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Fac-simile of a Heraldic MS. entitled:

"The names and Armes of them that hath beene Alldermen of the warde of Alldersgate since the tyme of King Henry 6, beginninge at the 30 yeere of his Reigne butil this present yeeare of our Lord \$6\$16."

by John Withie.

Reproduced from his MS. in the Harleian Collection, and briefly annotated

by Francis Compton Price.

London:

GOLDING & LAWRENCE,
GREAT RUSSELL STREET, BRITISH MUSEUM.



PREFACE.

THE lament of the Lord Mayor at the Royal Academy Dinner, 1878, that no oil paintings hung upon the walls of the Mansion House, is a reproach to his predecessors that it is to be hoped he and his successors will do their best to remove. While it is plain that most notable subjects exist in the history of the City of London for illustration, and landscape and genre painters are surfeited with commissions—historical painters languish for lack of support.

If civic history remains unillustrated by art

at the Mansion House, literature may be said to be little regarded by civic dignitaries. But for the industry and enthusiasm of John Stow, the medieval history of the city, obscure as it is, would be gleaned only from manuscript accounts mostly "performed" by those painstaking and earnest scholars, the officers of the College of Arms. Interesting and valuable as these heraldic records undoubtedly are, heraldry, pure and simple in its embellished briefness, is necessarily the standpoint taken by the realistic chronicler of arms.

In 1859-60, two famous MSS. of the Corporation, the Liber Albus and the Liber Custumarum were edited, but under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, and at the expense of the Government. This apparently awoke the Corporation; and the exertions of a few gentlemen — B. B. Orridge, esq.,

Hampton Hale, esq., and the Librarian of the Corporation, W. H. Overall, esq., among others-induced that body to direct the publication of Selections from the Archives of the City, and, so long ago as 1868, these selections appeared under the admirable editorship of the late H. T. Riley, esq., but complaint is made that no sufficiently liberal spirit is shown by the Corporation in employing literary labourers, and that the energy and wisdom-sometimes very selfish energy and very worldly wisdom-of the civic magnates be so directed that the world of authorship and the City of London may in the future be more en rapport, is greatly to be desired.

The Heraldic MS. here reproduced by the courtesy of J. WINTER JONES, esq., Principal Librarian of the British Museum, and

E. A. Bond, esq., Keeper of the MSS., is preserved in the Harleian Collection, No. 909.

As the ward of Aldersgate stands alphabetically foremost among the twenty-six wards of the city, the manuscript perhaps formed the first of a series of similar heraldic memorials.

John Withie was a prominent member of the Painter-Stainers' Company, and, possessing the confidence of the Heralds, he frequently rode with them in their Visitations through the counties of England at the close of the XVI. and during the early part of the XVII. centuries. The quantity of work he got through was prodigious, as his elaborate transcripts and heraldic collections abundantly witness.

It only remains to say that I have put my name upon the Title-page for convenience in cataloguing, and for the glory of a crossreference; and lest it should be inferred by my silence that I am ignorant of the matter treated of, I have supplemented John Withie's work by a few notes made with some regard to accuracy. I have added an Index, having before my eyes the fear of John, Lord Campbell, who, in his preface to the "Lives of the Chief Justices," threatens with the most frightful penalties the man who publishes a book without one.



London, September, 1878.

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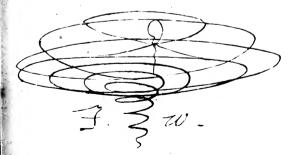
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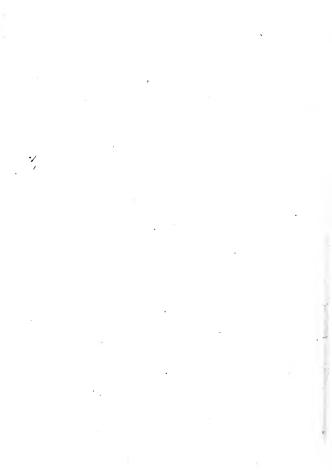
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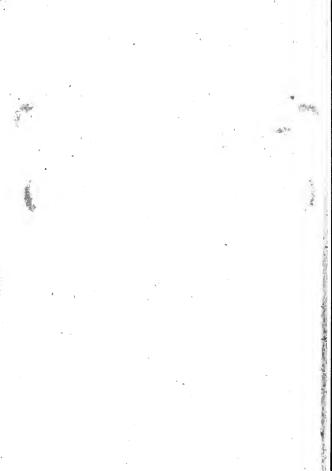
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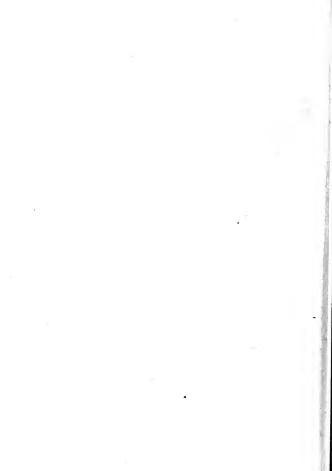




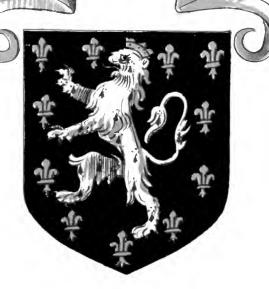
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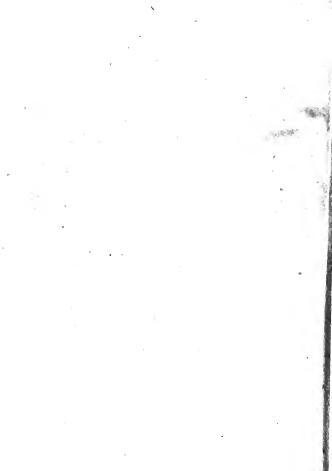






Mathew Philipp. Goldsmith. All. derman of the warde of Alders gate the 30 of King Herry, the 6th and continued six yeares









Richard Rawfon Mercer. Alderman
of the warde of Alderjate the 16.
of King Edward the 4th and continued 5 yeares.

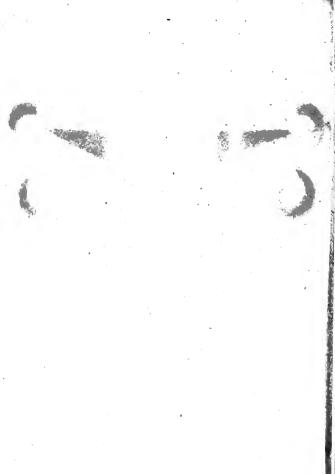






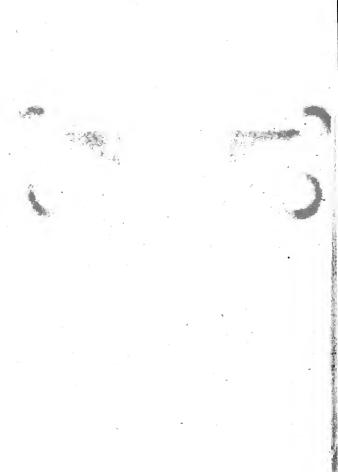




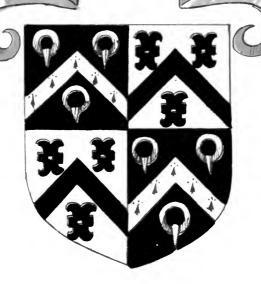








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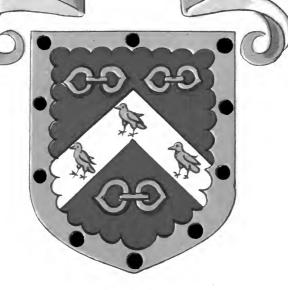


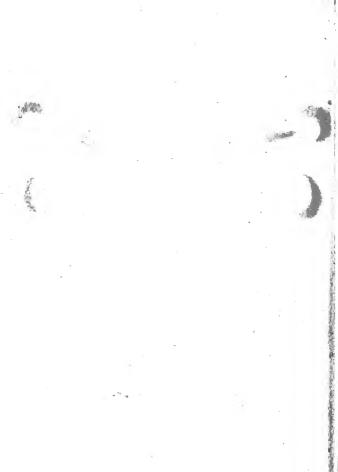






Robert Fonrother Goldmith Allderman of the warde of Alders= gate the z of Ring Hinry. 86. Contynued 11 years.





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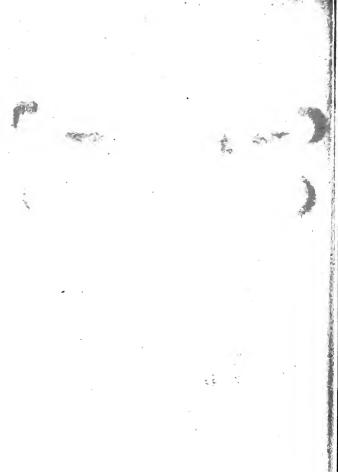




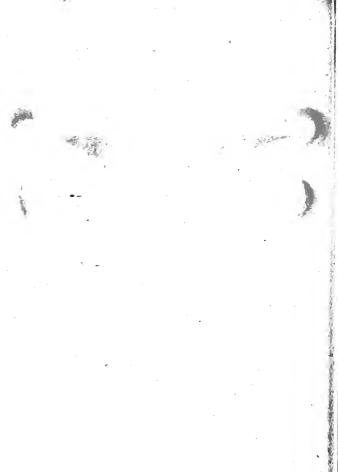




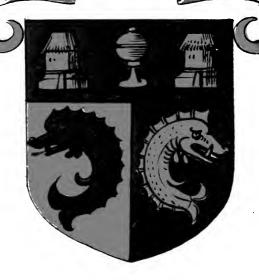
Michaell Dormer Mercer Allderman of the warde of Aldersquie the 23 of Rma Henry 3.8 continued on yeare.



Walter Champion Draper Alberman of the warde of Allder gate the 24. of king H8. & contynico. 2. years.

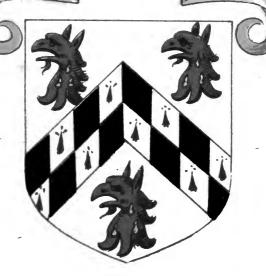


John Cotes Salter Alderman of the wards of Alder/auts the 27. of Kings 4.8. & contynued one years.



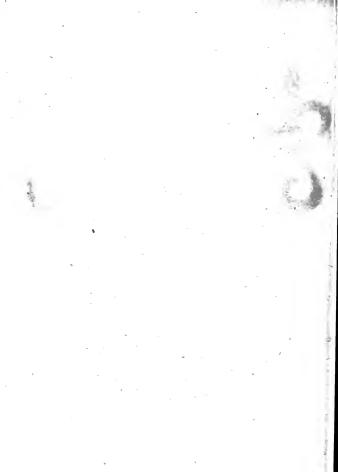


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Richard Jarvis Allderman of the warde of Allderfatt the 35 of war Ring Henry the Eyght and contynued Six years -

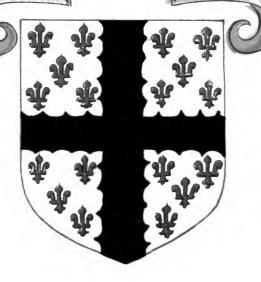








Henry Herdon Skynner Allorman of the wards of Allorygate the First of King Phillipp and Mary and contynued 3 yeares.

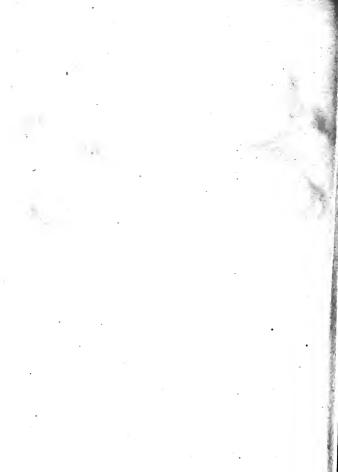




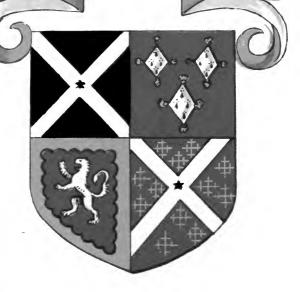
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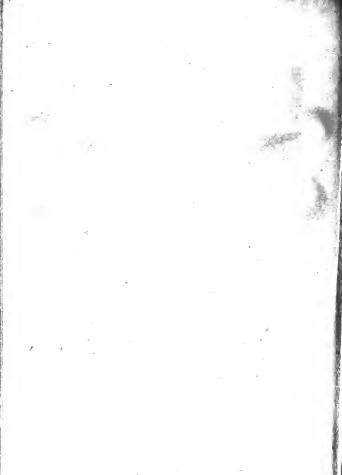


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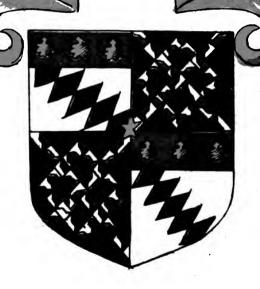


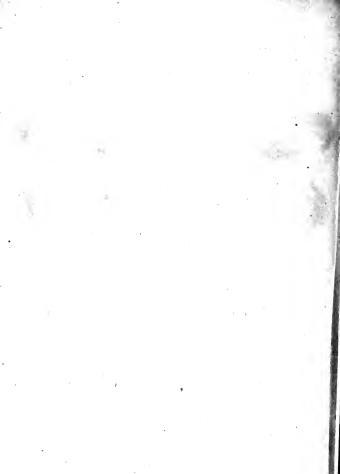




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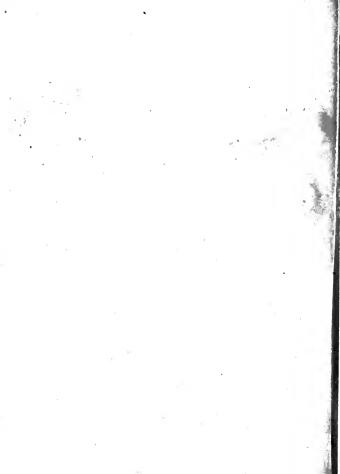








Henry Pranell Contomer Aldernian of the warde of Allder Jati the 31. of Queens Eliz: & contynued on & yeare.



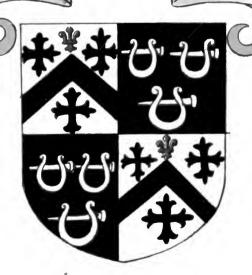
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NOTES.



NOTES.

ALDERMEN OF THE WARD OF ALDERSGATE, 1451-1616.

SIR MATHEW PHILLIPP, Goldsmith. Alderman 30th Hen. VI., 1451. Sheriff the same year, and Lord Mayor in 1463. He was knighted by Edw. IV., and received the Cross of the Bath with other Aldermen on the occasion of the King's marriage.

The story told of Sir Thomas Coke (Lord Mayor 1462) really belongs to Sir Mathew Phillipp. William Smith (Rouge-dragon 1597-1618), says in his description of London written in 1588, "This yeere, ye Sargeant's feast was kept at ye Bp. of Elie's place in holborne. The Maior, Sheriffs, and Aldermenn were bidden thither. But when the maior looked to be sett, to kepe ye estate in ye hall as it hath byn used in all places of ye cittie and liberties out of ye king's presence, the L. gray of Ruthin, then Treasurer of England, was there placed, wherefore the maior and the others departed home to his own house, and there dyned."

Sir Mathew Phillipp was son of Arnold Phillipp of

Norwich.

THOMAS BRETYN. Alderman 1st of Richard III., 1483.

This Alderman never reached the dignity of Sheriff or became Lord Mayor, neither can I discover any particulars concerning him. It does not even appear to what Company he belonged.

RICHARD RAWSON, Merchant Taylor. Alderman 16th Edw. IV., 1476, and Sheriff the same year.

During the Shrievalty of Rawson, the walls of the city were repaired. William Smith says: "Richard Rawson, Sheriff, builded yo howse of St Mary Spitall whout bishopsgate, where the major and Aldermen do use to sitt and heare the sermons in yo Easter holly daies."

In 1476 an unhappy wench "one Agnes Daynty, was sett on yo pillory for selling of mingled butter," yet poor Agnes no doubt supplied a composition which our present sophisticators would regard as purity itself.

Richard Rawson was from Yorkshire, and the families of Rawson of Nydd Hall, near Knaresborough, and Rawson of Mill House, near Halifax, are presumed from similarity of arms, to be descended from this civic worthy.

SIR JOHN FYNKELL, Draper. Alderman 2nd Hen. VII., 1487. Sheriff in the year following, when Sir William Horne was Mayor.

"The Mayor's name" (says Nicholas Charles, Lancaster-Herald, 1609) "was truly William Litlesbury, and had the surname of Horne given him by King Edw. IV., because he was a most excellent blower in a horne."

Sir John Fynkell was buried at St Michael's,

Crooked Lane.

HENRY COTE, Goldsmith. Alderman 6th Hen. VII., 1490, and Sheriff the same year. He died in 1509, and was buried at St. Foster's in Foster Lane.

SIR BARTHOLOMEW READE, Goldsmith. Alderman 15th Hen. VII., 1499. Had been Sheriff two years previously. Became Lord Mayor in 1502, and, dying three years later, was buried in the cloisters of the Charterhouse.

Sir Bartholomew Reade was born at Cromer in Norfolk, where in 1486, ten years before her son achieved his honours, Catherine, widow of Roger Rede, was buried in the chapel of St Nicholas at Cromer (now in ruins), and she appoints Bartholomew, citizen and goldsmith of London, and John, his brother, her executors. The Free School at Cromer was founded

by Sir Bartholomew Reade. The Goldsmiths' Company are the trustees, who rebuilt the school in 1821. The number of scholars is about one hundred. In 1501, Sir Bartholomew Reade purchased Crosby Place and spent his splendid mayoralty there. This residence his widow held till her death in 1507. She was buried at St. John Zachary's.

During the Shrievalty of Sir Bartholomew Reade— 1497—"all the gardens wthout moregate, were Distroied, and a playn field made of them for Archers to shoot in." Here we have the origin of the Butts for "The Finsbury Archers," otherwise The Honourable

Artillery Company.

Sir Bartholomew gave a famous banquet in Goldsmiths' Hall, says GRAFTON, but STOW ridicules the notion of so great a feast in such a hall as the Goldsmiths' "a proper House, but not large"—the fact probably being that the banquet was held at Crosby

Place.

The banquet is described in Grafton's Abridgement of the Chronicles (Edition of 1572, folio 136) in honour of "the French Ambassadors and Lordes and Gentlemen to the nombre of an hundreth persons and mo After dyner, among the other ghestes, was an Italyan, a Jeweller, and hee shewed foorth a stone of great value, and sayd that hee had offered the same to the Emperour, the French King, and the Kyng of England, but none of them would geve the value thereof. The Maior heard hym, and sayde, Have you offered it to our soveraigne Lord the Kynges grace? The straunger answered ye. Then said the

Maior, think you the Kynges grace refused it for want of treasure? Let me see it, sayd hee, and asked hym what he valued it at? The straunger said a thousand mark. And will that buy it, sayth the Maior? Yea, sayth the Straunger. Then ye Maior tooke ye Jewel and commanded one to bring hym a spyce Morter and a pestell, and willed his officer to beate it to powder, and so hee dyd. Then the Maior called for a cup of wyne, and put it in the cup, and dranke it of cleane: And sayde to the straunger, speake honourably of the Kyng of Englande, for thou hast now sene one of his poore subjects drinke a thousand marke at a draught, and then commanded hys money to bee paid hym.... This I found written, in the manner that I have told it, in thend of an olde booke in the Gray Friars liberary in London, writen by one Friar Jones."

Grafton is careful to credit the friar with the oftrepeated tale. Shakespeare uses it twice as we know both the Danish and Egyptian Queens qualify their liquor in such way—and the story is, no doubt, older than antiquity.

A gold ring weighing 9 ounces 3 pennyweights was dug up at Girton, in Cambridgeshire, in 1747, having an inscription A Orate pro an BARTOLOMEI RED. MILITES withinside, and a figure of St Bartholomew engraven on a stone, but not deeply. The Rev^{d.} W^{m.} Cole, the Antiquary, whose MS. collections are in the British Museum, saw the ring a few days after it was discovered, and he gives a drawing of it (Vol. 2, fol. 30) and says "it is very thick and

clumsy".... and referring to the Lord Mayor Reade, says further: "if I had not met with both these names so exactly in a Neighbour County, and of a profession to wear the weightiest winter rings, I should, from the Characters and Roughness of ye Fashion, have suspected it to have been of a much greater antiquity"... and he is inclined to ascribe the ownership of the ring—as one must think fairly enough—to the family of Sir Walter Rede de Cumberton, who was appointed Coadjutor to the rector of Girton in 1374. In the expression "winter rings," we have perhaps a contribution to folk-lore that may seasonably affect Mr. Thoms?

This ring is alluded to by Parkin, Chambers, and other Norfolk historians as the Lord Mayor's ring.

Queen Mab need not have been so extremely small if she came "In shape no bigger than an agate stone on the forefinger of an Alderman?" And Falstaff's boast in asserting that he could at one time have "crept into any Alderman's thumb-ring" loses something of its bombast before this tremendous circlet.

THOMAS BRADBURY, Mercer. Alderman 18th Hen. VII., 1502. Had been Sheriff four years earlier, becoming Lord Mayor in 1509. He died during his year of office (1st January, 1510) and was buried at St Stephen's, Coleman Street. Sir William Capell, Draper, served out the rest of the year.

Thomas Bradbury was son of William Bradbury of Branghin in Hertfordshire.

JOHN WARNER, first an Armourer, then a Grocer. Alderman 19th Hen. VII., 1503, and had been Sheriff in 1494.

ROBERT FENROTHER, Goldsmith. Alderman 3rd Hen. VIII., 1511, and Sheriff in the following year. This Alderman was from Cambridgeshire.

By an "Indenture made 3rd May, 1515, between Sir Robert Drury on the one part, Sir Giles Alington of the second part, and Robert Fenrother, Citizen and Alderman of London, of the third part, witnesseth. That whereas Sir Robert and Sir Giles by Indenture of 5th July, 1514, agreed that Sir Giles should not sell or exchange any of his lands or manors without the consent of Sir Robert Drury, nevertheless upon certain causes Sir Robert now consents that Sir Giles Alington may sell to Robert Fenrother his Manor of Botesham with the Water-Mill and all the members and appurtenances in Swafham, Bolebek, Angleseye and Wilbrame." [Cole's papers, Vol. 2, fol. 11, verso.]

If, however, Robert Fenrother lived and died upon his estate in Cambridgeshire, he was buried in his own

ward at St John Zachary.

JOHN HARDY, Haberdasher. Alderman 16th Hen. VIII., 1524. Sheriff 1527.

The Right Hon. Gathorne Hardy, Viscount Cranbrook, bears similar arms to those of this Alderman.

VIII., 1528. Sheriff the same year. Was twice Lord Mayor, tho' it had been decreed in 1529 "that none should be mayor of London more than one year." Sir Ralph was first elected Mayor in 1536, and afterwards in 1543, serving the rest of the year in place of Sir William Bowyer, who died April 13th during his year of office.

Sir Ralph Warren was buried at S' Syth's in Bucklersbury, "where (says Nicholas Charles) his Armes were taken downe by his sonne Richard Warren, and these set up in place thereof."



Sir Ralph Warren was great grandfather to Oliver Cromwell. The Lord Mayor's daughter, Joan, married Sir Henry Cromwell of Hinchinbrook, whose son, Robert Cromwell, M.P. for Huntingdon, was the Protector's father; and, furthermore, Robert Cromwell's sister Elizabeth was the mother of John Hampden. SIR MICHAEL DORMER, Mercer. Alderman 23rd Hen. VIII., 1531. Sheriff two years before, and became Lord Mayor in 1541.

Sir Michael Dormer was son of Geoffrey Dormer of Thame in Oxfordshire. Sir Michael died in 1545, and by his will, dated that year, he directs his body to be buried "in the church-yard of St Laurence in the Jury;" and, says Nicholas Charles, "his toombe yet remayneth in the church porch fastned to the outside of the wall."

WALTER CHAMPION, Draper. Alderman 24th Hen. VIII., 1532. Sheriff 1529. Buried at St. Anthony's.

SIR JOHN COTES, Salter. Alderman 27th Hen. VIII., 1535. Sheriff the same year, and Lord Mayor 1542, the year of a great plague. Buried at St. Stephen's, Walbrook. Sir John was son of Thomas Cotes of Bearton in Buckinghamshire.

During the Shrievalty of Cotes, the Lord Mayor (Sir John Allen) gave to the city the gold collar worn by himself and his successors. This Sir John Allen was of the Privy Council, and was chosen Lord Mayor by the King's request.

If the Mayor was generous, the Sheriffs were inclined to parsimony for, says Stow, "The forenamed Sheriffs, Monmouth and Cotes, did put away twelve sergeants and twelve yeomen, but by a Court of Common Council they were enforced to take them again."

SIR WILLIAM LAXTON, Grocer. Alderman 28th Hen. VIII., 1536. Sheriff 1540, Lord Mayor 1544.

He lived in Budge Row, near the east end of St Mary Aldermary's Church, in which church he was buried, in the vault of Sir Henry Keble. He died July 29th, 1556. In the chancel the following epitaph:

Sir William Laxson lies interred within this hollow wault, That by good life had happy death, the end for which he sought. Of poor and rich he was belowed, his dealings they were just, God hath his soul, his body here consumed is to dust.

Sir William was the son of John Laxton of Oundle in Northamptonshire. By his will, the Lord Mayor founded an Almshouse and a Free School at Oundle "to teach grammar," which he put under the care of the Grocers' Company. This famous school, in the words of the founder, "is to be open to all who shall come to the school-house to learn." The school and almshouses were re-erected about 20 years ago, but the existing school-house is now reserved for the Lower school, and a fine range of schoolrooms and boarding houses are erecting for the Higher school. There are about 150 boys in the school. The almshouses are for seven poor men.

Dr. Thomas Fuller in his "Worthies" [Ed. 1662 p. 293] says: "He founded a fair School and Almshouse at Oundle in this county, with convenient maintenance, well maintained at this day, by the Worshipful Company of Grocers, and hath been to my knowledge the Nursery of many Scholars, most eminent in the University."

At the Dissolution, the manor of Shepereth in Cambridgeshire was granted to Sir William Laxton It had formerly belonged to the nunnery at Chatteris. From Sir William the manor descended by an intermarriage to Thomas Wauton, and was afterwards inherited successively by his three sons, all of whom died without issue. Nicholas, the youngest, bequeathed it to his nephew, John Layer (whose MS. collections for Cambridgeshire are in the British Museum).

RICHARD JARVIS. Alderman 35th Hen. VIII., 1543. Sheriff 1546, the year the King died. The Company to which Richard Jarvis belonged is not ascertained.

JOHN LAMBERT (or Lambarde), Draper. Alderman 3rd Edw. VI., 1549. Sheriff 1552. Died 1555. Buried at S^t Michael's in Wood Street.

John Lambarde was son of William Lambarde of Ledbury, co. Hereford, and grandson of Thomas Lambarde of the same place. The Alderman married Juliana, daughter of William Horne of London—was her father Sir W^m. Horne, Lord Mayor 1487?—and their eldest son was that William Lambarde, eminent lawyer and famous antiquary, who wrote "A Perambulation of Kent" in 1570. The seat of this family is now at Beechmont, Sevenoaks, co. Kent, where many of the invaluable MS. Collections of William Lambarde are preserved.

HENRY HERDSON, Skinner. Alderman 1st Philip and Mary, 1553.

This Alderman died in 1555, and was buried at S' Dunstan's in the East.

JAMES ALTHAM, Alderman 4th Philip and Mary, 1556. Sheriff 1557.

It is not ascertained of which companythis Alderman was free.

EDWARD GILBERD (or Gilbert), Goldsmith. Alderman 4th Eliz., 1562.

This Alderman never attained the Shrievalty or became Lord Mayor.

SIR LIONELL DUCKETT, Mercer. Alderman 7th Eliz., 1565. Sheriff 1564, and Lord Mayor 1572.

"He dwelled in Wood Street in S' Peter's parish, but was buried in the country where he died." (Nich. Charles).

In 1562, Alderman Duckett, with others, furnished money to enable Sir John Hawkins to fit out three ships (being informed that negroes were very good merchandise!) to trade to the West Indies.

JAMES BAKON, Fishmonger. Alderman 10th Eliz., 1568. Sheriff 1569.

He died in 1573 and was buried at St Dunstan's in the East.

Anthony Gamage, Ironmonger. Alderman 16th Eliz., 1574. Sheriff 1575.

He died in 1579, and was buried at S' Matthew's, Friday Street.

Sir Martyn Calthrop, Draper. Alderman 22nd Eliz., 1580. Sheriff 1579, and Lord Mayor 1588.

On becoming Lord Mayor, according to his prerogative he migrated to the Ward of Cheap. He was the son of Martin Calthrop, Draper, of London, and a kinsman of the Queen. On the 24th November, 1588, he received Queen Elizabeth at Temple Bar, on her way to St Paul's to hear a sermon from the Bishop of Salisbury (when the Spanish Armada had been scattered, and the fear of invasion no longer alarmed the lieges), and carried the sceptre before her.

Sir Martin Calthrop died during his year of office (3rd May 1589), and was buried 16th May at S^t Peter's-le-Poer, Broad Street. Sir Richard Martin served the rest of the year, and this same Knight served again for Sir Cuthbert Buckle, who also died during his

year of office (1593).

HENRY PRANELL, Vintner. Alderman 31st Eliz., 1589. Sheriff 1585. Buried at S'Michael's at Querne.

Querne is a corruption of the word Corn. Pranell was buried at St. Michael-ad-bladum, or St Michael at the Corn, so called because the church stood in a corn-market by Paternoster Row. The Church was burned down in the great fire of 1666 and remained unbuilt. The Parish is united to St Vedast, Foster Lane.

Sir NICHOLAS MOSLEY, Clothworker. Alderman 32nd Eliz., 1590. Sheriff the same year. Lord Mayor 1599.

Sir Nicholas was son of Edward Mosley of Hough in Cheshire. The Mosley's remain in Salop, Derbyshire, and Somerset.

Sir John Watts, Clothworker. Alderman 37th Eliz., 1595. Sheriff 1597. Lord Mayor 1606.

Sir John was son of Thomas Watts of Buntingford in Hertfordshire. James 1st dined with Sir John Watts, who at the dinner presented the King with a purse of gold, his Majesty praying that "God might bless all good Clothworkers," and for proof of his favour gave to the Clothworkers Company two brace of bucks yearly for ever.

HENRY ANDERSON, Grocer. Alderman 40th Eliz., 1592. Sheriff 1601. Died 6th April, 1604.

NICHOLAS STYLE, Grocer. Alderman 4th Jas. I., 1606. Sheriff 1607.

He died 17th Nov., 1615, and was buried at St. Bartholomew's by the Exchange.

JOHN GOARE (or Gore, Goore, etc.), Merchant Taylor. Alderman 13th Jas. I., 1616. Sheriff with his brother William, 1615.

"The eldest brother and youngest sheriff, John" (Harl. MS. 1049.)

Sir John, the son of Gerard, became Lord Mayor in 1624.

An ancestor of the Earl of Arran.

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