# GREAT DOMESDAY BOOK OF IPSWICH; 

LIBER SEXTUS:

With an Introduction to the Entire Volume,

FULL NOTES AND A COMMENTARY;
WITH A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE EARLIER
LITTLE DOMESDAY BOOIS

BELONGING TO THE SAME TOWN,

BI THE<br>REV. C. H. EVELYN WHITE, IPSWICH,

Honorary Secr 'ary of the Suffiolk Institute of Archcoology and Natural History, Editor of the Society's 'Prore dinys,' and of "The East Anglian Notes and Queries," \& c.

PRICE: TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.

## IPSWICH: PAWSEY AND HAYES, ANCIENT HOUSE.

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[Two Hundred and Fifty Copies only Printed.]


## TIIE

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## IPSWICTT :

PLINTED BY PAVGET AND RAYES, ANCIENT HOUSE, BUTTER MAEEGT.


# THE GREAT DOMESDAY BOOK OF IPSWICH, 

COMPILED BY RICHARD PERCYVALE. 12 HENRY VIII.

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L I B E R \quad S E X T U S
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WITH AN INTRODCCTION TO THE ENTIRE VOLUME AND THE EARLIER DOMESDAY BOOKS BELONGING TO THE TOWN.

The ancient Borough of Ipswich, besides possessing a rather remarkable and extensive collection of Rolls, Charters and Letters Patent, Deeds, both private and municipal, as well as other miscellaneous writings of varied worth, is fortunate in having among the town Archives, several books, both written and printed, which are of special value and importance, alike to the antiquary and historian, and of no small account in the eyes of the intelligent burgess, who rightly regards each as a link in the silver chain that connects the present with the past. The interest which attaches to these volumes may be said mainly to centre in those, known respectively as the 'New' or 'Great' Domesday and the 'Old' or 'Little' Domesday Book, concerning which, and especially the former, I desire to draw attention.

The ancient laws and customs of Ipswich, dating from a very early period of the town's constitution and history, were originally contained in certain Rolls, once the cherished inheritance of our forefathers, but which, alas! were in the 56 th year of the reign of Henry III.
abstracted from the "Comyn Hutche or Cheste" and, regardless of the grievous injury inflicted thereby upon the town, purloined by a certain notorious Town Clerk ("un feus's comien Clerk") one, John le Blake, of whom, and the precious Rolls, it is amost needless to say, nothing further : was heard. 'Men of the East' are proverbiaity ' 'vise,' so that it is no cause for supprise, that we find the Ipswich townsfolk soon after this occurence, deputing to twenty-four of their number, the task of compiling afresh an account of the ancient usages of the Borough, of the extreme importance of which they thus appear to have been fully sensible. These revived customs, ordinances and regulations, were emborlied in the volume since known as the "Domesday des Leyes e des usages de Gippeswiz," but more commonly as the 'Little Domesday Book,' and appears to have been completed in the 19th year of Edward I. This work, however, seems very soon after to have disappeared, but not before two official copies had been made sometime during the reign of Edward II., and these were a little later on, increased to the number of three.

Of the fourteenth century transcripts, one is an octavo volume, containing within its leather covers, ninety-one leaves of vellum, upon fifty of which, appear in a neat hand, a copy in French of the former Domesday Book, while sundry other matters, of a later period, occupy the remaining forty one skins.

The other transcript, or duplicate copy, is apparently the work of the same penman, and also contains on the leaves not used for the original purpose of the book, much interesting matter of a subsequent date.

A third transcript of a similar character, and executed probably about the same time as the two copies just mentioned, but every way inferior to them, found its way some twenty-five years ago into the hands of the British Museunn authorities,* under circumstances

[^0]detailed at length in the Report recently made by Mr. J. C. Jeaffreson for the Historical MSS. Commission (Appendix ix, p. 242). Beside the French text, this copy has an English translation, and is easily accessible to the student in an admirable edition published in the Roll series,* which has an able introduction, pointing out especially the importance of the Ipswich Domesday as a unique volume among a rare class of documents: valuable foot notes, explanatory of obsolete terms, \&c., are to be found on nearly every page.

In addition to this volume, a fifteenth century copy of this Domesday, was, at the same time as the other transcript mentioned, purchased by the Trustees of the British Museum, in whose custody it remains.

This latter volume was in all probability the precursor of the 'new' or 'Great' Domesday Book, so called from having been compiled in the 12th year of Henry VIII, and owing also to its great size, compared with the earlier transcripts of the former Domesday. Except only in point of priority of date, the Great Domesday Book of Richard Percyvale, (formerly one of the Portmen of the Town,) is a volume of far greater interest and importance than the earlier volumes to which allusion has been made, and supplied, what must have been a long felt want, in giving (to use the words of the compiler) "as many of the old grants, liberties, ordinances, laws and good constitutions," as he could find "prescription or good matter of record for, with divers and sundry other matters right necessary to be had and known in the town and borough of Ipswich." (see Prologue.)

The Great Domesday Book is a finely written thick folio, bound in old embossed calf, measuring 16 in. by 12 in . and containing 271 leaves of vellum, the whole being divided into seven Books (preceded by the prologue) which are as follows:-

Liber Primus, contains the Charter granted in the first year of the reign of King John, followed by records

[^1]of succeding grants, de., as fir as 13 Edward I. This book is mamly taken up with matter contaned in the Little Domesdiay Volume and consists of twenty-one vellum leaves, and one leaf blank. (It is preceded by five blank leaves, upon the back of one of these a memorambum is written.)

Liber Secundus, has an English rendering of the eighty-three chapters contained in the earlier volume, where it is given in French; to these ordinances and regulations affecting the mumicipal life, twenty others of a latter date are added in Latin, the most remarkable being those for the proper ordering of the religious observances connected with the famous Merchants Guild of Corpus Christi. This book occupies no less than fifty-eight leaves: there are beside seventeen that are plain.

Liber Tertius, is taken up with
(1) An Ordinance for the regulation of the beremen or Wynedraggers (porters) as laid down in the Little Domesday.
(2) The Toune Custumes belonging to the Kynge's fee-ferme.
(3) The Assise of weying of brede after the Statue of $W$ ynchester.
(4) The Assyse for bruers.

This book contains fifteen leaves, with one left plain at the end.

Liber Quartus, has in Latin "the constitucion for Corpus Christi procession and in what maner the Maundy shulde yerely be kepte with other dyuers remembraunces requesyte to be had in memory;" followed by an order "how cuery occupacion or crattesmen shuld ordre themselffes in their goyng * * * in the same procession." There are also between 30 and 40 other distinct entries consisting of copies of Indentures, acquittances, enrolments, grants, extracts, memorandums, \&c., \&c., the whole occupying seventy-eight leaves, 18 or 19 of which are written in a late (bad) hand (temp. Eliz: and Ph: and

Mary) and two blank leaves. Three leaves that follow, which may also be said to form part of Book iv, contain in several different hands, various oaths added at a subsequent time to those which appear in Book v. so as to meet the requirements of after legislation, viz.
(a) The Bailiffs (as to Impanelling Juries.)
(b) Justices of the Peace.
(c) Searchers of Leather.
(d) Sealer of Leather.
(e) Fleshwardens.
(f) Wardens of the Foundation (29 Sep. 1623)
(g) Town Treasurer.
(h) Clavigers.

The fourth book is thus by far the largest portion of the several divisions marked in the volume, and has the widest range of subjects.

Liber Quintus, is by reason of its contents, that part of the book which in former days was most frequently called into requisition, and from it, the markets \&c., were periodically proclaimed. It consists of twenty leaves, which bear marks of long continued usage, at the end of which are two blank leaves, and contains " alle the othes that euery bayliff, portman, burgeys and alle other officers be wonte to swere when they be admyttyd into ther romys and offices with other dyuerse articules that the bayliffes of this towne be bounde to se obserued and kepte and to proclayme them euery yere in dyuers places of this Town with the Libertyes of this town by water and by land."

Liber Sextus, may claim to be regarded as a book possessing more general interest than the others. The greater part of the contents of this portion, is taken up with matters relating, not to Ipswich only, but to the whole County of Suffolk i.e. (1) Taxes paid by every town in Suffolk to the King's Grace. (2) List of Knights' Fees of the Honors of Lancaster and Leicester in the County of Suffolk. It contains also, (a) a curious heraldic
description of the arms borne by divers Sovereigns; (b) a quaint memorandum of ancient lineal measurements, and what I have elsewere spoken of as, (c) a "Rhyming Chronicle of the Kings of England," (William I. to Edward IV.), and attributed to Lydgate, the Monk-poet of Bury,* which brings the sixth book to a conclusion. There are in this part, twenty leaves, three of which remain blank.

Liber Septinus, is the last book: it contains the Charter confirmed to the town in the 3rd year of Henry VIII. with another Charter relating to the Admiralty, and sundry other matters, written upon nineteen leaves, and there are beside, nine leaves at the end left plain.

The character and contents of the Great Doomsday Book, as well as the object and design of its predecessors, may, it is thought from this description, be deemed of sufficient interest to lead many to desire a further and fuller acquaintance with the volume, such as a study of the book in its entirety can alone give.

It will be seen that the Great Domesday Book, is in point of fact, what in process of time the earlier Domesday volumes were inclined to become, a veritable olla podrida, for, if not exactly a receptacle for " odds and ends," many of the entries there made, cannot but be regarded as altogether foreign to the original purpose for which such a book was designed. We have, however, abundant cause for satisfaction, that the Great Domesday Book, is in respect of its varied contents, just what it is ; the antiquary especially will be sure to find pleasure in the preservation of such quaint things as some which are here recorded, and which might otherwise have disappeared altogether. This feature is prominent in, and indeed may be said in a great measure to be confined to, the sixth book. Beside all this the inhabitant of Suffolk may find therein matters of some importance to the whole County, which perhaps point to a position, more or less one of pre-eminence, which may have been

[^2]occupied by the town of Ipswich in the reign of Henry VI. and have caused the Borough to be regarded also as a 'remembrancer' and custodian for the County at large. The section which best illustrates this conjecture, is the following account, also from the sixth book, of the "taxes paid by every Town in S'uffolk to the King's Grace," which deserves to be made accessible to all who are interested in the history of the County. Of such taxes it may be said, that originally the amount payable to the King was uncertain, being levied by fresh assessments at each grant made by the Commons, but in the 8 th year of Edward III. new taxations were made, by virtue of the King's Commission, of every township \&c. in the kingdom, which quite settled the tax payable in each several case, and for the County of Suffolk, is that here recorded.
 gibre ฐextus.
"HERE BEGYNNETH THE YI. ${ }^{\text {th }}$ PARTE OF THIS BOKE AND FIRST FOLOWITH WHAT TAXES EVTY TOW $\overline{\mathrm{V}}$
IN sUFFOLK PAYETH TO THE KYNGS GRACE.

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| Et sic Remañ | ijli | $x s$ | - 1. |
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| Item hamleta de W yks epī soluit |  | xxiiijs |  |
| Item hamleta de Stoke soluit |  | xys |  |
| Item hamleta de Brokys soluit |  | viljs |  |
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| Sm Burgo 7 P dict cū hamlets-injxx | xili | xx s | ijd |

## 8

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| Berholt |  |  |
| Unde p donatur p dict liegem | vijs | vind |
| Horkysted | xxxijs | vind |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem | vjs | vind |
| Capell soluit | vs |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicte Regem | xxvjs | viIId |
| Tatyngstom soluit | xxxs | ivd |
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| Whersted soluit | xxxjs |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem | vinjs |  |
| Copulok soluit | xıjs | vjd |
| Unde p domatur p dicto Regem | xıjjs | mijd. |
| Wenham Magua \& pua sol | L $s$ | vjd |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem | xxxs |  |
| Holton soluit | xxxvijs. | vid. |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem | xs. |  |
| Bentley soluit | xLs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem | vjs. | x $d$. |
| Holbroke soluit | xLjes. |  |
| Unde p donatur p diets Regem | viijs. |  |
| Sprowtoñ soluit | xımjs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem | xs. |  |
| Hecham soluit | xxxvijs. | vjd. |
| Unde p domatur p dicta Rege | vijs. | vjd. |
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| Unde p donatur p dicto Rege. | x s. |  |
| Burstall soluit | xsve. | vijq |
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| Shelley soluit | xLvijs | vıijd |
| Unde p donatur p dietū Regem | xijg. | ijd. |
| Reydon soluit | vijs |  |
| Unde p donatur $p$ dictū Regem | xvirjs. |  |
| Branthmin soluit | Lvjs. |  |
| Unde P donatur p dictū Regem | xıijs | mijd. |
| Belstead pua soluit | xxxyjs | iIId. |
| Unde p donatur p dietu Regè | $\mathrm{x} s$. |  |
| Stuttō̃ soluit | xLs | vid. |
| Unde p donatur p dictū Regē | xs. |  |
| Eūwardeñ soluit | xLiiijs | vıj]d |
| Unde p donatur p dictū Regè | xs. |  |


| Belsted Magna soluit | Lvjs | vid. |
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| Unde p donatur p dictū Regē | xs. |  |
| $\left.\begin{array}{c}\text { Chelmyngtoñ \& Wolūston } \\ \text { taxantur ad decuman }\end{array}\right\}$ iij $l i$ |  |  |
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| $\left.\begin{array}{c}\text { Bona mobilia hered Willi de Berham } \\ \text { in villa de Berh } \bar{m} \text { \& Capell }\end{array}\right\}$ | xiijs | iiijd |
| Sm hundred p' dcī cū bona mobilia hered Willi de Barhm-mxjli viij vd. pa Inde \& iijli |  |  |
|  | viij | ijd. |
| Sm de Claro | xvj . | $\pm d$ q |

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| Melles |  | xlys | vid |
| Unde p donatur p dicts do ${ }^{\text {m }}$ Regem |  | vs | vid. |
| ffenynghm -- | ıj 7 i | xvijs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem |  | xijs. |  |
| Wederyngsete cū Brokford - | iiijli | xs | $\mathrm{x} d$. |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem - |  | xijs. |  |
| Cotton | iijli | $x$ x. |  |
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| Thornham magna |  | LVilis. | ijd. |
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| Inde $x$. | xijli | xiijs. | Id. |
| hundrde de Cleydon. |  |  |  |
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| Akenhm |  | xxxiiijs | $\mathrm{vj} d$. |
| Unde p donatr $p$ dicto Regem |  | xxs. |  |
| Thurlestoñ cū Whytton |  | Liijs. | vjd. |
| Unde p donatur p dicte Rege |  | xxs. |  |
| Berenghum |  | xxxiiijs | vjd. |
| Unde $p$ donatr $p$ dicto Rege |  | vjs. |  |
| Westerfeld cū Swynlond |  | xlvijs | vjd. |
| Uude p donatur p dicto Rege |  | xijis. | iiij $d$. |
| henley |  | xLvs | vjd. |
| Unde p donatur p dicta Rege |  | xxs. |  |

Snin hundred de Stowe.

| Weste Cretyng | xlvs. |  |  |
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| Wetherden - | пj ${ }^{\text {l }}$ | vjs | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{xj} d \\ \mathrm{iij} d . \end{gathered}$ |
| Unde p donatur p dieto dom Rege |  | xiijs |  |
| Gyppyng cī Newton |  | xxxs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dict Rege |  | xs. |  |
| Onhows cū herlston it thelond |  | Liijs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem |  | viijs. |  |
| ffynbregh magna |  | liijs. | iiijd. |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | vjs. | vinjd. |
| Buxale | iijli | iiijs | ıiıjd. |
| dagworth |  | xxvs. |  |
| Newtoñ Veta |  | xLjs | iij $d$. |
| Combes cū ffymbregh pua | vjli | x s | vj$d$ |



| Unde p donatur p dict9 Regem | viijs. |  |  |
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|  |  | xxxvjs | $\mathrm{I} d$. |
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| Southcoue |  | meixs | vid. |
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| Westhale |  | Lirijs. |  |
| Unde p donatri p dicte Regem |  | xs. |  |
| Chedestoñ cū Blyford | vli |  |  |
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| hasylworth _ | mijli |  | IId. |
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| Onehale cum firostendoñ | ıj 17 | xjs |  |
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| Blyburgh cū Walberswyke- | vjli | xinjs | $\pm d$. |
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| Wrenhm | nj $1 i$ | vijjs. |  |
| Reydon | пjjli | IIj | ob $q$ |
| Westyltoñ | v $l i$ | vijs | vid. |
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| leystoñ cum Sysewell | virjli |  | xvjd. |
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| Cratfeld |  | LIS. | virjd. |
| Unde p donatur p dictū Regem |  | ximjs. |  |
| Dersham cum Yoxford | vli |  | xiljd |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem |  | xviijs. |  |
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| Unde p donatur p idem Regem |  | IX3 |  |


| Ryonglesfeld cū Redeshm |  | xLIIs. | vid |
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| Uude ${ }^{\text {d }}$ donatr $\boldsymbol{p}$ dicte Regem |  | xijs. |  |
| Bumger -- | ${ }^{1} 12$ | vjs | vjd. |
| Unde p donatr p dicto Regee |  | xxvjs |  |
| Beclus in Shipmene | xıirj $/ 2$ | injes | $1 \mathrm{j} d$ d |
| Bersham in Shipmedowe - | $1 \mathrm{j} / \mathrm{l}$ | xinjs. |  |
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| Revstoñ cū Gorlestoñ | $\mathrm{I}^{\prime} / \mathrm{i}$ | 111js | ıịjd. |
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| Unde $p$ donatur p dicto Regē |  | xxs. | $\checkmark \mathrm{vj}$ d. |
| pua Jernemuth cù Northmll - | пј 12 | xvjs | viIId |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem |  | xxs. |  |
| Sō hundre p ${ }^{\text {d }}$ des | xLijjli | xixs. | ıjd. |
| Inde $\mathrm{x}^{\mathrm{m}}$ | $\mathrm{vj} / \mathrm{i}$ | xjs. |  |
| hundre de Mutford. |  |  |  |
| Kessynglond | v $1 i$ | virjs. | $\mathrm{vij} d$ |
| Unde p donatur p dictя Regè pakefeld cū Kyrkeley $\qquad$ | IIj $/ 2$ | xxs. | ijd |
| Gyssylham cū pte de Rersshemere | iij/i | mijs | ıijd |
| Unde $p$ donatur $p$ dicto Regem - |  | xiljs | п⿺𠃊j d |
| mutford eū Banabye et $\qquad$ pte Reysshemere $\qquad$ | ijli | гjs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regē |  | xirjs | mijd. |
| Carleton |  | Liss. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regē |  | \%s. |  |
| Sm hundre pidicto | $\mathrm{xvij} l i$ | vıjs | jd |

Itm xxiiij s of p mañs de Cretyng \& mekylfeld
que fuer̃ abbie de Grasteno Aliengine
hic Incipit libtas Sā Edmundi
$\&$ villa de Bury Sc̄i Edī —___ xxmìli
hundred de Babbergh.


| mijli | xvs | vjd. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | ${ }^{4} \mathrm{IXs}$ | vijid. оb |
| mijli | vjs | viIjd ob q |
|  | xiiijs | mijd. |
| njli |  |  |
|  | xlvijjs | vjd. |
|  | xijs | mijd. |
|  | xLIs | Ijd. |
|  | x $s$ | Hijjd. |
|  | xLvijs | Ijd. |
|  | xvs |  |
| ıjјli | xvijs | vıijd. |
|  | xs. |  |
|  | Lvijs | ıj ${ }^{\text {d }}$ |
|  | viıjs |  |
| iijli | IIIjs. |  |
|  | vıijs. |  |
|  | xxxviljs | vıjd. |
|  | iIIjs. |  |
|  | xxxije. |  |
|  | virjs. | inj $d$. |
|  | xxıijs. | ixd. |
|  |  | xxj d. |




| fllempte |  | xxyrijs | 1. $\%$. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Comle p donatur p dicto Regem |  | - j . | x d |
| Whorested | بij $/ 2$ |  | j, 2 |
| Sin Lumble j | Lxypli | ins | rjed ot |

hundred de Thedwardestre'

| Berton | vijli | XIS | vd |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unde p donatur p dicte Rege- | IIj $/ 2$ |  |  |
| heguessete cū beketoï | mij/i | $11 . j{ }^{\text {s }}$ | vijd |
|  |  | ı!js | rujd. |
| levermer magna | ıij/i | xixs. | vel |
| Unde p donatur $p$ dicto Regem |  | vjs. |  |
| Wropett |  | xuıijs | mịd |
| Creukeston | njıli | xvij.s | ro. |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | 111js | ixd. |
| Ratlesteñ |  | xlisls.s | crijud. |
| Roughm | mjli | Ij. | 1 j d. |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | rij. . |  |
| Tustoke |  | xLs. |  |
| Tude p donatur p dicta Regem |  | ıj. ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |  |
| ffornhm |  | xLyj. | y.jel |
| Whehnethm magna \& pua |  | Lijjs | mjd ¢ $_{\text {¢ }}$ |
| Unde p donatr p dicto Regem |  | vijs. | mjd. |
| Gedrlyng cū ffelshm | mjli | пjı | 11jdot |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regee |  | xj.s. | v d. |
| Tymworth eū Ampton | mjli | xjs | njd. |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | rjs | IIIjd. |
| Thurstoñ |  | Lvijjs | vijel |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | Ijs | vinel |
| Stanfeld cum Bradle pua | mj 10 |  |  |
| Unde p donatur p dict9 Regem |  | vijs | xd d. |
| pakenhm | rli | xijs. | vjd. |
| Unde p donatur p dicte Regem |  | ixs. | ,jel. |
| Bradefeld monacho 7 |  | xlvs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | vs | vijd. |
| Braulfeld Seyutkelere |  | xxijs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | 1j. |  |
| Rosshbrook |  | xxvijs | mijd. |
| Unde $p$ donatur p dicto Regem |  | vs |  |
| Sm hundre ${ }^{\text {P }}$ deī | mıjli | vijs | $\mathrm{j} d$ ob |

hundre de Blakeborune.

| Ineworthe | xLVs | injd. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem | vjs | vijd. |
| hopiton- | $m \mathrm{mj} / \mathrm{i}$ mjs | vjl. |
| heldercle | xxxinjs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem | vijs | ıij 1. |


| ffakenham pua | $\begin{array}{r} \text { xxxixs. } \\ \text { vijs. } \end{array}$ |  | vijed. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| U'ude p donatur p dicto Regem - |  |  |  |
| Stantoñ | ${ }_{1} \mathrm{I} j \mathrm{j} / \mathrm{i}$ | xyjs |  |
| leūmere pria |  | Lils |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | xjs. |  |
| Eustone |  | Liljs. |  |
| Inghm |  | xLes. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | IXs | ixd. |
| Weston |  | Linje |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem | ıijli | xıj! ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | mijd. |
| Berhm |  | vjs. |  |
| Aysshefeld magna |  | xLijs. |  |
| hepworthe | mijli | 11 j s | IIj$\mathrm{j} d$.j d |
| Rekyughale |  | xLvirjs |  |
| Elines well |  | Lirjs | vjd. |
| Nortoñ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{IIj} l \\ \mathrm{vij} l i \end{gathered}$ | vs | injd. |
| Berdewelle |  |  | Ijd. |
| Aysshefelde pua |  | LiIjs | ıijd. |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem | ijjli |  | xLd. |
| Conewestoñ - |  | IX | rjd. |
| Capstoñ |  | xLs | virje. |
| Bernynghm | irjli | xijs | xjd. |
| Reyssheworth |  | xvjs |  |
| Enateshale |  | LiIjs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p diets Regem |  | ı!je | ixd. |
| Trostoñ | ıijli | virjs | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{IIj} d . \\ \mathrm{vj} d . \end{gathered}$ |
| ffakenhñ magna |  | xLijs |  |
| laughm |  | xaxjs. |  |
| Telvehm |  | xLitijs | xj $d$.$\mathrm{d} d$ |
| Stowelangtofte |  | xaxyjs |  |
| huntestoñ |  | xxxvijs. |  |
| Ixworth thorpe |  | xxxyjs | injed. |
| honeweton |  | Liljs | vjd. |
| Watleffeld |  | Linjes | vjd. |
| Walshmi |  | Lujs | vıj¢. |
| Westowe | njli |  |  |
| Wrydewelle |  | xlijs | vjl. |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | xs | 1 Ij d. |
| Culford | xxxirijs |  | rijid. |
| Unde p donatur p dict9 Regem $\qquad$ sim hundre $\hat{\beta}$ deī mijx $\qquad$ | $\mathrm{xv} /$ |  | ıj $d$ |
| hundre de lakford. |  |  |  |
| Mildenhale | xjli | ${ }_{\text {x }}^{\text {x }}$ |  |
| Brandon - |  | xvijs | mij 7. |
| Iklynghm |  | Ij ${ }^{\text {s }}$ | vnjud. |
| Unde p donatur p dicta do ${ }^{\text {m }}$ Regem |  | $\mathrm{ij} s$ | rij\%. |



## 21

| Stanefeld |  | xLIIs | ıijd |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wydekeshoo |  | xxixs | IXd |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem |  | viljs. |  |
| Multoñ | inj $1 i$ | vjs | viIId |
| pollyngworth cī Chopeley |  | Lijs | $\mathrm{j} d$ d. |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem |  | vijs. |  |
| Thirlowe pua |  | LVS | ııj $d$ об |
| Dalham cū Tunstall |  | Lvijs | ırjd. |
| Stoke Chilton and Boyton | v $1 i$ | IIS | $1 \times d$ obq |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Rege |  | xvirjs. |  |
| Wrotyng pua - | ijl ${ }^{\text {l }}$ | İj | $x d$. |
| Unde p donatur p dicto do ${ }^{\text {m }}$ Regem |  | vjs. |  |
| Bradley magna | ıj 1 i | x s | $\mathrm{xi} d$ ob |
| Wetheresfelde | mijli | vjs | ob q |
| lydgate | vli |  | $\mathrm{xv} d$ |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem |  | virjs |  |
| Gayslee cū Nedhm et kenford | $\mathrm{v} l i$ | Hj¢ | mijd. |
| Coulyng | nıj $l i$ | xılijs | $\mathrm{q}^{\text {b }}$ |
| Unde $p$ donatur $p$ dict, Regem |  | x s |  |
| Sm̄ hundre $\bar{p}^{\text {P }}$ dcī mjxx | xvijli | xvs | $\checkmark$ ¢ ${ }^{\text {¢ }}$ |
| Isnyng dī hundre | xnirjli | iiijs | 1jd |
| Unde p donatur p dictū Rege |  | x $s$. |  |
| Bona mobilia Johis Tendryng invents in villa de Stokenaylond polsted and Sprowtoñ ad $x v^{m} \mathrm{p}$ se ad Summam |  | xxs | ixd. |
| S $\overline{\mathrm{m}}$ dī hundre cū bonis mobilibz | xvli | IIIjs | xıd. |
| S̄̄ To. ${ }^{\text {te }}$ libtatis Scī Edmundi cū dī hundre de Ixnyng of bonis mobilibz Johis Tendryng | $\operatorname{Sinj}^{\mathrm{xx}} l i$ | SIIS | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{c}}$ |

hic incipit libtas Scee Etheldrede hundre de plomesgate

| Benhale Saxmūhm and ffarmhñ | Injli xiiijs | v $d$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Uude p donatur p dict, Rege | $\pm \mathrm{xxs}$ | vjd |
| Aldeburgh cū haswode | Lujs | viIjd |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regen | x $s$. |  |
| Ikne cum Chesylford and Onynglborth- | xlvijs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Regem | vj¢ |  |
| Sternefeld | xxxvjs | rjd. |
| Unde p donatur p dicts Rege | vıjıs |  |
| Glemhm pua cū Stratford | xlvirje |  |
| Unde p donatur p dict9 Rege | xııjs | iIIjd |
| Glemh̄̄ magna | xLijjs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicte Regè | iIIje. |  |
| Sudburne | LIIIjs |  |
| Unde p donatur p dict9 Regem | xxs. |  |


| Rendhan chm Brosyerd | mijli | IIIjs | xd． |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Surle p dunatur p diets Regee |  | кпj． |  |
| Blaxhale eū pte de Thunstall |  | Litijs | xd． |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | vj． |  |
| Snape ciol flrestoń | $11 \mathrm{j} / \mathrm{i}$ | L．inj． | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Hind. } \\ \mathrm{v} \mathrm{l} \text {. } \end{array}$ |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | x11j， |  |
| Cranyford cū Swystlyng |  | XIS |  |
| Unde $p$ donatur p dicto Rege |  | vij． |  |
| Perhin－ |  | XLhmjs |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicte Rege－ |  | x s． |  |
| Wamysden cum pite de Tunstall |  | ııjs | ${ }_{\text {L }} / 2$ |
| Sim hundre $\beta$ deī | Vijli |  | xnje． |

hundre de Wylford

|  | vij $1 i$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { LiIje. } \\ \text { x } \end{gathered}$ | vijd ${ }^{\text {d }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Unde p donatur p dieto Regem－ |  |  |  |
| Baudesey |  |  | d． |
| Unde p donatur p dicte Regem |  | xxxiijs | Hijd． |
| Sutt | 1 j | － | viıjd． |
| Boyton cum Capell |  |  |  |
|  |  | xxxyijs | jd． |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | viljs |  |
| Rameshalt eñ Bromeswell |  | x |  |
| Unde p donatr p dicto Regem |  | vs |  |
| hollysle cū Chatyshē -Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  | XLIIjs | iIIj． |
|  |  | xxs |  |
| Wykh $\overline{\mathrm{m}}$ cū petryste and loudh̄̄m | 1 ij | XIS | ij $\%$ ． |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regem |  |  |  |
| Boulge debache and Dalanghoo－ melton cū Ufford $\qquad$ |  | xinije | IIİd |
|  | nili | inj | н⿺辶⿳亠丷厂犬． |
| Unde p donatur p dict9 Regem |  | vijjs． |  |
| Bredfeld taxatur ad $x^{\text {am }}$ |  | xvjs | v d |
| Sm hundre 3 dci－ |  | xixs | vje． |
| Inde $x^{\text {ma }}$ ， |  | xvjs | vo． |
| hundr $\rho$ de lose |  |  |  |
| hachestoñ ${ }_{\text {letherynghem }}^{\text {cū }}$ Chasfeld |  | xlyjs． |  |
|  | ij $1 i$ | пıjs | vje． |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regē |  | xijs |  |
| Estoñ cū Ketelbregh |  | rijs | vij $/$ |
| Unde $p$ donatur p dicto Regem－ Unde de $\mathrm{x}^{\text {ma }}$ de bonis Augusta waleys |  | vjs． |  |
| Cretynghīn eū Brandestoñ and Monewedene Unde p donatur p diet9 Rege $\qquad$ | ¢ | x $s$ $\times \mathrm{j} s$ | vijd． |
|  |  | vijjs | vija． |
| Aysshe - |  | xLIs |  |
| Rendelesh $\overline{\mathrm{m}}$ Unde p donatur p dicts Regem | $1 \mathrm{nj} \mathrm{l}^{\text {a }}$ | vijs | vilj $\downarrow$ d． |
|  |  | xs | jo． |

## 23


hundre de Carleford.


| Tremley and Tremley cum Alt | vijli | vjs | $\mathrm{x} d$. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| nde p donatr p dict9 Regem |  | xxilije. | IIIja. |
| Naketon leurngtoñ \& Strattoñ | ijl ${ }^{\text {l }}$ | xirjs. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Reg |  | ${ }^{\text {iiIj }}$ |  |
| Kyrketoñ ffaltenhm Bucleshm | vijli | ${ }^{\text {rjs }}$ s. |  |
| Unde p donatur p dicto Regen |  | xLs |  |
| Waltoñ \& ffylchestowe |  |  |  |
| Unde $p$ donatur $p$ dict ${ }^{\text {deg }}$ |  | ijs | rje $\%$. |



I am not acquainted with a perfect book of taxation belonging to any one county of so early a date as the foregoing. In the Chetham Library at Manchester, there is a complete list of taxes for the County of Lancaster, but this goes no further back than the middle of the 17 th Century.

It may reasonably be supposed that the principle which guided our ancestors in the making of this early assessment, was akin to that which we now term 'rateable value.' We find at a later period (4 Henry viin. a.d. 1513) that, for the "raysing of a whole taxe granted to the King," the different parishes in the Town of Ipswich were assessed as follows :-

| St. Mary le Tower | $£ 5$ | 4 | 0 | St. Mary Elms | $£ 2$ | 18 | 0 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| St. Margaret | 5 | 11 | 0 | St. Lawrence | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| St. C'lement | 4 | 9 | 8 | St. Mary at the Quay | 4 | 9 | 4 |
| St. Nicholas | 2 | 4 | 0 | St. Peter | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| St. Stephen | 2 | 4 | 8 | St. Matthew | 4 | 3 | 0 |

the total sum of which is a few shillings in excess of the actual sum at which the Burgesses of the Town were assessed in the Taxation of Henry vi. For the levying of this later Ipswich tax, two Taxers and two Collectors were nominated for each parish.

The Suffolk Taxation list gives as good an idea of the position held by the several parishes and townships in the early part of the 15 th Century as could well be desired. It is interesting to note the change that has passed over many of these places since the time when
the assessment was made. 'To give a solitary instance, drawn almost at random from the Hundred of Lothingland: the villages of Belton and Corton are each taxed at only a few shillings less than the adjacent town of Lowestoft, which itself could then have been little more than a fishing village.

The names of places as formerly written, additions made thereto, and the mention of places no longer to be found recorded in lists of Suffolk parishes, etc., are in many cases well worth notice.

A tax imposed on every parish in the Kingdom, in the year 1370, was at a uniform rate, the larger in each Hundred being commanded to help the smaller.

This account of the Taxes payable by the county of Suffolk, is followed by a curious heraldic description of the arms borne by divers Sovereigns, with the designation of the several supporters placed at the head of each. (temp. Henry vi.) It was possibly deemed absolutely necessary that an important maritime town like Ipswich should possess an authoritative document of this kind, but it is a reasonable supposition that it was not very frequently referred to.
"The most Cristex King of ffraunce* his grace berith Assure thre flowre delice golde Garuntyñ
The moste excellent \& most redoubted King of Englond $\dagger$ my most
Soûraigne lorde berith quartly Asure iij. floure delice golde and he
berith Gowlys thre lypardys $\ddagger$ passaunts golle enarmed in asure.

## Antilope

The King of Sparee. his noble grace berith quartly Gowlys. A castell golde And he berith Syluer A lyon Salijaunt Sable.

Tygre
The Kyng of Poyle.\& he berith gowlys departed wt. a Crosse golde.

[^3]An Eghe Syluer And he berith gowlys a Kyng coraions syttyng erownyd and armyd in gold sittyig uppoin a cowrser off syluer Rynnyng empailed in $\tilde{t}$ to.

## Bouas:

The King of Arogowne* he berith golde iiij palys gowlis.

## Dama:

Tine Kyng of Dexmarke he berith quarterly golde hartele gowlys iij. lypardes passaunte assure. And he berith gowlys a lyon of golde seannt in a cheire of Syluer wepenyd $w^{t}$ the same.

## Herte.

The King of Hougary. he berith quarterly asure thre Sumys golle and he berith gowlys A syluer ffecy of vj :

Ibex
The Kivg of Crpresse he berith quarterly sylũ and asure ffecy a lyon Rampaunt gowlys And he berith syluer a crosse potaney golde betwe iiij of the same.

Gerosyll.
The Kyag of Beame. $\dagger$ he berith gowlysalyone. Rampaunt Rewardyng ffurce syluer crowned and armyd in golde.

Generownys.
The Kyng of naplis he berith quarterly veert. ij. lyons passaunte golde. And he berith gowlys a Crosse matale golde

Paraundyr
Tie King of Cecyle. he bereth golde iij. pales. gowles. ij . voydures poynted syluer w ${ }^{t}$ ij. Eglys displayed Cubyll membrye with gowlys.

## Gryfrown.

The Kyng of Gryce. he berith a crosse fuse Crosse gowlys in a Champe of golde upoñ a felde of verte.

## Panter

The Kyng of naverne. $\ddagger$ he berith quarterly assure. iij flowre delyce golde $w^{t}$ a bende gobony gowlys \& syluer And he berith gowlys A charbokyll gold.

## Bradrix.

The Kyng of portuggale. he berith v. skochones eneroys asure titele psaut $w^{t}$ a bordure gowlys eastell golde.

[^4]Unycorne.
The Kinge of Skottys. he berith golde a lyon Rampaunt $\mathrm{w}^{\mathrm{t}}$ in a doble trussure count fforete gowlys Olyfaunt."
There is every reason to suppose that this description as it stands is unique: it is certainly of great interest.

The list of Knights' Fees of the Honors of Lancaster and Leicester, lying within the County of Suffolk, also finds a place in the Little Domesday Book.* Several such lists, and especially those annexed to the Duchies of Lancaster and Leicester, from various counties, are to be found in many of our public libraries, but Sims, who gives a lengthy account of these Knights' Fees in his "Manual," makes no mention of those old hereditary revenues here given, and which may be supposed to be generally unknown to students.
"Hec sunt feoda militum de honoribus lanecastr' et leycest' in
Coñutat' Suff:

In villa de Lund cum membris
In villa de Ilkttleshale cū membris
In villa de Mendhē cū membris
In villa de $W_{y t y n h m}^{m}$ cū membris
In villa de Akenhm cū membris
In villa de Hasketoñ clopton. \&
Wodebregge cū membris
In villa de Ikene cū membris -
In villa de Oteleye cū membris
In villa de Cleydone cū membre
In villa de Culfo cum membre -
In halghetre \& Alnesburne cū membre tres ptes viiio feod
In lellesseye cū membris - - Dī feod militis
In Sproutoñ cū membris - - iij feod militis
In Wylasham cū membris - $\quad$ - feod militis


In the brief, but singular "Memorandum" of ancient lineal measurements which follows, several points are touched, likely to enlighten us somewhat with regard to a matter which in the state of our present knowledge, is one of the greatest doubt and obscurity, viz., the true value and meaning of the terms anciently employed in such measurements.
"Memorandu that iiij. Barly comys takyī in the myddys of the yere (ear) makith an unche And xij. unches makith a ffoote iij. foote makith a yerd \& xyj. ffoote and a halfe makith a perehe \& iiij. perches in brede and xL in leynght makith an Akir Lond \& iiij aeres maketh a yerd of Lond And v yerds makyth a hyde of Londe \& viij hydes of Londe \& viij hydes of londe makith an Knyght's ffee."

We are at once brought face to face with the familiar fact that the standard of measurement, like that of weight, had its origin in the grain of corn, which was to be "taken in the myddys of the ear." It will be noticed that the number of grains, which according to this note
were necessary to complete an inch, were four, whereas it is now but three. The table proceeds pretty much according to our recognised rule as far as the statement that "iiij perches in brede \& xL in length makith an aker," then we meet with a "yerd," a "hide," and a "Knights' fee," concerning which there seem to have been no general agreement as to limit or extent. The old Virgate or yerd (Sux : a certain extent of land) is mostly regarded as an indefinite term containing somewhere from 25 to 40 acres, and as a necessary consequence the terms that follow are equally vague. The above "memorandum" which cannot have been framed later than the 15th Century, and probably much earlier, seems to settle the measurements with a certainty which is now scarcely recognised. The "yord" which is usually accounted only the fourth part of a hide, is here reckoned a fifth. The "hide" or "caracute," $=120$ acres, is a very ancient measurement, having been employed by the Romans: this was apparently the unit of assessment. It doubtless had its origin in the quantity of land that could be enclosed within an Ox hide, when cut into slips and carried round the land so enclosed, although this application of the term is sometimes disputed. It is sometimes called a "plough land"=caracute, owing to the quantity of land being just as much as one plough was capable of cultivating. There is considerable difference of opinion respecting what is known as "a Knights' Fee."* In the old feudal system, every holder of an extent of land called " a knight's fee," was obliged at the instigation either of the king or a superior to whom he owed service, to render according to his tenure, as occasion, and the will of his lord required. The land comprised in such a "fee" was doubtless amply sufficient to allow of a proper discharge of the knightly office, although it is difficult to say precisely what it represented. The general impression seems to be against fixing any certain amount, and it is roughly estimated at from 100 to 500 acres of arable land, but then of course the exact limit to an acre is, as
we have seen, somewhat doubtful. It may be, that the knights' fee varied in different districts, according to the nature of the soil and other considerations, but this is not very likely; at all events cight hides, (whatever they may have contained) according to the memorandum referred to, went to a Knights' fee. It appears extremely probable that the entry was made in the Ipswich Town Books for the very purpose of settling the difficulties occasioned by so arbitrary an arrangement, but I have not met with a single author acquainted with such a table.

The last portion of this book is occupied by a Rhyming Chronicle of the Kings of England, from William I. to Henry VI., which is of special interest. Little more than a mere surmise led me some time ago to ascribe the authorship of these verses to John Lydgate, the Monk-Poet of Bury Saint Edmunds, and there is every reason to regard this as a probable conjecture. Besides it appears that the lines occur in several old MSS. with some slight variations and additions, and are commonly attributed to Lydgate. There is a copy among the Harlcian MSS. in the British Museum (2251. f. 2. b.) with an additional stanza relating to the reign of Edward IV. There is one in the handwriting of Shirley, the transcriber of Chaucer, in the Ashmolean Library (No. 59) at Oxford, and written probably about the year 1456 , with additions by other hands. The lines were printed in 1530 by Wynkyn de Worde, with additions to the reign of Henry VílI. The verses also occur in a 15th Century MS. known as the " Historical Collections of a London Citizen," fol. 110-112, with this heading, "Cronycles of alle Kyngys of Englonde aftyr the Conqueste as of thyr namys ande where that they bene i-byryede." This was printerl by the Camden Soriety in 1876, and the additional stanza is inserted from the Harleian MS. There are several variations, the most important of which I have indicated in foot notes to the Ipswich Great Domesday text, which stands altogether unencumbered with notes.
"Willm the Conqueror
This mighty Willm of Normandy As Bokys olde makith meneon
Be iuste tytle \& by his Chevalry made Kyng by conquest of brutesalbioñ putte ought harald and toke possesyon Bare his Crowne full xxj. yere Buryd at Come thus seithe the cronyclere

Willms Ruffus
Next in ordrelye Successyon
Willm Ruffus his sone crownyd kynge whiche to godwarde had noin denocioñ Distroyed Chirehes of new \& old byldynge To make a fforest plesaunt for huntynge xiij yere bare his Crowne in dede Buryel at Wynchestyr ye may rede.

Hemricus Primus
his Brother next eallid Harry the fyyrst was at londoñ crownyd as I fynde whos Brother Robard Duke of Normandy gav Warre $\dagger$ the cronycle makith mynde Reconsiled all ranker sett behynde ffull xxxj $\ddagger$ yere be record of wrytynge he Reignyd And buried att Redyng.

Stephanus.
his brother§ Stevyn̄ wheñ Herry the first was dede Toward yngland gaue Crosse his sayle the Arehebysshoppe dyd sett up oñ his hede
A Rich Crowne beyng of councelle.
xix. yers $w^{t}$ sorowe and grett travayle
bare his erowne \& nevyr had Rest
And at ffeũsham lyeth buried in a Chest

Henricus II 9
Henry the $u^{\text {le }}$ son of the Impasse. was erownyd next a full manly knyght As books of olde pleynly dothe expresse this seid henry by ffroward force and myght.* yerys xaxv regnyd as it is made of mynd Att ffount Everard lyeth buried As I ffynd.

Ricartus p̃mus
Richard his soñ by Successyon. ffirst of that name stronge hardy \& notabyll was crownyd Kynge callid cure de lyon. $w^{t}$ sarasyn̄s heds servyd at his Tabyll Slayne at Calyas by dethe lamentabyll the space regnyd fully $x \dagger$ yere his harte buried at Roone und ${ }^{r}$ the hie awter.

## Iohannes

Nexte Kyng Richard regnyd his brother John after sone entery in to ffraunce. lost all Aungee \& Normandy A non̄ This Lond enterdicted by his $\ddagger$ goūnannce. And as it is putt in remembraunce xviij yere Kynge of Regioņ̄ lyeth at worsettyr deyde of poysoñ.

Henricus iija
Herry the iijde Son of ix yere Age was at Gloweettr crownyd as I rede longe warre he had $w^{t}$ his baronage Gretly delicted in Almesse dede lvje ${ }^{\text {te }}$ yere he regnyd here in dede buried at Westmyster by recorde of writyng the day of Seynt Edminde martir \& kyng. $\|$

[^5]Edwardus pumus
Edward the first w ${ }^{t}$ his shanks longe
Was aftir crownyd that was a good knyght.
Wanne Skotlande mager the Skotts stronge
And all Walys in the dispyte of ther myght. duryng his liff mayntenyd trew \& Right xxxv yere he was here Kyng.
lyeth at Westmynster this is no leasyng.
Edwardus ijg
Edwarde his son callid Carnervañ succedyng aftyr to make his Alyaunce
As the Cronycle well reherse cañ
Weddyd the doughter of Kyng of ffraunce
Unto Tho $\overline{\mathrm{m}} \mathrm{s}$ of lancastar he toke venisaunce
xix yeres held here Regaly
Buried at Glowcettr books speciffye.
Edwardus iii9
Edwarde the iij ${ }^{\text {de }}$ borne at Wyndsoore
Whiche in Knyghthood had so great a pace
Enherytour of ffrannce wtouten moore bare in his armys quarto iij flowre delyce*
And gate Calice hi his prudent device Regnyd in Inglond lj† yere
lyeth at Westmynster thus saieth the cronycler

## Ricūs ijg

The son of $\tilde{p}$ nce Edward Richard the $i j^{\text {de }}$
In whos tyme was peaese $\&$ great plente.
TVeddyd quene Anne of Bowañ $\ddagger$ as it is ffounde
Isbell after of fframee who lyfte to se.§
xxij. yere he reynyd here pde
at Langley buried ffirst so stond the case
After to Westmyster his body caried was.

* quarto the fllowre delyce $\quad+$ lij $\ddagger$ dele of Bowan
$\S$ Isbell after of ffrance he lystede to see


## IJemricus iiij,

Henry the iiije next crownel in certeyn
A ffimnows knyght of grete cemlynesse* from his exile when he come home ageyn $w^{t}$ werre travayled and $w^{t}$ greate sekenesse xiiij yers lee reigned in sothenesse lyeth att cawntabury in that holy place god of his marey do his sowle grace.

Hemricus quitus.
Thet fyrst hemry of knyghthode lodsterre Wyse + manly pleynly to detmyne. ffortmate $\tilde{\rho}$ ryd in pease din werre grettly exspert in marey full diseiplyne able to stonde amonge the worthyes is.§ Reigned $x$ yers who that lyst to regarden lyeth at Westmynster by Seynt Edwarde. T

## Henricus Sextus

Henry the Syxte brought forth in** vertu by Inst tytle and by Inheritannec. provyelyd be forme by the grace of Ihnit $\dagger$ To be crownyd yn Inglond \& in ffrannce. $\$ \ddagger$ Reignyned xxxix yere \& God gaffe hym sufficiañees of rituos lyffe \& chose liym for liis Knyght At W yndesore buried And myracles doth by Goddys myght.ill

The abrupt ending of the verses in this lpswich MS. is significant, and may probably throw some light upon the time of Lydgate's death, which has long been a disputed point. Warton, (History of English Poetry, Sec.

[^6]xxi, Note) thinks that the stanza relating to Edward IV. in the Harleian copy, could scarcely have been written by Lydgate, and gives substantial reasons for his opinion. The fifteenth and last stanza relating to Henry VI., as given in the MSS. of the 'London Citizen,' and that of the Ipswich Domesday volume, differ in thisimportant particular, that, while the one assumes the King to be living, the other distinctly alludes to his burial. It is not unlikely that both versions are correct, and each the work of Lydgate, written at two different periods. It is well to point out the discrepancy which exists between the title as given in the former, and the concluding stanza, which omits the place of burial. I will briefly state my reasons for the conclusion at which I have arrived. The Ipswich Domesday copy, as it now exists in the volume which I have already described, was certainly inscribed there in A.D. 1520, and most likely, as was the case with much other matter forming the same volume, copied from an older Ms., that had for some time been deposited among the Town Archives, perhaps even from the time when it was originally written. Especially considering the proximity of the Abbey where lydgate was an inmate, to the 'Town of Ipswich, there is strong probability for supposing that this epitomized English history, mellowed into verse, would early find its way into safe custody at Ipswich, and escape receiving additional stanzas of the subsequent reigns of Edward IV, Edward V, Kichard III, and Henry VII. Lydgate's memory and genius, if there were no other cause likely to operate in favour of the poem retaining its original features, would probably be sufficient to deter men in the attempt to make any additions.

The remaining portions of this Sixth book are certainly of the time of Henry VI. I am strongly of opinion that the whole of the contents are of the same period, and that the heading 'Edwardus quartus' following' Stanza xv, marks the precise time when the work came forth (not necessarily for the first time) from Lydgate's
pen, viz., soon after the accession of Edward IV. (eir. 1462 ), which probably marks the time of Lydgates decease. He certainly lived until the end of the reign of Henry VI., and nothing is more likely, that in closing this Sovereign's reign, the writer should add the name of the King's successor, who had but lately ascended the throne. Such I am inclined to think is a true account of the authenticity of these verses, drawn from inferences which I cannot but regard as fair and reasonable.

It only now remains to give the stanza which appears in the Harleian copy; it has a very different 'ring' about it to the preceding verses, ascribed to Lydgate, and to my mind plainly points to an author other than he.

> "Edvardus Quartus.
> Comforth all thirsty and drynke with gladness, Rejoyse with myrth though ye have not to spende, The tyme is come to avoyden your distres. Elvard the Fourth the old wronges to amend, Is wele disposed in will; and to defend His lond and peple indede with kynne and myght Goode lyf and longe, I pray to God hyn send And that Seynt George be with hym in his hyght."

The object of placing in a collection of this description such apparently extraneous matters as these which occupy the Sixth book, is not quite clear, although certainly they would, as I have shewn, have their use. It may have been out of mere caprice, or for want of a more suitable repository, that they are here entered; certainly it has been the means of preserving to us much interesting matter, which may prove exceedingly useful from other than an antiquarian standpoint, and perchance, when its true value is understood, we shall confess that we can ill afford to spare.


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[^0]:    * "Le Iomesday des Leyes et Usages de Gippewiz 19 Edw: I. Br: Mus: clvir. b. Add MSS. 25,011.

[^1]:    * The Black Book of the Admiralty, Appendix, Part ii, vol. ii, 1873. Edited by Sir Travers Twiss, Q.c., D.c.L.

[^2]:    * East Anglian, New Ser., vol, r., pp. 38, 41.

[^3]:    *This was the ordinary title of the Kings of France: it is ancient, but of uncertain origin.
    $\pm$ Leos-pardes, not leopards. Until late in the 14 th Century, the lions of the Royal Shield of England were known as leopards. It was an heraldic title only, denoting the precise attitude of the lion, walking and looking about him after the mauner of a leopard.

[^4]:    * Arragon, the eastern part of Spain
    $\dagger$ Bohemia
    $\ddagger$ Navarre.

[^5]:    * This stanza in the Ipswich Domesday MS. has but six lines. In the MS. copy from which the Camden . Society printed, the fifth line stands as 'Slowe Thomas (Bekett is interlined here in a later hand) for Hooly Chyrche ryght.' The omission from this later MS. is casily understood.
    $\dagger_{\mathrm{IX}} \quad \ddagger \mathrm{mys} \quad \S$ this regyon
    || Seynt Edwardi martir mayde \& Kyng.

[^6]:    * semblesse $\dagger \mathrm{v} \quad \ddagger$ wyse and manly
    § spousyde the doughter of Fraunce, Katerynne
    il who lyste to have rewarde not far fro Synt Edwarde
    ** in alle vertu
    + provydyd $a$ forne by the grace of Thī Chryste
    +t To were ij crownys in Englonde and in Fraunce
    \$ To whom tion hath gevyn souerayne suffycyaunce
    iilil Long he hathe rejoysed both by day and nyght.

