as a sitting-room, is in very good preservation.

It is very small, but quite large enough for the purpose for which it was intended. On the south-eastern side there is a piscina, and in the western wall is an aperture which affords a view of the interior from the adjoining room, an arrangement probably intended to prevent crowding in the chapel itself in any large assembly of the household.

I remarked several coats of arms in the bosses of the groined roof ; notably those of Bishop Lacy and the Lacy knot. Other armorials that have been recorded as existing here are those of Courtenay—Or, 3 torteaux, a lable of 3, which have been attributed to Eustachia de Courtenay ; Ferrers, Or, on a bend Sa. 3 horse shoes of the

field; De Anglishville, Arg. a cross Gu., and Bushel, Arg. a chevron Gu., betw. 3 water bougets, Sa. The ancient arms of Yarde were 3 measuring yards, but they abandoned these it is said, for the arms of Bushel, from the period of their accession to this property.

The hall and the room adjoining are of earlier date than other portions of the building, as evidenced during the progress of some repairs in 1818, when it was found that the partition wall which separated these apartments from the rooms between them and the eastern front, had been at some period an outside wall and contained ancient windows which had been blocked up and plastered over.

Some of the bedrooms are very interesting, notably one which was fitted up in the sixteenth century, by Gilbert Yarde, whose arms are, or were, over the chimney-piece, with the motto—"Ignis corpus spiritus animam."

The mansion was originally almost concealed by a high wall which has of late years been removed, and it at one time formed a quadrangle, two of the sides of which were long since taken down. The house is excessively interesting as it has only suffered from removals, and no attempt has ever been made at modern alterations; the principal front has three oriel windows, which appear to be of later date than the eastern window of the chapel.

The northern and western sides of the quadrangle were destroyed about the year, 1750, but the foundations were not excavated until 1818, when several coins were found but none of an earlier date than the reign of Henry VIII.

The arms and pedigree of the Yardes were formerly painted on the wall over the fireplace of the lodge.

The weekly market in the "Nova Villa de Bushel," granted in 1246, to Robert Bushel, was held on a piece of waste ground on the north of the ancient chapel of Newton Bushel, which of late years has been attributed to St. Mary, but I am not aware that any precise evidence as to its original dedication is in existence. It is believed to have been built by Richard Yarde, High Sheriff of this county, 21 Henry VI. Dr. Oliver when speaking of this chapel,<sup>1</sup> says, "The chapel of Newton Bushell (its patron Saint I cannot discover), is very respectable in the interior; and has fairer pretensions to architecture than Highweek. The south aisle, communicating with the nave by four arches, has a most graceful and elaborately sculptured eastern window, it was formerly adorned with six statues; the inner moulding is charged alternately with the horse shoe, the device of the *Ferrers'* and the water bouget of the *Yardes*. This window deserves to be engraved. We regret that the east window of the chancel is so obstructed and obscured by a tablet; in the event of its removal, would not the picture of the Nativity of our Lord (the handsome donation of the late James Templer, Esq.), appear to greater advantage? The length of the chapel was 50 feet, breadth 29 feet and a half, but it has been considerably enlarged."

This account of Newton Bushel Chapel was published in 1840, but the learned doctor's visit to the church must have been made some years previously since in the year, 1826, the arcading between the nave and aisle was removed, with the exception of one bay at the western

<sup>1</sup> "Eecl. Antiq.," vol. i, p. 178. 1840.

end, which is supported by an octagonal column, the capital moulded and carved in foliage; the altar has been removed to the eastern end of the old south aisle, where once stood a chantry altar as evidenced by the elaborate square-headed piscina with shelf which remains on the south side. The eastern window of this aisle, referred to above, has been restored, the recesses provided for the reception of six images mentioned by Dr. Oliver, are crocketed and finialed; the window itself is a transom, and is filled with stained glass. In consequence of the addition of a southern annexe, this south aisle now forms the centre of the chapel; all the original windows are of Perpendicular date, and thus accord with the *tradition* as to the erection of the building by Richard Yarde, who married Joan Ferrers, and died in 1466. I noticed an image bracket upon the wall of the ancient nave, which is now, apparently, the north aisle, and the remains of a holy water stoup in the vestry. The tower is square and embattled, flanked by buttresses, and is fifty-one feet in height; over the entrance are two image tabernacles, the mouldings of which were once elaborately carved. The chapel was again repaired and re-seated in 1870.

The market and fairs anciently held at Newton Bushel, were discontinued in 1633, when the then owner of Bradley acquired those of Newton Abbot, and considered that the latter were quite sufficient for the twin towns, an arrangement which has been ever since continued. There is now a great market for cattle on the last Wednesday in February, and three annual fairs held on June 24th, the Wednesday after September 11th and November 6th.

The old market house and shambles which stood in the

middle of Wolborough Street were removed in 1826, when a more convenient building was opened which had been built upon an open space at the end of a street now known as Market Street. In 1868 the Local Board obtained compulsory powers to purchase land and build new markets and slaughter houses which were completed between 1871 and 1877. The weekly market is held on Wednesdays.

The nominal manor of Moore and Perry in this parish, belonged at an early date to the Widworthy family, who were settled at Lustleigh before the reign of Edward II. It was afterwards with Furneaux (who had property at Bickington) and Kellaway. Sir William Kellaway sold it to Hurst,<sup>1</sup> and hence probably the marriage of Thomas Yarde, with Joan Hurst. It was subsequently the property of the Poles, and Sir John Pole owned it in Risdon's time.<sup>2</sup> It was purchased of the Pole family by the late Rev. John Templer in 1787.

<sup>1</sup> Before 1462, ante, p. 268.

<sup>2</sup> Survey, p. 136.



## CHAPTER XXVI.—PART II.

## THE PARISH OF HIGHWEEK.—THE PARISH CHURCH.

The church is situated on very high ground, and is rather less than a mile distant from Newton Bushel in the small village of Highweek, which has of late years been much extended by the erection of modern suburban residences.

There is no record extant as to the precise date of the original structure. The first mention of "the Chapel of Teyngewyke," is in an undated deed executed during the episcopacy of Bishop Brewer, 1224-1244, and it again occurs in a bull of Pope Innocent III, dated 5th May, 1245. In the taxation of Pope Nicholas, 1288-1291, it is included with Kingsteignton in the following words—"Ecclia de Tynton reg' cu' capella." the church of Kingsteignton with the chapel. Now it will be noticed that the situation of this chapel is not specified in any way, and we know that at this time the people of Teignweek had no churchyard, but were obliged to carry their dead to the parish churchyard of Kingsteignton. It seems, therefore, both possible and probable that the original chapel of Teignweek was that now known as St. Mary's, Newton Bushel, which I have already described, and that the latter, was not erected, but only restored and beautified by Richard Yarde in the fifteenth century,

and I am the more inclined to this opinion, because there are slight evidences remaining there of an earlier building.

The octagonal column which still supports the western bay, does not accord with late Third Pointed architecture, and the tower has earlier characteristics. But the strongest evidence in support of my theory consists in the fact, that we know from Bishop Lacy's Register,<sup>1</sup> that that Prelate, in accordance with the express wish of Pope Martin V, who had received a petition from the inhabitants of *Newton Bushel*, pointing out their distance from the Parish Church, and praying for rights of sepulture, consecrated a cemetery at Highweek, with a *new Chapel* there, in honour of All Saints on the 19th April, 1428. This chapel of All Saints which is entirely of Perpendicular date, and contains no vestiges whatever of an earlier building, is afterwards duly described as the chapel of Highweek.<sup>2</sup>

A burial ground could not have been conveniently provided in the town, because the land adjacent to the chapel of *Newton Bushel*, was already occupied with the buildings connected with the market.

It is certain that the present structure at Highweek, was dedicated by Bishop Lacy in 1428, and that it was then "a *new Chapel*." It consists of a chancel, nave opening into north and south aisles by four arches, south porch with a parvise or priests' room over it, a north door and a tower at the western end, containing six bells, which were cast in the year, 1781. The two arches eastward are almost semi-circular, the lower ones are narrower and are altogether better specimens of

<sup>1</sup> "Ep. Regs.," Lacy, vol. ii, fol. 9-12.

<sup>2</sup> Ante, p. 272.

Pointed architecture. I believe that the church suffered much from improper alterations in 1786, when the most prominent parts of the piers and arches were hacked off and the whole smoothly plastered over with lime. At this time, too, the screen was cut down to the height of the pews.

The eastern end of the north aisle, which is longer than the south, was appropriated as a burial place by the Yards of Bradley, from the first erection of the fabric. There is a piscina on the south side of the chancel.

The font was treated similarly to the pillars and arches, but it was partially restored by a late Vicar of Kingsteignton, the Rev. Thomas Whipham, D.D. It is octagonal and has four shields of arms—Englishville, Yarde, Ferrers, and possibly Bishop Lacy. In the centre of the nave roof may be seen a spirited representation of St. George in combat with the Dragon, probably in allusion to De Englishville, whose arms—Arg. a cross gules, *i.e.*, the Cross of St. George are several times repeated. Here, too, is the well-known cognizance of the Courtenays, which as I have already remarked, has been attributed to Eustachia de Courtenay. She was a widow when she married Lucas Fitz-John, and appears almost certainly to have been a daughter of Reginald de Courtenay, and sister of Robert de Courtenay, who married Mary Redvers, daughter of William de Vernon, Earl of Devon, and died in 1242. Egelina de Courtenay, daughter of the said Reginald and sister of Robert is mentioned in the pedigrees, but this Eustachia is not referred to; still, as she died in 1232, she must have been contemporary

with Robert and Egelina. The latter married Gilbert Basset, Baron of Hedington, who died in 1206, leaving a daughter and heir called *Eustachia*, who married first, Thomas de Verdun, and afterwards Richard de Camvil.

Most of the windows contain fair Perpendicular tracery and there are some remains of ancient glass, including the arms of Ferrers, impaled with Floier, St. Dorothy, St. George killing the Dragon, and the instruments and emblems of the crucifixion. These were all seen by Dr. Oliver, but, when I visited the church, 30th April, 1874, the only remains I remarked were in one of the windows, and these consisted of the instruments of the Crucifixion and the head of St. George.

The outside of the church was thickly covered with plaster. The tower is low, square, and has buttresses at the angles running up into turrets. The walls are crenellated. The south porch has a good stone seat, there is a bracket on the north wall, and the entrance to the building is through a Perpendicular doorway on its eastern side.

In the year 1864, the late Rev. J. H. Hext, then Vicar of Kingsteignton, consented to the separation of the chapelry of Highweek from Newton Bushel, which, as we have seen, had been attached to his vicarage from time immemorial. The separation had then become very necessary, in consequence of the increase of population. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners having *surrendered the great tithes*, and an order from the Queen in Council, which abolished all ecclesiastical rights of the inhabitants of Highweek in Kings-Teignton, having been obtained, this ancient chapelry became legally a rectory, and the

Bishop of Exeter appointed the then Curate and present Rector, the Rev. S. G. Harris, to the new preferment, and I have to thank him for his attention to my enquiries when I visited his church. He informed me that the Registers commence :—baptisms and burials 1653, marriages 1654. I noticed in one of these books the following entry—“Hugh Parsons, weaver, is sworne and allowed to be register of the Parish of Highweeke the 23rd of January, 1653. Thomas Reynell.” These Registers contain many interesting entries, especially of the families of Yarde and Gaverocke. Mr. Harris has a good residence and about 14 acres of glebe.

The Lazar house, known as Gilberd's Almshouse was founded 4th October, 1438 by John Gylberd. The inhabitants were to choose a warden yearly from amongst themselves and during the founder's life were to pray each morning for his wealth and prosperity and for that of the Corporation of Exeter; and after his death “for the welth of ther sowles and the sowle of Elizabeth late wyff of the said John Gylberd, daughter of Sir John Crocker, Kt., for his father Otho Gylberd, his kindred and friends, for Richard Yard, Esq., High Lord of the lands there, and for John Rowe, Sergeant-at-law.” The inmates were to attend their chapel, “hereafter to be buylded,” morning and evening.

The chapel was built and its eastern window was filled with stained glass which was removed many years ago, when the sacred structure was turned into a dwelling house. The endowment was an adjacent field containing an acre of land, and a yearly rent-charge of £4 paid by the Corporation of Exeter. The “acre of land” is now

held by the feoffees of the parish lands in consideration of their repairing the almshouse, which consists of four tenements, and paying 12s. a year to the inmates.

The parish lands, comprise about eight acres, and five houses let for £34 9s. per annum, and a house and garden ; there is also a small almshouse, and the interest of £200 3 per cent reduced annuities, purchased with money which arose from fines and the sale of timber.

The poor have 20s. out of the tithes of Cornworthy, by the bequest of John Peter ; 2s. left by one Bickford to issue out of "Wannell's house," and £2 from a house and garden left in 1632, by Robert Hayman, to be expended in underclothing for both sexes.

## CHAPTER XXVII.—PART I.

## THE PARISH OF TOR-MOHUN.—INCLUDING THE MODERN TOWN OF TORQUAY.—GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY.

The parish of Tor-Mohun, frequently incorrectly written Tor-Moham, and at one time known as Tor-Brewer, is situated in the Hundred of Haytor, the Archdeaconry of Totnes, and the Deanery of Ipplepen, and had in 1881 a population of 24,767. It is the Mother Church of the important modern town of Torquay, which was originally included within its limits, but to meet the wants of the rapidly increasing population it has been of late years sub-divided into several distinct parishes.

As I have already stated in my history of Tor-Brian,<sup>1</sup> there are two manors of Torre mentioned in Domesday; one of these passed from the Saxon Ailric, to William the King's Usher; the other, the property of Brictric, was held at the Conquest by Godiva his widow. One of these manors was Tor-Brian, the other Tor-Brewer, so called, because as early as the reign of Henry II, it had passed into the hands of that powerful noble William de Briwere, or Brewer, a full account of whom will be found in a previous chapter.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Ashburton and Its Neighbourhood," p. 148.

<sup>2</sup> Ante, chapter xvii, p. 89, *et seq.*

After remarking that from Briwere, the manor of Tor passed to Mohun, the Editors of the "Magna Britannia,"<sup>1</sup> make the following extraordinary statement—"It was purchased of the Mohuns of Dunster, by John Ridgway, whose grandson Thomas, was created a Baronet in 1612," and they tell us this, although the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" shows clearly that the manor at the dissolution of monasteries was the property of the Lord Abbot of Tor.

They were evidently misled by the words of the foundation deed of Tor Abbey, in which William Briwere, conveys to the convent a certain parcel of land called "Rowedon" and defines it with metes and bounds, as "Locum ad Abbatiam construendam ubi ecclesia Sancti Salvatoris fundata est."

Risdon too, at page 146 of the "Survey," speaks of Sir Thomas Ridgway having obtained the buildings of Tor Abbey at the dissolution, and adds that he had then "a house hard by descended to him from his ancestors," and this information is as incorrect as the other.

I have already referred to the foundation of Tor Abbey by William, Lord Briwere in the year 1196.<sup>2</sup> He appears to have made Tor his principal residence; and Tor manor certainly did not at first form a part of the valuable estates, which by deed of gift he conferred upon the Abbey. He gave to the Monks however, certain land there, liberty of fishing in Tor Bay, and the advowson of the parish church of Tor, of which Richard Briwere "was at that time the Parson."<sup>3</sup> The foundation was con-

<sup>1</sup> Vol. ii, p. 523 (Devon).

<sup>2</sup> Ante, p. 90, *et seq.*

<sup>3</sup> Deed of Confirmation, Beatrice de Valle.



firmed by the founder's wife, Beatrice de Valle, and also by King John, 22nd May, 2nd of his reign, A.D., 1200, at which time the Monks of Tor were possessed of the following property.

The Royal Charter commences, "John by the Grace of God, King of England, &c., know, that we at the petition of our faithful and beloved William Briwere, have yielded and by the present deed have confirmed to God and the blessed Mary and to the Church of the Holy Saviour of Torre, and to the Canons of the Order of the Church of Presmontre serving God there; the underwritten gift which the same William made to them in pure and perpetual alms; forsooth the place in which the Monastery of Torre is situated, and the Church of the same Manor with all its belongings. And from the gift of the same William the Manor of Wolborough, and the Church of the same Manor with all its belongings; and the land of Coleton and the Manor of Grendel, and one ferling of land in Uggeborough with common of pasture on Dertemore with all its belongings; and a ferling of land with its belongings in Braworthy and the Church of the same Manor with its appurtenances; and from the gift of the aforesaid William Briwere, and William de Tracy and Drogo de Mungirun, the Manor of Northschillyngforde with all belonging to it, both in lands and tenements and in the advowsons of Churches, in returns, and in all other matters; and from the gift of John de Toriton, the Manor of Haggeleg with all its appurtenances; and from the gift of Walter Fitz-Ivo, one virgate and a half of land in Newham; and from the gift of

Walter de Vesey, the land of Kyngswere with all its appurtenances," "quare volumus,"<sup>1</sup> &c., &c.

Thus we see that in the short space of four years the infant community had benefited much by the gifts of other donors in addition to those of their original founder.

William Briwere, or as he is usually called William, Lord Briwere, married Beatrice de Valle, widow of Reginald, Earl of Cornwall; he had issue by her Richard, his eldest son who died in his life-time; William, who died s.p. in 1232, and was buried in Tor Abbey; and five daughters.<sup>2</sup> Of the latter, Alice, the fourth, married Reginald de Mohun, and inherited Tor manor and other property upon the death of her brother William. Her father died in 1227, and was interred in the Abbey of Dunkeswell, which church he selected for his place of burial in preference to Tor, Polslo, near Exeter, or St. John's Hospital, at Bridgwater, all of which houses had been established by his pious munificence.

The first of the Mohun family in this country appears to have been William de Mohun, who came over with William the Norman, and in return for his services, had the Castle of Dunster and fifty-five manors, or lordships in the county of Somerset, besides other estates in Devonshire, Wiltshire and Warwick.

He was succeeded by his son William, who, with Agnes, his wife, gave the Church of Whichford to the Canons of Bridlington.

Another William followed, and fortified Dunster Castle on behalf of the Empress Maud, against King Stephen, and in consideration of his special services he is said to

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Cart., 2 John.

<sup>2</sup> Ante, p. 97.

have been created Earl of Dorset, a title which is not admitted by Heylin, although he allows that of Somerset which some have considered to have been his distinction.

He founded the Abbey of Bruton in the latter county and largely endowed it, and in its church he was buried. His son and successor, William, certified for thirty-six knight's fees, "de veteri feoffamento," and for four, "de novo" in 1165, 12 Henry II. He was also buried at Bruton. By his wife, the daughter and heir of Fleming of Ottery Fleming, in the parish of Luppit, subsequently, and to the present day known as Mohuns Ottery, he left issue Reginald de Mohun,<sup>1</sup> who married Alice, fourth daughter of William de Briwere, as I have already said.

Bankes,<sup>2</sup> says, and rightly, that their eldest son was called Reginald, but all else that he tells us about him, including the date of his death, which he states occurred in the 41 Edward III, 1367, does not apply to him at all, but to another Reginald, a younger son of a later member of the family, to whom I shall refer in due course. Nevertheless, he gives the descent from this Reginald, and otherwise confuses the succeeding portion of the pedigree to such an extent, as to make it altogether untrustworthy.

There is a very quaint narrative pedigree, in Latin, in existence,<sup>3</sup> entitled "Progenies Aliciæ quartæ filiarum et heredum Willielmi Brewer," a copy of which the late Dr. Oliver printed in his "Monasticon" of the Diocese,

<sup>1</sup> He became a ward of William de Briwere in 1224, according to Dugdale, but Bankes says that he married Alice Briwere in 1204.

<sup>2</sup> "Dormant and Extinct Baronage," vol. i, p. 374.

<sup>3</sup> *Vide* Arundel MS., fol. 37, b. I have followed this pedigree as far as it goes, but have filled up omissions in it from other sources.

and which I have been able to verify to some extent by reference to the Tor Abbey Cartulary. It commences with Alice de Brewer, and states, that to her portion fell the manor of Axminster, and that she married Sir Reginald de Mohun, Lord of Dunster, and that their son and heir was Reginald, who founded the Abbey of Nyweham, on Sunday, 8th of the Ides of January, 1246.

They had another son however, who is not mentioned in the pedigree, called William de Mohun, but his name occurs in the list of "the anniversarys of the founders of Newenham Abbey," which states that he died in 1265, and was a founder of the said monastery and brother german of the aforesaid Reginald.

This William de Mohun, must be especially mentioned here, because he inherited Tor upon the death of Alice his mother, and was lord of the manor which subsequently came to his elder brother Reginald in the following way.

William de Mohun was very anxious to found a new house for Cistercian Monks, but as his portion, that of a younger son, consisted of estates scattered over several counties, he proposed to his elder brother to give him the manors of Tor and Maryansleigh in Devonshire, and other property elsewhere, together with the patronage of the intended abbey, provided he would assign some convenient estate for its erection and endowment. Reginald at once consented to this proposal and permitted William to select one of three manors, viz., Minehead, Ottery, or Axminster. As the infant establishment was to be colonized from King John's establishment at Beaulieu, Acius, the third abbot of that monastery was invited

to select, and he fixed upon Axminster, a choice which was approved by Reginald and confirmed by the King, Henry III. After this Reginald de Mohun took up his residence at Tor, and conveyed Maryansleigh to the Prior and Convent of Barlinch in consideration of an annuity of £9 and upwards to be paid to him and his heirs.

In the Tor Abbey Cartulary is an agreement, dated March 1st, 1251, between Abbot Simon and the Convent of Torre of the one part, and Reginald de Mohun, Lord of Dunster of the other part, licensing the said Reginald to build a chapel in his manor house of "Thorre" ("suâ curiâ de Thorre"), for the use of himself and his family, no Sacraments to be administered therein or parochial rights exercised.<sup>1</sup> This manor house was situated behind the east end of the Parish Church of Tor; a few years since extensive remains of the foundations were still visible.

Reginald de Mohun, married first, Avis de Mohun, probably a cousin, and secondly Isabella Bassett. He died at Tor, and an interesting account of his last moments from the Register of Newenham Abbey, fol. 26, is included in Dr. Oliver's "Ecclesiastical Antiquities." He appears to have been attacked by severe illness at Tor, upon which he sent for a Franciscan Friar, called Henry, a Professor of Theology at the University of Oxford. The Friar arrived at Tor on a Wednesday, and duly received the sick man's confession. On the Friday morn-

<sup>1</sup> Tor Abbey Cartulary; Trin. Coll., Dublin, fol. 36, and Record Office Cartulary. Dr. Oliver, "Ecclesiastical Antiquities," vol. i, p. 206 gives the date (through a misprint), "Tuesday before Easter, 1241."

ing, when the Friar entered his patron's chamber the latter thus addressed him, "I have had a vision this night," said he, "I imagined myself to be in the Church of the White Monks, and was on the point of leaving it, when I was accosted by a venerable figure habited like a pilgrim, who thus addressed me, 'Reginald, I leave it to your choice whether you will come to me now, without hazard, or wait until the week next before Easter, exposed to hazard'; 'I replied, my Lord, I will not wait, I will follow you now,' but he said 'No, not as yet, but you shall safely join me on the third day.'"

The Confessor consoled the patient and retired to his own chamber, where he himself dreamed that he was in the said Cistercian monastery, and beheld a venerable person clothed in white conducting a boy more radiant than the sun from the baptismal font towards the altar; on enquiring whose beautiful child this was, the conductor answered, "This is the soul of the venerable Reginald of Mohun."

On the third day, Sunday, 20th January, 1257, Reginald, requested the Confessor to recite *Prime and Tierce*, as he felt his hour approaching. This the Friar did and then went to the Abbey Church to celebrate Mass. At the conclusion of Mass, he returned to the sick chamber in his vestments bringing with him the *Viaticum*. Reginald, then very weak, could not rise. There were about ten persons present and he said to them, "Why not assist me to meet my Saviour and Redeemer?" and these were his last words. The Monk gave him the Communion, and afterwards the extreme unction, and then the Priests and clerks recited the recommendation

of a departing soul. At the end of these prayers, Reginald being still alive, they began to repeat them, and whilst they were uttering the words "All ye Saints pray for him," he expired without a groan. His body was removed to Axminster, and buried on the left side of the high altar of the church of Newenham, "ultra stationem diaconi jacet Reginaldus de Moun principalis fundator."<sup>1</sup> His brother William, was laid to rest near him and on the same side in 1265. The tomb was opened seventy-five years after Reginald's interment, when his body, which had probably been embalmed, was found perfectly fresh and entire.

By his first wife, Avis de Mohun, he had a son and heir John; and by his second, Isabella Basset, who survived him three years, he had a younger son, William de Mohun, who inherited Mohuns Ottery. He is said to have married Beatrix, a daughter of Reginald Fitz-Piers, and to have left two daughters, co-heirs, Mary, married to John de Meryet, and Eleanor, who brought Mohuns Ottery and Luppit to her husband, John Carew. He died in 1280, and was buried in front of the high altar at Newenham.

John de Mohun, son and heir of Reginald, married Joan, another daughter of Reginald Fitz-Piers, and inherited Tor. He died in Gascony in the year, 1278, and his remains were brought to England and interred with those of his great-grandfather William, at Bruton,<sup>2</sup> but

<sup>1</sup> Registers, Newenham Abbey.

<sup>2</sup> I can find no record of his grandfather Reginald having been buried at Bruton, and it is very possible that he was interred in Tor Abbey with his wife's father, who was certainly buried there.

his heart was removed and buried close to the grave of his half-brother William, at Newenham, "sub parva petra." He left a son John, who was a minor and a ward of the Crown, "at the time the Justices itinerant sat in Devon." He was summoned to Parliament for the first time as Baron of Dunster, 27 Edward I, 1298. As third in succession to Reginald, founder of the Abbey, he is called in the Newenham Register, "Johannes de Mohun tertius," although only the second of his name. He is said to have discarded the "Maunch Erm.," which had been the arms of his family, in favour of "Or, a cross engrailed Sa.," and the latter coat is mentioned by Dr. Oliver, as still to be seen in the vaulting of the gateway of Tor Abbey, "Idem Johannes de Mohun tertius mutavit arma antiqua eorum qui solebant portare, manicam ermiatam. Iste Johannes tertius portavit scutum aureum cum nigra cruce engrellata." He married Auda, daughter of Sir Robert Tiptoft,<sup>1</sup> and had a family of eight sons and one daughter; he served frequently in the wars in Scotland, and died in 1330, 4 Edward III. His eldest son John, predeceased him by very many years and died in Scotland, leaving an only son John, successor to his grandfather, and two daughters, Margaret, married to John Carew, and Elizabeth, who died without issue. The other sons were, second, Robert de Mohun, who was Lord of Purbeck; third, Baldwyn, Rector of Bycheford; fourth, Pagan; fifth, Sir Reginald de Mohun; sixth, Patrick; seventh, Hervie; and eighth, Lawrence. The daughter, Eleanor, married Ralph de Wyleton.

Bankes, as I have noticed already, makes the last Sir Reginald, identical with the founder of Newenham Abbey,

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i, p. 335.



and the son of Reginald de Mohun, who died in 1213, and continues the line from him; but inasmuch as he admits that he lived until 1367, the error is the more incomprehensible. The further particulars as to his offices and marriages are equally inaccurate and untrustworthy.

John de Mohun, son of John and Auda Tiptoft, died as I have already remarked, *in vitâ patris*, and left two daughters and a son John, who succeeded his grandfather in 1330, being then a minor. He was under the guardianship of Henry Burwarsh, or de Burghursh, Bishop of Lincoln, who contrived a marriage between him and his niece, according to the Newenham Register, but she was most probably his grand-niece Joan, daughter of Bartholomew Burwash. Bishop Burwash, who succeeded to the See of Lincoln in 1320 by Papal provision,<sup>1</sup> was subsequently Treasurer and afterwards Chancellor of England. He seems to have been a very covetous man, one who used his power for the oppression of his neighbours. Shortly before his death he is said by his biographer,<sup>2</sup> to have enclosed a park at Tinghurst, and to have annexed for this purpose a good deal of land which did not belong to him; after his death which happened at Ghent, December, 1340, he is said to have appeared to "a certain noble who had lately become connected with him" (probably John de Mohun), dressed in a green tunic, with a bow and arrows in his hand and a hunting horn round his neck, and to have told him that by the inclosure of this park he had offended God and oppressed the poor, and that he was therefore doomed to act as guardian and ranger of the park, until the lands unjustly

<sup>1</sup> Le Neve, "Fasti," ii, 14.

<sup>2</sup> Godwin "De Præsulibus," 354.

annexed were restored to their rightful owners. He was therefore anxious that proper steps should be taken for this restitution in order that his soul might obtain repose. He was buried in his church, and at his feet were laid the remains of his brother, Sir Robert Burwash, and of Bartholomew, son of the said Robert, founders of a school at Lincoln, and this makes me think that Joan de Mohun was not his brother's, but his nephew's daughter, more especially as she is admitted in the Newenham Register to have been the daughter of Bartholomew, but who is said there to have been brother of the Bishop of Lincoln; and with this information the Newenham pedigree comes to an abrupt conclusion.

John de Mohun, "the fifth" (but the sixth in succession from Reginald de Mohun and his wife Alice Briwere), served frequently in France and Scotland during the reign of Edward III. By his wife Joan Burwash, he had three daughters, co-heirs; the eldest Philippa, married Edward, Duke of York, grandson of Edward III, who was killed at the battle of Agincourt, but had no issue; Elizabeth, was the wife of William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury; and Maud married John Lord Strange of Knocking. Elizabeth, had a son William, who was accidentally killed by his father in the tilt yard at Windsor. Maude, had also a son, Richard, whose son, John, left an only daughter sole heir. John de Mohun, had his last summons to Parliament, 47 Edward III, 1373, and about this time probably he died.

It was perhaps, because he had no sons to whom to leave his property that John de Mohun, as shown by the Tor Abbey Cartulary, granted to the Abbot of Tor all

his manor of Tor-Mohun, with the rent services, &c., &c. The deed is undated, but the gift was probably made in 1360, since in that year King Edward III confirmed for the fifth and last time the possessions of the Abbey of Tor, and a fresh confirmation from the King would most certainly have been sought for by the monks immediately after the acquisition of such an important property.

The uncle of the donor, Pagan de Mohun, referred to above, had evidently some interest in the property since he duly executed a release and quit claim of all his rights in Tor, to the abbot and convent. On the 1st August, 1362, Hugh de Courtenay granted to John Berkadon, certain messuages and tenements in Tor-Mohun, to enable him to grant the same to the Abbey with further assurances and releases of claims thereon; and in the same year a grant was duly executed by the said John de Berkadon, and John de Pyn in favour of the Lord Abbot, who now seems to have become possessed of the whole of the Tor property. The manor of Tor was valued at the dissolution at a little over £48 a year.

The manor of Tor-Mohun was surrendered into the King's hands by Simon Rede the last abbot, February 23rd, 1539, it remained in the hands of the Crown until the 7 Edward VI, and on the 24th February, 1553, it passed by purchase into the hands of John Ridgway and John Petre. The former was one of Abbot Rede's annuitants, and had been appointed one of the stewards of the Abbey about six weeks before its suppression.

Prince contends for the antiquity of the Ridgway family, and quoting from Pole's "Evidences" refers to "Matthew Ridgway, *alias* Peacocke, who was a feoffee

in trust to John Shillingford for his lands in the parish of Farrendon" in the year 1460.

That the John Ridgway under consideration was a relative, possibly the descendant of this Matthew, there can be little doubt, but there is no mention of the latter in the Visitation Pedigree of 1564, which commences with the former, who is there described as John Ridgway, *alias* Peacocke of Abbots-Careswell in Devon. He was probably the first member of his house of any social importance, and acquired his position by accumulating monastic property here and elsewhere upon very favourable terms. The grant made to him in conjunction with John Petre, 24th February, 1553, was in consideration of the sum of £458 6s. 8d. paid to Sir Edmund Beauchamp, Knight, and consisted of the whole manor of Odicknolle and Chamleigh, together with rights in Southwillberg and Egeynswell, lately belonging to Christ Church in Hampshire (sixty-four acres and a half of land in these Kings-Carswell estates with £3 12s. 2d. rent had been originally given to Christ Church by Hugh Courtenay, Earl of Devon in 1336). The manor of Tor-Mohun with all rights in the said manor; together with Halyngcombe, consisting of sixteen acres in the parish of Ley in Somersetshire, once belonging to the Gilde de Stokelake, otherwise Michell Stoke in Dowlding, Somersetshire, and an estate called Lamonfilde in the parish of Camerton in the same county, once the property of the Priory of Bath.

In the subsequent division with Petre, Ridgway seems to have fixed upon Tor, and to have settled upon a Grange, belonging to Tor Abbey, known as Tor-Wood which had formed a portion of the demesne lands and

had been granted to Sir Thomas Denys, June 25th, 1541.

John Ridgway, *alias* Peacocke of Abbots-Careswell, appears to have abandoned the latter name after he acquired the manor of Tor Mohun. The inscription on his monument in Tor-Mohun Church, tells us that he possessed the confidence of three Sovereigns, viz., Henry VIII, Edward VI and Queen Mary. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Wendford of Newton Abbot, and left issue an only son, Thomas, and two daughters, Anne, married to Robert Prideaux of Ashburton, and Margaret to Hugh Earth.

Thomas Ridgeway, or Ridgway,<sup>1</sup> as the name is spelt in the pedigree, married Mary, eldest daughter of Thomas Southcott of Bovey Tracey, and heir to her mother Grace, daughter and heir of John Barnehouse (of Marsh, near Crediton), and had issue eight sons and seven daughters. The eldest of these, Thomas, had a distinguished career, and his biography is given by Prince. He was High Sheriff of this county in the year, 1600, and in the same year received the honour of knighthood. He was employed in affairs of importance and trust in Ireland in the reign of James I, and was created a Lord of the Privy Council, Treasurer of War, and Deputy Treasurer of that Kingdom, and was the second person in this county upon whom the title of Baronet was conferred; the first Devonshire recipient of that dignity having been William, son of Sir Henry Maynard, Knight, who subsequently settled in Essex, and whose creation was dated, June 29th, 1611. In 1616, Sir Thomas Ridgway was raised to the peerage by the title of Baron

<sup>1</sup> Prince spells it Ridgeway.

Ridgway of Galen Ridgway, in the county of Londonderry, and in 1622 he was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Londonderry.

On November 18th, 1598, he purchased from Edward, son and heir of Sir Edward Seymour, the site and buildings of Tor Abbey, and appears to have repaired and adapted the latter for residential purposes. He married Cicely, daughter and co-heir of Henry Mac Williams, and had issue three sons, Robert, Edward, and Mac Williams, and two daughters, Mary and Cassandra.

Lord Londonderry died about the year 1620, and is buried at Tor. He was succeeded in his title and estates by his eldest son, Sir Robert Ridgway, Knight, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir Simon Weston, of Litchfield, and had with other issue, Weston, third Earl of Londonderry, who died April 4th, 1620. He married Frances, daughter of Sir Peter Temple, of Stow, and had issue Robert, fourth Earl, Thomas, Temple, Alexander, and three daughters.

The fourth Earl had an only son, Henry, Lord Ridgway, who predeceased him in 1708. His Lordship died in 1713, when the title became extinct, and the property passed to co-heirs. One of these married Arthur, fourth Earl of Donegall, but had no issue; the other Thomas Pitt, who in 1719 was created Baron Londonderry, and in 1726 Viscount Galen Ridgway and Earl of Londonderry. From the failure of issue all these titles became extinct in 1764.

The manor of Tor-Mohun was sold about the year 1768, by Arthur Chichester, nephew and heir of the fourth Lord Donegall, and who was advanced to the

Marquessate of Donegall in 1791, to Sir Robert Palk, Baronet, ancestor of the present Lord Haldon. The Ridgways had themselves long previously disposed of the Tor Abbey property.

In 1695, Robert, Earl of Londonderry, presented a petition to the "Worshipful John Manley, Esq.," Steward of the Stannary Courts of Devon, stating that on 10th April, 1695, he was seised of three several tin works, situate in the parishes of Tor-Mohun and St. Mary Church; that great quantities of tin ore were digged and thrown on the grass of the said tin works; that he had erected a stamping mill, and had expended upwards of £300 in his enterprise, but complained that Edward Cary, of Tor Abbey, Esq., and others had diverted the water course from the said stamping mill.

## CHAPTER XXVII.—PART II.,

## THE MODERN OWNERS OF TOR-MOHUN.

We have now traced the manor of Tor-Mohun into the family of its present owner, and we have seen, incidentally that in 1795, Tor Abbey, belonged to Edward Cary, from whom it has descended to its present worthy possessor. It may be as well however to show here how the Carys became its masters.

Henry VIII, by letters patent, dated January 20th, 1543, granted to John S. Leger, Esq., the dissolved monastery of Tor. John S. Leger, by deed dated, June 14th in the same year, granted it all to Sir Hugh Pollard. Hugh Pollard, the latter's grandson, by deed dated, April 2nd, 1580, conveyed it to Sir Edward Seymour, Knight. His son, Edward, eighteen years later sold it to the Ridgways, as I have shown. Weston, 3rd Earl of Londonderry, conveyed it in 1654 to John Stawell, of Indhio, in the parish of Bovey Tracey, and Mr. Stawell sold it to Sir George Cary, to whom I shall again refer, but it will be more convenient in the first instance to follow the fortunes of the Manor as I have done hitherto.

The accounts of the family of Palk, which have been hitherto published are all more or less incorrect or misleading. Our early historians, Sir William Pole, Westcote



and Risdon do not mention them, and the name does not occur in the several heraldic visitations of the County. Nevertheless Stockdale, *Baronetage 1806*, states that *they are descended from Henry Palk, who was possessed of Ambrook, in the County of Devon, in the reign of Henry VII, and adds: "Walter, the seventh in descent from Henry, married Abraham, by whom he had Robert, Walter (now member for Ashburton), and Grace."*

Lysons, writing in 1822, tells us that "the ancestors<sup>1</sup> of this family were resident in Devonshire, and possessed of Ambrook, in the parish of Ipplepen, about the end of the fifteenth century." Foster (*peerage 1882*), commences with "Sir Robert Palk, descended from Henry Palk, of Ambrook, Devon, 9 Henry VII, 1493-4."

Sir Bernard Burke, in addition to the Ambrook assertion, remarks that "Walter, seventh in descent, married Miss Abraham, and had Robert, Walter (*member for Ashburton*), and Grace."

An obituary notice of the late Lord Haldon appeared in the "Transactions Devonshire Association," for 1883. It perpetuates the preceding errors, which I have italicised, and introduces some fresh ones. The writer tells us, "the Rev. Thomas Palk, of Staverton, a celebrated Non-conformist divine and author of several treatises on the religious disputes of the period, died in 1693. *From him descended Walter Palk, the seventh in descent from the above named Henry Palk (of Ambrook), and father of the first Baronet. He was a member of Parliament for Ashburton, and married Miss Abraham. His eldest son, Robert, by his talents and address attracted the attention*

<sup>1</sup> "Mag. Brit.," Devon, i, cxvi.

and favour of the great Sir Robert Walpole, under whose auspices he went to India.

The late Dr. Oliver appears to have had an impression that Sir Robert Palk's father was *Parish Clerk of Ashburton*; and it was so stated, upon his authority, in an Exeter paper April 16th, 1880, and the statement was repeated in the same journal, March 29th, 1883.

There are numerous families of the name of Palk or Palke, who have resided in Little-Hempston, Staverton, and other neighbouring parishes from an early date, but they do not seem to have held any social position whatever, and were, without exception, as far as I can ascertain of the lower middle class, such as small farmers or agricultural labourers.

As to Ambrook, in Ipplepen, it, together with lower Ambrook, in the Parish of Staverton, belonged to the Neyles for nearly two hundred years, prior to 1822. Before this it belonged to the Sapcotes, as parcel of the Manor of Ipplepen, having been granted to John Sapcote and his heirs, male, at an early period.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, if Henry Palk was of Ambrook, as Foster says, 9 Henry VII, it must have been as a lease holder or tenant farmer.

The branch of the family under our immediate consideration, was settled for three generations at Ashburton prior to the birth of Sir Robert Palk, the first Baronet, and is said to have migrated there from Littlehempston. Walter "Palke" was buried at Ashburton in 1679, and he is the first I find mentioned in connection with this parish. He appears to have had a brother Thomas, and a sister Dionysia, who married Townsend, to her he leaves

<sup>1</sup> Register of undated Grants MS. Harl., 433.

£10 by his will, dated 5th November, 1677, and proved in the Peculiar Court of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, 19th December, 1679, and of which the following is an abstract.

5th November, 1677.--Walter Palke of the town of Ashburton, yeoman. To my sister Dionis Townsend, £10, and her life in all my lands lying in Ashburton, after the death of my wife Agnes. To my "cousin" Margaret, daughter of Dionis Townsend, Joan and John Townsend, £10 to the first and 50s. each to the two last.

To my cousin Walter, the son of Thomas Palke, *deceased*, reversion of the lands aforesaid, charged with 20s. a year to my cousin Dionis; residue to Agnes my wife, who is sole executrix. Witnesses: Thomas Palke, Agnes, William and Mary Hannaford. Proved 19th December, 1679.

The inventory of the effects of *deceased*, mentions *inter alia* the value of his wearing apparel, £1; money in his purse, 13s. 6d.; one pair of looms, 10s.; ten pewter dishes, 16s. The total of the personal effects amounted to £65 7s. 6d.

A certain Thomas Palke witnesses this will, and I find that Susanna Palke administers to the effects of Thomas Palke of Staverton, her husband, 3rd September, 1680. Matthew Palke is a party to the bond. Total £37 16s. 8d.

We now come to Walter Palke, mentioned in the aforesaid will as the son of Thomas, which Thomas *was dead* in 1677. Therefore this Walter cannot have been descended from Thomas Palk, the Nonconformist divine *who died in 1693*, as stated in the "Transactions of the Devonshire Association" already referred to.

The will of this Walter is dated February 22nd, 1705 ; he describes himself as Walter "Palk," senr. of Ashburton, and leaves to Walter "Paulk my eldest son, all my lands after the decease of his mother," charged with the following payments, £40 to Jonathan my second son, £30 to Thomas my third son, £30 to Grace "Palke" my daughter. Residue to Grace "my wife," who is sole executrix. Witnesses : John Smerdon, John Furseman, Robert Jerman. Proved, Peculiar Court, Dean and Chapter, Exeter, 22nd May, 1707. Personal estate £160 10s. 5½d.

The maiden name of his wife was Ryder, and in her right he acquired a small farm, called Lower Headborough, close to Ashburton. Her eldest son Walter, is described as of Headborough. He married Frances, fifth daughter of Robert Abraham, yeoman, of Gurrington, in the adjoining parish of Woodland (her elder sister Joan, married William Kennaway of Exeter, and was the grandmother of Sir John Kennaway); but he was never M.P. for Ashburton, as stated in the "Devonshire Association Transactions," since the first Palk who represented that Borough was "Robert Palk, Esq.," *vice* John Harris of Hayne, deceased, 7th December, 1767.

Walter Palk of Headborough, had two sons, first, Walter of Headborough and of Yolland Hill, born 1714, died 1801; second, Robert Palk, born 1717, created a Baronet, 1782. He had also a daughter Grace, who married Richard Welland, and had a son, Robert Palk Welland, who was instituted to the Rectory of Shillingford, with Dunchideock, 26th October, 1793.

Let us take the sons separately. We see that Walter

was the eldest son of Walter Palk and Frances Abraham, not the second as usually stated. His actual position is best explained in the words of his own son, the Rev. Jonathan Palk, Vicar of Ilsington, who writing about Sir Robert Palk, to his cousin, the Rev. Robert Palk Welland, Rector of Shillingford remarks "my father (his brother), was a little farmer with a large family; for him my uncle bought an estate which enabled him to live a credit to his brother and respected by his neighbours. He assisted my father to defray the expenses of my education at college and bought for me a church living. He was of Headborough and of Yolland Hill, the latter property being also in Ashburton parish. He was certainly never M.P. for that Borough, as stated by Burke and Stockdale. He married when twenty years of age at St. Martin's Church, Exeter, Thomasine Withecombe of Priestaford, another farm close to Ashburton, and in his marriage license he is described as of "Ashburton, clothier," so he was probably at first intended for this business. He married secondly, Mary Mugford, who died in May, 1793, he himself surviving until 1801. He had four sons, who all owed their success in life to their uncle's care and liberality, and two daughters, viz., Frances, who married William Fabyan of Ashburton, and Grace, who was the wife of James Mogridge. His eldest son, Walter Palk, was born in 1742. He ultimately bought Marley, in the parish of Rattery, and was High Sheriff of Devon, 1791. He married when forty years of age, Elizabeth Lyde, a descendant of the Rev. George Lyde, Vicar of Widecombe, 1636-1673, and one of Princes "Worthies," and in his marriage license, dated 15th

February, 1782, he is described as of "Ashburton, Serge Maker." He represented Ashburton in Parliament from 1802 to 1807, died 19th February, 1819, and was buried 2nd of the following March, at Rattery. He had two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth; the former died 1792, the latter married Sir Henry Carew, Baronet, of Haccombe, and was the mother of the late Sir Walter Carew, Baronet, who in her right inherited Marley. The second son, Robert Palk, born 1744, died on his way home from India. The third Thomas Palk of Butterford, returned from India in 1788, when one of his native Indian servants was burnt to death at Ashburton. A full account of the accident was given in Trewman's *Flying Post*, 27th November in that year. Both these sons left issue. The fourth son, Jonathan Palk, I have already incidentally mentioned. He was born 1761, and was baptised, according to a private N.C. Register kept by Mr. Peter Fabyan of Newton Abbot, November 9th in that year. His mother was Mary Mugford, his father's second wife. He was instituted to the Vicarage of Ilsington, near Ashburton, 1787, and died 1828.<sup>1</sup>

Robert Palk, second son of Walter Palk of Headborough, in the parish of Ashburton, and Frances Abraham, his wife, was baptized at the old Meeting House at Ashburton, 10th December, 1717, so that his parents were evidently Nonconformists. He was sent to the ancient

<sup>1</sup> A correspondent, one of whose connections married Mr. Palk's sister Frances, wrote me some time since, that he was at first Rector of Shillingford, which would accord with the remark I have quoted from his letter to Mr. Welland, to the effect that his "Uncle had purchased him a Church living." *He never was Rector of Shillingford, however*, and Ilsington is in the gift of the Dean and Canons of Windsor

Grammar School of his native town, and educated by the Rev. John Bayly, whose Episcopal license, as Head Master there, is dated 13th January, 1728. He must have shown evidence of great ability. Upon leaving the Grammar School he went to reside with a maternal uncle, a clergyman called Blachford, who resided at Fowey in Cornwall. Ultimately another uncle, Mr. Abraham of Gurrington, undertook the cost of sending him to Oxford, and he matriculated at Wadham, and obtained a Bible clerkship, but left the University without taking his degree. He was subsequently ordained Deacon, by Bishop Weston in Exeter Cathedral, and was afterwards for two years Curate of Egloskerry and Lanelly in Cornwall; he then went to India, as Chaplain on board the *Stirling Castle*, and during his clerical service in that country attracted the notice of General Lawrence, who in 1752 obtained an appointment for him as Paymaster and Commissary to the Army of which he had then assumed the command. But previously to this Mr. Palk had realized a considerable sum of money by judicious speculations, and he was now in a position which enabled him to save more; so that when he reached the age of forty he found that he had acquired a fortune. He greatly distinguished himself in the various diplomatic services in which he was subsequently engaged. He ultimately embarked in trade which proved lucrative. He came back to England for the first time in 1759, and in 1763, was appointed Governor of Madras. About this time he purchased Haldon House in the parish of Kenn, and on 7th December, 1767, was returned one of the Members of Parliament for his native town, the

other being Thomas Walpole. In the following year, 22nd March, 1768, both the sitting members were replaced by Charles Boone and Lawrence Sullivan, who kept possession of the Borough until 11th October, 1774, when "Robert Palk, Esq., of Haldon House," defeated Sullivan. Mr. Palk retained his seat for Ashburton in successive Parliaments until 18th June, 1790, when his son Lawrence was elected in his stead.

In 1775, General Lawrence died and left a very large sum of money, £80,000 to his old friend, who was afterwards created a Baronet, May 24th, 1782.

Sir Robert, then Mr. Palk, was married by special license at Shottesbrooke, Berks, 7th February, 1761, to Anne, daughter of Arthur Vansittart. He had issue by her one son, Lawrence, who succeeded him, and three daughters, Anne, who was married at Shottesbrooke, 16th March, 1786, to Sir Bouchier Wrey, Baronet; Catherine and Emilia. The two latter died in infancy and were buried at Greenwich, but their remains were afterwards brought to Dunchideock, and found a final resting place in the new family vault there, 10th May, 1787. Their mother, Lady Palk, was interred there, 26th August in the same year. Sir Robert Palk, died in 1798, and was buried at Dunchideock, on the 7th May. His will (dated 27th November, 1792) was proved in London. P.C.C., 3rd June, 1798.

Sir Robert raised himself to distinction entirely by his own exertions, and acquired his patrons by the same means, and in the midst of his own successes he appears never to have forgotten his friends; and records are still in existence of the assistance he rendered in India to his



kinsfolk the Kennaways, the Wellands, and the Abrahams, and also to "Eales" another old Ashburton name.

The arms granted to him, were Sa., an eagle displayed Arg. beaked and legged Or. a bordure engrailed of the second. Crest—On a semi-terrestrial globe ppr. an eagle rising as in the arms.

The continuation of the Palk pedigree from Sir Robert, will be found duly set forth in the various peerages, so I need only remark here, that his son, Sir Lawrence, second Baronet, M.P., for Ashburton, 1790-1796, had by his second wife, Lady Elizabeth Vaughan, a family of six sons and two daughters. One of the latter became the wife of her cousin, Lord Lisburne; the other, Elizabeth Mallet Palk, married at St. George's, Hanover Square, 15th May, 1818, Horace Beauchamp, third son of Lord Hugh Seymour, and grandson of the Marquess of Hertford, and was the mother of the present Lord Alcester, R.N., so created 1882.

The eldest son, Sir Lawrence Vaughan Palk, third Baronet, born in 1793, was M.P. for Ashburton from 19th June, 1818, until 5th May, 1831. He married Anna Eleanora widow of Edward Hartopp, and eldest daughter of Sir Bouchier Wrey, Baronet; marriage settlement, dated 9th December, 1815. He died in 1860, when he was succeeded by his eldest son, the late Sir Lawrence Palk, as fourth Baronet, who was raised to the peerage, 29th April, 1880, as Baron Haldon of Haldon, co. Devon. His lordship died on Good Friday, March 23rd, 1883, and was succeeded by his eldest son, the Hon. Lawrence Hesketh Palk, as second Lord Haldon. Upon the elevation of the late Lord Haldon, he had the usual

grant of supporters from the College of Arms—"On either side a native of Hindostan ppr. waist cloths and turbans Arg." The late Lord Haldon, as lord of the manor of Tor-Mohun, was at all times a liberal donor to its charities, and ever ready to promote by every means in his power both the moral and material welfare of the town. He continued the work commenced by his father, of erecting model dwellings for the working classes, and transferred the open and pleasant spot known as Ellacombe Green, to the town of Torquay as a free gift from himself and his eldest son. Under him the district of Tor was laid out as building sites for villas, and since these commenced, about 1868, the town has been steadily extending and increasing. He also constructed the outer harbour and new pier, at an outlay of about £70,000, which was completed in 1870, and as he himself said, he did not look so much for an immediate return, in carrying out such a large and costly improvement, as to the benefit it would confer upon the town at large, now that advantage had been taken of its splendid natural position as a yachting station. Further attractions were, under him, afforded to visitors by the provision of recreation grounds, such as Torwood Gardens, the public walks on the hillside, Daddy Hole Plain and the adjoining slopes, and the large piece of ground in the Upton Valley. He also gave the sites of the several new churches in Torquay, generously contributed to the cost of their erection, and in conjunction with his father provided an endowment of £150 a year for Upton. He also gave the site for the church at Ellacombe, and an annuity of £25 a year towards the endowment, and when it was determined to

purchase a house there for a Rectory, he readily gave the freehold of the house selected in furtherance of the scheme. The modern town of Torquay has arisen as the natural consequence of its romantic and almost unique position and surroundings; but it may safely be said that the inhabitants of the manor of Tor-Mohun never knew the meaning of the word prosperity until they came under the dominion of the house of Palk. Robert Palk's touch seemed to turn every thing into gold. He realized it for himself, for his children, for his relatives, for his friends and for his surroundings. He was an ancestor to look back upon, a fore-father of whom any family might reasonably be proud.

We must now turn our attention to Tor Abbey and the Cary family. The Carys have been a prolific race, and branches of them have from time to time settled in other counties besides Devonshire. The cradle of the family, however, appears to have been at Kari, a manor in the parish of St. Giles-in-the-Heath and on the borders of Cornwall. The first of the name on record is Adam Carye of Castle Carye, who married Amy, daughter of Sir William Trevit; the fourth in descent from him, Sir William Carye, Knight, married Margaret, daughter of Richard Bozume, and had issue Sir Robert Carye, Knight, whose wife was Jane, daughter and co-heir of Sir Guy de Brian. They had three sons, viz., Thomas Cary, Rector of Ashwater, named in an Inquisition taken 20 Richard II; Sir William Cary, M.P. for Devon, 1363-1368, who married Thomasine, daughter and heir of Richard Bosun of Clovelly (and as they had no recorded issue, it is probable that through this marriage,

the Clovelly property was acquired by the Carys, although it has been generally considered that it came to them by purchase); and Sir John Carye, Knight, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, who was attainted in 1387, and died in 1395. By his wife, Margaret Holleway, the Chief Baron, had a son and heir, Sir Robert Carye, Knight, who is described as of Cockington, and who recovered a portion of his father's sequestered estates. By his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Philip Courtenay of Powderham, he had no issue; but by his second wife Jane, daughter of Sir William Hanksford, he had Sir Phillip of Cockington, and Joan, wife of William Ayshford of Ayshford in the parish of Burlescombe.

Sir Phillip's son and heir, Sir William Carye, was born in 1427, and was beheaded after the battle of Tewkesbury. He was twice married, firstly, to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Powlett of Heanton St. George, and secondly, to Alice, daughter of Sir Baldwin Fulford of Great Fulford. By the latter he had a son, Thomas Carye, who married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Spencer, and was the ancestor, through his eldest son, Sir John Carie,<sup>1</sup> of the Lords Falkland; and, by his second son, William Carey (Esquire of the body to King Henry VIII, who married Mary, daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Boleyn, Earl of Wiltshire, and sister of Queen Anne Boleyn). He was the grandfather of the first Lord Hunsdon, and also of Robert Cary, created Baron Cary of Lippington and Earl of Monmouth; extinct 1661. Henry Cary, fourth Baron Hunsdon, was created Viscount Rochefort, 6th June, 1621, and Earl of

<sup>1</sup> I spell the names as I have found them in records.

Dover, 1627. The latter titles became extinct in 1677, but the Barony of Hunsdon was continued in the descendants of Sir Edmund Cary, a younger brother of the third Lord, and did not expire until 1765. By Elizabeth Powlett, his first wife, Sir William, had a son, Sir Robert Cary, who resided at Clovelly Court, and was buried in the church there in 1540. This Robert Cary, was thrice married, firstly, to Jane, daughter of Sir Nicholas Carew; secondly, to Agnes, daughter of Sir John Huddye or Hody, Lord Chief Baron; thirdly, to Margaret Fulkeram. By his second wife, Agnes Hody, he had issue, William Cary of Ladford, whose granddaughter and heir married Gregory Gay of Whitchurch. By his first wife, Jane Carew, he had John Cary of Cary, co. Devon, son and heir (whose descendants ultimately resided at Launceston), and Thomas Cary, second son, of Cockington. By his third wife, Margaret Fulkeram, he had a son, Robert, to whom he gave the Clovelly property, and his posterity resided there until these became extinct in the male line in 1724, when William Cary of Clovelly, was buried in Bristol Cathedral, 15th June; the manor was then purchased, by the Rolles, who sold it to Zachary Hamlyn, who was maternally connected with the Carys. I may remark here, that from a younger son of this branch, the Carys of Redcastle, Ireland, are derived, their immediate ancestor having been Recorder of Londonderry. Thomas Cary of Cockington, married Mary Southcott of Bovey Tracey, and was buried at Tor-Mohun in 1567. His son and heir, Sir George Cary of Cockington, was Lord Deputy of Ireland. He married Wilmot, daughter of John Gifford of Yeo, and had two

sons and two daughters, but they all died without issue ; one of the latter, Anna, married Sir Richard Edgcumbe of Mount Edgcumbe. His fourth son, John Cary, was of Dudley, co. Stafford, and married a daughter of Norton. Of his children, George, the fifth son, inherited a portion of the property of his uncle, the Lord Deputy, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Seymour, Baronet, and had a son and heir, Sir Henry Cary of Cockington, aged 7, in 1620, who sold Cockington to defray the expenses he had incurred on the king's side during the Civil wars.

Edward, the second son, is described in a pedigree approved by Richard Mawson,<sup>1</sup> Portcullis Pursuivant of Arms, 12th September, 1719, as "Edward Cary of Exeter." Under the will of his uncle, the Lord Deputy of which he was co-executor, he inherited a considerable amount of landed property, and is elsewhere mentioned<sup>2</sup> as of "Dungarvon, Ireland, and of Bradford, co. Devon." He was probably born at Exeter. He was knighted in Ireland by the Lord Falkland in 1625, and shortly afterwards established himself at Stanton Barton in the parish of Marldon. He was very much persecuted on account of his religious opinions, became noted for absenting himself from the parish church, and was soon denounced for declining to join in the Common Prayer of the Church of England. He was duly convicted as a recusant, 16th March, 1629. He for some time managed to elude

<sup>1</sup> Richard Mawson was twenty-eight years a Pursuivant, and constantly resided in the College. He died there on the very day of his promotion to the office of Windsor Herald, 2nd September, 1745.

<sup>2</sup> "Visitation of Devon," Vivian, 152.

the penalty of £20 a month, which had been inflicted upon him "until he conformed," and at length a writ was issued from the Crown Office and directed to John Davie, Esq., Sheriff of Devon, to proceed against him. An inquisition was accordingly held in the parish of St. Thomas, Exeter, 1st October, 1630, when it was found that the said Sir Edward Cary, was then "seized of land in the manors of St. Mary Church, Coffinswell, North-Lewe, Ashwater, Bradford, Abbotsham, Stockley, *alias* Meeth and Goodleigh, Estkimber, containing 90 acres; Middlelake, 41 acres; Morehouse, 91 acres; Dobles-Thorne, 53 acres; Gaston, 55 acres; 70 acres at Yeo in Allington; 53 acres in Cockington; 6 acres in Alverdiscott; 27 acres in Wistland, Cherybere and Delton; 97 acres in Parvacote; 120 acres in Westweeke and Bوندهouse in the parishes of Lamerton and Broadwoodwiger, and a third part of cottage at Bedyford."

The Crown was by law entitled to seize all the goods and chattels, and two parts of the aforesaid lands and hereditaments; but by letters patent under the Great Seal, 24th June, 1634, and enrolled at the Pipe Office, 20th October, the same year, King Charles forgave all the arrears, but at the same time leased the estates for forty-one years, at the yearly rent to the Crown of £136 13s. 4d., to Thomas Risdén and Christopher Maynard, to hold the same from Lady-day 1632. These lessees were, however, empowered to grant their lease of the whole or part of the said property to the said Sir Edward Cary, for his own use and benefit notwithstanding the statute, 3 James I, entitled "an Act for the better discovery and repressing Popish Recusants."

As long as the Crown rent was paid, the King directed that both Sir Edward and Lady Cary were to remain unmolested and to be released from all pains and penalties by reason of their past recusancy, or their future absence from church, chapel, or place of Common Prayer.

But unfortunately for Sir Edward Cary, upon the commencement of the Civil war, the Royal Indulgence was completely set aside, the Puritans attacked him with the greatest fury, and unrelentingly seized two-thirds of his income "for the good of the state," and on the 2nd June, 1652, an order was issued that "£50 be paid and allowed out of the impropriate Rectories of Marychurch and Paignton, sequestered from Sir Edward Cary, Recusant, for increase of maintenance of William Randall, Minister of Berry Pomeroy." He died in the midst of his troubles, 14th June, 1654, aged 80, and his wife, Margery Blackhurst, survived him but four days. They were both buried in the chancel of Marldon Church.

"And the wicked ceased to trouble for the weary were at rest."

Their third son, Thomas, was of Stanton. Their eldest, Sir George Cary, had been knighted by King Charles I, at Greenwich, 3rd July, 1632; and after the Restoration, he became in 1662 the purchaser of Tor Abbey. One of his younger sons, John Cary, accompanied the Queen Dowager Catherine, relict of Charles II, to Lisbon, in April, 1692, married a Portuguese lady and settled there. I believe that there are still descendants of this marriage in Portugal. His eldest son, Edward, inherited Tor Abbey, whose son, George, succeeded to the property, married the Hon. Ann Clifford, but had no issue. Tor Abbey then descended to George Cary, nephew of the



latter, being one of the sons of his brother, William Cary, who had married Dorothy, daughter of James Rowe<sup>1</sup> of Stoke Gabriel. The other son of this William, Edward Cary, purchased Follaton, near Totnes, and died in 1822, aged 87. George Cary (his elder brother), succeeded to Tor Abbey in 1758. In 1779, he formed the beautiful private chapel out of the remains of the ancient refectory of the Abbey. He died in 1805, aged 74. His eldest son, George Cary (Colonel of Volunteers during the French war), succeeded, and was the fifth of his name who possessed the Abbey. He died without issue in 1828, and the property descended to his nephew, Henry George Cary, who died in 1840, and was the father of the present respected owner, Robert Sheddon Sulyard Cary, who was born in his grandfather's London House, 65, Wimpole Street, on Sunday, 22nd June, 1828.

Mr. Cary gave the site of three-quarters of an acre in the Abbey Road for the handsome Church dedicated to Our Lady of the Assumption. Previously to this the Roman Catholic families of Torquay had been in the habit of attending the services at the Abbey Church. The foundation stone of the new Church was laid by Mr. Cary, 4th April, 1858, and it was built by subscription; an aisle and Lady Chapel were subsequently added. Mr. Cary also gave the eastern window. The Church was dedicated by the Right Rev. Dr. Errington, 17th February, 1854.

There are considerable remains of the ancient Abbey, and the grounds in which they stand are ornamented with avenues of limes, elms, and chestnuts. There were

<sup>1</sup> See vol. i, p. 205.

originally three gateways, but two of these have disappeared, one fell down towards the latter end of the last century. Under the vaulting of the remaining gate, may be seen the arms of the Abbey—Gu. a chevron between 3 crosiers—and those of Briwere, Mohun and Speke. Several arches and other portions of the Abbey Church, called in some old deeds the Church of “St. Saviour,” and in others, of the “Holy Trinity,” are still standing. The entire length of the fabric, which had a central tower, was about two hundred feet, and between the transept walls, it was ninety-six feet wide. The churchyard has been converted into an orchard and garden. An ancient fish-pond, referred to in several of the original charters, was filled up with the ruins of the tower and gateways; it was contiguous to the garden belonging to the Abbey mill. The barn has been converted into stables, and is locally known as the “Spanish Barn,” from the tradition that it was used as a prison at the time of the destruction and dispersion of the Spanish Armada.

It is apparently of second Pointed date. The entrance to the chapter house still stands, and the refectory has been converted into a domestic chapel, as I have already noticed; it is 52 feet long by 25 feet broad. The dwelling-house, which appears to have been built by the Ridgways, with old materials from the monastic buildings, and possibly includes some of them, consists of a centre with wings, and is connected with the gateway, which is castellated, and has octagonal towers and battlements.

Whittle, the Chaplain to the Prince of Orange, refers

to Tor Abbey in his diary under date of 5th November, 1688, "At the upper end of Torbay there is a fair house belonging to Mr. Cary a very rigid Papist, who entertained a Priest in his house. The Priest going to recreate himself on the leads on the top thereof, it being a most delightful day; as he was walking there, he happened to cast his eye towards the sea, and espying the fleet in the distance, being purblind in his eyes as well as blinded by Satan in his mind, he presently concluded that it was the French Navy (because he saw divers white flags), come to land the sons of Belial which should cut off the children of God, or, as *they* call us, Heretics—and being transported with joy, he hastened to inform his own disciples of the house, and forthwith they sang 'Te Deum.'" Whittle adds, that a false report had been circulated that Mr. Cary's people had fired upon some of the Prince's followers, who had consequently burnt down the house, but he says, "there was nothing at all in it for our people did not give them one reviling word nor they us. Some lodged there while we were in the Bay."

Torwood Grange, which after the Reformation was used as the Manor House, was built in the fourteenth century, on the site now known as Torwood Mount. It was probably enlarged and altered by Thomas Ridgway, when he made it his residence. In later times it was used as a farm house, and was pulled down in 1840. The new Manor House, on Lincombe Hill, was built by the late Lord Haldon in 1862.

The Church of Tor-Mohun, mentioned in the taxation of Pope Nicholas, 1291, as "Ecclia de Torre Bruere cum Capella de Cokinton," and of which Richard Briwere was

“the Parson,” at the period of the foundation of the Abbey, and which was afterwards served by a Canon from Tor, is an ancient structure, the earliest portions of which probably date from the latter end of the thirteenth or commencement of the fourteenth century. It consists of chancel, nave opening into north and south aisles beneath an arcade of four bays, a south porch, and an embattled tower containing three bells. At the western end was a gallery, removed in 1830, which was ornamented with shields of arms, Denis, Southcott, Cary, Ridgway, Copleston, Seymour, Stawell and St. Leger.<sup>1</sup> The church, the original length of which was 70 feet by 42 feet broad, was restored and re-seated in 1849, and the chancel was extended in 1874. There is a large Elizabethan tomb to the memory of Thomas Ridgway, father of the first Lord Londonderry, with his effigy in armour, the long Latin inscription is given by Prince; it is useful for genealogical purposes, and I have duly referred to it in my account of the family. The living is a Vicarage, with the new Church of All Saints attached, and the present Patron is the Bishop of Exeter. The Vicar, the Rev. H. W. Majendie, was instituted in 1884.

<sup>1</sup> I may here remark that the Ridgway arms, as tricked in the Visitation of 1564, are “Arg. on a chevron Gu. betw. 3 peacocks’ heads erased Az. ducally gorged Or, as many trefoils slipped of the last.” Prince remarks (edit., 1810, p. 701), quoting from Sylvanus Morgan, “Sph. of Gent.,” p. 107, that another coat was “taken up by Cambden Clarent King of Arms’s gift, An. 1605.” The real fact is, that in 1602, the Ridgways assumed the coat of Barnhouse, Sa., 2 wings conjoined Arg., which they were entitled to do through the marriage of Thomas Ridgway, who discontinued the *alias* of Peacocke, with Mary, daughter and heir of Grace, daughter and heir of John Barnhouse.

The parish of Tor-Mohun, now includes but 400 acres, with a population of 4,920. The rest of the ancient parish has been of late years split up into several Ecclesiastical Districts, viz., Ellacombe Vicarage, St. John's, St. Luke's with St. Michael's, St. Mark's Rectory, Torwood, Upton Rectory and Trinity P.C. Tor-Mohun Church is dedicated to St. Saviour. The Registers commence in 1628. The Rectory of Tor-Mohun was valued at the dissolution at £44 6s. 10½d. a year.

On the summit of a hill, 90 feet high, is the ancient Chapel of St. Michael, of the history of which nothing is known. It was probably a Votive Chapel, and it still serves as a sea mark. The exterior length is over 36 feet, whilst the interior is only 29 feet 6 inches. It has been suggested that the limestone rock on which it stands is the "Tor" from which the parish derives its name.

The design of this work will not permit me to enlarge upon the modern history of Torquay; accounts of its rise, progress, and present condition, will be found in numerous hand-books and directories. It seems first to have been brought into notice, as a residence, by the families of naval officers, who during the French war used the bay as an anchorage. The pier was commenced in 1840. Lysons writing in 1822, says "The beauties of its surrounding scenery have proved so attractive, that within a few years it has grown from a hamlet of scattered houses to a town of considerable population, and a market house is now building." Maton, visited it in 1797 and remarks,<sup>1</sup> "Torquay far exceeded our expectation in every respect. Instead of the poor uncomfortable village that we had

<sup>1</sup> "Western Counties," vol. i, p. 117.

imagined, how great was our surprise at seeing a pretty range of neat new buildings, fitted up for summer visitors, who may here certainly enjoy convenient bathing retirement and a most romantic situation. It commands a full view of Torbay, and is surrounded by a very bold amphitheatre of hills, from which the eye may command a prospect of astonishing grandeur and variety."

## CHAPTER XXVII.—PART III.

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## THE PARISH OF COCKINGTON.

An account of Tor-Mohun would be incomplete without some mention of Cockington, which is distant from it about three miles, since the Church of the latter was dependent upon the former, as a daughter Church, from a very early date.

In Saxon times the Manor of "Cochintone" belonged to Alric, and passed at the Conquest to William de Falesia. Not long afterwards all the lands of De Falesia went to the Martins, and Robert Fitz-Martin, Lord of Dartington, gave the Manor of Cockington, to Roger his younger son, afterwards known as "Roger de Cockington." William de Falesia held another Manor called "Depdon," as appendant to Cockington, and this may have been the hamlet now known as Chelson, which is included in the parish. But in his gift to his son, Roger, Robert Fitz-Martin excepted the Church of Cockington and two farthings of land there, which he bestowed upon the Abbot and Convent of St. Dogmæl, situated in his barony of Camois, in the county of Pembroke. Although the Church (or rather Chapel of Cockington) was dependent upon Tor-Mohun certainly as far back as 1291, yet it does not appear to have actually belonged to Tor Abbey until the year 1469, 9 Edward IV, in which year,

2 v<sup>2</sup>

on July 18th, the Abbot and Convent of St. Dogmæl, granted to the Abbot and Convent of Tor, the Chapel of St. George and St. Mary at Cockington, in consideration of the sum of £63 6s. 8d. to them paid and delivered. Previously to this, the land, &c., in Cockington, had been leased to the Abbot of Tor, for the yearly rent of 5s. by the said Abbot of St. Dogmæl. The latter had also from time to time several grants and privileges from the Cockington family; thus, in the 10 Edward II, James de Cokyntone granted them the privilege of drawing their nets in Livermead, and of drying them there as heretofore and of winding the cords there. Ultimately we find in the Tor Cartulary an undated deed, by which the Abbot and Convent of St. Dogmæl, convey all their rights in Kokinton to the Abbot of Tor. Then Roger de Kokynton gave to the Church of the Holy Trinity of Thorre, twenty-one acres upon the mountain called "La Windiete," as an appurtenance of the Chapel of Kokynton. This was probably in exchange for the two farthings of land within the manor previously mentioned, as in the other Cartulary, now at the Record Office is the "Carta Rogeri de Cokyntone de escambio terre de Cokyntone;" and afterwards there is a release from the Abbot of Tor of all the lands of Kokynton to Roger de Cokyntone for ever. There seems to have been a constant dispute between the Cockington family and the Ecclesiastics, as to their tenure and service for the land within the manor which had been given to St. Dogmæl, and afterwards transferred to Tor. As early as the time of Bishop Bartholomew, that Prelate is said to have endeavoured to adjust it,<sup>1</sup> and

<sup>1</sup> Risdon "Survey," p. 148.



the Abbot of Tor was probably glad to resign the contested land altogether, and to retain quiet possession of the Church which remained with the Abbey until it was suppressed in 1539.

There were six descents of the family of Cockington. The last heir male, Sir James Cockington, died in the early part of the reign of Edward III, when the manor came into the possession of Sir Walter de Noodland, Usher of the Chamber to the Black Prince. His widow afterwards held it as jointure. A market for Cockington on Mondays, and a fair for three days at the festival of the Holy Trinity had been granted to the lord of this manor about the year 1297.<sup>1</sup> They also had the privilege of granting Probate of Wills within their manor.

Sir John Cary was the next owner, and although he died attainted of high treason in 1395, yet his son, Robert, succeeded in procuring restitution of some of his lands, and resided at Cockington as I have already shown, and the property remained with the Carys until it was at last alienated by Sir Henry Cary. This gallant officer, who it will be remembered defended Kingswear Fort, at Dartmouth, against the Parliament until compelled to evacuate it by Fairfax,<sup>2</sup> was knighted by King Charles I, 27th July, 1644, and as Sir Edward Walker Garter, has remarked "He did his Majesty very faithful service." He sacrificed the greater part of his fortune to the Royal cause; and after the death of his wife, Amy, daughter of Sir J. Bagge of Saltram, who was buried, 16th June, 1652, he seems to have despaired of seeing better days in England, so he sold Cockington

<sup>1</sup> Cart. Rot., 25 Edward I.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. i, p. 349.

in 1654, to Roger Mallock, a goldsmith of Exeter, and having also realized the value of the manor of Paignton, he emigrated with his family to Virginia, where I believe some of his descendants still flourish. He survived the restoration of monarchy, but the date of his death is unknown. In the parish Register of Cockington, the baptisms of five of his children are recorded: Grace, 17th January, 1640; Edward, 9th June, 1642; Henry, 26th September, 1643; Richard, born 11th, baptized 27th April, 1646, and Hastings, born a month before his mother's death, 16th May, 1652. In the "Visitation of Devon," edited by Colonel Vivian, it is stated that this "Sir Henry Cary, died s.p."

Roger Mallock, or Mallack, came of a family which had long been settled at Rouse-Down, near Axminster, an estate which they had acquired by purchase from the Holcombes. Four descents of this family are given in the Visitation of 1564. The first mentioned there, William Mallack of Axmouth, Gentleman, married Agnes, daughter of William Newberry of Stockland, Dorset. Richard Mallock, fifth in descent from William (his brother of the latter name was Rector of Farway), married Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Tuckfield of Rad-don Court, in the parish of Thorverton, and had issue, Roger Mallack, or as his name has been since written Mallock, who appears to have come to Exeter, and engaged in mercantile pursuits, early in the seventeenth century. In 1625, he was a member of the Common Council, and in 1637 he was elected Mayor of his adopted city. He appears to have been favourable to the King's cause, although he did not probably take a very active

part in political matters, but he absented himself from the meetings of the Council after the death of the King, and in 1651, 22nd July, they adopted the following resolution, "That Mr. Roger Mallock who has absented himself for the space of the three last years or thereabouts, is dismissed and excluded from being henceforth a member of this Council."

The large house at Exeter in which he resided, is situated in the High Street, and is the corner house on the right-hand side of the entrance to Gandy Street. Here, by arrangement with the Council, he received the Judges, who however, in 1640, complained of their lodgings at Mr. Mallock's house, a complaint which it seems the Chamber considered unreasonable. The house must have been a very commodious one when in its original condition ; it extends far back into Gandy Street, and there are still remains of an extensive kitchen, whilst the old dining-room is decorated with carved wainscot, and the chimney-piece and a portion of the moulded ceiling still remain. The former has the Royal Arms with the initials E.R., the sinister supporter being a griffin, so that the house must have been fitted up before his time, but on one side are the arms of Mallock—(Per chevron Or and Sa. on 3 roundles 3 fleur-de-lis all counterchanged), which he probably substituted for some earlier shield when he became the owner of the property.

His son, Rawlin Mallock, was admitted to the freedom of the city of Exeter, 3rd October, 1681. He inherited Cockington, which, as I have said, had been purchased by his father from the gallant and unfortunate Colonel Sir Henry Cary in 1654. He was returned to Parlia-

ment as one of the Burgesses for Ashburton, 9th March, 1676-7, *vice* Sir John Fowell, deceased. Prince says that he died "near about the year 1690," and in corroboration of this, I find that he was returned for Totnes in 1688, and that in 1690 he was superseded by Henry Seymour. Prince also says, that he "new builded the house," at Cockington, "enclosed the park, wall'd round a warren and large gardens, fitted up the ponds, and made it as gentele and commodious a dwelling as most in this county." By his wife, Elizabeth Collins, he had a son, also called Rawlin, who was born 1680-1. His descendants have continued ever since at Cockington. Richard Mallock of Cockington, made his will, 3rd September, 1753, proved 17th November, 1763. The will of Rawlin Mallock of Cockington, was proved 1st April, 1779.

The Rev. Richard Mallock of Cockington, married Mary, daughter of John Mudge, M.D., of Plymouth. His son, the Rev. Roger Mallock, presented Rawlin Mallock to Tor-Mohun, with Cockington, 5th September, 1825, and exercised the same right in favour of William Mallock, 23rd February, 1835.

The present owner of Cockington, is Richard Mallock, Esq., M.P., being the eldest surviving son of the late Charles Herbert Mallock of Cockington, by Maria, daughter of the late Arthur Champernowne of Dartington. Mr. Mallock formerly held a commission in the Royal Artillery.

The parish church is situated in the grounds of Cockington Court, and is a Perpendicular building, consisting of chancel, nave and north and south aisles, and a tower containing three bells.

The Church has undergone careful restoration during the last few years, the windows have been re-glazed and the existing fragments of ancient stained glass have been duly preserved. The screen still remains, finely carved stalls of oak have been placed in the chancel, and the chancel-roof has some carved bosses. An old doorway at the west end of the north aisle has been re-opened as well as the ancient door which formerly afforded access to the rood-loft. The whole cost of the repairs have been borne by Mr. Mallock, with the exception of the lectern and fald-stool. The Vicarage house was built in 1882, on a site given by the lord of the manor.

The Rectory of Tor-Mohun, with the chapelry of Cockington, was leased by Queen Elizabeth for life, to George Cary. In 1607 it was granted in fee to Sir Oliver Cromwell, Knight of the Bath, who was the uncle of the Protector, Oliver Cromwell. Cockington is now a Vicarage, in the patronage of Mr. Mallock, and the present Vicar is the Rev. T. S. Rundle, who has a good residence and one acre of glebe. The area of the parish is 1,208 acres, and the population at the last census numbered 358. The parish Registers commence, baptisms in 1628, marriages and burials in 1632.

By indenture, dated, 11th September, 6 James I, Sir George Cary, Knight, granted to Edward Seymour, Esq., and others and their heirs, an annual rent of £30, to issue out of the Manors of Cockington and Chilston, immediately after the death of the said Sir George Cary, in trust for the reparation of the alms-houses at Cockington which he had newly built, and to provide the inmates of them "with a weekly stipend of twelve pence

each, and with a new frieze gown and a new smock or shirt yearly at Christmas." These alms-houses which stood exactly in front of the manor house, were removed in 1806, by the Rev. Roger Mallock, with the consent of the Trustees, and that gentleman then built seven new houses in the village, at an expense of between £300 and £400, towards which £150 was allowed him by the Trustees, as the sum which would have been required to repair the old houses, which were in a dilapidated condition. Seven poor parishioners have the benefit of this charity.

George Baker, by will proved P.C.C. in the year 1800, left the interest of £75, to be distributed by the minister, churchwardens and parishioners at their discretion "amongst the poor, sick, infirm, aged, or otherwise afflicted or unhappy, of the parish of Cockington, of either sex, or of any age or religion."

## CHAPTER XXVIII. PART I.

## ST. MARY CHURCH.

St. Mary Church, in the Hundred of Haytor, the Deanery of Ipplepen and Archdeaconry of Totnes, is about one mile and a half distant from Torquay, of which it now forms a suburb. The parish extends over 2,589 acres, and the population in 1881, amounted to 4,189.

There are two manors of this name referred to in Domesday, and they appear to have been adjacent to each other; the first of these is called in the record "The Church of St. Mary," "Aecclesia Sancte Marie," which belonged to the Bishop of Exeter, and rendered geld for two virgates, of which the Bishop held one in demesne. The manor had been set apart for the sustenance of the Canons of Exeter, as we are told in the Exeter Domesday, whilst the Exchequer copy affords us the additional information that Staverton, Ide, and Dawlish had been appropriated to the same purpose.

The second manor is called "Sancte Marie Cherche." Ordulf held it in the Confessor's reign, and at the Conquest it passed to Robert, Earl of Mortaine, under whom it was held by Richard, the son of Torol. It rendered geld for one hide, which four ploughs were able to cultivate. In demesne were two ploughs, and three serfs,

and five villeins, and eight bordars, and one acre of meadow ; " formerly " it was worth 20s., and at the period of the Survey it had doubled in value.

There has been always a prevalent tradition that the Church of St. Mary was one of the earliest in Devonshire, and this is in some sort substantiated by the fact that it is the only manor in Domesday to which the word " Church " is affixed ; although, on the other hand the latter circumstance may have originated the tradition.

In the reign of Henry the Second, Robert de St. Mary Church, held the manor which had belonged to the Earl of Mortaine, who was not, as Lysons suggests, a descendant of Richard, son of Torol, but a son of Richard Redvers, first Earl of Devon, of whose family, I have spoken in a previous chapter.<sup>1</sup> From Robert de St. Mary Church, the manor descended to Amicia, probably his grand-daughter, who married Maurice de Rouen. " Amicia " de St. Mary Church, for the good of her own soul and of that of Maurice, her husband, gave three pounds of wax yearly, with her body when she might happen to die, to the Abbot of Tor. The funds requisite to supply the wax, were to issue out of her Manor of St. Mary Church.

According to Westcote's pedigrees,<sup>2</sup> Sir Thomas Chichester, third in descent from Walleran Cirencester, or Chichester, who did homage to William de Ralegh, for the Manor of South Pool, 22 Henry III (1237), married " Avicia " de Rotomago, who brought to her husband the Manors of Tedwinstone and Restercomb, and levied a fine for them, 8 Edward II (1314). In the

<sup>1</sup> Ante vol. i, chap. 3, part 2.

<sup>2</sup> " View of Devon," p. 605.



Tor Abbey Cartularies, are the grants of "Avicia" de Seyntemarichurche, of one firling of land there, and of "Amicia," of one furlong with a water course, and of the same of three pounds of wax yearly, all in favour of the Abbot of Tor. The three pounds of wax to be provided yearly from the date of her death.

William de Chichester, or Cirencester, son and heir of Sir Thomas and Avicia de Rouen, was Lord of the Manor of St. Mary Church. In the 19 Edward III (1345), James, Lord Audley, owned this manor, which he had probably acquired by purchase; he died, 9 Richard II. He was succeeded by his son, Nicholas, by his first wife, Joan, daughter of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, who died without issue, 15 Richard II (1391). By his second wife, Isabel, daughter and co-heir of William, Baron of Malbank, co. Chester, James, Lord Audley, had two other sons, Rowland and Thomas, who also died childless; therefore his three daughters became co-heirs, and of these, Joane, eldest daughter by the first marriage, married Sir John Tuchet, Knight, whose grandson was allowed the title of Audley, and Margaret, the only daughter by the second marriage with Isabel Malbank, became the wife of Fulke Fitz-Warine. This lady had the Manor of St. Mary Church for her portion, and from her it descended to her great-grandson, Fulke, Lord Fitz-Warine, who died in 1407 leaving two children, Fulke, his successor, who died without issue 1420, and Elizabeth, wife of (Sir) Richard Hankford,<sup>1</sup> who, upon her brother's death, inherited the barony. She had two daughters, Elizabeth, who died without issue, and Thomasine, who

<sup>1</sup> Described in the pedigree as "Richard Hankford, Esq."

became sole heir, and married Sir William Bouchier, summoned to Parliament, 27 Henry VI (1448), as Lord Fitz-Warine. His grandson, John, was created Earl of Bath, 1536. John, Earl of Bath, sold the Manor of St. Mary Church, to John Ford of Ashburton and Bagtor in the parish of Ashburton. This John Ford had a grant of arms to him and his descendants from the Heralds' College in 1524, of a rather complicated character, viz., p. fesse Arg. and Sa. a greyhound in chief and an owl in base within a bordure engrailed, all counterchanged. Crest—A demi Martin Or charged with a bend cotised Sa. thereon, 3 acorns of the 1st betw. two oak branches vert laden with apples of the 3rd.<sup>1</sup> He died, 7th May, 1538. His son and heir, George Ford, sold St. Mary Church to Sir George Cary of Cockington, from whom it descended to his unfortunate nephew, Sir Edward Cary, who was so much persecuted for his religious opinions in the reign of Charles I, and during the Protectorate. It has since continued in the family, and the present owner is Mr. Cary of Tor Abbey.

The manor already referred to as having been held by the Dean and Chapter in St. Mary Church, has been known in modern times as "Comb-Pafford." They sold it under the powers of the Land Tax Redemption Act, to John Savery, who re-sold it to Sir Lawrence Palk, the second Baronet, and it is now the property of Lord Haldon.

The Manor of Ilsham, which in Saxon times was the property of Berus (or Bere), passed at the Conquest to William, the king's "Hostiarius" and paid tax for one hide. This manor was held under the said William, by

<sup>1</sup> Coll. Ar. H. 18, fol. 56.

a sub-tenant called "Roger," and ultimately came into the hands of the Pomeroy family, who sold it to the Briweres. William Briwere, the son of the founder of Tor Abbey, conveyed it by deed of gift in October, 1180, to the Abbot and Convent of Tor, together with Colleton, and it remained with them until the dissolution. In the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" it is bracketed with Shiphay and Torwood, and these three estates then formed the demesne lands of the Abbey, and were valued at 21s. a year. After the dissolution, it seems to have passed like the rest of the Abbey property, through various hands and now belongs to Lord Haldon. Dr. Oliver notices a tower still standing on this estate, which he suggests was "not improbably intended for a priestly recluse." Its original use can only be a matter of conjecture, but it is quite as likely that it merely formed a portion of the grange buildings erected by the Abbey. The Ilsham barton, which includes about 350 acres of land, has been farmed for three generations by the Bartlett family, and Mr James Salter Bartlett now resides there.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Bartletts have been long resident in St. Mary Church and the surrounding district. John Bartlett held land in the Manor of St. Mary Church as far back as 1475, as shown by the Manor Court Rolls. Then again, the names of John Bartlett, Senr., and Roger Bartlett, Junr., occur in a grant from the Abbot of Tor in 1520. Jacob Bartlett held a very large number of scattered fields in St. Mary Church in 1775. He resided at Westhill House, and married Mary, daughter and heir of the Rev. James Salter, Vicar of the parish. (The Salters show a descent from Edward I, through Buller, Trethurfe and Courtenay). Jacob Bartlett's fifth son, William Bartlett, settled at Ilsham, whilst a daughter, Elizabeth, born 1760, married John Bartlett, a son of Thomas Bartlett of Marldon, and was the mother of John Adams Bartlett of Liverpool, and also of Grace Freeman Bartlett, who married her cousin,

In the Domesday Survey there are four manors alike written Coletone, one of these passed from Alwin, the Saxon owner, to Juhel de Totnes, under whom it was held by Ralph de Pomeroy, and as William Briwere obtained the manor in this parish now known as Colleton Shiphay *from the Pomeroy's*, I think it very probable that the latter may thus be identified. William de Briwere included it, together with his body, in his gift of Hesham to the Abbot of Tor in 1180 "totam terram meam de Eylsham et de Colaton," for the good of his own sons and for those of Joan his wife, the Lord William his father, Beatrice his mother, and of all his ancestors and predecessors. He was buried in the Abbey Church in 1232. One of the documents in the Tor Cartulary shows that William Briwere the elder had himself owned Collatone.

Thomas, son of Nicholas Adams Bartlett of Ludbrook, in Ermington, and of Marldon, both in this County, and had issue the Rev. John Moysey Bartlett of Ludbrook, who has recently assumed the additional name of "De Ludbrook" and has altered the spelling to "Bartlet." In a MS. catalogue entitled "Arms of Devonshire Gentry," in the Plymouth and Cottonian Library, there is a trick of arms, entitled "Bartlet of Exon and Marldon, 1689," which are blazoned, Quarterly per fess indented Arg. and Gu. 4 crescents counterchanged. These arms, however, were never admitted at any of the Devonshire Visitations, and they seem to have belonged to, and been returned by, the Bartletts of Castle Morton, co. Worcester together with a pedigree of six descents at the Visitation of Worcester in 1569, and they had originally adopted them in right of marriage with the daughter and heir of Stephen. No connection is probable between the Bartletts of Devon, and the Castle Morton Bartletts, and a fresh grant was made by the Heralds' College to John Adams Bartlett of Liverpool, above-mentioned, who died in 1855, "Quarterly Arg. and Gu. 5 lozenges conjoined in fesse betw. 4 crescents all counterchanged."

In the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* it is written Collaton, and the entry in respect of it shows that the manor was valued at £9 10s. 3½d. a year.

Shiphay is mentioned quite distinctly. It formed, as I have said, a portion of the demesne lands and had a Grange upon it. It was worth at the dissolution £7 16s. 4d. per annum. Its subsequent history is similar to the rest of the Abbey property, it passed through various hands and at length became the property of the Lears of Lindridge. Peter Lear, a West Indian merchant was created a Baronet in 1683, with remainder to the sons of his brothers, John and William. The title became extinct by the death of Sir John Lear, the third Baronet, in 1736. His daughter and heir married Sir Thomas Tipping, Bart., of Oxfordshire, and after his death Thomas Comyns, ancestor of the Rev. G. T. Comyns of Wood, in Bishops-Teignton. now Vicar of Sidbury. The manor of Collaton with Shiphay was purchased of the representatives of Lear, in 1742, by William Kitson.

I have already briefly referred to this family in my account of the parish of Ashprington<sup>1</sup> and have remarked that "a seal to a deed executed by William Kitson, of Painsford, in 1729, is engraved with the arms of Kitson of Hengrave." For this information I am indebted to a relative of the present owner of Shiphay who, in a letter to me of the 26th January, 1883, says: "there is a tradition in our family that we are a branch of the same family as the Hengrave Kytson." At Shiphay there is an old parchment indenture of a lease, or something of that sort, signed by the father of the man who bought Shiphay,

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i, p. 309.

thus: Will O Kitson, died 1729. The impression of the seal between the Christian and surname has a coat of arms corresponding to the coat of arms given in Gage's book. Now there is a seal at Shiphay with a coat of arms engraved on it, the only one in the family; but the crest on the seal (which is the crest we all use, viz., a Griffin's head) does not correspond with the impression on the indenture and with the picture in Gage's book.<sup>1</sup> In these latter the crest is a Unicorn. The question is how is the difference to be accounted for in the two crests? My idea is that subsequently to the date of the indenture somebody had a seal made taking the impression on the lease as a copy, and the impression being indistinct, the engraver took the crest for a Griffin's head instead of a Unicorn's."

Sir Thomas Kitson, of Hengrave Hall, county Suffolk, was a London tradesman, who accumulated a great deal of money, and of whom Mr. Froude says: "The magnificent Hengrave Hall had then been completed by Sir Thomas Kitson, mercer of London (1538), and Sir T. Kitson was but one of many of the rising merchants who were now able to root themselves on the land by the side of the Norman nobility—first to rival and then to slowly displace them." He acquired property in this county at Tor-Brian, as I have fully explained in my history of that parish,<sup>2</sup> and I need not repeat the particulars I have there given about him. It will be sufficient for the present purpose to state that Sir Thomas Kitson, of Hengrave, left a posthumous son, Thomas,

<sup>1</sup> "History of Hengrave Hall," Suffolk.

<sup>2</sup> "Ashburton and its Neighbourhood," p. 150.

who was also a Knight, and who left no male issue; he had however, two daughters co-heirs, Margaret, who married Sir Charles Cavendish, and Mary, the wife of Thomas (Lord Darcy) Viscount Colchester. Therefore the Kitsons, of Shiphay, cannot be descended from Sir Thomas Kitson, of Hengrave. The grant of arms to Kitson, 1568,<sup>1</sup> is limited to *Thomas Kitson, of Hengrave, and his posterity*. In this year, Thomas Kitson obtained an alteration in the original coat which had been granted to his father in 1527. The new coat may be thus blazoned, Sa. 3 lucies haur, Arg. a chief Or. Crest—a Unicorn's head Sa. issuant from a demi sun Or. It was nearly similar to the original coat and crest, but in the latter, certain charges which had encumbered these were abandoned. It will be seen that as these armorials were limited to Sir Thomas and his posterity, they should not have appeared upon the indenture executed by William Kitson in 1729. Sir Thomas Kitson had paternal relatives and one of these, Gervase Kitson, or Kytson had a son, Thomas, who was a servant of Lord Shrewsbury's as shown by the Will of Sir Thomas Kitson the younger, dated 20th June 1601, who calls him his kinsman, and states that he had sold him the Manor of Stoke Michell in Somerset. He may have been, as Gage suggests, the ancestor of the Devonshire Kitsons, but even if this descent could be proved, it would of course give them no right whatever to the arms or crest of Sir Thomas Kitson of Hengrave. From William Kitson who executed the indenture I have referred to is descended Mr. W. H. Kitson the present

<sup>1</sup> "Coll. Ar. Grants," Dethick, 162, fol. 93.

owner of Shiphay. One of the sons of the William Kitson who purchased Shiphay in 1742, was Henry Kitson, Grocer, of Exeter, Mayor of that city, 1765. He married in 1801 the daughter of Philip Lane of Lapford. In the Episcopal Registers I find a caveat lodged, July 8th, 1769, "Let no license be granted to Rawlin Kitson to marry Hannah Mackentoshe of Totnes, till notice be given to Henry Kitson of Exeter, Grocer." This Rawlin Kitson being his half brother.

There is a manor in this parish written in Domesday Alwynelancaville, which, from the Saxon Letwyn, passed at the Conquest to Ralph de Pomeroy. Risdon tells us that it was anciently the property of "Guido de Agevilla, Knight, and in the beginning of King Henry the Third's reign, Sampson Foliot was lord thereof whom succeeded Sir Fulk Ferrers, Knight, by Lucia his wife." The Abbey of Tor had subsequently rights in it, and after the dissolution all these "appurtenances and rights were sold by Edward VI, 24th February, 1553, to John Ridgway and John Petre." The Southcotes whose fortunes originated through the accumulation of monastic property, were long the owners and sold it in moieties in 1773 to the Necks, who had the manor house, and to the Codnors. The Rev. Aaron Neck and the grand-daughters of Mr. Richard Codnor were the owners in 1822, but since then the property has been divided amongst several owners. It is now known as Edginswell.

Babbacombe<sup>1</sup> Barton was formerly a seat of the Heles

<sup>1</sup> In a paper read at St. Mary Church in 1886 ("Trans. Devon Asson.," vol. xviii, p. 158), the author mentions an early deed wit-



and passed with other property to the Mays, from whom it was purchased by Lord Clifford. Babbacombe now belongs to Mr. Cary, but a large portion of the barton to Mr. Brown who is lord of the manor of Dacombe.

The Parish Church is a modern edifice in the Decorated style of Pointed architecture and was rebuilt in 1861, with the exception of the tower, which was restored in 1873 in memory of Dr. Phillpotts, Bishop of Exeter, 1831-1868, who usually resided here at Bishopstowe, and is buried in the churchyard. It contains eight bells cast in 1676. There is an excessively ancient

nessed by Richard de Babecombe, and remarks "This is the first mention I have met with of Babbacombe. The name occurs again in the Cartulary with regard to some Abbey property in Hennock, where we meet with *Quicta clamacio Martini de Babbacombe capellano de Beydon*. This dispute with this clerical native of Babbacombe seems to have been satisfactorily settled, for the next entry is 'Confirmacio Johanne de Babcomb de terra de la Flode.' Thus we have three Babbacombe natives, Richard, Martin and John, and Martin was a priest." How did the author of this paper arrive at such a conclusion? The Latin bears no such construction and *should* be translated, the quit claim of Martin de Babbacombe to the Chaplain of Beydon. Then again, Johanne de Babecombe does not mean John, but *Johanna de Babcombe*, who was *not* a native of Babbacombe, but merely the wife of Martin de Babbacombe, who, as he was a legally married man, it is reasonable to suppose, was *not* a priest. Nevertheless his wife, Johanna, was the daughter of Nicholas, Vicar of Chudleigh, whilst the Chaplain of Beydon was *not* called Martin, but Adelard. In folio 6 of the Tor Abbey Cartulary is the grant from Martin de Babbacombe to Adelard, Chaplain of Beydon, of all his claims in the free dower of his wife in la Flode with warranty, and also a release from the said Johanna de Babbecumbe, the daughter of Nicholas, Vicar of Chuddlegge to the said Adelard, of all her right as of dower in the said land of la Flode. See also ante, p. 147, *et seq.*

font, which is figured in Dr. Oliver's "Ecclesiastical Antiquities," vol. i, p. 184 ; for some years it was inverted and the original top was buried in the ground. The upper portion, which rests upon an octagonal base, is circular and is ornamented with a band or moulding consisting of seven oval rings intersecting each other and filled with rude carvings in relief. The old Church was of Perpendicular date, length 111 feet, breadth 43 feet, and the height of the tower 69 feet. The north and south aisles were entered by an arcade of three bays, the capitals of the six supporting pillars on the north side were boldly carved, whilst those on the south side were plain. The only ancient inscription was in the south aisle in memory of Margaret, wife of John Holbrine and daughter of William Fowlett ; she died 11th May, 1526, and her daughter, Margaret, was buried the same year. The Registers commence in 1641.

Like Tor-Mohun, the necessities of recent years have occasioned the division of St. Mary Church for Ecclesiastical purposes. Babbacombe was formed into an Ecclesiastical parish in 1867 ; St. Matthias, Ilsham, which includes a portion of Torquay in 1880. At Barton, half a mile north, is a Mission Church dedicated to St. Augustine.

The present Vicar of St. Mary Church is the Rev. A. Bouchier Wrey, who holds it with Coffinswell. He has a good residence and an acre and a half of glebe. The patrons are the Dean and Chapter of Exeter.

## CHAPTER XXVIII. PART II.

—  
THE PARISH OF COFFINSWELL.

Coffinswell is dependent upon St. Mary Church and is situated about three miles North-east of Torquay; it includes 1126 acres of land, and its inhabitants at the last census numbered 196. Of the two Manors written *Wille* or *Willa* in Domesday, one belonged to Archbishop Aldret in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and, at the period of the survey, was held by a certain Knight called *Grento*, under the Abbot of Tavistock. There can be no doubt that this was identical with Coffinswell because at the dissolution the Abbot and Convent of Tor still paid a chief rent to the Abbot of Tavistock of 13s. 4d. per annum for their Manor of Dacombe, situate within this parish in which they also held other property all included in the *Valor* under the head of Dacombe.<sup>1</sup> After the Knight "*Grento*," the property was held successively by the families of Ferrers and Foliot and ultimately came to the Coffins, who possessed the Manor of Alwington, in which Portledge is situated, towards the end of the eleventh century. Robert Coffin, of Coffinswell, had a son, Robert, and after his death without male issue, the whole of his property was divided amongst his

<sup>1</sup> In the paper previously referred to "*Trans. Devon Assoc.*," vol. xviii, p. 162, the Manor of *Welle* appears to be incorrectly identified.

co-heirs.<sup>1</sup> Two shares of Coffinswell were purchased by the Abbot and Convent of Tor, and, one of the other co-heirs having died without issue, the other moiety came by marriage to the Scobhulls, and afterwards by successive alliance to Holbride (not Holbeme, as Lysons says), Marwood, Cole and Prideaux. In 1822 it was the property of Sir Henry Carew, Bart., in whose family it still remains.

The Manor of Dacombe was at an early date held by a family who took their name from it. In the reign of Henry III., Jordan de Dacombe conveyed it, together with a tenement in Holrigge to the Abbot of Tor, and there are numerous documents in the Tor-Abbey Cartularies, relative to the three properties, Welles Coffyn, Daccumbe and Holrigge, which are all mixed up together. The latter, however, is situated in the parish of Ideford, and appears to have been given to the Abbey by Petronilla de Holrigge, and there is a license for holding these lands in Mortmain, dated 14 Edward I. There is also a quit claim of Jordan de Dacombe, and another of Thomas de Dacombe, in favour of the Abbot and Convent in respect of the land of Holrigge, which did not however belong to the Abbey at the dissolution, but

<sup>2</sup> See Risdon "Survey," p. 139, for further particulars as to these co-heirs.

The last heir male of Coffin of Portledge, died in 1766, when his sister's son, Richard Bennett, took the name of Coffin and died without issue in 1796; then the representation of the family became vested in the Rev. John Pine, whose great-grandmother had been the elder daughter of Richard Coffin, who died in 1699. Mr. Pine took the name of Coffin in 1797 by sign manual and hence the present family of Portledge.

had come many years previously into the hands of the Worthes, either by sale or exchange, and I find from the Episcopal Registers<sup>1</sup> that a license was granted April 17th, 1419, to "William Werthe and his wife, Elizabeth, for a chapel or oratory within their mansion of Holryg, within the parish of Yddeford." The Worthes held this Manor until the year 1702.

In 1539 the property of the Abbot and Convent in Coffinswell, included under the head of Dacombe, was valued at £28 9s. 7d. a year, from which was deducted the sum of 13s. 3½d. paid as chief rent to John Abbot of Tavistock, and his successors.

In the "Computus Roll" 32nd Henry VIII., is the following entry:—"Nuper Monasterium de Torre, Dacombe Redditus liberorum tenencium £1 8s. 4d., Redditus customariorum tenencium £13 6s. 4½d., Firma berton—£8 13s. 1½d., Firma manerii, &c., £32 1s. 9d."

The last Abbot of Tor, Simon Rede, leased to Thomas and Jane Lange an estate called Westbroke, and the road beyond "Claysacre, within our Manor of Dacombe," 30th November, 1538; rent 36s. 8d.; fine £15 6s. 8d. He also on the 9th January, 1538-9, leased the court-house and court garden to John and Jane Godridge, yearly rent 11s. 8d., and on the 28th of the same month and year, an estate in "Daccomb" called "Noleacre" to John and Jane Long; rent 26s. 6d. Gregory Baker of "Dackham" in the parish of St. Mary Church, by his will dated 10th January, 1558; proved 28th April, 1559, made his daughter, Sydwell, sole executrix; personalty £56 7s. 4d.

<sup>1</sup> "Stafford,," vol. i, fol. 246.

A moiety of the Manor of Dacombe belonged in 1822, to John Eastley of Paignton, the other moiety was in severalties. Mr. H. E. Brown now owns this property and is lord of the manor.

Coffinswell Church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and is generally of Perpendicular date, although there are some traces of Early English work remaining. It includes chancel, nave opening into a north aisle by an arcade of four arches, and a western tower containing four bells, two of which are ancient, the other two are dated 1626 and 1637. On the south of the chancel is a small Chantry Chapel. There are also remains of an aumbry or locker, and the font is Early English. The tower is embattled. The Church was re-seated with open benches in 1871. This Chapel was given to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, by John de Daccumbe.<sup>1</sup>

The Parochial Registers commence—baptisms, 1560 ; marriages, 1566 ; burials, 1561.

The Curate of Coffinswell has a residence built in 1866. The parishioners have a right of sepulture at St. Mary Church, except such as have a family right within the walls of their own chapel, and as an acknowledgment they were wont to supply the Mother Church with bell ropes when required. There is a piece of ground around the Church at Coffinswell which has been used for interments since 1825, but it is stated in White's "Devonshire" that it has never been consecrated.

<sup>1</sup> Amongst the deeds found in the Cathedral archives in the time of Bishop Bronescombe, one was entitled "Carta Johannis de Daccumbe de capella de Wylla concessa capitulo Exon." Oliver "Ecc. Ant.," vol. i, p. 185.

There is a small glebe of a quarter of an acre, which is referred to in an ancient deed, to which attention was drawn by the Rev. Prebendary Barnes in a lecture he delivered at St. Mary Church in 1864. It belongs to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, and it appears from it that this small spot of land was the gift of William, the son of Galfrid, who conveyed it to Ilbert the then Priest of Coffinswell, in consideration of one silver mark and one native palfry, and in ratification thereof placed his sword on the altar of the Church of St. Bartholomew at Willa, at the Vigil of Pentecost, 1165. Baldwin is mentioned as then Archdeacon of Totnes; William was Chaplain of Kingskerswell, and Bartholomew was Bishop of Exeter. There is also mention of Nicholas of Dacombe.

## CHAPTER XXVIII. PART III.

## THE PARISH OF KINGSKERSWELL.

This parish sometimes written Kings-Carswell is distant about a mile from Coffinswell, and was also dependent upon St. Mary Church. In 1881 there were 1,009 parishioners and the area of the parish is 1,773 acres.

The Manor belonged to the Crown at the period of the Domesday Survey, and was held by the King in demesne. Shortly afterwards it was granted to Robert de Mount Chardon,<sup>1</sup> then it belonged to John la Droun, who was succeeded by his son, Hamelin de Draiford.<sup>2</sup> It subsequently escheated to the Crown. "Henry II granted it to the Countess Dionisia, who died at Egg Buckland in the reign of King John, without issue,"<sup>3</sup> when it was given to Henry Fitz-Count, and on his death also without issue, to Nicholas, Lord Mules, Sheriff of Hampshire, 12 Henry III. It remained with this baronial family until the death of John de Moels, or

<sup>1</sup> Risdon, p. 138.

<sup>2</sup> Lysons "Mag. Brit.," vol. ii, p. 95.

<sup>3</sup> So says Lysons, who states that the descent of the property is given from the Hundred Roll. The lady was probably, Avicia (some call her Alice de Doll), widow of Baldwin de Redvers, fourth Earl of Devon. She afterwards married Andrew de Chauvens, by command of Richard I, and died s.p.



Mules, 11 Edward III, 1337, when his daughter and co-heir, Muriel de Moels, married Sir Thomas Courtenay, and brought him this manor. Sir Thomas died in 1356. His son, Hugh died s.p., and his youngest daughter, Muriel Courtenay, married John Dinham, and had Kingskerswell for her inheritance. John, Lord "Dynham," who was summoned to Parliament, 6 Edward IV, and died, 17 Henry VII, 1501, without surviving issue; had four sisters co-heirs, Elizabeth, married Fulke, Lord Fitz-Warren, and afterwards Sir John Sapcote; Joan, the wife of John, Lord Zouche; Margaret, whose husband was Sir John Carew, and Catherine, the wife of Sir Thomas Arundel.

The Manor of Kingskerswell remained for some time in severalities amongst the descendants of these co-heirs. In Sir William Pole's time one fourth of the manor belonged to Smyth by inheritance from his grandfather, Sir George Smyth, who had purchased it. Sir Thomas Putt, died seised of a moiety of the manor in 1686, and in 1710 the whole was vested in Sir Henry Langford, who devised it to Thomas Brown, from whom it descended to Henry Langford Brown with reversion to his brother, Thomas Langford Brown. The present lord of the manor is Hercules Edwin Brown, Esq., who resides at Barton Hall.

I have already referred to the Manor of South Whilborough, Odicknoll and other property in this parish, in my account of Tor-Mohun. There are still some remains of the old residence of the lords of the manor in the valley at the foot of the village.

The Church dedicated to St. Mary, is mentioned in a

deed executed between 1258 and 1280, by which it was granted by Thomas Perer to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter. It consists of chancel, nave, north and south aisles separated from the nave by five arches, north and south porches, with a parvise over the former, and a tower containing five bells. In the chancel, sedilia and a piscina are still remaining.

There are some particularly interesting recumbent effigies in this Church, one the figure of a man in a pointed helmet, mail gorget and surcoat, is without doubt a Dinham, and probably Sir John Dinham, who married Muriel Courtenay. The four fusils in fesse Erm. of Dinham, are very distinct on his surcoat. Another effigy, which has been considered to be his wife, is robed in a long gown with an embroidered stomacher, this has been considered to represent Muriel Courtenay, but as she *has a coronet* on her head, which Muriel Courtenay was not entitled to wear, I think it very probable that it was intended to represent the Countess of Devon, already mentioned. In another part of the Church is a figure of a lady with a reticulated head dress, two angels at her head and a wyvern at her feet. Lysons has engraved the first two, and ascribes them *all* to the fourteenth century. Of late years these figures have been much tampered with, and when I saw them they were coated with whitewash and had been placed in the window sills.

In 1267, Roger de Moels obtained of King Henry III, a market and fair for Kingskerswell.

The Church was re-seated in 1834, and in 1874 the chancel was restored by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners,

and other repairs were effected at the same time. The Registers of baptisms and burials previously to 1702 have disappeared. Those of marriages commence in 1712.

The living was separated from St. Mary Church in 1828, and the Rev. Aaron Neck became the first Incumbent. The Vicar of St. Mary Church still retains the patronage of the Vicarage, and the present Vicar is the Rev. A. H. Walker. He has a good residence and nine-and-a-quarter acres of glebe. Mr. Neck built the Vicarage in 1836, and he also built a school for sixty children, and provided a portion of the glebe, five acres of which were left by Philippa Creed in 1726. The present National schools were built in 1858.

The poor participate in the gift of John Peter, already more than once referred to, and have 20s. a year out of the great tithes of Cornworthy.

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*Note on the Courtenay label.*—The Editors of a local antiquarian publication entitled "Notes and Gleanings," Exeter, December 15th, 1888, give at page 179, a woodcut of the arms of Courtenay quartering Redvers, and remark in a foot note, "*The label is omitted in the illustration. It does not appear to be clearly known when this label was introduced into the Courtenay arms nor with what notice, possibly it was a difference assumed by the first possessor of Powderham.*" "Ne sutor ultra crepidam!" Sir Philip Courtenay, the first of Powderham, was a younger son, and a younger son, at the latter end of the fourteenth century, would scarcely have *adopted* the distinctive mark of the elder. Sir Philip used *his father's* label and differenced it with nine plates. The first Courtenay who adopted the use of the label was Hugh de Courtenay, created Earl of Devon in 1335. This is clearly shown by the arms round the Courtenay tomb, date 1381, in Exeter Cathedral. These shields commence with that of Joseceline de Courtenay, d. *circa* 1125, therefore the arms, "Or, 3 torteaux," must have been attributed to

him long after he died. William de Vernon, *alias* de Redvers, sixth Earl of Devon, died 1207, used a seal with these identical bearings, together with the label, as I have clearly shown in my recent work "Practical Heraldry," p. 194. Robert de Courtenay, married his daughter, and this Robert de Courtenay who died in 1242, was probably the first of the family who had authorised armorial bearings. Gibbon remarks, vol. xi, p. 307, that "the primitive arms of the Courtenays, 'Or, 3 torteaux,' seem to denote their affinity to Godfray of Bouillon and the ancient Counts of Boulogne," but William de Redvers, descended from the Norman Dukes, was *certainly* of affinity to Godfray of Bouillon, since they were both descended from Charlemagne, so it is possible that he and *not* Courtenay first adopted these bearings and that they were subsequently assumed by the latter in virtue of the marriage with Mary de Redvers.

THE END.

## GENERAL INDEX.

- A.
- Abberbury, Sir Richard, i, 231  
Acland, Arms of, ii, 16; Sir John, ii, 23  
Adams, i, 35; of Bowden, i, 306; Sir George, i, 43; Arms of, i, 47  
Albemarle, i, 2, 3  
Albemarle, Duke of, History, ii, 169  
Aldret, Archbishop of York, ii, 196; Crowns William the Conqueror, ii, 197  
Alianor, Queen of Edward I, i, 2  
Alianor, Queen of Henry III, i, 2  
Alianor, Countess of Pembroke, i, 3  
Alured, Brito, ii, 87  
Alwin, ii, 86  
Alwine, the Thane, i, 123, 125  
Amadas, i, 9  
Ames, i, 42  
Amicia, Countess of Devon, i, 2, 3, 4, 57, 84  
Archdeacon, Arms of, ii, 132  
Arscott, Rev. John, i, 137  
Arundell, John, i, 12; Richard, i, 12, *note*; Roger, ii, 55  
Arundell Family, ii, 56; Memorials, ii, 76  
Ashprington, Parish of, i, 301  
Awdyan, Alexander, ii, 21; Arms of, ii, 16  
Ayshford of Wonwell, i, 180
- B.
- Babbacombe, ii, 364  
Babbicumbe, Joan de, ii, 147; Martin de, ii, 147, 365, *note*  
Bagge, Gertrude, i, 12; Sir James, i, 12  
Baker, George, ii, 354; Gregory, ii, 369
- 3 A
- Balcull, William, Memorial of, ii, 124  
Baldwin de Brion, i, 78, ii, 144; Account of the Family, i, 79; Earl of Devon, i, 2  
Bale, Joseph, i, 16  
Banham, Abbot of Tavistock, i, 258  
Barbadoes, i, 16  
Barber, Walter le, ii, 91  
Baring, Sir Thomas, i, 76  
Barnhouse, Arms of, ii, 48  
Barnstaple, i, 16  
Bartletts of St. Mary Church, ii, 359  
*note*  
Barton Family, i, 17  
Basset Family, ii, 168  
Bastard, Edmund, M.P., i, 311; of Kitley, i, 312; Robert, i, 121  
Bayly, John, i, 42  
Beauchamp of Elmley, ii, 172  
Beaumont, Arms of, ii, 132  
Bellamy, Rev. A. P., ii, 228  
Bertie, Albemarle, i, 15; Emma, i, 15  
Bevil, Arms of, i, 47  
Beydon, Chaplain of, ii, 147, 148, 149  
Bickeridge, i, 4  
Bickham, i, 31, 111  
Bickington, i, 1  
Bickleigh, Sir John, i, 7; Parish of, i, 1; Vicarage, i, 30; Sir William, i, 7  
Blachford, Lord, ii, 225  
Blackhaller, Henry, i, 311  
Blanchard, Richard, i, 145  
Bogan, Family of, ii, 71  
Boleyn, Queen Ann, ii, 336  
Bolhay, or Bulley Family, ii, 267; Arms of, ii, 267  
Boone, Memorials of, ii, 5; of Mount Boone, i, 364; Thomas, ii, 27  
Boothe, Arms of, ii, 155

- Borland, Rev. R. S., ii, 227  
 Borington, Lord, i, 10  
 Boteler, John, ii, 205  
 Bovey, North, Parish of, ii, 162  
 Bowden, Barton of, i, 304; Family of, i, 304, 305  
 Bradestone, Walter de, ii, 58  
 Bradley House, Armorial at, ii, 296  
 Braose, William de, ii, 34  
 Bray, Mrs., Her letter to Author, i, 146  
 Brent Hill, Ruins on, ii, 210; Inq. as to Boundaries, ii, 210; South Parish of, ii, 207  
 Brewer, Genealogy of, ii, 97  
 Brictrie, i, 1  
 Brion, Baldwin de, ii, 144  
 Bristol, i, 13, 14  
 Britiza, or Brit, Arms of, ii, 88  
 Briwere, Arms of, ii, 132; Joan de, i, 66; William de, Account of, ii, 89; William, ii, 310  
 Brixton, Heir of, ii, 151  
 Broadhempston, ii, 31  
 Brooke, Sir James, Rajah of Sarawak, i, 52  
 Brown, H. E., ii, 370, 373  
 Brown, James, i, 16  
 Bryan, Arms of, ii, 15  
 Bryant, Rev. F. J., i, 156  
 Buckfastleigh Abbey, ii, 207  
 Buckland Abbey (Modern House), Relics of Drake there, i, 90, 91  
 Buckland Monachorum, Parish of, i, 77  
 Buckyat Family, ii, 68; Arms of, ii, 69  
 Buller, Anthony, i, 7; Rev. Anthony, i, 166; cf Morvill, i, 162  
 Burdon Pedigree, ii, 252; Arms of, ii, 253  
 Burrator, i, 53  
 Burrows, John, i, 119  
 Burwarsh, Henry, Bishop of Lincoln, ii, 317  
 Bury, or Bickleigh, i, 35; Arms of, 47  
 Bushel, Robert, ii, 286; Genealogy of, ii, 287  
 Butler, i, 7; Anthony, ii, 236
- C.
- Cadworth, i, 6  
 Cantilupe, ii, 31; Family, ii, 40; William de, ii, 33  
 Carpenter, Arms of, ii, 271  
 Carrington, Memorial of, ii, 247  
 Cotton, Rev. W., i, 143  
 Carwithen Family, i, 319; Arms of, i, 323; Rev. George W., i, 320  
 Cay, Pedigree of, ii, 335, *et seq*; of Clovelly, ii, 337; of Cockington, ii, 338; of Follaton, ii, 341; of Redeastle, ii, 337; of Tor Abbey, ii, 335, 340; Edward, ii, 323; Sir Edward, ii, 340; Sir Henry, ii, 349; His issue, ii, 350; R. S.S., ii, 341  
 Chafy, Rev. W. K. W. C., i, 247  
 Chamberlain, Rev. F. T., ii, 51  
 Chambers, Alderman, i, 37  
 Champernowne, i, 8, *et seq*; Arms of, ii, 15  
 Chard John, i, 42  
 Charles I, King of England, i, 12, *note*  
 Charles II, King of England, ii, 20  
 Charter, Rev. John, ii, 29  
 Cheney Pedigree, ii, 16; Sir William, ii, 59  
 Chichester, Arms of, ii, 55; Family of, ii, 356  
 Cholwich, Arms of, ii, 16  
 Chudleigh, i, 4; Arms of, ii, 155; Account of Family, ii, 221 *et seq*  
 Cider, Devonshire, i, 117  
 Clapham, i, 17, *note*  
 Clare, Gilbert de, i, 2  
 Clarendon, Lord, i, 12; Cliffe, Thomas, ii, 9  
 Clifford, of Chudleigh, ii, 262; Pedigree of, ii, 254; Family Vault of, ii, 259  
 Clifton, Borough of, i, 333

- Clist, Sir G. de, ii, 145  
 Cockey, i, 311  
 Cockington, Parish of, ii, 347 ;  
     Church of, ii, 352  
 Codnor, ii, 364  
 Coffin of Coffinswell, ii, 367 ; of  
     Portledge, ii, 368, *note*  
 Coffinswell, Parish of, ii, 367 ;  
     Church of, ii, 370 ; Glebe land,  
     ii, 371  
 Cole, i, 34 ; Rev. W. S., ii, 215  
 Coles, William, i, 22  
 Coleshill, Arms of, ii, 15  
 Collacombe, i, 209  
 Colunpton, i, 2, 3  
 Comyns, Rev. G. T., ii, 361  
 Cooper, Rev. John, i, 219  
 Creed, Philippa, ii, 375  
 Coplestone, i, 12, 14 ; Coheir of, i,  
     31 ; of Warleigh, i, 37  
 Cornish of Gatcombe and Ashridge,  
     ii, 73 ; Memorials of, ii, 77  
 Courtenay, Arms of, ii, 15, 132 ;  
     Courtenay, ii, 174 ; Earldoms, ii,  
     175, *note* ; Label of, ii, 375,  
     *note* ; Egeline de, ii, 88 ; Eusta-  
     chia de, ii, 285 ; Her descent, ii,  
     303 ; Arms of, ii, 303 ; Hugh  
     Lord, i, 65 ; Marquess of Exeter,  
     i, 162 ; Matilda de, ii, 96 ;  
     Muriel de, ii, 373 ; Sir Piers, ii,  
     262 ; Sir Reginald, i, 83 ; Regi-  
     nald, Earl of Devon, ii, 122 ;  
     Robert de, ii, 95 ; Vicounts, ii,  
     120 ; Courtenays, i, 363  
 Crapthorne, i, 41  
 Creber, i, 42  
 Crispin, Richard, ii, 58  
 Crocker, Sir John, ii, 305 ; of  
     Lynam, i, 36 ; Arms of, i, 47  
 Crook, Rev. C. H. i, 51  
 Cruse, i, 9, 11, 20  
 Cruse Morchard, i, 9  
 Crymes, i, 42 ; arms of, i, 115 ;  
     License to eat flesh meat, i, 117 ;  
     Richard, i, 110  
 Culling, Richard, ii, 205  
 Culme, Arms of, ii, 16
- D
- Dabernon, i, 251  
 Dacombe, Jordan de, ii, 368  
 Dakyn, Rev. W. Y., i, 48  
 Damarell Family, i, 161  
 Dartmoor, *see* Lydford, i, 231  
 Dartmouth, History of, i, 326 ;  
     Arms of, ii, 17 ; Charter, i, 338 ;  
     Confirmation of, i, 340 ; Letter  
     from Fairfax, i, 348 ; List of  
     Prisoners at, i, 351 ; St. Saviour's  
     Church, ii, 7 ; Siege of, i, 345  
 Davies, i, 42  
 Davy, Rev. R., ii, 194  
 Davies, Richard, ii, 28  
 Dawney Family, i, 363  
 Day, John, i, 4  
 Dean, i, 15, 22  
 Dedesham, i, 4  
 De la Will, i, 9  
 Denbury, Parish of, ii, 195  
 Devon, Amicia Countess of, i, 2, 3 ;  
     Earl of, i, 2 ; Earldom of,  
     i, 66 ; Isabel Countess of, i, 2, 3  
 Dinham Family, ii, 373 ; Sir  
     Robert, ii, 184  
 Dogmæl, St., ii, 348  
 Doll, Alice de, Countess of Devon,  
     ii, 372  
 Doidge Family, i, 297  
 D'Oyly, ii, 34  
 Drake, Arms of, i, 46, 107, ii, 15 ;  
     Sir Francis, i, 36 ; Account of,  
     93, *et seq.* ; 3rd Bart, i, 142 ;  
     Joseph, i, 12 ; Pedigree of, i,  
     100 ; Thomas, i, 36 ; Sir Trayton  
     i, 106  
 Drewe, Edward, Serjeant-at-Law, i,  
     310  
 Dunning, John, Lord Ashburton,  
     i, 73  
 Dutton, Hon. John, i, 368  
 Dyer, Rabbidge, ii, 28  
 Dymock, ii, 150  
 Dynham, Arms of, ii, 374 ; John,  
     Lord, ii, 373 ; Memorials of, ii,  
     374

## E.

Eastley, John, ii, 370  
 Edgecumbe of Edgecumbe, Family of,  
 i, 253; Lamerton, i, 201; Earl  
 of Mount Edgecumbe, i, 257  
 Edward I, King of England, i, 7  
 Edward II, King of England, i, 2  
 Edward III, King of England, i, 7  
 Edward, Prince, i, 3  
 Eggescumbe, Peter, i, 33  
 Elizabeth, Queen of England, i, 337  
 Elford, i, 12, 25, 31; Arms and  
 Impalements, i, 47; Memorials,  
 i, 46; Pedigree, i, 33; Portraits,  
 i, 43  
 Elliott, Sir Gilbert, of Stobbs, i, 113  
 Ellis, Arms of, i, 372  
 Endsleigh, i, 289  
 Englishville, Theobald de, ii, 286  
 Ensor, Rev. F. ii, 193  
 Esse, Ralph de, i, 209  
 Evesham, i, 19  
 Exeter, Arms of the See, i, 20

## F.

Fabyan, William, ii, 329  
 Fereby, Arms of, i, 372  
 Ferrers, Arms of, ii, 132; of Chur-  
 ston, ii, 289  
 Fitz, Sir John, i, 10, 14, 20  
 Fitz Charles, Earl of Plymouth,  
 i, 267; Arms of, i, 368; Lord  
 Dartmouth, ii, 15  
 Fitzford, i, 10  
 Fitz-Payne, ii, 145  
 Fitz-Stephen, i, 361  
 Fleming, John, ii, 29  
 Flode in Hennoek, ii, 147; Richard  
 de la, ii, 147  
 Ford, Grant of arms to, John, ii,  
 358  
 Fontescue, i, 37; of Milton Abbot,  
 i, 251; Arms of, ii, 15; Family  
 of, i, 197; Memorials of, i, 221;  
 Thomas, ii, 23

Fortibus, Isabella de, i, 57  
 Fowler, Bishop of Gloster, i, 30  
 Franco Family, i, 16, 19  
 Froude, of Denbury, ii, 200  
 Fry, of Yarty, i, 132  
 Fulkery, Gregory, ii, 69  
 Fuller, Rev. M., i, 247  
 Furlong, i, 36

## G.

Gale, Arms of, ii, 158, Mary, i, 38  
 Gamon, Arms of, ii, 14  
 Gandy, Dr. John, ii, 214  
 Gatecombe, ii, 70  
 Gaverocke, John, ii, 100; Family  
 of, ii, 100  
 Gibbons, Rev. T., i, 156  
 Gifford, Geoffrey, ii, 283; Sir  
 Walter, i, 197; Walter, ii, 243  
 Gilberd, John and Otho, ii, 305  
 Gilbert, *alias* Vicary, ii, 205; Dr.,  
 Archbishop of York, i, 257  
 Giles, Sir Edward, i, 306  
 Gillman, Rev. J. F. N., ii, 160  
 Gipps, Sir Richard, i, 306  
 Gloster, Gilbert, Earl of, i, 2  
 Gloucester, i, 1  
 Gnatham, i, 70  
 Godolphin, i, 13  
 Golden Key, Fleet-street, London,  
 i, 14  
 Good-a-Meavy, i, 139  
 Gourney, John, ii, 28  
 Grandisson, i, 4  
 Gray, Rev. W. A. G., i, 144  
 Gregory, i, 35; Arms of, i, 46  
 Grenfield, Arms of, i, 371  
 Grenville, Sir Bevil, i, 12, 89; Sir  
 Richard, i, 88, 109  
 Grey, Sir Edward, ii, 167  
 Gribble, Elizabeth, ii, 161  
 Grylls, Rev. H. B., i, 187  
 Gunsley, Rev. Robert, ii, 50  
 Gurney, Arms of, ii, 16  
 Gyles, Robert, ii, 28



## H.

- Haldon, Lord, ii, 333  
 Hall, Humphry, i, 42  
 Hals of Keneydon, i, 38  
 Hamelin, ii, 32  
 Hamlyn, Zachary, ii, 337  
 Hammick Pedigree, i, 298; Sir St. Vincent L., i, 295  
 Hanbury, Arms of, ii, 14  
 Hardnesse, i, 333  
 Harford, Parish of, ii, 217  
 Harstone, i, 8; Hugh de, ii, 219  
 Hart, Rev. W., ii, 229  
 Hayman, Joyce, ii, 28  
 Hayne, Arms of, ii, 14; John, ii, 25; Rev. J., i, 116  
 Hawkins, Arms of, ii, 15  
 Hawley, Arms of, ii, 15; Brass, ii, 10; Family, i, 368  
 Haystings, Henry de, ii, 35  
 Heale, i, 7  
 Heathfield, Lord, i, 105; Memorials of, i, 112  
 Hele, Arms of, ii, 267; of Bascombe, ii, 266; Fitz-Henry, Rev.; ii, 80; Walter, ii, 227  
 Hennock, Parish of, ii, 144  
 Henry, of Pembroke, i, 3, *note*  
 Henry III, King of England, i, 2  
 Henry VIII, King of England, i, 9  
 Herbert, of Combe, i, 31  
 Herring, John, i, 22  
 Hertford, Elias de, i, 57  
 Hertford, i, 2  
 Hewlett, i, 137  
 Hext, Rev. J. H., ii, 273  
 Heywood, Family, i, 15; Wiltshire, i, 17  
 Highweck, Parish of, ii, 276  
 Hill, John, of Spaxton, ii, 60  
 Hody of Netheway, ii, 158; Arms of, ii, 158  
 Holbrine, Memorial of, ii, 366  
 Holdsworth, Arms of, ii, 16; Arthur, ii, 25  
 Holford, William, ii, 205  
 Holland, Memorial of, ii, 5  
 Holrigge, ii, 368  
 Hopton, Sir R., i, 12  
 Horstone, William, i, 8  
 Hunt, Arms of, ii, 16  
 Hunter, i, 15  
 Hurst, ii, 300; Robert, ii, 268  
 Hussey, ii, 45  
 Hyne, Arms of, ii, 158  
 Hywyk Chapel, ii, 272

## I.

- Iddesleigh, Earl of, i, 14  
 Ilbert, Catherine, i, 119  
 Ilsham and Coleton, ii, 98  
 Ilsham, ii, 358  
 Isabella, de Fortibus, i, 2, 3, 4, 6, ii, 234  
 Isabel, de Gloster, i, 2, 3

## J.

- Jackson, Rev. P. ii, 272  
 Jacob, John, i, 12  
 Jago, Walter, ii, 25  
 Jamaica, i, 15  
 Jeffries, Ann, i, 29  
 Jeffries, Judge, i, 238  
 Jesse, William Memorial to, ii, 48  
 Joseph, Emperor, i, 15  
 Juhel, de Totnes, ii, 183, &c.

## K.

- Kelland Family, i, 307; Memorial of, i, 324; Arms of, i, 325  
 Kellaway, Sir William, ii, 300  
 King, Richard John, ii, 191  
 King of Gainsboro', Arms of, i, 371  
 Kingskerswell, Parish of, ii, 372  
 Kingsley Canon, i, 248  
 Kingsteignton, Parish of, ii, 251  
 Kingston, Sarah, Duchess of, ii, 223

Kitson, Arms granted to Sir Thomas, ii, 363; Family of, ii, 361  
 Knolles Family, ii, 62, 63  
 Knyghton, Walter, i, 7  
 Kokynton, Roger de, ii, 348

## L.

Lacock, i, 2  
 Lamerton, Parish of, i, 196  
 Lancashire, i, 15  
 Langdon, Hugh, ii, 173; Richard ii, 27  
 Lange, ii, 369  
 Langsford, i, 35; Arms of, i, 47  
 Languedoc, i, 15  
 Langworthy, i, 36  
 Lansdowne, Battle of, i, 13  
 Latimir, Lord ii, 173  
 Launceston, i, 17  
 Leach, George, i, 42  
 Leger, St., ii, 324  
 Legge, Lord, Dartmouth, i, 368; Right Honorable Bilson, i, 368  
 Leicester, Simon, Earl of, i, 3  
 Le Torre, i, 5  
 Ley, Arms of, ii, 15; Phillip, ii, 26; William, ii, 22  
 Lidford, Borough of, i, 228; Castle i, 236  
 Lisle, Lords, Account of, ii, 165  
 Little-Hempston, Parish of, ii, 55; Old Glass at, ii, 77; Old Rectory, ii, 81  
 Londonderry, Lord, ii, 322  
 Long, ii, 369  
 Longstone (Sheepstor), i, 31; Longstone, i, 42  
 Lopes Family, i, 16; Sir Massey, ii, 236  
 Lovering, Arms of, ii, 15; John, ii, 26, 27  
 Lucas, the Butler, ii, 233  
 Lucy, Arms of, ii, 132, 155  
 Ludlow, i, 17  
 Luppincott, i, 35

Luscombe, John, ii, 28  
 Lustleigh, Parish of, ii, 183; Ancient Sepulchral Memorials at, ii, 191; Ancient Glass at, ii, 191  
 Luxmore, i, 42  
 Lyde, Rev. George, ii, 329  
 Lydford, John de, Archdeacon of Totnes i, 4

## M.

Mabbot, Ellen, ii, 237  
 Mac-Andrew, J. J., ii, 225  
 Macclesfield, Earl of, i, 368  
 Mallock Family, ii, 351; Richard, ii, 352; Roger, ii, 350  
 Manley, John, ii, 323  
 Maristow, i, 9, 14, 16, 18; Parish of, i, 168  
 Marshall, Arms of, ii, 17; William, Earl of Pembroke, i, 3, *note*  
 Martin, Arms of, ii, 15; Baron of Barnstaple, Pedigree of, ii, 238; of Coldstone, ii, 241; John and Robert, ii, 28  
 Mary Church, St., Parish of, ii, 355  
 Matilda, Queen of William I, i, 1  
 Mattacott, W. J., ii, 242  
 Mawson, Richard Portecullis, ii, 338, *note*  
 Mayburgh, i, 7  
 Maynard, i, 8, 10, 11, 21; Arms of, i, 21  
 May, Rose Herring, ii, 268  
 Mayne, John, ii, 27  
 Meavy, Parish of, i, 121  
 Medlycott, Sir W. C., i, 138  
 Mewi, Walter de, i, 123  
 Michaels, St., Chapel, ii, 345  
 Middlemore, Rev. R., ii, 50  
 Millaton, i, 127  
 Milton Abbot, Parish of, i, 249  
 Modbury, i, 9  
 Modyford, Arms of, ii, 17; Family, i, 15  
 Moels, or Mules, ii, 373

- Mohun, Genealogy of, ii, 99, 311  
 Molton, John, ii, 59  
 Monk, of Potheridge, ii, 169  
 Montfort, Simon de, i, 2, *note*  
 Montolieu, i, 15, 16  
 Morehard Cruse, i, 9, 20  
 Mortaine, Robert, Earl of, ii, 32, 218, &c.  
 Musters, i, 15
- N.
- Neck, Rev. A., ii, 364, 375  
 Newcomen, Inventor of Steam Engine, i, 370; Arms and Quarterings, i, 371; Pedigree of, 372, 373  
 Newton Abbot, Origin of Name, ii, 102, 103  
 Nicholas, Vicar of Chudleigh, ii, 147  
 Nicholls, i, 48  
 Nightingale, Arms of, i, 372  
 Noodland, William de, ii, 349  
 Northbrooke, Lord, i, 76  
 Northcote, Anne, i, 38; Hon. A. F., i, 134; Sir Henry, i, 14; Sir John, i, 38  
 Northmore, Walter, i, 31, 42  
 Northumberland, Second Earl of, i, 159  
 Novant, Roger de, ii, 35, 233
- O.
- Odiham, i, 3  
 Oliver, Dr., i, 5  
 Olyver, Rev. J., ii, 272  
 Orange, Prince of, ii, 141, 142  
 Ordulf, ii, 31
- P.
- Paige, Thomas, ii, 24  
 Painsford, i, 306  
 Palk, ii, 46; Pedigree of, ii, 326; Erroneous accounts of, ii, 325-6; Rev. Jonathan, ii, 329; Sir Robert, Account of, 330, *et seq*; Walter of Marley, ii, 329; Lord Haldon, ii, 333; Arms of, ii, 333; Supporters, ii, 334  
 Palmer, Arms of, ii, 15  
 Parker, i, 10; Lady L. A., i, 368  
 Parmenter, Walter, ii, 148  
 Parr, Lady Catherine (Queen), ii, 173  
 Pearce, Francis Drake, i, 101  
 Pembroke, Countess of, i, 3; Henry of, i, 3, *note*  
 Pendennis Castle, i, 12  
 Penryn, i, 21  
 Percy, Earl of Northumberland, i, 355; Family of, i, 355  
 Perera Manasseh, i, 17, *note*  
 Peter, John, ii, 28, 206  
 Petre, Arms of, ii, 15, 53; Sir William, ii, 208, 375  
 Petroek's, St., Dartmouth, ii, 19  
 Peverell, William, ii, 219  
 Phillpotts, Dr. Bishop of Exeter, i, 21; Rev. H. J., i, 223, 225  
 Phrear, Rev. Phillip, ii, 209  
 Pilton, i, 10  
 Pipard, William, ii, 163  
 Pitt, Mary and Moses, i, 29  
 Pixies, The Devonshire, i, 26, *et seq*  
 Plumleigh, Arms of, ii, 14; John, ii, 25; William, ii, 29  
 Plympton, i, 1, 6, 12; S. Mary, i, 8  
 Pollard, Arms of, ii, 17  
 Post Bridge, i, 231  
 Pote, Rev. Richard, i, 244  
 Potter, Barnabas, Bishop of Carlisle, ii, 69  
 Pownall, i, 311  
 Poynings, Lord, i, 360  
 Prestwood, Arms of, ii, 17; George, ii, 26  
 Prideaux, John (Serjeant-at-Law), ii, 205; of Padstowe, i, 40; Dr. Bishop of Worcester, ii, 230

Prince Town, Prison at, i, 232  
 Providence, the Island of, i, 15  
 Prouz, Sir William, ii, 211  
 Prowse, ii, 211  
 Pye, Robert, Rector of Bickleigh,  
 i, 4

## Q.

Quicke, of Newton St. Cyres, i, 40

## R.

Radcliffe, i, 17  
 Reddcliffe, Peter, i, 152  
 Rede, Simon, ii, 369  
 Redvers, Arms, Seal, &c. i, 63 ;  
 Baldwin and Margaret, i, 2 ;  
 Earl of Devon, ii, 233 ; Pedigree  
 of, i, 60  
 Reibey, Rev. J. H. ii, 204  
 Reynell, Arms of, ii, 15, 133 ;  
 Genealogy of ii, 104, Memorials  
 of, ii, 133 ; of Ogwell, ii, 199  
 Richard II, King of England, i, 231  
 Richard, King of the Romans, i,  
 230 ; Vicar of Bickleigh i, 4  
 Richards, Arms of, ii, 17 ; John,  
 ii, 28  
 Richardson, Robert, ii, 29  
 Ridgway, John, ii, 319 ; Pedigree  
 of, ii, 321 ; Arms of, ii, 344,  
*note*  
 Ridgway, or Ridgway, ii, 321,  
*alias* Peacocke, ii, 321  
 Riley, Rev. R. ; Richard ; Henry  
 F. ii, 160 ;  
 Rivers, Redvers, or de Ripariis, i,  
 56  
 Roborough, i, 17, *note*  
 Robyns, T. i, 185  
 Rolle, i, 152  
 Romans, King of, i, 3, *note* ;  
 Romney, New, i, 16  
 Rood Screen, Wolborough, des-  
 cription of ii, 125, 130  
 Roope, Memorials of, ii, 5, 19

Rounsevall, ii, 28  
 Rouen, Amicia de, ii, 356 ; Avisia  
 de, ii, 357  
 Rowe, Arms of, ii, 48 ; Family, i,  
 201 ; The poet, i, 204 ; of Stoke  
 Gabriel, i, 205 ; of Alverdiscott,  
 i, 206 ; John, Serjeant-at-law,  
 ii, 44, 305  
 Russell, Duke of Bedford, i, 285 ;  
 Residence in Exeter, i, 291 ;  
 Grant of Abbey, lands to i, 265 ;  
 Lady Margaret, i, 275 ; Genealogy  
 of, i, 260  
 Rutherford, Rev. H., ii, 228  
 Rundle, Bishop of Derry, i, 297 ;  
 Family, i, 199 ; Rev. W. D., ii,  
 80  
 Rynmore, i, 7

## S.

Sainthill of Bradninch, ii, 291, *note*  
 St. Michael, Barbadoes, i, 16  
 Sals, Count de, i, 104  
 Saltram, Little, i, 12  
 Sanders, Rev. W., ii, 228  
 Sandridge, Wiltshire, i, 17  
 Savery of Slade, i, 41  
 Schitilestorre, or Sheepstor, i, 5, 7,  
 14  
 Scobell, i, 139 ; Rev. G. R., i, 22  
 Scrope, Arms of, ii, 132  
 Scudamore, i, 31 ; Arms of, i, 47  
 Seale, Arms of, i, 367  
 Sele of Coffleet, i, 41  
 Sele Pedigree, i, 364  
 Serle, Rev. R., ii, 204  
 Seymour, Sir Edward, ii, 322  
 Sharpham, i, 310  
 Shaugh Prior, i, 6, 16 ; Parish of,  
 ii, 232  
 Shaugh Prior, Font Cover, ii, 245  
 Shapleigh, Arms of, ii, 14 ; John,  
 ii, 28  
 Sheepstor, Parish of, i, 24  
 Sherford, i, 9  
 Shiphay, ii, 361

Shittaburgh, i, 6  
 Shittlestorre, i, 30  
 Shrewsbury, Earl of, ii, 165, 166  
 Shute, Joseph, i, 145  
 Simms, Rev. A. H., ii, 141  
 Slanning, Sir Andrew, i, 29; Arms of, ii, 15; Family, i, 8  
 Slannynge, John, ii, 236  
 Slanning (*see* Preface, i), vi, vii  
 Smith of Heavitree, ii, 169  
 Snelling, Nichola, i, 9; Robert, i, 9  
 Somaster, i, 318; Arms of, i, 318; Memorial of, i, 318  
 Somasters, i, 307  
 Somerset, Duke of, ii, 151  
 South Cliffe, i, 9  
 Southcote, ii, 364  
 Spineto, Robert de, i, 189  
 Spry, Edward, i, 36  
 Stafford, Bridget, i, 14; Hugh, i, 14  
 Stannary Towns, i, 237  
 Staplehill, Arms and Brass, ii, 11  
 Stawell, John, ii, 324  
 Stevenson, Arms of, i, 372  
 Stretch, Sir John, ii, 59  
 Stooke, John, ii, 160  
 Stourton, Arms of, ii, 155  
 Stowell, William, ii, 273  
 Strode Family, i, 133, 134, &c.; Rev. John, ii, 83  
 Strother, Rev. J. B., ii, 244, 249  
 Swete, Esther, ii, 241  
 Sydenham, i, 169  
 Sydenham House, description of, i, 173

## T.

Talbot, William, i, 191  
 Tamerton, i, 1, 6, 9, 164  
 Tavistock, i, 10; Red deer at, i, 287, ii, 199, *note*  
 Tavy S. Mary, i, 51; Parish of, i, 159; S. Peter, Parish of, i, 148  
 Taylor Family, ii, 111; Memorial and Arms, ii, 203

3 B

Teath, St., i, 29  
 Templar of Stover, ii, 151  
 Tewkesbury, Nicholas de, i, 337  
 Thorne, John de, i, 189  
 Thorne, Lands, i, 189  
 Thrushelton, Parish of, i, 191  
 Tiptoft, Anda de, ii, 317; Sir R., i, 335  
 Toker, i, 22; Robert, Abbot of Buckland, i, 87  
 Tooker, Richard, i, 50  
 Tollard, i, 41  
 Tonkin, Rev. F., ii, 227  
 Tor Abbey, Charter of, ii, 309; Account of, ii, 341  
 Tor Cartularies, Description of, ii, 149  
 Torriton, John and Isolda de, ii, 226  
 Tor-Mohun, Parish of, ii, 307  
 Torquay, ii, 307  
 Totnes, Juhel de, ii, 162, &c.  
 Townstall Church, ii, 1  
 Trelawny, Bishop, ii, 266; Colonel Edward, ii, 267  
 Tremanet, ii, 150  
 Tremayne, Arms of, i, 210; Henry Hawkins, i, 172; of Lamerton (Pedigree), i, 212; Sydenham i, 170; Memorials of, i, 220  
 Trenchard Family, i, 169  
 Trevanion, i, 12, 13  
 Tripe, Rev. John, ii, 241  
 Tudor, Rev. Prebendary H. ii, 140, 193  
 Tuke, Rev. E. i, 183  
 Tynte, Sir Haswell, i, 171  
 Tyrwhitt, Sir Thomas, i, 232

## V.

Vallack, C. S. ii, 242  
 Valletort, ii, 34  
 Vavasour, Arms of, ii, 14  
 Vere, Arms of, ii, 132  
 Vernon, William, de, i, 63, ii, 98  
 Vipont, Robert, de, i, 191

## W.

- Wadham, College, Foundation of, ii, 185; Sir John, ii, 185; Sir William and Margaret, ii, 289  
Walker, Rev. Charles H. i, 71; Sir Edward Garter, ii, 349  
Walkhampton, i, 2, 3, 5, 7, 16, 22; Parish of, i, 55  
Waller, Sir William, ii, 117; Family of, ii, 118, *et. seq.*  
Walrond, i, 42  
Walter Abbot, of Buckland, i, 4  
Warleigh, i, 18  
Warren, William, i, 29  
Warreyng, Arms of, ii, 48; Memorial of, ii, 48  
Waymouth, Samuel, i, 374  
Werthe, William and Elizabeth, ii, 369  
West, Lord, Delawarr, ii, 41  
Westbury, i, 17  
Whaley, Rev. S., ii, 51  
Wheeler, Arms of, ii, 17; Laurence, ii, 29  
Whiteway, Arms of, ii, 15  
Whittle, Rev. J., ii, 142  
Whyte, Thomas, Abbot of Buckland, i, 57  
Widecombe-in-the-Moor, i, 37  
Widworthy, Wiilliam de, ii, 184  
Williams of Stowford, ii, 220; Memorial of, ii, 221  
Willestrew, i, 199  
Willoughby, Lord Broke, Pedigree of, ii, 61  
Wills, i, 42  
Wiltshire, i, 17  
Winchester, Marquess of, Pedigree, ii, 64  
Winkleigh, i, 2, *note*

- Wise, Arabella, i, 170; Serlonius, i, 191; of Sydenham, i, 169; Pedigree of, i, 177; Lewis Lovat Ayshford of Clayton, i, 181; Memorials of, i, 182; Pictures of, i, 174  
Wistman's Wood, i, 234  
Wolborough Church, ii, 123; Parish of, ii, 85; Perpetual Curates of, ii, 139  
Wollocombe, i, 10, 37, 39  
Woolcombe. Rev. H., ii, 273  
Worth in Washfield, i, 128, 133  
Worth, Sir Hugh, i, 64; Constance, i, 64; Avis or Hawyse, i, (Preface vii)  
Worthe, Thomas, i, 127; Roger, i, 129  
Worthy Family, i, 130, 132  
Worthy, Rev. Charles, i, 131, *note*  
Wotton, Arms of, ii, 16, 17  
Wrey, Rev. A. B., ii, 366  
Wynne, William, i, 43

## Y.

- Yarde, i, 311; Arms of, ii, 132; Buller Lord Churston, ii, 293; Thomas of Bradley, ii, 69; of Kingsteignton, ii, 269, 293; Pedigree of, ii, 288; of Traysbeare, ii, 289; Arms of, ii, 291; of Trowbridge, ii, 294  
Yard, Thomas, ii, 101  
Yates, i, 10; Arms of, i, 22  
Yonge of Puslinch, i, 25

## Z.

- Zouche, William la, i, 253, ii, 36; Eudo la, ii, 35

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ALTERATIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

VOLUME I.

- Page 5. Last par. "Dedesham" is in the parish of Walkhampton.  
 „ 52. Last par. For 1647, read 1847.  
 „ 61. Sir Hugh Worthie, married Avis, sister and ultimately heir of Richard, fifth Earl of Devon, and niece of William de Vernon, sixth Earl. Refer to Preface, p. 7.  
 „ 99. Bottom of first par. For 1795, read 1595.  
 „ 132. The mother of Francis and Alexander Worth, was Dorothy Banpfyld of Foltimore.  
 „ 287. Take out full stop after "Ashburton," and refer to vol. ii, p. 199 note 2.  
 „ 372. Arms of Ellis, No. 7, should read on a chevron engl. betw. 3 lions pass. gd. Gu. 3 escallops Arg.

VOLUME II.

- Page 11. Line 14. Read, 1st shield, quarterly; 1st and 4th, Arg. a chevron Sa. Staplehill; 2nd and 3rd, Az. 3 roaches in pale, haur. Arg. (Roache).  
 „ 99. Last par. The marriages of Reginald de Mohun, son of Alice Briwere, must be corrected by reference to p. 313, last par., and to p. 315, second par.  
 „ 102. Line 20. "Nietone" of Domesday, is I think, the manor now known as Knighton, near Chulleigh.  
 „ 120. Line 2. Sir William Comtenay was sixth, *not* eighth of his name at Powderham, *see* p. 176, note.  
 „ 280. Refer to previous pages, 102, 151 and 152; and for "Newton St. Petrock," line 25, read Knighton. I do not consider that Newton St. Petrock, is referred to in Domesday at all, it was an appendage of Shebbear.  
 „ 315. Note 2, last line. For "wife's father," read wife's brother.





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