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Printed & Published by William Willis

*West View of the Church of St. Mary, Bolton.*

1848.

THE HISTORY

OF

The Parish of Bitton,

IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER.

BY THE

*Rev. H. T. Ellacombe*  
REV. H. T. ELLACOMBE, M.A., F.S.A.,

OF ORIEL COLLEGE, OXFORD,  
RECTOR OF CLYST S. GEORGE, DEVON,  
FORMERLY VICAR OF BITTON.

*Vol. I*

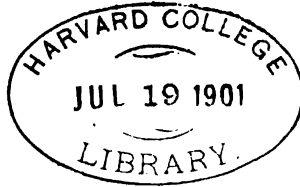
“Maxima de nihilo nascitur Historia.”—PROPERTIUS.

*W. P.*

EXETER:

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### HISTORICAL ANTIQUITIES.

"There be some who slight and despise this sort of learning, and represent it to be a dry, barren, monkish study: but I dare assure any wise and sober man that HISTORICAL ANTIQUITIES do deserve and will reward the 'pains of' any English student. . . . I wish the excellent parts of many other writers were not spent upon more frivolous arguments, where by subtleties, and cavils, and controverting quibbles, they serve only to weaken Christianity, and (what otherwise were pardonable) to expose one another." *Bishop Kennett's History of Kidlington, 1695.*

36-154  
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## P R E F A C E .

The first chapter of this volume, relating to the Mother Church of Bitton, was read as a Paper before the Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society, September 23rd, 1875, and now forms a part of the fourth volume, second series, of the Society's *Transactions*. The Plates at the end were reduced from drawings kindly supplied by Mr. H. R. Perry of Bath, to whom I return my most sincere thanks.

The second chapter relates to the history of the several Manors, with Records of great interest.

The third chapter relates to the celebrated Common Meads of Bitton.

The fourth chapter does not embrace a full history of the whole Forest or Chase of Kingswood, but chiefly of that portion which lies in the Parish of Bitton.

Collecting materials for this history has been a labour of love, beginning from the beginning of my residence in the parish, and following it up *ever since* as opportunities might occur (sometimes not without long intervals of doing nothing): examining, I may say, all the available records in London, with the courteous assistance of the gentlemen in charge of the several departments: though the searches were attended with much pleasure, they were not effected without considerable expense.

The parish has long been notorious for lawsuits, between the chiefs, about manorial or other rights, especially about Kingswood, between the Crown and pretended lords, nearly the whole proceedings of which by purchase or the kind presents of many friends (to all and each of whom I take this opportunity of returning thanks), have come into my possession; the result being the most important portion of what is now issued.

Other chapters are to follow, relating to the Manufactures, the Geology, and Flora of the parish, the Via Julia and some other antiquities, with

an Appendix of Ancient Records in extenso; but at my advanced age I have thought it advisable to leave these for a second volume: presuming by so doing, I am acting in accordance with the wishes of kind friends who desire to possess the work: still not without hope that it may please our Heavenly Father, with length of days, to continue to me vigour of mind and clearness of intellect, to finish the work I have been spared to see so far completed.

Whatever defects or printers' errors may be found, I would request the courteous reader to favour me with his discovery, that they may be amended in the future volume.<sup>1</sup>

I will conclude with a translation of my Greek colophon motto:

"Ye who from your natural disposition, as well as from your education, are in all things good and kindly affectionate, and moderate . . . . be favourable to this work."

H.T.E.

CLYST S. GEORGE,

*Epiphany, 1881.*

<sup>1</sup> The issue is limited to 125 copies. All the plates appear in this volume.

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“Part of the worke remaines, one part is past :  
And here my Ship rides, having Anchor cast.”

—Herrick's *Hesperides*, 1648.

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Ἕμεῖς, ὧ πάντα ἐν πᾶσι φύσει καὶ παιδείᾳ χρηστοί, καὶ  
μετριοί, καὶ φιλανθρωποί, . . . .  
τοσους λόγους ἐπινεύσατε.

Ad. fin. Op.---Justin Martyr, Ed. Paris, 1636, p. 39.

THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF S. MARY BITTON,  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

BY THE REV. H. T. ELLACOMBE, M.A., F.S.A.,

(Sometime Vicar of Bitton,)

RECTOR OF CLYST S. GEORGE, DEVON.

READ AT THE COLLEGE HALL, EXETER, 23 SEPTEMBER, 1875.

INTRODUCTION.

Bitton is a parish of large extent, containing in its entirety 7,165 acres,<sup>1</sup> in the Hundred of Langley and Swineshead. The Prebendal Church of S. Mary is about six miles east of the City of Bristol, six west from Path, and thirty-eight south-west from Gloucester. It is bounded on the east by a corner of Somersetshire, from which it is separated by a brook at Swinford, on the west by S. George's, on the north by Abson and Siston, and on the south by the river Avon, which parts it from Keynsham, in Somersetshire.

The river Boyd runs through, and probably gives name to the parish, which has been variously written in different ages; it is *Beturne* in Domesday Book, *Button* in other ancient records, which will be found in the Appendices in the History of the Manor; and latterly Bitton; all which are supposed to be contractions of, or corrupt modes of writing BOYD TOWN, that is, the town on the river Boyd, which is thus commemorated in an ancient poem, called "The Secrets of Angling," by John Dennys, Esq., published 1632.

1 Bitton	...	...	...	...	...	3355 acres
Oldland	...	...	...	...	...	2615 ,,
Hanham	...	...	...	...	...	1195 ,,
						<hr/>
						7,165 ,,

“And thou, sweet Boyd, that with thy wat’ry sway  
 Dost wash the cliffes off Deington and of Week,  
 And through their rocks, with crooked winding sway,  
 Thy mother Avon runnest soft to seek :  
 In whose fair streams the speckled trout doth play,  
 The roch, the dace, the gudgin, and the bleike.”

A large portion of the parish lies in that tract of ground formerly called the Forest of Kingswood, which was disafforested in the reign of Henry the Third, a portion being reserved as a royal chase; about which reference may be made to the Appendix. Rudder, in his *County History*, of 1779, truly says of this parish that “It is beautifully varied with easy elevations, and some bolder rising grounds, which form a very agreeable landscape, as seen from several points of view. The soil is rich and fertile, consisting chiefly of loam, intermixed with different proportions of sand, and in some parts a little clay. The greater part is meadow and pasture, both in common fields and inclosure.”

As for the common fields, they were inclosed by a local Act passed 59th George III., 1819, excepting certain meadows known by the names of Holm-mead,<sup>1</sup> Micklemead,<sup>2</sup> Sydenham,<sup>3</sup> and Edensfield<sup>4</sup>—in which certain householders within the entire parish had unstinted right of common of pasture from Lammas-tide<sup>5</sup> till old Candlemas-day, or 14th of February—all which rights were extinguished by the Commissioners acting under the provisions of the Act 8 and 9 Vict., c. 118, and being thus disfranchised the lands were afterwards sold.

There was an ancient custom connected with the opening or breaking

				A.	R.	P.
<sup>1</sup> Holm-mead measures	...	...	...	99	2	19
<sup>2</sup> Micklemead	„	...	...	63	1	14
<sup>3</sup> Sydenham	„	...	...	40	1	37
<sup>4</sup> Edensfield	„	...	...	13	0	22

216 2 12

<sup>3</sup> It was in *Sydenham* meadow that the Duke of Monmouth and his rebel army, amounting to about 1,000 horse and foot, besides field pieces, &c., were encamped on the 25th of June 1685, about ten days before they were defeated at Sedgemoor.

<sup>5</sup> The day was the first Saturday after the 21st of August, at twelve o'clock noon, or 10th of August (O.S.)

of these meadows, which was done in this manner: by the proprietors of three estates—a white bull was turned into one; a black boar into another; and a black stallion into another; after which, those who had rights turned in their cattle. The origin of this singular custom has not been made out.

Great quantities of coal are dug in this parish, particularly in the Chace; there are quarries of Pennant and blue and white lias; bastard oolite occurs towards *Landsdown*, from which it is supposed the stone was taken for the building of the Parish Church. In the *lias*, fossils of nautili, saurians, &c. are abundant.

There are two principal Tythings in this parish, now called Hamlets, viz.—Oldland and Hanham. Within the former was an early English Chapel, which was pulled down and rebuilt in the year 1830; adjoining which is a parsonage house, and by an Order in Council dated June 26th 1861, an Ecclesiastical District of S. Ann's, Oldland, was formed out of Bitton. There is also the large Church of the Holy Trinity on Kingswood Hill, which was the first Church built by the "Million Fund Commissioners," and consecrated September 11th 1821, by the late Bishop Ryder. To it is annexed an Ecclesiastical District taken out of the Hamlet of Oldland.

Within the other, viz.—Hanham, or more properly West Hanham, there is an ancient Late Norman Chapel, in which there remains a font and a piscina of that date. The building was restored (as it is called) in 1852. There is also Christ Church, with a parsonage house and school, built on Jefferies' Hill, and consecrated October 18th 1842, by Bishop Monk: This by Queen Ann's Bounty was made a separate parish, and by an Order in Council dated March 4th 1844, the new Church was made the Parish Church, and the ancient Chapel of Hanham Abbots a Chapel of Ease to it. This West Hanham and Grange annexed, with Norman barn adjoining, formerly belonged to Keynsham Abbey, to which it was given A.D. 1330 (See Appendix). So that now there are five Churches within the parish. There is also a Parsonage house with schools annexed to that on Kingswood-hill; and also a Parsonage house annexed to that at Oldland, built in 1849, with school buildings, also the district of Warmley, the history of all which will be found in the Appendices. So much by way of introduction to the mother Church of Bitton.



*(Domus Mansionalis Omnipotentis Dei.)*

Bitton, or Button, is a Prebend founded at an early unknown date in the Cathedral Church of S. Mary's at Salisbury. It is the most southern parish in the Diocese and County of Gloucester; but before 1552 it was in the diocese of Worcester. The exact date of the foundation of the building is buried in obscurity. The Church held half the parish in the time of Edward the Confessor,<sup>1</sup> but no record of its ancient history has been found. We can therefore judge of its age only by what we see. It is not improbable that, like the Abbey at Bath and many other sacred buildings, it stands on the site of a heathen temple, remains of Roman bricks having been found in the Norman masonry of the western wall of the nave when penetrating (in 1850) through it for

<sup>1</sup> Domesday, 6, 1706, lxxij.

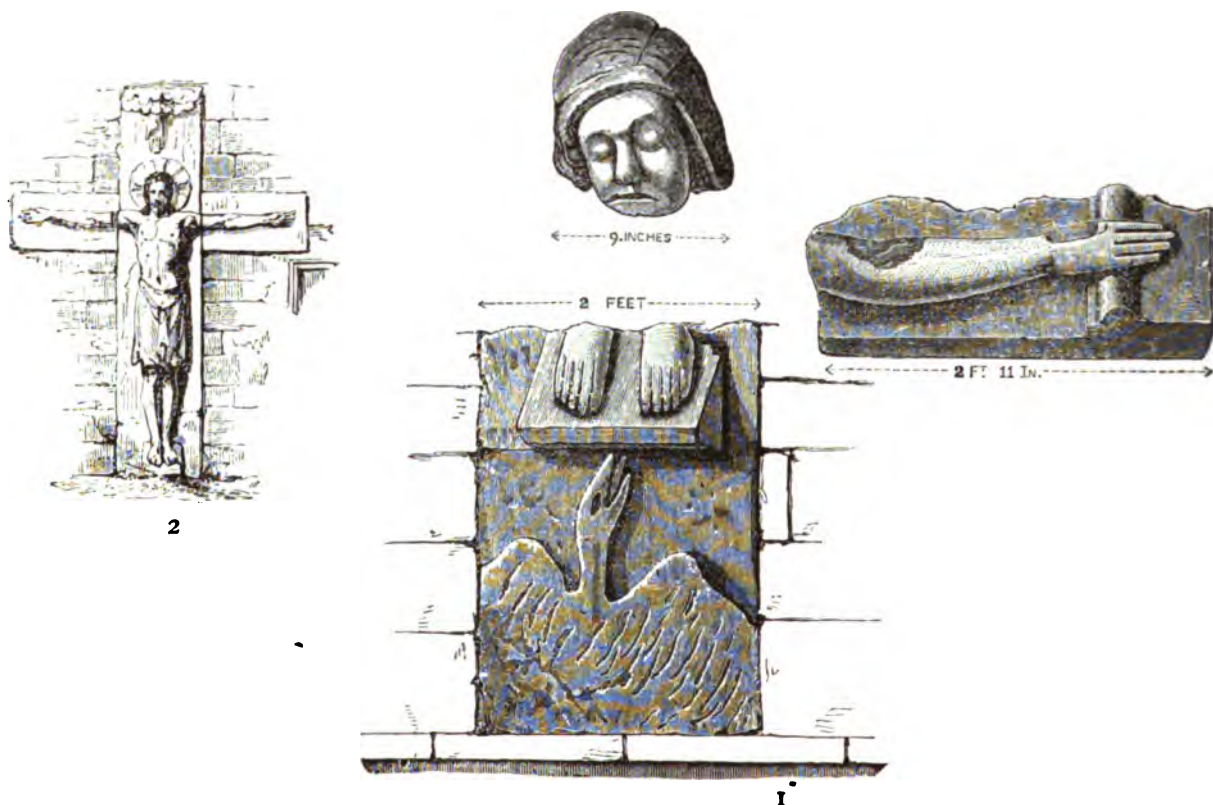
making the present entrance to the staircase of the tower from the outside. Tesseræ of Roman pavements have also been found in the Church-yard, with an abundance of cinerary ware and burnt earth. Roman coins also have been found in abundance in the neighbourhood; there are remains of Roman villas. The Via Julia from Bath to Bristol runs through the village.

We will first call attention to the existing remains of Early work, beginning at the Chancel arch. On the east side, in the Chancel, the abacusses of the original semicircular arch may be seen *in situ*. There used to be a plain hood mould. The arch itself was constructed with perfectly plain voussures resting on plain jambs of long and short work. In 1760-1 that arch work and jambs were covered with plaster of Paris ornamentation. Mr. John Wood, the celebrated architect of many of the fine buildings in Bath, who resided for a time at the Prebendal house adjoining, was one of the churchwardens at that time. Over this arch—the exact size of the present—on the west side was a plain hood mould,

In one deposit were found the following in a small earthen vessel :

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>Valentinian I. A.D. 361.</i>  |  |
| 1. D.N. VALENTINIANVS. P.F. AVG.<br>Head of the Emperor.                                       | 7. DITTO.<br>B. VIRTVS. ROMANORVM. as No. 4.   |
| B. VIRTVS. EXERCITVS. Valentinian standing erect, holding the Labarum and a Globe.<br>Ex. LVG. | 8. DITTO.<br>B. VIRTVS. ROMANORVM, as No. 4.   |
| —  |  |
| <i>Valentinian II. A.D. 383.</i>   |  |
| 2. D.N. VALENTINIANVS. IVN. P.F. AVG.<br>Head of the Emperor.                                  | 9. D.N. EVGENIVS. P.F. AVG.<br>Head of the Emperor to the right.   |
| B. VRBS. ROMA. Rome seated, holding a Victory and a Hasta. Ex. AQ. PS.                         | B. VIRTVS. ROMANORVM. Rome seated, holding a Globe surmounted by a Victory.<br>All copper or Billon.   |
| —  |  |
| 3. DITTO.<br>B. VIRTVS. EXERCITVS. The Emperor holding a Standard and a Globe.                 | <i>Arcadius. A.D. 395.</i><br>Silver.  |
| —  |  |
| <i>Gratian. A.D. 367.</i>  |  |
| 4. D.N. GRATIANVS. P.F. AVG,<br>Head of the Emperor.   | 10. D.N. ARCADIVS. P.F. AVG.<br>B. VIRTVS ROMANORVM. Rome seated.<br>Ex. MDPS.   |
| B. VIRTVS. ROMANORVM. Rome seated holding a Globe, and the Hasta reversed.<br>Ex. AQ. PS.      | 11. CONSTANTIVS. A.D. 306.   |
| —  |  |
| 5. DITTO.<br>B. DITTO. Ex. TR. PS.   | 12. TETRICVS.  |
| —  |  |
| 6. DITTO.<br>B. VOT. X. MVLT. XX. in a Laurel, Crown.  | 13. Small coin, found A.D. 1822, in Mrs. Mantell's Garden.<br>At Oldland near Bitton was found Feb. 1836 a fine silver medallion of Valentinian, with several denarii, some of Arcadius. |

and the plain string course still *in situ*; above which are the rudely carved remains of what is supposed to be a colossal effigy of the Saviour treading on some dragon—(see Fig. 1)—so that the original roof must have been very high pitched to admit such a figure being visible inside the Church. A very similar figure exists at Romsey, not now inside the Church, but placed against the outside of the wall of the south transept. (Fig. 2<sup>1</sup>). The date of this plain work—viewed with

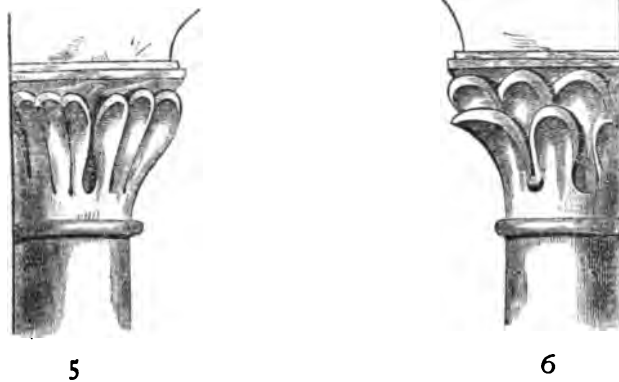


other plain work still existing—may be as early as 1100, coeval with the plain Norman corbel table on the north and south side.

At the distance of 100 feet from the west side of this Chancel arch was the west end. This fact was ascertained by taking up the pavement of the present tower, and there was found the original entrance step, six inches below the present floor; and on the outside of the tower, in

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to the courtesy of Mr. Parker of Oxford for the loan of this Cut from his "English Saints."

a line with the outside south wall of the Church, we found the foundations of two flat Norman buttresses ; so that, when the present tower was built, the nave was reduced to its present length, and the south wall west of the doorway, now blocked up, will be seen to be of a different style of masonry, and somewhat roughly sloped off to be tied into the angular tower buttress. This south doorway (now blocked up) has an elegantly plain Norman arch, with hood moulding springing from capitals of much later date. The capitals (Figs. 5, 6) and bases of these columns are



original, but the columns were set up in 1822, at which time the inside jambs of this doorway, with a bold tones running all round a depressed arch, were unfortunately destroyed. (Plate).

On the north side, immediately opposite, was a corresponding doorway, which was destroyed in 1299, when the two arches were built by Bp. Bitton opening the Chantry Chapel to the nave; the foundations of this doorway were discovered in 1849.

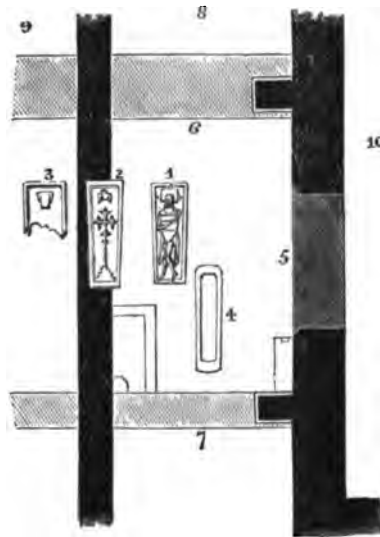
Over the then north entrance there was a square-headed single-light window, with deep inside splays and fan-like arch over. It had been blocked up when the north-east buttress of the tower was built and carried into it. Upon removing the masonry in 1822 for the purpose of converting this window (accidentally discovered by the removal of some plaster) into an entrance to the then existing gallery, it was found that the window had been closed first of all at the time the west wall of the chantry was built ; for the end of that wall was carried close up and against the bars of this window, which appeared *in situ*, and whitewashed as well as the wall was ; and so, in the Church, this blocked-up window



was like a circular-headed niche, in which state it must have remained until closed by the tower buttress.

There was another window—of which the outline of the same arch may still be seen—exactly like it in the north wall, close to the east end of the chantry; there was also a square-headed window over the rood-loft staircase: so that the probability is that all the windows of the Church were originally of the same Norman type as those on the south side, and would be destroyed in the reign of Henry the Sixth, when the two three-light windows were constructed; that, close by the chantry was destroyed in 1823, when the present two-light window was inserted.

Massive blocks of Norman ashlar masonry may still be seen in the north and south walls. This work was disturbed very little when the two arches were inserted in 1299 between the nave and the chantry. On the north and south there were transepts, as may be seen by the remains of the arches and chamfers of the openings. That on the south side was a Mortuary Chapel, in which the tombs of the Button family



1. Tomb of Robert de Button.
2. Tomb of Emmote de Hastings.
3. Fragment.
4. Stone Coffin found in 1843.
5. Space originally open between nave and transept.
- 6 and 7. Old Foundations.
8. Part of Churchyard.
9. Parsonage Garden.
10. Nave.

were discovered in 1826 just below the level of the floor. (See Engravings in Appendix). The foundations of this transept extended under the wall and into the Rectory or Parsonage garden twelve feet.

The archway on the north side may have been an opening into a tower before the present western tower was built. Many such side towers still exist, *e.g.*, Fremington. When this opening was walled up in the fifteenth

century a low doorway was made, leading, as I imagine, to the basement of such a tower. Upon examining the ground in 1842 outside, foundations were discovered extending four feet beyond the present wall. The ashlar was face worked, and bore marks of having been fired or burnt. Many fragments of Norman tiles were found—one with the arms of De Vivon, another of Berkley, early lords of the manor; also a piece of Roman flue tile.

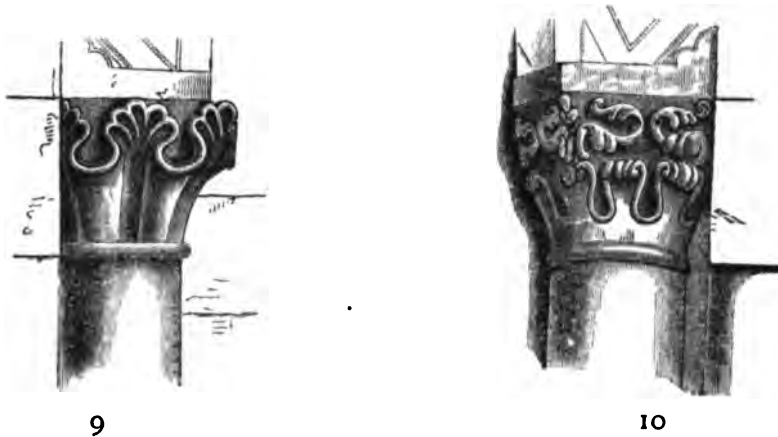
On the south side of the Chancel arch there was a plain oblong squint or hagioscope, that persons in the south transept might see the elevations at the altar. Among the fillings up was found a fragment of a bishop's effigy (Fig. 8), with the colossal head and arm of the rood: fragments, no doubt, of the feet above.



8

In January 1823 the staircase leading to the ancient rood-loft was discovered in the north wall, plainly accounting for the excrescence on the outside of that wall.

It may be safely inferred from an examination of the masonry in close approximation to the elegant Norman doorway in the north wall, that that doorway was not inserted there at the time of the building of the chantry chapel adjoining, and that it is not the door case destroyed on account of the building of the two arches. There are traces of disturbance in the masonry of the wall—the removal of a flat Norman buttress—the masonry of the arch is imperfect. At the point commonly called the key-stone, one arch stone is missing (see Plate): the space appropriated for the insertion of this door-case was not wide enough, so that some of the hood mould is buried in the adjoining wall, and that the elegant capital (Fig. 9) might not share the same fate it is made to project two inches from its proper place, the abacusses also are left out. The great torus of the door-case itself has been chopped down; the quirks may be traced on one side.



It has long been my opinion that when the tower was built at the west end which was taken down, there would be, as we find in other Norman Churches, a western entrance, one of more elaborate work than those in the side walls, and that this distorted door case which we now see might have been that very one; and, in order to preserve it from total destruction, it was, as it were, squeezed in (the placing it there being an after-thought) as best they could; a smaller doorway through the angle buttress having been before most ingeniously constructed, as may be seen, three feet wide and of the tower date. The plinths of the Norman doorcase were buried, the floor of the Church having been raised six inches when the tower was built.

This completes the account of the Norman work in the Church, and it is not difficult to determine the character of the old Norman Church. It was a long single aisle Church, of considerable height, with a row of small windows placed high up, and a north and south, and probably a rich western doorway; it had either north and south transepts, or a south transept and a northern tower. Of the Norman Chancel there are no remains, and it is impossible to conjecture either its size or shape; it may have been a short apse, as suggested by Mr. E. H. Freeman, when he visited the Church with the Somerset Archæological Society in 1876, and this only accounts for the unusual shortness of the Chancel as compared with the long nave. There may have been reasons why the Chancel of the fifteenth century should not occupy more ground than the older Chancel of the tenth century.

Following in the order of construction, we come to the chantry of S. Catherine, on the north side of the Church, founded by Thomas de Button, Bishop of Exeter, over the bodies of his parents, who were buried there. The ordinance for this chantry is dated May 1299. (See Appendix). In 1822 a stone coffin was found at the foot of the altar step; it had been previously disturbed. The elegant sedilia, with a piscina under four canopies, are worthy of study—(see Plate)—as are the six side windows with their esconsôn arches. The western entrance to this chapel is a rich bit of work. The roof at present is flat; but we cannot suppose it was so originally. The east window is composed of three lights of equal height, with pointed cusps in each. On the front of the Chancel step is inscribed in modern encaustic tiles.—

**THIS IS THE CHANTRY OF S. CATHERINE,  
FOUNDED A.D. 1299, BY THOMAS DE BUTTON,  
BISHOP OF EXETER, OVER THE BODIES OF  
HIS FATHER AND MOTHER, WHO WERE  
BURIED HERE.**

In the portico or vestibule of this chantry chapel there were rough stone seats all round, probably coeval with the chantry, before the same space was used as a church entrance, which it would not have been before the building of the tower and doorway through the buttress: the entrance to the Church must have been by the west and south doors.

Following the order of construction, as I have made it out, we must now briefly notice the two-light decorated window in the north wall, probably constructed of old window tracery, as the lines are not very correctly formed. Neither must we omit the two small square headed windows on the south side, constructed, no doubt, when the south transept was standing.

We now come to the very beautiful tower which was begun, in my humble opinion, as early as 1377, at least within the reign of Edward III, judging from the doorway corbels, which represent that King with his dividèd flowing beard and jewelled crown, with strawberry leaves (Fig. 11). and

Eleanor his Queen.<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 12). If the doorway had been of a later date, it would have had, probably, a square panelled head moulding with spandrels.



11



12

The four-light west window is like those in the ante-chapel of New College, Oxon, built before 1380; judging from the very unworkmanlike way in which the string course is finished off at the sides, this window may have been an after thought, an insertion, not much later, but after the basement had been carried above it. Be that as it may, looking at the upper work, it surely very plainly tells its own history; viz.—that all *that* was done by other hands than those which began and built the basement; yet, as a whole, it is a beautiful design, and has been considered a masterly piece of masonry, especially the way in which the panelling of the turret staircase is executed, and the north window of the bell chamber brought to the centre of the north wall, which did not appear to have occurred to them when they were building the window below. (See Plate).

All the details of the three-quarter pinnacles which spring from the slopes of the angle buttresses are the work of a master's hand; and even now show a sharpness of arrisses, having been fortunately wrought in the hard bed of bastard oolite, supposed to have been dug out of the western escarpment of Landsdown, in the parish.

The spiret was reconstructed in 1842. The tradition is, that the original one was destroyed by lightning about 1680. A corner of the lower string

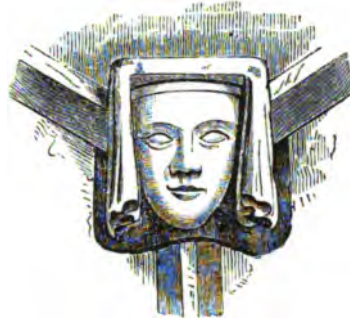
<sup>1</sup> Rot. Pat., 17th Edward III, p. 31, m. 3. 'Rex concessit Adæ de Thorp barbi tonsori suo, in feodo unum messuagium viginti et quinque acras terre, et tres acras prati Eye juxta Westmonasterium nuper Edwardi Barber de Eye.' The monument of Edward III in Westminster Abbey, and this corbel, are proofs of the attention of the King to his beard.

course of the tower appears to have been broken off by its fall, and it is known, from entries in the parish books, that, in 1687, the Chapelries paid the sum of £16 10s. 11½d. towards repairing the Church porch. The ceiling of the tower was constructed in 1822; it is plastered between arched ribs of wood, with a trap door in the centre.

We must now return to the elegant and unique Chancel. I call it unique, for I know no other instance where the principles of lateral groining are shown and produced on a flat surface as we see in the vaulting of the roof. (See Plate). The date of this may be put at about 1450-60. The fine five-light east window corresponds in the tracery with the windows at S. Mary's, Redcliffe, built about 1440. There are bosses in the roof worthy of notice; that immediately over the altar being the head of the Saviour (Fig. 13), the next is the head of the Virgin (Fig. 14), then a grotesque (Fig. 15); and two dogs (Fig. 16) at the principal intersection. There are



13



14



15



16

other grotesques and Tudor roses at other intersections. The roses have

six petals instead of five the usual number, perhaps an accidental blunder of the carver's.

The triple sedilia and piscina, with credence table all on the same level, though perfectly plain, are evidence that there was a permanent number of priests and deacons once employed within these sacred walls.

At the same time that this Chancel was built, the sacrarium on the north side was annexed; not with the eastern doorway which now exists, for that was made in 1822 by cutting down the window.

The roofs of the Chancel and sacrarium were originally, and are still, covered with tabulated stone work; but as it was not found sufficiently effectual for keeping out the wet, the whole was covered with slate.

It may be noticed that the Chancel is not set evenly as to the arch. At this distance of time it is difficult to account for such anomalies. There was a bell cot on the apex outside for the Sancte Bell; the hole for the rope may still be seen. It may also be worthy of notice that the sill of the window on the north side is considerably lower than those on the south side; probably the latter were raised to give more room for the sedilia.

I attribute this elegant Chancel to John Gunthorpe, elected Dean of Wells 1472, who has the character of being a good architect, and has left proof of his ability in the Deanery of Wells, which he built 1472. He was also Prebendary of Bitton from 1492 to 1496, and in his will, dated June 25, 1498, he left the sum of £20 to the altar at Bitton, with which money, equal to about £80 of the present day, this work might have been carried on to completion.<sup>1</sup>

During what may be called the dark ages in modern ecclesiology, the east window was walled up to the springing, and a Tuscan altar piece with entablature was set up against it, the work of Mr. Wood, before mentioned. It fell to my lot to remove it, and to restore some of the mullions in 1826, and to see it filled with some decent glazier's quarry work picked out with colour; since which it has been richly adorned with the very beautiful glass with which it is now filled by Mr. John

<sup>1</sup> Will proved Aug. 26 1498. "Item lego eccl: Prebend: de Bitton, Wigorn: Dioce: *xxl* pro ornamentis comparandis ad usum sacri altaris."

Hughes of London, being the munificent gift of Mrs. Hollins in memory of kinsfolk who died in different places in India, chiefly during the Indian mutiny : vide infra.

The single-light window at the end of the chantry was inserted in 1825.

We now return to the reign of Henry the Sixth (1450), at which time, from some cause or other, it was found advisable to rebuild the portion of the south wall, between the Norman doorway and the south transept, without at all disturbing the Norman corbel table; and when also two of the Perpendicular windows were inserted, in the head of one of which may still be seen pieces of painted glass of that date. The four-light window is considered to be of a little later date, say 1480. It was no doubt inserted when the south transept was wholly demolished.

There is little more to be said about the work of the fabrick, excepting the rebuilding of the spiret in 1843, and constructing the Chancel arch in its present form. In this work the elegant fret work moulding of the north doorway was copied, the ornaments being multiplied, not magnified, to suit a wide opening, and the capitals were reproduced from those of the two Norman doorways. As more pateræ were required, copies were taken of some at S. Joseph's Chapel, Glastonbury. It may here be mentioned that the fret of this arch has its counterpart at Jedburgh Abbey, south entrance, founded 1147—(see Engraving, Edin. Ency., vol. vi, pl. 167, p. 559); also a doorway at York and S. Mary's, Shrewsbury; also the Chancel arch of Broadwater, Sussex.

The present substantial and goodly adorned hammer-beam roof of Stettin oak, boarded with cedar, was set up 1860-5. The wall plates, forming a cornice of stone, are well moulded, in the hollow of which, on the south side, is boldly cut in raised letters—

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD OF HOSTS. HEAVEN AND  
EARTH ARE FULL OF THY GLORY + GLORY BE TO THEE,  
O LORD MOST HIGH. HALLELUJAH + AMEN.

On the north side—

BLESSING, HONOUR AND GLORY AND POWER BE UNTO  
HIM THAT SITTETH UPON THE THRORE AND UNTO THE  
LAMB FOR EVER AND EVER AMEN. + HALLELUJAH +



The roof which preceded it was ably constructed between 1710 and 1720. It was originally covered with lead, which overlapped in the usual way the stone wall plate which rests on the corbel table, upon which the present parapet was built, when the lead was removed about 1770. The weather table on the east wall of the tower shows that the high pitch of the roof was reduced to its present angle before the tower was built.

A few words about the roof of the demolished south transept. That I believe was higher than the corbel table, and died into the roof of the nave. There is an instance of this of the same date at Branscombe, Devon. The proof that it was so, lies in the corbels which now occupy the width of that transept; for it will be found upon examination that they were worked by a different hand than the others.

In 1785 the internal fittings of open oak seats with a screen (fragments of the doorway of this screen are preserved) under the Chancel arch, were removed, and high pews, with double seats facing each other, were set up. In 1822 these were altered by being cut down about twelve inches, and each pew was divided so that the whole congregation might face the east. At the same time the pulpit was removed to the north-east corner of the nave, from a position lower down in the Church. A gallery, erected 1721, at the west end was enlarged, and the sittings continued the whole length of the nave. At that time, this arrangement was looked upon as a most outrageous proceeding, being one of the very first churches in the neighbourhood where the pews were so treated.

The present pulpit was the gift of Robert Lucas Pearsall, Esq. The design is copied from one at West Kington, in which Latimer occasionally preached. On a stone near is inscribed—

THIS PULPIT  
ERECTED A.D. MDCCCXXXVIII.  
WAS GIVEN BY  
ROBERT LUCAS PEARSALL, ESQ.  
LATE OF WILLSBRIDGE,  
IN THIS PARISH.

Since that time most happily a marvellous progress has rapidly advanced throughout the length and breadth of England—and in Scotland too—

and the seats of 1822, with the singers' gallery of 1721, all been swept away; and we have the pleasure to see the spaces filled with elaborately carved bench ends, with substantial sittings of enduring Stetting oak.

The measurements of the Church are these :—

				FT.	IN.
Length of the Chancel	...	...	...	24	3
Thickness of Chancel arch wall	...	...	...	2	9
Length of the Nave ...	...	...	...	93	6
Length of the Tower	...	...	...	17	2
				————— 137 8	
The height of the Tower to top of the battlement	...	...	...	80	0
„ „ to top of the finial	...	...	...	100	0

There are six bells, bearing the following inscriptions :—

- 1.—I WAS ADED TO THIS RING BY SEV<sub>r</sub> GIFTS 1694.  
PROCURD BY I BVSH AND ROG HARDING. L.C.
- 2.—W ♦ H ♦ A ♦ B. ANNO DOMINI 1633.
- 3.—♦ W ♦ H ♦ A ♦ B ANNO DOMINI 1633.
- 4.—✠ ROBERT ✠ BRIANT ✠ ANTHONY ✠ WOODWARD ∴ CW ∴ 1669 Δ W Δ P Δ B Δ P. ✠
- 5.—M<sup>r</sup> JOHN PALMER AND RICHARD FRANCIS CHURCH WARDENS. 1740.
- 6.—COM ♦ WHEN ♦ I ♦ CALL ♦ TO ♦ SERVE ♦ GOD ♦ ALL 1633 ∴ W ♦ H ♦ A ♦ B ∴

Before 1816 there was a ting-tang bell hung in the tower window, probably the same which had been the sancte bell of the Church. In the same year (January 8) the vestry ordered it to be sold towards the reparation of the bells.

The font on the south side of the western entrance was made in 1846, by John White of Bristol. It is copied from one at Kidlington, Oxon, and is of Caen stone. The bowl of the former font was carefully reduced, and laid within the new one. It stands on an octagonal space paved with encaustic tiles, forming a plain cross, round which there is an elegant border, with this inscription :—

✠ SUFFER ✠ LITTLE ✠ CHILDREN ✠ GO : COME ✠ UNTO :  
ME : ✠ AND : FORBID ✠ THEM NOT ✠ FOR : OF ✠ SUCH : IS  
✠ THE ✠ KINGDOM ✠ OF : GOD ✠

In the basement of the tower is a manual, within a case, for chiming the bells for service by means of a hammer striking the inside of the bells above. This was set up in 1822. The method was suggested to

me by Sam. Watts, a clever workman, and is supposed to be the first thing of the sort. Since that time the same contrivance has been set up in about two hundred towers. It is so arranged above as not to interfere with the gear for ringing. The lines being brought down to the floor, a child may easily call the people to the Services of the day. Before this the tenor bell only was tolled, which has a melancholy sound, instead of the sweet, mellow, and subdued tones which the bells cheerily throw out when they are chimed. The difficulty of getting a sufficient number of hands to do this daily, or it may be only on Sundays and Saints' days, with unbroken regularity for both services, is often found to be impracticable, especially in country places; and therefore, this simple contrivance is very valuable to all who consider *chiming* one of the most legitimate uses of bells. It is available for any number of bells, and lately it has been fixed at Worcester Cathedral for chiming the twelve bells for the daily Services. The chiming gear being distinct from the clappers, it does away with the lazy practice which is so common, but so destructive, of "clocking" the bells, or tying ropes to the clappers, by which so many fine bells have been cracked. The place for the manual should be the ground floor of the tower, which is also the proper place for the ropes to be brought down for the ringing.

The altar cloth deserves notice; it is of blue cloth. All round it, as a border, worked in letters of gold, now faded, with the Seymour crest at each corner:—

THE GIFT OF COLONELL JOHN SEYMOUR TO THE CHURCH OF BITTON IN THE  
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR THE COMMUNION TABLE IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
HIS DEAR GRANDFATHER S<sup>r</sup> JOHN SEYMOUR WHO DYED AND WAS INTERRED  
IN Y<sup>e</sup> MIDDLE OF THIS HOLY SQUARE NOV<sup>r</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1663.

There are some very beautiful modern windows of interest by Ward and Hughes of London, and Bell of Bristol, which may thus be described. In the three central lights of the east window The Ascension is represented, and in the lights on either side is the Nativity and Resurrection on one; in the other the Baptism and Crucifixion of our Saviour. Under the whole is the following inscription:—"Sophia, wife of Cap<sup>n</sup> H. A. Boscawen, and dau<sup>r</sup> of W<sup>m</sup> Hollings, Esq. died at Calcutta 15 Feb. 1842. Henry Hollings died at Lucknow 22 Feb<sup>r</sup> 1847. W<sup>m</sup> Charles Hollings was massacred at Cawnpore 20 June 1857. George Edward Hollings died at Lawdour

9 May 1857. George Boscawen died at Ballygunge 23 Sep. 1852. Erected in honor of God and in affectionate memory of the above by Harriet-Mary and Charlotte Hollings, 1863."

In the south-east three-light window of the Chancel: The crucified Redeemer in the centre light, with S. John in the one side light, and the Blessed Virgin in the other; inscribed below on a brass plate:—"In affectionate remembrance of John Whittuck Palmer, who deceased September 13, 1871."

In a three-light south window of the nave: The Reproval of S. Thomas, inscribed in tiles:—"In memory of THOMAS WHITE of Hanham Court, and Bedford Row, London. Born 29 Nov. 1793. Died 23 August 1869. And of WILLIAM BOWMAN WHITE, B.A., his second son. Born 23 Feb. 1823. Died 17 November 1849.

In another three-light window in the nave: Dorcas clothing the poor; Mary at the feet of Jesus; Timothy instructed by his mother: Inscribed: "As a humble offering for the adorning of God's House, this window was placed by the nephews and nieces of JANE ELLENOR FRERE. While mourning the loss of her loving presence and bright example on earth, they rejoice in the remembrance of the fervent piety of one, who after the manner of holy women of old, 'Sat at Jesus' feet' (Luke x, 39), 'Ministered to the poor' (Acts ix, 36), 'Taught the saints of His flock' (2 Tim. iii, 15). She fell asleep in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ, April 6th 1872, in the 69th year of her age."

Two-light window, by Bell of Bristol, on the north side of the nave: S. Luke and S. John. Inscribed: "LIEUT. WILL<sup>M</sup> GLENNIE, R.N, Died June 20 1856. Erected to his memory by a few friends."

The west window of four-lights; in two, The Angel appearing to the Maries; in the other two, Christ appearing to Mary Magdalene. Inscribed: "WILLMOTT HENRY WEMYSS ELLACOMBE, son of the Reverend H. N. ELLACOMBE, M.A., Vicar of the parish. Died Feb. 7 1864, aged 10 years. Erected to his memory and in deep sympathy with his parents by parishioners and friends."

In the chantry chapel, all refer to the family of Whittuck, who was owner of Barrs Court, the ancient residence of the Buttons, to which this chapel is claimed as an appurtenance.

## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

There are several mural tablets bearing the following inscriptions:—

## IN THE CHANCEL.

On the north wall:—

Arms: Gules, two wings conjoined in lure, or.

MEMORIÆ SACRUM  
JOHN SEYMOR, MILITIS,  
COMIT. GLOUCEST.

QUI NON MINUS ILLUSTRIS ANIMI DOTIBUS EXCELLUIT, QUAM  
PRÆ ILLUSTRIS ET NOBILI ORTU CLARUIT, MORTEM OBIT  
NOVEMBRIS 17, ANNO EPOCHÆ CHRISTIANÆ, 1663.<sup>1</sup>

HENRY THOMAS ELZACOMBE, M.A.  
SOMETIME VICAR OF THIS PARISH  
AND  
RECTOR OF CLYST S. GEORGE, DEVON.  
DIED . . . . AGED . . . .

ANNE, THE WIFE OF THE ABOVE,  
DIED AT THE VICARAGE HOUSE  
ON THE TENTH OF MARCH  
M.D.C.CCXXV.  
AGED XXXI.

ANN, HIS SECOND WIFE,  
DIED AT THE VICARAGE HOUSE  
ON THE EIGHTEENTH OF MARCH  
MD. CCC XXX I  
AGED XXVIII.

CHARLOTTE, HIS THIRD WIFE,  
DIED AT CLYST S. GEORGE  
ON THE NINETEENTH OF NOVEMBER  
MD.CCCLXXII  
AGED LXXIII.  
"THESE ALL DIED IN FAITH."

On the South Wall:—

HEERE · LYETH · BENEATH · THIS · PLACE · THE · BODY ·  
OF · IOHN · BYRNIE · VICAR · OF · BITTUN, · AND ·  
PRECHER · OF · THE · WORD · OF · GOD · WHO ·  
DECEASED · THE · 22 · DAY · OF · MAY.  
ANNO. DOMI. 1627.

<sup>1</sup> Pedigree of Seymour in the Appendix.

## IN THE NAVE.

On the east wall:

In the North Aisle of this Church  
are deposited the remains of MARTHA KING,  
the infant daughter of SAMUEL & ANN WHITTUCK  
of Hanham Hall in this parish,  
who died January 15th 1818, aged 6 months.

Also of ANNE BARNES, eldest daughter  
of the said SAMUEL & ANN WHITTUCK,  
who died February 22nd 1829, aged 21 years.

Also of the above named ANN WHITTUCK,  
who died December 1st 1829, aged 52 years,  
leaving an afflicted husband and 11 children to  
lament the loss of an excellent & most affectionate  
wife and mother.

Also of EDWARD DECIMUS, youngest son  
of the said SAMUEL & ANN WHITTUCK.  
who died August 17th 1858, aged 22 years.

Also of ALICE REBECCA, third daughter  
of the said SAMUEL & ANN WHITTUCK,  
who died June 23rd 1841, aged 29 years.

Also of SAMUEL HOOPER WHITTUCK, Clerk, M.A.,  
eldest son of the said Samuel & Ann Whittuck,  
who died August 13th 1842. Aged 37 years.

Also of MARTHA JANE, sixth daughter  
of the same SAMUEL & ANN WHITTUCK,  
who died March 15th 1844, aged 25 years.

Also very deeply lamented, MARY, second wife of the above  
SAMUEL WHITTUCK, who died June 13th 1845, aged 51 years.

Also of the above SAMUEL WHITTUCK,  
of Hanham Hall, Esquire.  
who died August 25th 1849, aged 68 years.

---

On the south wall:—

Arms: quarterly—1, a lion rampant, for Jones; 2, azure, a stag's head caboshed or;  
3, argent, three acorns azure; 4, sable a cross coupé engrailed or, between four

martlets argent; 5, on a fess wavy, between three water bougets, three cross crosslets 6, as the first.

Near this place  
lyeth the body of ALICE, the wife  
of RICHARD JONES, of Hanham, Esq.

Also

the body of CATHERINE BETHELL,  
Widow, one of the daughters of  
Sir FRANCIS NORREYES, Knight, who  
died June 3, 1692, aged 44 years.

Likewise the body of  
RICHARD JONES, of Hanham, Esq.,  
who died January 27, 1697,  
aged 87 years.

In his Vault at Oldland's Chapel  
lies the body of THOMAS TRYE,  
of Hanham, Esq., grandson of the above  
named RICHARD JONES, Esq., who  
departed this life November 23, 1728,  
aged 59 years.

—  
In the  
Church Yard

on the north side of this Church  
are deposited the mortal Remains of  
The Revd. JOHN ADEY CURTIS, M. A.,  
formerly Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford,  
and for the last 13 years, Vicar of this Parish.

His unaffected Modesty and Benevolence,  
and the peculiar Sweetness of his Disposition,  
endeared him to his Family & his Friends:  
Zeal, ever tempered by foud Judgment,  
ardent Piety and unfeigned Humility  
were the leading Features of his Ministerial Character;  
and by his unwearied Activity in the discharge of  
the Sacred Duties of his Pastoral Office,  
He obtained the Respect and Love of all his Parishioners.  
To the Sick and afflicted he was a kind & constant Benefactor,

and while he imparted to them the consolations of Religion,  
his Hand was ever open to relieve their temporal necessities.

He was born 1761, was married 1799 to Albinia Frances,  
Daughter of William Hayward Winstone, Esqr.,  
and died 23rd January 1812,  
looking forward in Faith to a blessed immortality;  
leaving an afflicted Widow and Eight Children to lament  
his irreparable loss.

The numerous Inhabitants of this extensive Parish  
being desirous of bearing testimony to the private & public  
Virtues of the Vigilant and faithful Pastor of whom they have  
been deprived, have by the permission of his Widow  
erected this monument to perpetuate his memory.

---

Arms: party per pale or and gu. a double-headed eagle displayed az.

Another, Ermine, two bars gu.

Neare to this place lieth  
buried the body of FRANCIS  
STONE, who departed this life  
December 9, in the  
year of our Lord 1641.

Also by him  
lieth buried his 3 sons, John,  
FRANCIS, and EDMUND, JOHN  
was buried July 7 1647,  
FRANCIS was buried May 2  
1658, EDMUND was buried  
September 4 1656.

Neare to this place lieth buried  
the body of BRIDGET the wife  
of FRANCES STONE, the elder,  
she died May 5 1635.

Above their soules crowned with eternal blisse  
Triumph in Saints and Angells happines  
Below their bodies rest waiteinge to bee  
Calld forth in time to immortallitie.



## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

Sacred to the Memory of  
 ROBERT STRATON, Esqre.,  
 late of Willsbridge in this Parish,  
 Who died June 5th, 1851, aged 47.  
 Of MARY LETITIA, his wife,  
 Who died at Laugen Schwalben, Germany,  
 Sept. 15th 1856, aged 62.  
 And of FRANCES ELIZA, their daughter,  
 Who died June 22nd 1851, aged 20.  
 Also of EMILY CHARLOTTE  
 their 2nd daughter  
 Who died in London, Dec. 11th 1866.  
 Aged 31.

“ I am the resurrection and the Life :  
 He that believeth in me, though he were dead,  
 yet shall he live. I. John xi. verse 25.

---

On the north wall:—

Arms: parti per pale gu. and az. a lion rampant, ar.  
 In memoriam STEPHENI ROSEWELL Gent.  
 qui vitam obiit 28 die Feb. 1650.

---

On a brass plate:—

Near this place lieth the body  
 of JANE HOLLISTER, daughter  
 of EDWARD HOLLISTER, of Upton Cheyney,  
 Gent., by Mary his wife, and niece  
 to WILLIAM SCEDE, of Culley Hall, Gent.,  
 and Katharine his wife, who  
 departed this life the 23rd day of Oct. 1716,  
 aged 11 years 8 months 1 week  
 5 days.

Sacred  
 To the memory of  
 Joseph Parker of Upton Cheyney Esquire,  
 A deputy Lieutenant for the Counties of

Gloucester & Bristol,  
And a Magistrate for Gloucestershire,  
Who died at St. Leonards, Exeter,  
29th December 1860,  
Aged 90 years.

Also of Martha, his wife,  
Who died at the same place  
22nd June 1843,  
Aged 74 years.

---

Beneath lies inter'd  
Jannett wife of Richd. Williams, Esqr.,  
of Culley Hall in this Parish.  
Who died 12th July 1794.  
Aged 29 years.  
Also the above  
Richard Williams, Esq.,  
Died 28th April 1795,  
Aged 37 years.

---

Beneath is interred the Body of  
SAMUEL PEARSALL of this Parish (Gent.)  
Who died 16 Janry. in 1800. Aged 30 years.  
Also Susannah Creswicke his  
daughter, by Sarah Creswicke his  
wife, died 17 Janry. in 1779, aged 20 weeks.  
late Sarah Creswicke Clarke, Spinster,  
only daughter of David and Susannah  
Clarke, heretofore of the Parish of  
Westerleigh in this County. She died  
the 13th September 1803.  
Aged 32 years.  
Likewise Samuel their son died  
26 August 1799. Aged 12 hours.

---

On flat stones in the Chancel there were several obliterated inscriptions for the family of WHITTINGTON: they lived at UPTON CHEYNEY—see Pedigree in Appendix—and had intermarried with SEYMOUR, the Lords Farmer, of the Prebendal Manor.

## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

On a flat stone under the pulpit:—

Heare lyeth the body of George Wood  
of Saltford, who deceased the 19th of December  
1622. Mors optimo quies.

In the Nave:—

Edward the son of Edward and ELIZABETH  
PARKER, died May 27 1741, aged 29 years.

SARAH, wife of JOSEPH PARKER,  
died Sep. 5 1745, aged 25 years.

Also the said JOSEPH PARKER  
died Jan. 16 1778, aged 70.

Mary, wife of RICHARD PARKER, Gent.,  
died Aug. 18 1764, aged 53 years.

Also seven children of  
the said RICHARD and MARY are  
interred near this place.

Also the said RICHARD PARKER  
died Nov. 7, 1770, aged 56 years.

---

Here lieth the body of WILLIAM the  
son of HENRY WEARE and MARY his  
wife who departed this life 30th  
day of July, Anno Domine 1700.

Here lieth the body of PHILLIP WEARE,  
the son of HENRY WEARE and MARY his wife,  
who departed this life the 21st of February,  
Anno Domino 1707, ætatis suæ 24.

Here resteth the body of MARY WEARE,  
the daughter of HENRY and MARY WEARE,  
who departed this life the 21st day of  
May 1712, aged 37 years.

Here lyeth the body of HENRY WEARE,  
of this parish, Gent., who departed this life  
the 21st of March 1720, aged 77 years.

Also the body of Mary, wife of  
the said HENRY WEARE, ob. Sept. 11 1737,  
aged 88 years.

---

In spe Resurrectionis,  
Hic jacet Corpus FRANCISCI CRESWICKE,  
Armig, qui obiit 18 Jan. 1732, ætatis suæ 89.  
Ac etiam Corpus Mariæ Uxoris suæ Ætat 58.  
Ac etiam Corpora JOHANNIS, GALFRIDE, FRANCISCI  
et MARLÆ.  
Nec non Corpus HENRICI CRESWICKE, Armigeri,  
qui obiit  
Vicesimo sexto Die mensis Julii, Ann. Dom. 1744.  
Etenim infra jacet Corpus HELLENÆ, uxoris  
HENRICI CRESWICKE, Armigeri, obiit vicesimo  
Secundo die Janiri 1757, ætatis suæ 46.

---

On the verge of an old stone :—

Here lyeth the body of  
JOHN BURGIS, of this parish, Gent., who departed  
this life the 10th day  
of October, Anno Dom. 1697, aged 84 years.

---

Beneath this stone  
Secure from storm or tempest, rests in peace,  
the body of CAPTAIN SAMUEL ALDEN, native  
of New England. He was bred to the sea  
service from his youth, in which dangerous  
employment, by the Providence of God, he  
was so successful as never to meet with an accident.

After a passage in life of 45 years,  
he launched into eternity, Oct. 10, 1757.  
To whose memory this stone is erected by  
his truly afflicted widow  
Edith Alden.

Also underneath lieth the body of EDITH,  
wife of the above Captain SAMUEL ALDEN, and  
late wife of Mr. GEORGE WILLIAMS of the parish  
of St. James in the City of Bristol. She left this  
life, on Nov. 29 1775, aged 55 years.

## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

Here lyeth the body of WILLIAM, the son of  
WILLIAM MARTIN, of the parish of Long Ashton, Gent.,  
in the County of Somerset, who departed this life  
in the 83rd year of his age, Anno Domini 1716.

Here also lieth the body of EDITH his wife,  
who departed this life April 12 1724,  
in the 80th year of her age.

---

Here lyeth the body of Mrs. SARAH DUNN,  
wife of Mr. TOBIAS DUNN, of Hanham in the  
parish of Bitton and County of Gloucester, who  
departed this life October the 29th, Anno Dom.  
1719, aged 65 years, 2 months and 2 weeks.

Also. here lyeth the body of ANN DUNN, daughter  
of Mr. FRANCIS DUNN, Wine Cooper in the  
City of Bristol, and granddaughter to the said  
SARAH DUNN, who departed this life March 15  
Anno Dom. 1719, aged 16 months.

Also here lyeth the body of Mr. TOBIAS DUNN,  
of this parish, who departed this life  
March 29, Anno Dom. 1721, aged 72 years.

---

In memory of Mr. EDMUND WARD,  
late of NEVIS, one of the Leeward Islands, in the  
West Indies, who was killed by a fall from his  
horse, as he was passing through this parish,  
on the 20th of June 1784, aged 33.

---

Here lyeth the body of Mrs. MARY WORNELL,  
of Hanham in this parish, who departed this life  
May 17, 1721, aged 60 years.

Also here lyeth the body of ELIZABETH BATT,  
sister to the above named MARY WORNELL,  
who departed this life March 17, 1733,  
aged 81 years.

Here also lyeth the body of NICHOLAS WORNELL,  
Yeoman, who died June 19, 1711,  
aged 67 years.

IN THE CHANTRY CHAPEL, COMMONLY CALLED BARR'S COURT, OR NEWTON AISLE.

On the west walls:—

ARMS: Quarterly, 1st and 4th argent, on a chevron azure, three garbs or; 2nd and 3rd argent, two thigh bones in saltire sable, for NEWTON.

Here lyeth the body of  
 Sir JOHN NEWTON, Bart.,  
 Thrice burgess of Parliament.  
 A most loving husband,  
 caretul father, and faithful friend:  
 pious, just, prudent,  
 charitable, valiant, and beloved of all.  
 He was born June 9, A.D. 1626,  
 being the son of THOMAS NEWTON,  
 of Gunwarby in the County  
 of Lincoln, Esq.  
 and died May 31, A.D. 1699.  
 He married MARY, the daughter of  
 Sir JERVASE EYRE,  
 of Rampton, in the County of  
 Nottingham, Knight.  
 They lived happily all their time  
 together, which was 55 years;  
 by whom he had issue  
 Four sons and thirteen daughters.  
 This monument was erected  
 at the charge of his youngest son  
 GERVIS NEWTON, Esq.

ARMS: on a lozenge, per chevron sable and or, three eagles displayed, countercharged, for STRINGER; impaling NEWTON.

Piæ Memorïæ  
 Dom.  
 ELIZABETHÆ STRINGER  
 obiit vicesimo  
 primo die Julii,  
 Anno Dom. 1694.  
 Sequimur quamvis non passibus æquis

THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF  
CHANTRY.

In the south wall on a stone pannel, taken from Bars Court:—

HONOUR THY FATHER  
AND THY MOTHER THAT THY  
DAYES MAY BE PROLONGED IN  
THE LAND THE WHICH THE  
LORD THY GOD GIVETH THEE.

---

On flat stones:—

ARMS: on a lozenge, as before.

Here lyeth the body of Dame  
MARY NEWTON, widow and relict of  
Sir JOHN NEWTON, late of Barrs Court, Bart.,  
by whom she had four sons and thirteen daughters.  
She died Nov. 23, 1722, in the 85th year of her age.

---

Here lyeth the body of  
Mrs. ELIZABETH STRINGER,  
daughter to Sir JOHN NEWTON,  
Baronet, and Dame MARY  
his wife, and wife to FRANCIS  
STRINGER, of Sutton upon Lown  
in the County of Northumberland,  
who died .....

---

Here lyeth the Body of ELIZABETH  
the wife of John Whittington

---

Here lyeth the body of DOROTHY, the wife of  
FRANCIS WOODWARD, of this parish, Gent.  
and youngest daughter of the Honourable  
Sir JOHN NEWTON, Bart., who departed this life  
the 16 day of October 1712, who had  
issue 8 sons and 3 daughters.

Here lyeth the body of the said FRANCIS WOODWARD,  
of this parish, Gent., who departed this life  
Dec. 12, 1730, in the 60th year of his age.

---

And also here lyeth the body of JOHN, son of JOHN  
and ELIZABETH WOODWARD, and grandson of  
FRANCIS and DOROTHY WOODWARD, who departed  
this life May 29, 1741, aged 11 years.

---

Beneath this stone lies the body of  
JOHN, son of JOHN WOODWARD, Gent. who died  
May 29, 1741, aged 8 years.

Also in memory of ANNE, wife of NEWTON  
WOODWARD, of this parish, Gent., who died  
June 18, 1743, aged 50 years.

Also five children of the above NEWTON WOODWARD  
by ANNE his second wife.

	Died.	Aged.
FRANCIS BERKLEY,	May 25, 1750,	21 months.
ANN, ———	May 20, 1750,	6 years.
MARY, ———	May 31, 1754,	3 months.
THOMAS, ———	Mar. 21, 1758,	18 months.
FRANCIS ———	July 16, 1764,	12 years.

In memory of DOROTHY their daughter, who died  
July 15, 1775, aged 15 years.

Also the body of NEWTON WOODWARD, Gent.  
who died Dec. 9, 1778, aged 79.

---

On the verge of a flat stone:—

Here lyeth the body of FRANCIS, son of  
FRANCIS and DOROTHY WOODWARD, Gent.,  
of this parish, grandson of Sir JOHN NEWTON,  
Bart., who was buried Sep. 7 1701.

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Here lyeth the body of GERVES, the son of  
FRANCIS WOODWARD, Gent., by DOROTHY his wife,  
daughter of Sir JOHN NEWTON, deceased,  
who departed September 6 1702.



## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

Here also lyeth the body of RICHARD, the son of  
FRANCIS WOODWARD, Gent., by DOROTHY his wife,  
who departed November 11 1703.

Here also lyeth the body of FRANCES, daughter of  
FRANCIS WOODWARD, Gent., by DOROTHY his wife,  
who departed the 18th day of August, 1705.

In 1850, all these flat stones in the Chantry were removed, and the floor paved with Minton's encaustic tiles. Squares of white stone were arranged in the design—inscribed with the names and dates taken from the above, to which the following were added:—

Martha Jane Whittuck,  
Deceased Jan. 15, 1818,  
Aged 6 months.

Martha Jane Whittuck,  
deceased March 15, 1844,  
Aged 25.

Edward Decimus Whittuck,  
deceased Aug. 17, 1838,  
Aged 22.

Samuel Hooper Whittuck, M.A., Clerk,  
died August 15, 1842, aged 37.

This is on a brass:—

Eliz. Hall, granddaughter  
of Francis and Dorothy Woodward,  
deceased Oct. 1828,  
Aged 88.

At the same time all the windows of this Chantry Chapel were fitted with painted glass as memorials of Samuel Whittuck, Esq., of Hanham Hall, and Barr's Court, his first wife Anne, who died in 1829, and his second wife Mary who died 1845, and his children.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Monument in the Nave.

## IN THE TOWER.

This Tablet is erected  
to the memory of  
JOHN MINGO,  
by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe,  
with whom he lived  
a Servant fourteen years  
at the Vicarage in this parish,  
Discharging his duty  
with  
exactness, honesty, and affection.  
He left Bitton on the xxij<sup>th</sup> day of Febr-  
MDCCCXXXV,  
and died on the vij<sup>th</sup> of March following  
at Powderham. Devon,  
in the LXVI<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age.

---

 ANCIENT MONUMENTS.

There are two small recumbent statues supposed to be Chantry Priests, or Prebendaries of the Church. In 1822 the ground immediately under these effigies, then lying on the floor of the chantry, was thoroughly examined, but no trace whatever was found of bodies there deposited, therefore the supposition is that they were not in their original position; but, as they represent Canons, their original depository might have been in the Chancel.

Each being little more than three feet in length, they may not, perhaps, be improperly classed with the effigy of the Boy Bishop at Sarum.

In March 1846 Mr. Bloxam, of Rugby, communicated to the *Midland Counties Herald* an article on some similar effigies in other places, in which he alludes to these as rare specimens of sculptured ecclesiastics of the canonical orders, clad in the surplice and aumasse, which latter is worn as a hood on the head. To quote his words which appeared with a letter of mine in the *Proceedings* of the Society of Antiquaries of London, vol. ii, p. 90, 1849.

“In general, sculptured effigies of ecclesiastics are represented as vested for the Eucharistic sacrifice of the mass; but these are in ancient canonical or choral habits, in the aumasse (almucium) or furred hood a very different article from the amice (amictus), the extremities of which hang down in front; under this is worn the ancient surplice with loose sleeves, and over it the cope; under the surplice was worn the ancient cassock (tunica talaris), in these figures barely visible at the wrists. The canonical dress is thus described in an extract I have from some Council of the fifteenth century, but I am unable to give a reference:—‘Horas dicturi, cum tunica talari ac superpelliceis mundis, ultra medias tibias longis, vel capis juxta temporum ac regionum diversitatum ecclesias (canonice) ingrediantur, non caputia sed almutias vel beryta tenentes in capite.’



11

“In the 5th Provincial Council of Milan, as quoted by Mr. Bloxam, held A.D. 1579, the aumasse is declared to be peculiar to those of canonical rank, ‘Almutia pellicea insigne canonicorum est.’ On monumental brasses of canons in this country we frequently find the cassock, surplice, and aumasse, with the addition of the cope; and sometimes, when the cope is worn over the surplice, the aumasse or furred tippet is omitted. This is explained by the statutes of one of the foreign conventual churches, ‘Statuta Ecclesia Vinensis,’ respecting the canons, as follows:—‘A festo S. Martini usque ad Pascham

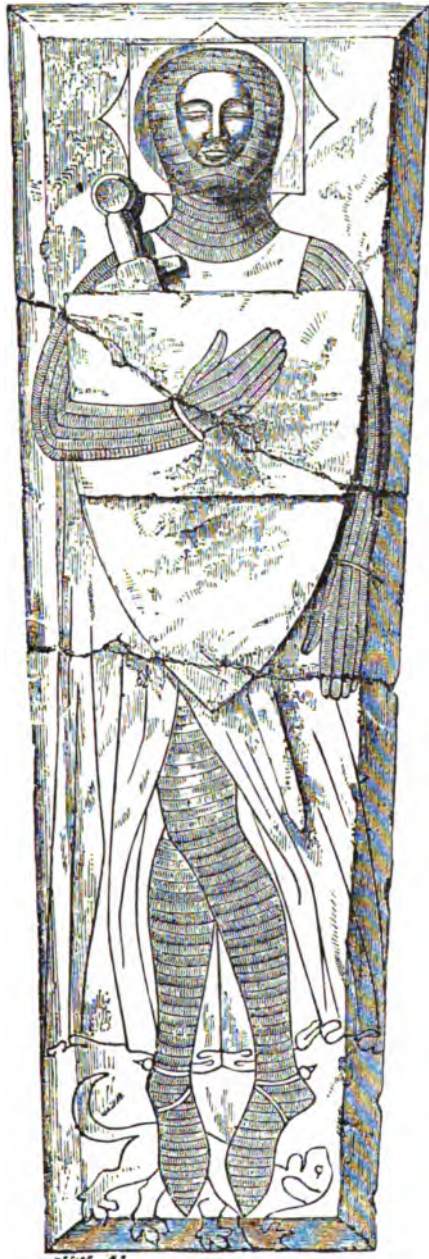


12

portabunt capas nigras super superpelliceum, et a Pascha usque ad festum Omnium SS. portabunt superpelliceum sine capa, et in capite capellam de griso, quem vulgariter almucium vocant.’

“I would add another quotation from Mr. Bloxam, that ‘the ancient aumasse or tippet of sable or fur continued to be worn by Bishops and other dignitaries of the Church of England in the reign of Elizabeth, during which it was in a great measure superseded by a similar habit of silk, the precursor of the present scarf, which continued to be called a tippet down to the last century.’ And in Bailey’s Etymological Dictionary, published 1731, the word ‘tippet’ is defined as a ‘long scarf which doctors of divinity wear over their gowns.’

“With the exception of the faces, what is held in the priests’ hands, and the head and part of the tail of the dog at the feet of one, these figures are well preserved. No traces of colour are visible. They have very lately been laid in a suitable part of the church, and on stones about a foot thick, raising them so much off the floor for effect and protection.”



13

F'



14

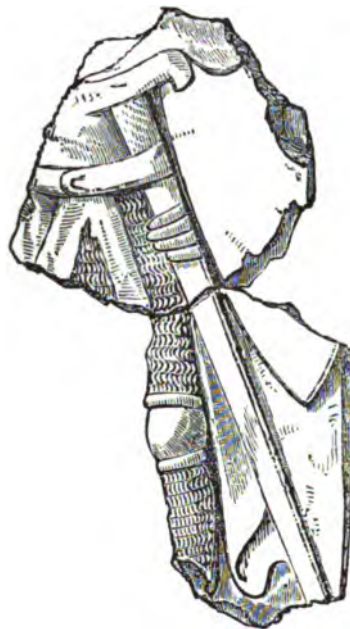
Two very interesting and early sepulchral slabs which were found a few inches below the surface of the ground, on the south side of the Church (figs. 13 and 14), are now set up in the vestibule of the Chantry Chapel: (fragments of another similar slab were found). The shield of the knight is charged with the arms of De Button (ermine, a fess gu.). This slab is supposed to represent Robert de Button, who was living in the time of Henry III, the father of Thomas de Button, Bishop of Exeter, whose arms are in the east window of that Cathedral. See Pedigree in Appendix, and in the History of the Manor in Supplement.

The other slab, which lay along side the knight, is inscribed EMMOTE DE HASTINGES. No record respecting her has been found. She was probably an heiress and a wife, and so, marrying secondly, she retained the name of her first husband.

The site where these were found was no doubt a transept, and used as a mortuary Chapel, before Bishop Button built the chantry of St. Catherine over the bodies of his father and mother, May, 1299. The foundations are represented in a cut, p. 8, ante. On the same spot was found a very rude stone coffin.



15



16



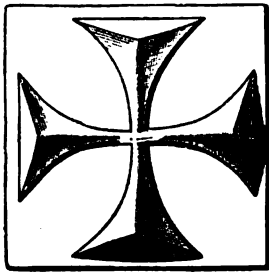
17

The stone coffin of the Bishop's father, which lay in front of the sacrarium steps of the chantry, is preserved by the side of these slabs.

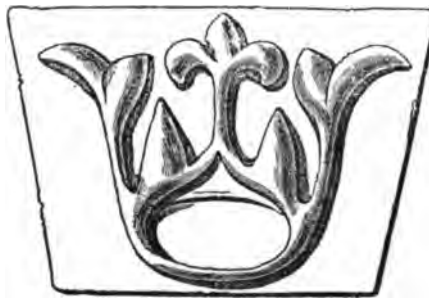
The fragments of an Early English tomb (fig. 15), inscribed, "gist ici, De Salme merci," were found built into the western wall, with fragments (fig. 16) of a knight's effigies.

The head (fig. 17) may be a fragment of the tomb of Petronilla de Vivon, who died at the Vicarage 1286. The costume is of that date. See in the Supplement an account of the manor of Bitton.

It has been briefly stated in the Introduction (p. 3) that two ancient chapels were appurtenant to the Vicarage, viz., Oldland and Hanham Abbots. The former was ruthlessly pulled down in 1830. It will be seen by the Engraving that all lovers of Church architecture must lament its destruction, especially the saddle-backed tower, so rarely found in England, in which were three ancient bells. One was recast, and is inscribed "Reader, thou also must know a Resurrection." The other two inscribed, ✠ *sancta anna*, had been previously removed to the Church of the Holy Trinity, on Kingswood Hill, a district severed from Oldland in 1822. Figs. 18 and 20 are the initial cross and intervening stop.



18



19



20

After much search and inquiry, no records have been found relative to the date or origin of the foundation of this Chapel. It is not mentioned either in the Taxation of Pope Nicholas, nor in that of Henry the Eighth. Before the Reformation the parish of Bitton was in the diocese of Worcester; and there I have found a reference to "Bytton cum Capellâ de Oldelond," in Bp. Giffard's time, about 1280. Though in the index, it is not to be found in the register.

The south doorway, porch and tower were in the Early English style, also

the pillars and arches in the inside; and from fragments of mouldings, capitals, and bases, found in pulling down the walls, it is fair to conclude that the chapel was in existence in the thirteenth century. The venerable yew tree, indeed, speaks almost as much.

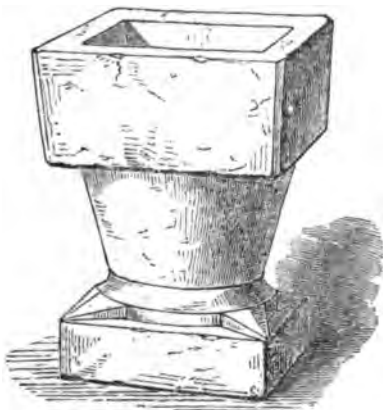
The interior was divided into two sides, and a Chancel, separated from the nave by a coarsely wrought screen. There was a plain stoup on the east side of the south doorway, and the remains of a piscina on the south of the altar. The font was very plain, but apparently coeval with the foundation of the Chapel. It was built into the walls of the new Church. Most of the sittings were of oak, carved and wrought in the old style, and open at either end.

The register of baptisms and marriages in the chapelry are from 1586. In 1719 a Faculty was granted for burials in the chapel-yard.

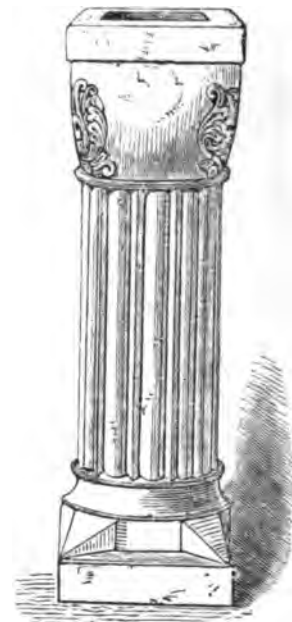
The clergyman of Bitton used to serve this Chapel, and the other at Hanham, every alternate Sunday, having served the mother Church at Bitton in the morning; but in 1817 a curate was licensed to these two chapels only.

As for the Chapel at Hanham (see view at the end) that is of earlier date, judging from a square Norman font with tongues at the angles of the base (fig. 21) and a Norman piscina (fig. 22), also being annexed to the ancient Manerium (see History of the Manor in the Supplement) and a Late Norman barn adjoining. In the tower, of fifteenth century work,

were two ancient bells, one was disposed of by the Churchwardens, the other is inscribed, ✠ *sancte ꝥ gorgi § ora § pro*, with the initial cross (18) as on the old bells at Oldland, and the crown (19) as an intervening stop. There is a nave and Chancel and south aisle, divided by low, plain, early arches. Baptisms and marriages are celebrated here, but not burials.



21



22

*Vicarii Prebendalis Ecclesie de Bucton, alias Button,  
as they are entered in the Registers of the Bishops of Worcester, from 1268.*

		<i>Patron.</i>	<i>Date.</i>	<i>Register.</i>	<i>Fol.</i>
Resigned	Galfridus de Compton, Capellanus	<i>Adenulph</i> Rector.	1270.	Gifford ...	46
	Eustachius de Button	... Ric de Sotwell	... 1295.	Ditto ...	393
Resigned	Hugo de Cycestre, Diaconus	... John de Wynchelsy	1319.	Cobham ...	18
Resigned	Roger Hermer				
	Thomas de Bruyton	... <i>Arleston</i>	... 1328.	Horlton ...	18
	Reginaldus de Piryton, Presbiter	Romesbury, Preb.	1335.	Monte Acuto	15
	Johes. de Strengeston, Capellanus	Romesbury	... 1338.	Hemenale	17
Died	Richardus Franceys			Ditto	10
	Johannes de Alta Ripa, Presbiter	Walter Waleys	... 1348.	Braunsford	18
Exchanged	Johannes Hauterine	{ Exchanged for } ...	...	Thoresby	16
	Richardus Acard	{ Shrivenham } ...	..	Ditto ...	16
Died	Philip	...	...	Bryan	... 30
	Johannes Cok, Presbiter	... Walter Waleys	... 1360.	Ditto	... 30
	Johannes de Burgo, Capellanus	... Henry le Despencer	1362.	Barnet ...	3
		Prebendi de Button.			
	Thomas de Barton Segrave	{ Exchange {	1	Lynne ...	16
	Thomas Franceys	... 1371.	Ditto	...	16
	Nicholas Danyel	{ Exchange {	... 1	Wakefield	19
	John Bradenynggt	Godewyke	... 1377.	Ditto	... 19
Exchanged	William Shawe, Capellanus	... Ditto	... 1382.	Ditto	... 30
Resigned	Nicholas Peverell...	... Ditto	... 1385.	Ditto	.. 81
Resigned	John Gowk, Priest	... Ditto	... 1385.	Ditto	... 42
	Thomas Erme	... Ditto	... 1387.	Ditto	... 48
Exchanged	William Ingylyby, Priest	... Ditto	... 1392.	Ditto	... 107
Exchanged]	Walter Eymer, Vicar of Burford Line	Hallum	... 1400.	Clifford	... 64
Died	Walter Haclyng <i>alias</i> Wyot,				
	Rector of St. Michael, Bath	... Ditto	... 1404.	Ditto	... 79
Exchanged	Thomas Staunton, Priest	... Ditto	... 1404.	Ditto	... 83
	Galfudus Roger	... Crucadam Herchell	Morgan	vol. 1 & 2.	
Exchanged	Johannes Taylor, Rector of Notgrove	Harewell	... 1421.	Morgan	... 7
Resigned	Philippus Kyng, Rector of Tarent	Bubwyth	... 1444.	Carpenter	44
Died	Humfridus Clerk, Capellanus	... Vance	... 1453.	Ditto	... 109
	Johannes Taylor, Capellanus	... Doget	... 1481.	Alcock	... 91
Resigned	Edwardus Owey	...	...	Jeremimi...	16
	Jacobus Powey, Capellan	... Halls	... 1524.	Jeremimi...	17



## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

Rychardus Bond, Vicar ... from 1529 to 1537.

The foregoing from Worcester: Diocese of Gloster was founded 1541.

NOTE.—Rych. Bond does not appear in the Worcester Register, but I find his name as a witness in three wills at Worcester, viz.:—John Underhill, 1529; John Tayte, 1538; Thomas Clarke, 1537.

*The following are from Institutions at Gloucester.*

			<i>Patron.</i>	<i>Date.</i>
Resigned	William Beckwythe, Clerk ...	...	R. Ryve ...	1554, Oct. 12
Died	William Moseley ...	..	Ditto ...	1555, April 8
Died	Thomas Mynthorne, Buried at Bitton 1582...		Hugh Powell	1564, June 11
	William Sprinte, Clerk ...	...	John Sprinte	1573, Nov. 9
Died	Lewis Evans, B.A. ...	...	M. Morgan	1582, Sep. 6
Died	John Burnley, B.A., Buried at Bitton 1627		And. Atwood	1617, March 23
Died	John Carpenter, A.M., Buried at Bitton 1662		F. Leech ...	1627, June 23
Died	Henry Hoskins, A.M. ...	...	Anth. Hawles	1662, Nov. 8
Resigned	Richard Towgood, A.M. ...	...	B. Johnson ...	1684, Feb. 23
Died	Edward Parker, B.A., Buried at Bitton		Io Seymour the Elder	1691, Nov. 11
Resigned	Joseph Stockwell, A.M., Coll. Trin. Oxon....		Rich. Eyre. Pub. 1714,	Aug. 3
Died	John Eade, B.A. ...	...	Ditto ...	1715, Dec. 25
Resigned	Robert Eyre, A.M. ...	...	Ditto ..	1719, March 7
Died	Richard Barry, Jun., A.M., Buried at Bitton		Ditto ...	1724, June 29
Died	Charles Elwes, A.M. ...	...	Ralph Freeman	1766, March 20
Resigned	William Coxe, A.M. ...	...	Himself. ...	1796, April 20
Died	John Adey Curtis, A.M., Buried at Bitton		Wm. Coxe ...	1798, July 15
Died	William Batchellor, A.M., ...	...	Wm. Macdonald	1812, July 14
Resigned	William Macdonald, A.M. ...	...	Himself ...	1817, March 4
Resigned	Maurice Hiller Goodman, A.M. ...	...	Wm. Macdonald	1823, July 10
Ceded	Henry Thomas Ellacombe, A.M. ...	...	Ditto ...	1835, Nov. 5
	Henry Nicholson Ellacombe, A.M. ...	...	Ditto ...	1850, April 3

*Prebendaries of the Prebend of Button or Bitton, Gloucestershire, founded in the Cathedral Church of S. Mary the Virgin of Strum.*

Rector Ecclesiæ de Button, in Pope Nicholas' Valuation	...	1291
1. William de Sardene	... died	1303
2. Richard de Wynton	... died ...	3 Dec. ... 1303 ... Gandavo ... 140
3. John de Winchelsey	... resigned	11 Dec. ... 1304 ... 150
4. Robert Ayleston	...	15 Feb. ... 1321 ... Mortwall ... 90

			<i>Collated.</i>	<i>A.D.</i>	<i>Sarum</i>	<i>Fol.</i>
			<i>Month.</i>		<i>Register.</i>	
5. John de Wynkelie	...	resigned	2 Aug.	... 1347	... Wyvil	... 162
6. John Godewyke	...	resigned	26 Jan.	... 1394	... Waltham	... 93
7. Robert Hallum. <sup>1</sup>						
8. Galfrid, Crucadan literis Apostol.			22 Nov.	... 1407	... Dunham	... 326
9. Roger Harewell	...	resigned	20 Sept.	... 1420	.. Chandler	... 37
10. Thomas Bubwith	...	resigned	12 July	.. 1428	... Nevyl	... 9
11. William Vance	...		24 Oct.	... 1447	.. Burgh	... 5
12. John Doget	...	resigned				
13. Ralph Heathcot	...		8 Feb.	... 1485	... Langton	... 7
14. David Hopton	...	died				
15. Ralph Langton	...	died	23 Jan.	... 1491	...	... 39
16. John Gunthorp, <sup>2</sup> died June 28, 1498			4 Oct.	... 1492	...	... 42
17. Thomas Holes	...	died	26 July	... 1498	.. Blyth	... 30
18. George Woolfitt	...	died	11 July	... 1531	... Camper	... 27
19. Robert Ryve	...	died	6 July	... 1554	... Capon	31, 59
20. John Sprinte, M.A.	...	resigned	10 Sept.	... 1573	... Gheast	... 4
21. Meredith Morgan, M.A.	...	died	10 Feb.	... 1577	... Piers	.. 1
22. Henry Cotton	...	resigned	4 Dec.	... 1612	... Cotton	... 29
23. Thomas Leach	...	died	23 March	1614	...	... 34
24. Anthony Hawles, D.D.	...	died	26 July	... 1616	... Duppa	... 4
25. Thomas Hill	...	died	23 Jan.	... 1663	.. Earles	... 2
26. Richard Watson	...	died	15 Dec.	... 1671	... Ward	... 13
27. Benjamin Johnson	...	died	19 Jan.	... 1684		
28. Edmund Jeffery	...	resigned				
29. Richard Eyre, A.M.	...		19 Feb.	... 169½	... Burnel	
30. Ralph Freeman, D.D.,	...		11 Feb.	... 1745		
31. Matthew Spry, M.A.	...	died	9 Nov.	... 1772		
32. William Coxe, <sup>3</sup> M.A.	...	resigned	26 July	... 1792		
33. Thomas Henry Hume, M.A....	...	resigned	2 May	... 1799		
34. William Lewis Rham, M.A.	...	resigned	3 Dec.	... 1806		
35. William Macdonald, M.A., died June 24, 1862			29 Sept.	... 1807		

<sup>1</sup> This Prebendary became Bishop of Sarum 1407, therefore the Crown presented his stall to William Pilton, as affirmed by Patent Roll, 9th Henry IV, p. 1, m. 29, but his name does not appear in any of the Episcopal Registers which I have searched. Bishop Hallum died at Constance, the circumstances of his death, and his memorial brass will be found in the Appendix.

<sup>2</sup> He was Dean of Wells.

<sup>3</sup> The Historian.

By Act of Parliament 3 and 4 Vict., c. 113, August 11th 1840, all Prebends were suspended. On the death of the last Prebendary, the disendowed Stall was conferred by the Bishop of Salisbury on

36. Edward Arthur Dayman, B.D., Rector of Shillingstone ... 1862

The foregoing account (to Richard Eyre inclusive) is copied from a folio volume of Seth Ward's, in the Bishop's Registry at Sarum, containing a list of the Bishops, Deans, and Prebendaries, and the value of each Prebend, and a Visitation of the Dean and Chapter in 1682.

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#### THE PARSONAGE, MANOR, AND PREBEND OF BITTON.

Very little is known of the early history of the Prebend, neither have I succeeded, with the help of the most kind courtesy, to find much about it at Salisbury. In Domesday it is stated that one hide belonged to the church, and it may fairly be supposed that this is the Prebendal Manor, the extent of which I shall presently shew. It appears by the Hundred Rolls, in the time of Richard II, that the Decenna of the Rectory was one of the seven tything men who appeared at the Courts of the Manor Lord.

In the Valuation of Pope Nicholas, or Nona Roll, 1291, the Prebend is not mentioned with the others in Salisbury. Under the taxation of Wapley in Gloucestershire is this entry: "Pretium hujus (£7) porcionis, Rectori ecclesie de Button 13s. 4d.," reference to which is made in one of the following charters. In the Muniment room at Sarum there are two small deeds relating to Bitton, copies of which I am able to annex. One is—"Quieta Clam. Ecclia. de Button ꝑ. A. B. et conventus Sci. Augusti de Bristol, A. C. 1380," which has reference to Wapley. The other is—"Carta H. R. confirmans Deo et Eccle. B. Marie Sarum Ecclias. seq. de" \* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* *Appendiciis suis "Buttona."*

The first is an agreement between the Abbot and Convent of S. Augustine, Bristol, and John de Kenovill, Canon of Salisbury, about a parcel of land at Wapley in the County of Gloucester, which he claims as belonging to

his prebend of Bitton. The following copy *in extenso* was kindly made by my late friend Mr. Joseph Burt of the Public Record Office:—

“Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit: Johannes dei gratia Abbas Sancti Augustini de Bristol' et ejusdem loci conventus salutem in domino. Ad universitatis vestre noticiam volumus pervenire quod controversia que vertebatur inter nos et Johannem de Kenovill' canonicum Saresberie super ecclesia de Wippel' (?) et una hyda terre in Sudwik' quas prefatus Johannes ad prebendam suam de Betton' vendicabat pertinere; hoc fine sopita conquivit. Videlicet quod nos pro bono pacis unam marcam argenti annuatim ecclesie de Betton' imperpetuum persolvemur. Scilicet dimidiam marcam ad festum Sancti Michaelis et dimidiam marcam ad Pascha. Ita quidem quod ecclesia de Betton' vel aliquis rector illius nichil amplius in ecclesia de Wappel' et prefata hyda de Sudwik imperpetuum possit exigere. Set hac imperpetuum contenti erunt precatione. Hanc autem compositionem inter ecclesiam de Wappel' et ecclesiam de Bettona firmiter imperpetuum observandam tam nos quam sepedictus Johannes fidei religione confirmavimus. Quoniam igitur eaque amicabili compositione terminantur in recidivam dubitationem devenire non debent, nos prenominate compositionem ratam et gratam habentes ut perpetue firmitatis robur inter ecclesiam de Wappel' et ecclesiam de Betton' optineat; eam presenti pagina et..... Hiis testibus Willielmo Abbate de Cainesham. Roberto Archidiacono de Ultra Parret. Galfrido Marmiun. Roberto de ..... Jordana de Bonevill'. Et multis aliis.”

The other charter is a quit-claim dated 1380<sup>1</sup> between Robert de Hanam and John de Kenovill of certain parcels of land to the parson of Bitton, which is also extended as follows:—

“Sciant tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Robertus de Hanam remisi et quiete clamavi imperpetuum Deo et Sancte Marie de Salesberi et ecclesie Sancte Trinitatis de Betton' et Johanni de Canervill' parsonae ejusdem ecclesie et omnibus successoribus ejus pro salute anime mee et successorum et antecessorum meorum totum jus quod vendicabam in tribus mesuagiis juxta cimiterium ecclesie de Bettone scilicet in mesuagio Thome Fardevel et mesuagio Roberti et mesuagio Roberti Parmentarii et mesuagio Tiardi

<sup>1</sup> In Caswell's two volumes of Indexes is this entry:—Bitton E. 5. has two parcels.  
1. Litera, Johannis Abbas de Bristol. 2. Ditto A. D. 1380.

piscatoris Unde placitum erat inter me et Johannem predictum de Canervilla in curia Domini Regis per breve de nova diseisina Et volo et concedo ut ecclesia de Betton et ejus parsona predicta mesuagia cum omnibus pertinentiis suis imperpetuum quiete et pacifice possideant. Ita quidem quod ego vel aliquis heredum meorum in predictis mesuagiis aliquid nunquam poterimus exigere. Pro hac autem quietaclamacione dedit mihi prefatus Johannes x. solidos sterlingorum Et ut hoc scriptum sit firmum sigilli mei appositione confirmavi. Hiis testibus Waltero Capellano Willielmo Capellano Roberto Damevill' W. Marmium Petro ..... Radulpho Joie Roberto de Betton et multis aliis. In quorum omnium testimonium sigillum nostrum commune presentibus est appensum. Datum Sarum xxj die Julii anno Domini millesimo trescentesimo octogesimo."

The Prebend was richly endowed with what is called the Parsonage Manor. In old terriers it is described as a mansion house, outhouse, garden, &c., with closes of pasture, in all about 22 acres, the tythe of corne, grayne, hay and hoppes within the parish and hamlets thereto belonging. Also the presentation and advowson of the vicarage; also several copyhold estates measuring about 300 acres, leased for one, two or three lives and four lives, and a capital messuage called the Beach Farm, and a wood called Tibbot's Grove. In the Appendix may be seen a survey of the copyholds taken in 1824.

It is probable that before the Reformation, say 1538, the Prebendary was resident at the Parsonage. Be that as it may, no record has been found among the archives at Salisbury of any lease of these lands before that date, at which time begins the first volume of the Chapter Leases. These leases were regulated by the 32nd Henry VIII, c. 28, called the ENABLING Statute, 1540, and by the 1st of Elizabeth, c. 19, called the RESTRAINING Statute, 1558-9.

In Holte and Blacker's Register (88, 175, 143), is a copy of a lease in English, dated 25th March 28th Henry VIII, viz.

1538 By which George Wolfet, Doctor of Law, and Prebendary of Bytton, leased to Wm. Popley, Gent., of Somerset, the Prebend of Bytton, with the mansion of the same called the Parsonage of Bitton, and all the lands, &c., the presentation of the Vicarage being excepted for sixty years.

1547 The next lease in the 1st volume of Chapter leases, page 345, is dated October 10 1547, by which Bishop John granted to John Barnabe, Gent., Roger Ryve and Wilkins, Yeoman, and John Powell, Notary, the next presentation of the advowson of the Prebend of Bytton.

1558 The next lease is in the same volume, p. 426, by which Bishop John granted the advowson of the Prebend after the next avoidance to Wm. Wylkins, his tenant.

After this date, including the above three, they occur in the following succession :—

1.	1538	26 March	George Wolfet	to Wm. Popley	
2.	1547	Oct. 16	Bp. John	to John Barnabe and others.	Vol. i, 345.
3.	1555	Aug. 9	Bp. John	to Wm. Wylkins and others.	„ i, 426.
4.	1578	Nov. 12	Meredith Morgan	to Thomas Seymour and others.	„ ii, 323.
5.			Meredith Morgan	to Sir John Seymour and others. <sup>1</sup>	
6.	1611	Dec. 11	Henry Cotton	to Sir John Seymour and others.	„ iii, 70.
7.	1636	Feb. 13	Tho. Leach	to Sir John Seymour and others.	Lambeth.
8.	1663	Sep. 23	An. Hawles	to Sir John Seymour and others.	
9.	1677	June 1	Richd. Watson	to John Seymour and others.	Vol. vii, 78.
10.	1688	Nov. 24	Ed. Jeffery	to John Seymour and others.	„ vii, 29.
11.	1689	Feb. 10	Ed. Jeffery	to John Seymour and others.	„ viii, 57.
12.	170 $\frac{1}{2}$	March 20	Rich. Eyre	to Sir John Seymour and others.	„ ix, 139.
13.	1711	June 25	Rich. Eyre	to Berkley Seymour and others.	„ x, 41.
14.	1744	Mar. 2	Rich. Eyre	to Jane Seymour and others.	„ xii, 123.
15.	1759	Ap. 4	Ralph Freeman	to Thos. Edwards, Freeman & others	„ xiii, 149.
16.	1770	Jan. 18	Ralph Freeman	to Thos. Edwards, Freeman & others	„ xiv, 76.
17.	1788	June 18	Math. Spry	to Thos. Edwards, Freeman & others	„ xvi, 65.
18.	1799	March 27	Wm. Cox	to Thos. Edwards, Freeman & others	
19.	1809	Sep. 20	Wm. Macdonald	to John Adey Curtis and other Trustees	
20.	1812	June 10	Wm. Macdonald	to Chas. Walker and other Trustees	
21.	1834	Jan. —	Wm. Macdonald	to Sir Thos. Fremantle and others	

In the conditions on which the Prebendal Manor and Parsonage were leased, the lessee covenanted to pay the yearly rent of £26 0s. 6d., by two equal payments at Lady-day and Michaelmas; also to repair the Chancel of the Parish Church, and a certain portion of the fencing of the Churchyard; also to provide to the Prebendary and three of his

<sup>1</sup> Not found but quoted in another Lease.

men-servants, "good and sufficient house room, diet, lodgings, and provender, fodder, litter, and stable room, or grass, for four horses or geldings yearly, if he shall happen to repair thether."

In a Survey of the manor made in 1649, which may be found in the *Parliamentary Surveys*, vol. xv, 130, at Lambeth Palace, these conditions are noted, and they have been continued ever since till the year 1853.

Beach or Le Beche, with Tibbotts Grove, was leased to other parties as a separate holding. In the second volume of *Chapter Leases* at Sarum, p. 369, it was leased in 1586 by Meredith Morgan, Prebendary, to William Atwood, then in his occupation. He was to do suit and service at the manor court of Bitton, twice a year, held by the Prebendary. In 1678 the premises were leased to Henry Weare the younger, in whose family they remained, by renewal of lease from time to time, until December 1836, when William Weare, the then lessee, of Bristol, died in possession of it, and by his will this estate was devised to his cousin, John Braikenridge, Esq., of Chew Magna. The annual quit-rent payable to the Prebendary was £7.

In 1873 under certain Acts of Parliament the whole endowment of the Prebend (excepting any right in ecclesiastical patronage) became absolutely vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, after the first avoidance of the Prebend. By powers in the same Acts, the Commissioners agreed with the last Prebendary (William Macdonald) for the payment to him of £1380, to surrender to them his interest in the Prebend, provided no lease be renewed since May 1852. This agreement was confirmed by an Order in Council, June 13th 1853, and published in the *Gazette*.

By another Order in Council, November 25th, 1853 (*Gazette*, December 2nd, 1853), authority was granted to the said Commissioners for the sale of the prebendal property. After this the parsonage house and buildings annexed, and some closes of land were sold to the lessee, Sir Thomas Freemantle, who resold the same to William Frere, Esq., who was put into possession September 29th, 1857.

About the same time, and under the same powers, Beach Farm was sold by the Commissioners to John Braikenridge Esq., the lessee.

Long before the Reformation, a tything man of the Rectory was

appointed by his Court, who attended the Court Baron of the Chief Lord of Bitton, and made presentment of matters within his jurisdiction. (See Supplement.) Afterwards the Lord Farmer of the Prebendal Manor continued the same, and the copyholders were summoned to do suit and service, and to pay the quit-rents due from the several holdings. The total was £9 12s. 5d., particulars of which may be seen in the valuation of the whole estate in the Appendix.

On the suspension of the Prebend the ecclesiastical patronage was transferred to the Bishop of the Diocese (viz., Gloucester and Bristol) by 3rd and 4th Vict. c. 113, sec. 41. By the same Act, the title of Prebendary was changed to Honorary Canon. The Vicar's patronage is not disturbed, being patron of the perpetual curacy of S. Ann's, Oldland, also of Hanham, with the Church of Hanham Abbots, and Christ Church, a Chapel-of-ease thereto.

In 1840 the tithes were commuted for the following rent-charges:—

			Rectorial.		Vicarial.
Bitton ...	...	...	£353	0 0	£266 8 0
Oldland ...	...	...	235	0 0	209 0 0
Hanham ...	...	...	105	0 0	90 2 0
			£693	6 0	£565 10 0

Before 1812 certain modusses were paid in lieu of vicarial tithes, but they were all set aside at that time.

In 1869 the income of the Ministers of the three Chapels-of-ease was augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to £300 each, and Gazetted February 5th, 1869.

#### VICARAGE HOUSES, ETC

The Vicarage House, at Bitton, was certainly founded before 1280, and old parts still remain. The Parsonage House, annexed to Holy Trinity in Kingswood, was built in 1824, at a cost of £1200; the Parsonage House, on Jefferies' Hill, Hanham, in 1842, at a cost of £1228 11s. 4d.; and the Parsonage House, adjoining Oldland Church, was built in 1850, and cost £800.

All these latter works, amounting to over £16,000, were done, before 1850 by Voluntary Contributions from Parishioners, Landowners, and other persons in no way connected with the Parish, added to grants from the Public Societies and Government Boards.



## SCHOOLS.

National Schools were built at Bitton	...	in 1830 for 120 Children.
”	” Oldland, with Master's Residence, &c.	1838 ,, 200 ”
”	” Hanham ” ”	1841 ,, 200 ”
”	” Trinity in Kingswood ”	1822 ,, 216 ”
		—736

All these schools have since been enlarged.

## POPULATION.

In a Register of All Livings (Lansdown MSS. pt. 2, No. 459) in 1654 there were in Bitton 120 families, in Hanham and Oldland 146, making a total of 260 families; and estimating five in each family, would give 1300 as the total population. Sir R. Atkins in his County History gives the families in 1712 as 320, which multiplied by five would give 1600.

According to a census taken by John Wright, the then Parish Clerk, and recorded in the Register, in 1767 it was 4634, and 4997 in 1787.

By the census in 1801 - 4992	By the census in 1841 - 9338
” 1811 - 6061	” 1851 - 9452
” 1821 - 7171	” 1861 - 9534
” 1831 - 8703	” 1871 - 10327

By a special Act, dated March 23rd, 1819, many of the common lands in the parish were inclosed and sold, the award is deposited in the parish chest at Bitton. Under the General Inclosure Act other large lands called Holm Mead, Micklemead, Sydenham, and Edensfield were inclosed, and sold in 1865. Plans of these may be seen in the Supplement.

A large portion of Kingswood Chace lies in the Oldland District, some account of which will appear in the Supplement.

As for the acreage, the Hamlet of Bitton contains	...	...	3355 acres.
” Hamlet of Hanham	...	..	1195 ”
” Hamlet of Oldland ...	...	...	2615 ”
		Total ...	7165 Acres

## APPENDIX A.

*Account of the Monumental Brass of Bishop Hallum in the Cathedral Church of Constance. By R. L. PEARSALL, Esq., of Carlsruhe.*

From the ARCHÆOLOGIA, vol. xxx, pp. 430-437.

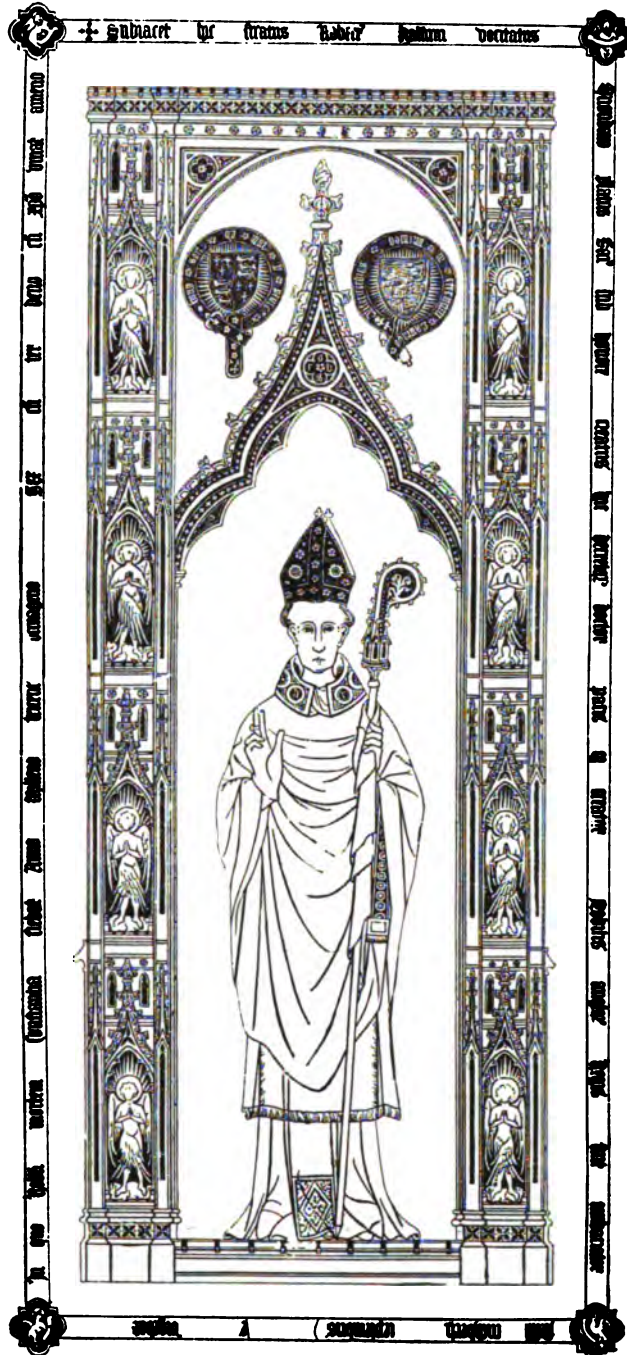
Bishop Hallum was, in his day, a Prebendary of this parish. He was collated to the stall in Salisbury Cathedral on the 26th of January, 1394, on the resignation of John Godewyke, and he continued prebendary of Bitton or Button till 1406, in which year he was succeeded by Geoffrey Crukadam, "literis apostolicis." Robert Hallum was educated at Oxford, and became Archdeacon of Canterbury; and in 1403 was nominated Chancellor of the University. "He was first designated for the see of York by a papal bull; but soon afterwards was nominated Bishop of Sarum, and received the temporalities August 13, 1407. He is said to have been made a cardinal June 6, 1411." His death and burial at Constance are fully detailed in Mr. Pearsall's letter. Massingberd, in his English Reformation, pp. 197, 198, gives a very interesting account of the conduct of this prelate in the Council of Constance, which tells so much to his credit that I must beg to quote it. "When Jerome of Prague was brought up for his first examination, and had given offence by one of his answers, so that several of the doctors called out, 'To the fire with him,' the accused answered with some emotion, 'If my death is what you wish, God's will be done.' Hallum took up his words; 'No, Jerome,' he said, 'it is not God's will that any sinner should die, but that he should be converted and live.' It would seem by this speech, that he doubted of the propriety of convincing a man by fire and faggot, or, at least, that he had more mercy in his soul than the majority of them. He distinguished himself by the boldness and resolution with which he enforced the council to prosecute the pope (John XXIII) saying to a prelate that defended him, that he knew, if he would speak the truth, that the man deserved a hundred deaths. And he brought with him to Pisa and Constance a good plan for reformation, drawn up by his friend Richard Ullerston, an Oxford man, an opponent of the Lollards, but very desirous to recover the church from its abuses in discipline."

*A Description of the Tombstone of Bishop Hallum, one of the English Mission  
to the Council of Constance, who died there A.D. 1416.*

At the foot of the steps leading up to the high altar in the cathedral of Constance there is a monument particularly interesting to the English, on account of its connexion with the history of their country.

It consists of engraved brass plates let into an oblong square stone slab, about nine feet by five in dimension, and represents the effigy of a bishop in the costume of the fifteenth century, standing in an arched niche, which terminates upwards in a crocketed canopy, having on each side of it an escutcheon. That on the dexter side contains the royal arms of the Plantagenet,—quarterly, France and England, surrounded with the garter of the order of St. George, and its device, "*Honi soit qui mal y pense.*" The other, on the sinister side, probably contained (for the metal within the border of it has been removed) the private arms of the bishop, impaled with those of his see; and is surrounded by a scroll, in which appears in gothic characters the words, "*Misericordias Domini in eternum cantabo.*" At the sides of the niche are two pillars ornamented with gothic pannels, in each of which is the figure of an angel, and the whole is surrounded by a square border (separated from the other part of the monument by an intervening space of stone), which exhibits, at each corner, an ornament, in the centre of which is a figure, much defaced, but which seems to have been the representation of a dove, with a halo round its head, bearing a scroll, and intended, I suppose, to signify the Gospel proceeding from the Holy Ghost. Such a figure can be clearly made out on the ornament at the bottom left-hand corner of the border; and it seems as if the other figures were merely varieties of that which I have particularized, and are the usual emblems of the four evangelists.

The rubbed off *fac-simile*, which accompanies the present paper, (Plate inserted) will verify the foregoing description, as well as the underwritten epitaph, which appears on the border in letters of a different character to those around the escutcheons. It sets forth the qualities of the deceased, and the year of his death, in the following quaint manner:—



✠ Subiacet hic stratus Robert Hallum  
 vocitatus: ✱ Quondam p̄latus S̄r̄  
 sub honore creatus Hic decretor̄  
 doctor pacis q̄ creator: Nobilis  
 anglor̄ Regis fuit ambaciator: ✱  
 festū cuthberti septembris mense vigebat:  
 ✱ In quo Robti mortem Constantia flebat:  
 Anno Milleno tricent octuageno: Sex  
 cū ter deno cū x̄po viuat ameno. ✱

This inscription is more than commonly remarkable, for it forms itself into hexameter verses, not only rhymed at the end, but often in the middle, thus:—

✠ Subiacet hic stratus	Robert Hallum vocitatus:
Quondam prelatus	Sarum sub honore creatus:
Hic decretorum	doctor pacisque creator:
Nobilis Anglorum	Regis fuit ambasciator:
Festum Cuthberti	Septembris mense vigebat:
In quo Roberti	mortem Constantia flebat:
Anno Milleno	tricent [ et ] octuageno:
Sex cum ter deno,	cum Christo vivat amoeno.

The day of the bishop's death then, appears to be the feast of St. Cuthbert, that is, the 4th of September, 1416: for "*Anno milleno tricent et octuageno*," brings us to 1380, to which add six and thrice ten, "*Sex cum ter deno*," and the product will be 1416.

It may be here remarked that the word "*Christo*" in the original inscription is contracted and expressed by an equivalent for the Greek characters XPO, that is to say, a Gothic  $\tau$  for the Greek *chi* ( $\chi$ ), a *p* for the *rho* ( $\rho$ ), and an *o* for the *omicron*.

Note also! that over the head of the effigy, in the quatrefoil of the canopy, is a rose in the centre, around which are the letters R. O. B. S., which I presume were intended to denote the four principal letters in the bishop's baptismal name—Robertus.

On the upper part of his dress, on the collar of the chesible, there are two gothic letters which look like A. V.

I have sought, but without success, in such records of the fifteenth century as have come within my reach, for some information as to what part Bishop Hallum took in the proceedings of the Council. All that I have been able to find is a notice of his death, contained in an old printed book, now somewhat rare, dated 1483, and written in German by Ulrich von Reichenthal, under the title of *Consilium von Costnitz*. I have subjoined a literal extract from it (vide fo. xxxix.) with an English translation of the same.

## EXTRACT.

An dem vierten tag des ersten Herbstomonaths wz da ein Zinstag in der VIII stünd nach mittētag, gegen d' nacht, da starb der-hochwürdig Fürst Bischoff *Rupertus Salubunensis* aus Engelland, in d' festin Gotthliebē; uñ morgens um vesperziet do leytet man jm zu Kostanz, uñ trug man in mit zweiē guldienē tüchern iñ dz Münster, uñ giengen da mit all Kardinal, Patriarchen, Erzbischöff, Bischöff, unser herr d' König, alle geijstlich uñ weltlich Fürstē prelatē uñ pfaffē uñ sünst ein grosse welt, bey LXXX groster briñender kertzen, die trügent alt arm mañ uñ sünget jm ein Vigiliē, uñ ward vergrabē iñ dē Chor zu and'n Bischoffen, ünd hat man jm da kein offer.

On the fourth day of the first Harvest month, happened a Tuesday during which, VIII hours after mid-day, towards the night, there died the highly worthy Prince Bishop Robert of Salisbury from England, in the fortress Gotlieben; and on the morrow about vesper time there they conducted him to Constance, and they bore him with two golden cloths into the Minster, and thither went all Cardinals, Patriarchs, Archbishops, Bishops,—our Lord the King,—all spiritual and temporal Princes, prelates and priests, and with them a great crowd, by [the light of] LXXX of the largest-sized burning tapers,—which poor old men bore,—and they sung him a Vigil, and he was buried in the choir with the other Bishops;—and they had for him there no offering.

It need hardly be said that the German of the above-written extract is very old, and therefore not always consistent with modern idiom. I have translated it as closely as I could; but still there are some parts of it which may require the following explanation:—

The word "*Costnütz*," which appears in the title of the book from which the extract is taken, is an ancient German designation of the city of Constance. It was also called *Kostantz*, and this orthography is to be found in the 8th line of the text.

"*Zinstag*" (at line 2) is a corruption of "*Dienstag*," which is yet called "*Zistag*" and "*Zistig*" in the dialect of the Black Forest. See the Glossary at the end of J. P. Hebel's *Allemannische Gedichte*.

"*Hochwürdig*" (translated "highly worthy") is equivalent to our "Very reverend." In the fifteenth century it was exclusively given to dignitaries of the church; but it has since, like many other high-sounding German titles, become common property;<sup>1</sup> so that at the present day it is given even to clergymen of the lowest rank.

Bishop Hallum is called (see line 4) "*Fürst Bischoff*," i.e. Prince Bishop; probably

<sup>1</sup> For instance, *Euer Gnaden*, (*Anglicè* Your Grace) which, in the middle ages, was reserved for the highest nobility, is now commonly given to persons of the lowest grade in the German aristocracy: i.e. to those who are two degrees below the rank of a knight, and may therefore be assimilated to our gentleman. *Wohlgeboren* (i.e. well-born) has sunk still lower. On a tombstone dated 1574, in Gernbach church, near Baden-Baden, this honorary

because he was a cardinal at Rome (he was made so A.D. 1411), and therefore was classed at the Council with the other ecclesiastical princes.

The word "*Salubunensis*" is an evident corruption of *Salisburyensis*.

"*Gotlieben*" (vide line 6) was a little fortress, or strong-house, belonging to the see of Constance.

"*Unser Herr d'König*," alludes I presume to the Emperor Sigismond, in his character of king of the Romans, or king of Bohemia; but I do not know why he is not designated by his imperial title, for he was elected on the 20th September 1410, and crowned at Aix la Chapelle on the 8th of November, 1414, that is to say, nearly two years before the death of the bishop. See *Abrégé de l'histoire d'Allemagne par M. de Pfeffel*, p. 318.

At the conclusion of the extract is this singular phrase, "*und hut man jm da kein opfer*." In the Roman Catholic Church it was, and still is, at funerals, an established custom for the friends of the deceased to make an offering in money or money's worth for the good of his soul. This is called in German an "*opfer*" or sacrifice; and it is certainly strange that such a custom should have been discontinued in the present instance. But it must be remembered that the monarchs who sent ambassadors to the Council of Constance were in full dispute with the Pope; and that there was a strong desire on their parts to oppose and set limits to the pretensions which had been advocated in his behalf. Now I do not know whether the offering made at funerals was ever claimed by the church as a right; but, if so, one can easily understand that the colleagues of the Bishop might have been disinclined to admit such a claim, and might have omitted the customary donation in order to show that they were determined to regard it in the light of a benevolence.

I ought not to take leave of the present subject without stating that, according to the report of the sacristan at the Cathedral of Constance, grounded on generally believed tradition, the brass part of Bishop Hallum's monument was manufactured in England, and sent from thence to cover his remains. If this indeed be true, it is an interesting fact, for it affords a presumption that in the early part of the fifteenth century our brass-engravers were reputed to be superior to those of the Rhenish cities, where the thing might have been executed without incurring the charge of transport and the risque of damage which must have attended any shipment from England. Certainly, the art of inscribing on brass does not appear to

epithet is applied to Bernhard of Eberstein, a count of the empire with seat and voice in the Diet, and consequently a member of the high nobility. Now, however it has become the property of the superior order of plebeians. To give it to the meanest member of the aristocracy, even to a captain in the army, with no other rank than that derived from his commission, would be a flagrant breach of good manners.

have been cultivated, for this purpose, so much in Western Germany as with us. There are effigies cast in brass and plated with it to be found; and I am informed that most of these are believed to have been executed at Nuremburg, where brass-founding is said to have been cultivated with success, and at an early period. But in the many churches which I have visited on and about the shores of the Rhine I scarcely remember such a thing as an engraved plate monument of the early part of the fifteenth century. Perhaps the form of the escutcheons over the head of the Bishop's effigy may be adduced as very slight evidence of English workmanship; for that form was prevalent in England in the year 1416, at which period the Germans had begun to adopt another, somewhat different, in depicting heraldic achievements. The garter and garter-like scroll too which surround the escutcheons are peculiar to England. These little traits, although they do not amount to conclusive proof, give nevertheless an air of probability to the tradition. Indeed no reason for disbelieving it can be founded on the general appearance of the monument. I think, nevertheless, that the inscription on its border was executed in Germany; for the letters of which it consists are very different to those round the escutcheons, on the collar, and over the head of the effigy; and they resemble at the same time those which one often sees in Germany on gravestones of a contemporary date.

I do not understand why the royal arms should appear on the monument in question, unless it were to show that the bishop, when he died, was the King's representative.

R. L. PEARSALL.

*Carlsruhe, (Germany), 28th October, 1842.*



## APPENDIX B.

Survey of the Copyholds belonging to the Manor of the Prebend of Button, *alias* Bitton, founded in the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Sarum, taken in the year 1824, by John Brown and William Hicks Townsend, Surveyors.

JOHN POPHAM, *Lessee or Copyholder.*

Numbers in Parish Map.	Premises.	Tenant.	State in 1824.	Quantity.		
				A.	R.	P.
921	In Micklemead	Self	Pasture	2	6	
1168	In Upper Nornead		Ditto	1	0	26
1200	Orchard	Sam. Hicks	Ditto	3	15	
1199	House, Garden, and Buildings	Ditto				35
1224	Paddock, Long	Ditto	Ditto	1	0	8
1233	Field, Stoke Brook	Ditto	Ditto	7	1	8
1334	Part of Field	Ditto	Ditto	2	2	13
1247	Cottage and Yard and Barn					15
1249	House and Garden	James Lewis				15
1242	Field, Steep Cleeves	Sam. Hicks	Pasture	1	3	1
1240	Garden	Ditto	Garden			35
1267	Paddock, Atkins' Roborow Tynings	Ditto	Arable	1	1	5
1275	Field, Little Stoke Brook	Ditto	Pasture	4	3	37
1282	Field, Long Pipley	S. Hicks	Ditto	7	0	12
1287	Wood	Ditto	Wood	3	3	
1449	Field, Beech Leaze	Self	Pasture	8	0	23
1305	Paddock, Atkins' Tynings	S. Hicks	Ditto	2	2	25
1328	Paddock (woody)	Ditto	Ditto	2	3	3
1099	Field, Harding's	Self		4	2	38
1093	Pt. of Paddock	Ditto		1	12	
				<b>48</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>25</b>

RACHEL HUMBERSTON, *Copyholder. Late "Ross's" Living.*

964	In Micklemead	John Capel	Pasture	2	3
1020	In Normead	Wm. Builder	Ditto	3	0
1248	Yard and Buildings	John Capel	...		20
1250	House and Garden	Ditto	...		33
1273	Paddock	Ditto	Arable	2	25
1374	Paddock	Ditto	Pasture	3	2
1308	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1	0
1352	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	3	2
1052	Field	Thos. Bevan	Ditto	2	2
1055	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1	2
1056	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1	1
408	Aldermoor	Ditto	Ditto	2	22
409	Island	Ditto	Ditto		12
1062	Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	1	3
1101	Field	Ditto	Ditto	7	3
1129	Ditto			3	0
1060	Field	Ditto	Ditto	4	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				32	2
				18	

MARY BUSH, WIDOW, *Copyholder. Late "Bryant's" Living.*

968	In Micklemead	Self	Pasture	2	0
945	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto		35
	Part of Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	2	24
1026	Field	Ditto	Ditto	4	2
1165	In Upper Normead	Danl. Lewis	Ditto	1	0
1167	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1	0
1291	Field	Isaac Lewis	Arable	4	0
1307	Ditto	Self	Pasture	4	0
1034	Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	2	18
1133	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	3	0
229	Kimmercombe			1	0
222	Jay's Hill			1	33
781	Three Corner Paddock	Daniel Burnell	Arable	2	23
1016	Part of Paddock	Ditto	Pasture	3	11
1047	In Boyd Field			1	0
1316	Garden				30
9	The Close		Pasture	1	2
10	Garden		Arable	1	16
11	House	Manor	{ and Garden { and Garden		16
12	House			Ditto	14
13	Ditto			Ditto	34
	In Waddown Moor	Geo. Lewton	Pasture	2	4
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				27	1
				26	

## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

JOHN BUSH (Brewer), *Copyholder. Late "Flower's" Living.*

1438	Paddock	Self	Pasture	1	3	28
1436	Field	Ditto	Ditto	3	2	19
1437	Wood, &c.	Ditto	Wood	2	2	31
1378	Long Tyning	John Caple	Arable	2	1	4
1309	Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	1	1	27
1350	Field	Self	Pasture	4	0	34
1368	Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	3	3	36
1356	House and Garden	Sundry Persons		1	2	20
1349	Field	Self	Pasture	5	2	32
1404	Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	1	2	4
1424	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1	2	35
1409	In Quarry Ground	Ditto	Arable	2	0	15
1415	Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	2	0	19
	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	3	1	13
	Field	Ditto	Pasture	3	0	38
1096	In Wilton's Field	John Gibbs	Arable	1	1	20
1429	Wigley Corner	— Flower	Ditto	2	1	8
1426	Wigley Corner	Self	Ditto	2	1	36
1298	Part of Field	John Caple	Pasture	1	1	7
				<hr/>		
				38	0	26
				<hr/>		

WILLIAM JASON PARKER, *Copyholder.*

1343	Field	John Bush (Brewer)	Pasture	1	0	14
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JOHN BUSH (Bristol), *Copyholder. Late "Goodman's" Living.*

1188	Field, The Rookery	Daniel Lewis	Pasture	1	3	32
1162	Part of Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	1	1	
1201	House, Garden, &c.	T. Gibbs, J. Bath, &c.		3	3	
1202	Field, Old House Ground	D. Lewis	Pasture	1	3	39
1205	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	3	3	7
1207	Garden	M. Shipp				13
1209	House, Garden, and Land	Ditto				21
1268	Paddock	T. Lintern	Arable	1	2	31
1276	Ditto	T. Gibbs	Ditto	3	1	20

S. MARY, BITTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

59

1272	Coninger, Part of	John Caple	Ditto	15	2	33
1283	Part of Blackland	Saml. Hicks	Pasture			20
1439	Field, Stubb's Leaze	John Gibbs	Ditto	4	2	8
1445	Part of a Field in Beach Leaze	Ditto	Ditto		1	37
1442	Field, Round Close	Ditto	Ditto	1	2	35
1324	Paddock	Rich. Dennis	Ditto	1	1	11
1333	Ditto	Dan. Lewis	Ditto	2	2	26
1373	Ditto	Jos. Wilton	Ditto	1	3	39
1394	Field, Leaze	John Gibbs	Ditto	5	3	11
1410	Withy Bed	Ditto	Withy			32
1428	In Wigley Corner	Ditto	Arable		1	21
1431	Ditto	Ditto	Arable			33
1122	Field		Ditto	3	0	11
				<hr/>		
				49	3	4

MARTHA PROCTOR, WIDOW, *Copyholder. Late "Blackler's" Living.*

975	In Micklemead	Self	Pasture	2	3	
1210	Orchard	Ditto	Orchard	1	28	
1137	Paddock	Ditto	Pasture	1	0	0
1067	In Dry Leaze & Palmer's Ground	Ditto	Ditto	2	7	
1211	House, Garden, and Orchard, Blackler's	Ditto		2	10	
1218	Field	Ditto	Pasture	3	3	38
1271	Field	Ditto	Ditto	5	1	9
1272	{ Strip Ditto	Ditto	Arable	2	35	
		Ditto	Ditto	2	22	
1274	Part of a Field	Ditto	Pasture	1	0	20
1279	Pipley	John Glass	Ditto	2	0	39
1094	In Wilton's Field	John Gibbs	Arable	1	20	
984	In Micklemead	Self	Pasture	3	16	
				<hr/>		
				18	1	10

WILLIAM SHIPP, *Copyholder. "Late Harding's" Living.*

1153	House and Garden	George Hawkins		18		
1154	Ditto	Hannah Bright		20		
1155	Ditto	Stephen Jones		31		
1156	Garden	Self		4		
1157	Orchard	Ditto		3	5	
				<hr/>		
				1	0	38

JOSEPH PARKER, *Copyholder.* Late "*Dangerfield's, Attwood's,*" &c.

	In Normead	Wm. Builder	Pasture			30
1021	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1		20
1365	Paddock	Peter Gerrish	Ditto	2		12
Pt. of 1226	In Long Close and Farundel	Daniel Lewis	Ditto	1		0
1262	Garden	John Meere	Garden	1		23
1261	Ditto	John Meere				33
1398	Field, Patches	John Gibbs	Ditto	2	0	37
1342	Paddock	Rachel Wilton	Ditto		2	31
1423	Paddock	John Gibbs	Ditto	1	3	25
1408	In Quarry Ground	Ditto	Ditto			
	In Coffin Tynning	Rich. Dennis		1	0	0
1106	Hill Bush and Paddock	Ditto	Pasture	5	3	25
	In Lower Nailors	Jos. Parker, jun.	Ditto	1	1	20
	In Long Furlong	R. Dennis	Arable	8	2	19
	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto		2	27
	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	3	3	12
1212	Seed's House, Garden, &c.	Wm. Ship			1	22
1213	Seed's Orchard	Ditto	Pasture	1	0	9
1222	Seed's Three Acres	Martha Proctor	Ditto	2	3	34
	In Butterwell	Wm. Ship	Ditto		1	31
1219	Butterwell Paddock	Martha Proctor	Ditto		3	33
	In Roborough	R. Mayne	Arable	1	0	0
	In Upper Roborough	Ditto	Ditto		2	11
	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto		2	5
1296	The Harp	John Glass	Pasture	3		14
	In Great Pibley (Brake)	Self	Brake	2		0
	Stony Leaze	John Glass	Pasture	3		37
	Upper Pibley	Ditto	Ditto		3	14
	Late Blackers	Ditto	Ditto	1	1	39
	Pibley Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	2	0	13
1443	Field	John Gibbs	Ditto	4	0	26
	In Upper Wall Tynning	John Popham	Arable		2	8
	Ditto	Roger Mayne	Ditto	2	0	34
	In Wall Tynning	Ditto	Ditto	1	0	0
	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1	0	0
	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto		2	17
	Blacker's Acre	John Glass	Pasture	1	0	11
				<hr/>		
				54	3	13

JOSEPH PARKER,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; MARTHA PROCTOR,  $\frac{1}{8}$ ; JOHN POPHAM,  $\frac{1}{8}$ ; PETER GERRISH,  $\frac{1}{8}$ ; JOHN BUSH,  $\frac{1}{8}$ , are joint Copyholders in the following lands in Micklemead, called "Lots."

966	The Dwelling Acre	Roger Mayne	Pasture	2	2	32
985	The Long Acre	Ditto	Ditto	1	2	5
986	The Short Acre	Ditto	Ditto		3	10
987	The Mill Acre	Ditto	Ditto	1	3	25
				<hr/>		
				6	3	32
				<hr/>		

PETER GERRISH, Copyholder. Late "Foord's" Living.

960	In Micklemead	Self	Pasture		3	2
1385	Paddock	Isaac Lewis	Arable	2	3	22
1375	Field	Self	Pasture	5	0	33
1335	Paddock	Ditto	Ditto	1	2	26
1364	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	3	0	33
1359	House and Garden	Joseph Williams				36
1338	Field	Self	Pasture	3	1	39
1417	Part of Paddock	Rachel Wilton	Ditto		1	16
1411	Paddock	Jos. Williams	Arable		2	13
				<hr/>		
				18	1	20
				<hr/>		

MARY LEWIS, WIDOW, Copyholder. Late "Hanney's."

1198	House, Garden, &c.	Self			1	3
1197	Ditto	Mary Thompson			1	4
1314	Paddock	James Lewis	Pasture		1	27
				<hr/>		
					3	34
				<hr/>		

WILLIAM TRUEBODY, Copyholder. Late "Mulling's."

1189	House and Garden	Self			1	14
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## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

WILLIAM WEARE, *Lessee of Beach Farm, part of the Prebendal  
Manor of Bitton.*

952	In Micklemead	John Popham	Pasture	9	1	7
1450	Upper East Field	Ditto	Ditto	12	1	4
1451	Lower ditto	Ditto	Ditto	10	2	5
1452	Nine Acres	Ditto	Ditto	10	2	5
1453	Eight Acres	Ditto	Ditto	8	3	17
1454	Great Thicket	Ditto	Ditto	24	1	24
1455	Cow Leaze	Ditto	Ditto	19	2	32
1456	Lower Leaze, or Leigh	Ditto	Ditto	9	2	12
1457	Vernshard	Ditto	Ditto	10	0	34
1458	Upper Leaze	Ditto	Ditto	12	1	29
1459	Wood	Ditto			3	11
1460	Orchard Mead	Ditto	Pasture	6	1	34
1461	Orchard	Ditto	Orchard	2	0	8
1462	Beach Farm, House, &c,	Ditto		1	1	34
1463	Six Acres	Ditto	Arable	5	0	5
1464	Four Acres	Ditto	Ditto	3	2	8
1465	Road to Great Down	Ditto	Pasture			30
1466	Garden	Ditto	Arable			31
1467-8	Beach Wood and Quarry	Ditto	Wood	27	0	5
1469	Great Down	Ditto	Pasture	61	2	20
1470	Little Down	Ditto	Ditto	14	2	28
1447	Six Acres	Ditto	Arable	5	2	30
1380	Lower Tyning	Ditto		12	3	28
1383	Tyning	Ditto		6	2	16
1383	In Upper Wall Tyning	Ditto		1	3	14
1388	Tyning	Ditto		6	0	28
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				284	0	19

*The Parsonage House and Glebe, Leased with the Manor of the Prebend to  
SIR THOMAS F. FREMANTLE, BART., on Three Lives.*

2	Mansion House and Garden	Garden	1	3	25	
3	Cottage, Barn, Yard, &c.			3	24	
4		Pasture	5	3	6	
5	Nine Acres	Ditto	9	2	6	
5a	Plantation	Ditto		1	0	
6	Croft	Ditto	4	3	27	
				<hr/>	<hr/>	
				23	1	8

*The Vicarage House and Glebe, part of the Patronage of the  
Prebendary of Bitton.*

7 & 8	House, Garden, &c.	H. T. Ellacombe	Garden	2	9
8	Part of Close	Ditto	Pasture	1	3
791	Little Breaches	Job Lapham	Ditto	3	0
Hanham	In Sydenham Mead	Dan. Shelland	Ditto	2	29
779	In Cherry Garden	Wm. Stibbs	Ditto	1	37
1419	Oldland In Waddown Moor	Geo. Lewton	Ditto	2	4
1124	In Lower Nailors	Robert Strong	Arable	2	5
1	The Church Yard	Mortuorum	Pasture	1	3
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				9	2
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				5	

*Summary of the Totals held by each Copyholder, also of the Beach Farm and  
the Glebe Lands of the Parsonage and Vicarage, shewing the extent of the  
Prebendal Manor and the Acreage with which the Church was endowed.*

Quit Rents.	Copyholders.	Tenements.	Quantity.
1 14 5	Popham, John	Gunning's, &c.	48 2 25
1 7 0	Humberston, Rachel	Rosse's	32 2 18
11 11	Bush, Mary	Bryant's	27 1 26
10 10	Bush, John	Flower's	38 0 26
18 2	Bush, John	Goodman's	49 3 4
7 6	Proctor, Martha	Blacker's	18 1 10
1 0	Parker, Wm. Jason		1 0 14
15 2	Parker, Joseph	Seeds, &c.	54 3 13
	Parker and others	Mead	6 3 32
13 2	Gerrish, Peter	Foord's	18 1 20
8	Lewis, Mary	Hanney's	3 34
4 0	Trubody, William	Mulling's	1 14
8	Shipp, William	Harding's	1 0 38
			<hr/>
			296 1 27
			<hr/>
36 0 0	Weare, William	Lessee of Beach Farm	284 0 19
26 0 6	Fremantle, Thomas	Lord Farmer of the Parsonage	23 1 8
	Goodman, Maurice		
	Hiller	Vicar of the Vicarage	9 3 5
			<hr/>
			615 3 26
			<hr/>



## APPENDIX C.

EXCHEQUER. LAY SUBSIDIES. GLOUCESTER. No.  $\frac{113}{5}$  1 EDWARD III.*Membrane 25.—Hundred de Swynesheved.*

<i>Button.</i>		<i>Hanam et Oldelonds in Button.</i>			
De Edmudo. le Blount	- - -	iijs iiijd	De dno Johe. de Button	- - -	vjs viijd
Alic. la Blount	- - -	xiijs jd ob	Stepho. de la More	- - -	iijs iiijd
Johe. atte Bregge	- - -	xxd	Johe. Santemareys	- - -	vjs viijd
Johe. Vauncour	- - -	xijd	Nicho. de Bakhous'	- - -	vjs iiijd
Johe. Gibbes	- - -	ixd ob	Rogero. Sygge	- - -	xvijd
Henr. Colquines	- - -	ijs 9	Robto. Burnel	- - -	xijd
Johe. Chiualer	- - -	vjd ob	Johe. Trabes	- - -	iijs
Robto. Perkyne's	- - -	xij d	Rico. Galiar	- - -	vs
Rico. Dameanneys	- - -	xixd ob	Willo. Poddyng'	- - -	xijd
Johe. Inchehurn	- - -	xijd	Hugon Payn	- - -	vjs viijd
Johe. de Maluarn	- - -	xijd	Rogo. de Donerleye	- - -	iijs iiijd
Johe. de Kyngton	- - -	ijs	Gilb atte Hulle	- - -	xijd
Johe. Marmyoun	- - -	ijs iiijd o	Johe. le Bercar	- - -	xiiijd
Willo. Blount	- - -	xvijd	Willo. atte More	- - -	xijd
Petr. Bercar	- - -	xs	Alicia. Duraunt	- - -	xijd
Sm <sup>a</sup>	-	xlijs xjd ob q <sup>a</sup> .	Robto. le Beek'	- - -	xijd
			Willo. Marshale	- - -	xvijd
			Willo. de Kyngeshull	- - -	xiiijd
			Thom. Holoweie	- - -	ijs ixd
			Johe. Donerleye	- - -	ijs
			Rico. Wildegos	- - -	xijd
			Robto. Stork'	- - -	viijd
			Rogo. Berde-	- - -	viijd
			Rogo. Fabro-	- - -	xvjd
			Rico. atte Wode	- - -	xijd
			Robto. atte Wode	- - -	xijd
			Waltero. atte Soler	- - -	ijs iiijd
			Johe. Fox	- - -	xijd
			Johe. le Man-	- - -	xiiijd
			Rico. atte Gorste	- - -	ijs iiijd
			Johe. le Frenashe	- - -	xijd
			Adm. Grymesbur	- - -	xvijd
			Johe. Joye	- - -	xijd
			Waltero. de Pauale	- - -	iijs ob
			Johe. Wade	- - -	xijd
			Marg'ia. atte More	- - -	ijs xd
			Sm <sup>a</sup>	-	iijs xxijd ob

*Upton et Bech. in Button.*

D <sup>o</sup> Johe. le Hope	- - -	xiiijd
Thom. de Staunton	- - -	ijs viijd
Robto. de Launcesdon	- - -	xijd
Johe. de Cottenham	- - -	xvijd
Rogo. atte Elme	- - -	xviijd ob
Alicia. atte Grene	- - -	xvd
Robto. atte Bech.	- - -	ijs ob
Rogo. ate Fortheie	- - -	iijs ob
Rico. Hamond	- - -	xviijd
Thom. Lekhamond	- - -	xijd
Rico. Heort	- - -	iijs vjd
Willo. Vikeries	- - -	xijd
Stepho. Cranel	- - -	ijs ijd
Johne. Flie	- - -	xviijd
Robto. Poynceal	- - -	xijd
Thom. Barouns	- - -	ijs
Thom. Morwe	- - -	xijd
Johne. Marmyoun	- - -	xiiijd
Sm <sup>a</sup>	-	xxxxs ob

## SUBSIDY ROLL, 37TH HENRY VIII.

*Hundredm de Gromoldeayshe.*

## BYTTON.

	in bon.	subs.		in bon.	subs.
Hericus Weston	- xlviii	xij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>	Ricus. Trewbody	- xxli	x <sup>s</sup>
Thomas Tybbett	- xli	xx <sup>s</sup>	Willms. Waren	- xxli	x <sup>s</sup>
Johanna Rygevale	- xxli	x <sup>s</sup>			

*Hundr. de Gromboldasshe.*

## DECENN. DE BYTTON AND HANHAM.

	Subs.		Subs.
Johes. Staunton, in terris	iiij <sup>li</sup> vj <sup>s</sup>	Thomas Smythe, in bonis	xvjl <sup>i</sup> xvj <sup>s</sup>
Thomas Tybotts, in bonis	xxxiiij <sup>li</sup> xliij <sup>s</sup>	Johes. Smythe	- ixli vj <sup>s</sup>
Edward Tybotts	- vijli iiij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>	Ricus. Smythe	- xixli xix <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Grome	- vijli iiij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>	John Byrde, sen.	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Johes. Holbeine	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	Willms. Jonys	- ixli vj <sup>s</sup>
Thomas Towney	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	Ricus. Gonyng	- xvli xv <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Burnell	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	Elizabeth Skelton, vid.	- viijli vs iiij <sup>d</sup>
Thomas Brytayne	- vjli iiij <sup>s</sup>	Nichus. Smythe	- xijli xij <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Crew, sen.	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	Thomas Wyllyams	- xijli xij <sup>s</sup>
Thomas Crede, sen.	- vjli iiij <sup>s</sup>	.....	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Wyllam Vnderhyll	- vijli iiij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>	Thomas Bryantt	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Thomas Awsborne	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	Ricus. Fermoa	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Ricus. Trewbody	- xvjl <sup>i</sup> xvj <sup>s</sup>	Roger Appresser, in terr.	xls iiij <sup>s</sup>
Harry Weston	- xxli xxvj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>	Wills. Stone, in bonis	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Edmond Weston, in terris	xli xx <sup>s</sup>	Johes. Jonys	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Taylor, sen., in bon.	xijli xij <sup>s</sup>	Walt'us Smythe . . . .	- vli iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Wyllm. Warno	- xvijli xvij <sup>d</sup>	Summa	xvli viij <sup>d</sup> .

## SECOND PAYMENT OF SUBSIDY GRANTED 1ST ELIZABETH.

*Hundredum de Grombouldesashe.*

## BYTTON AND HANHAM.

	Subs.		Subs.
Johes. Nuton, miles in terris	- xli liij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	Willms. Vnderhill, in bon.	xli x <sup>s</sup>
Edmond. Weston, in terr	xli xij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	Rogerus Tibbett	- vijli vij <sup>s</sup>
Ricus. Davers, in bonis	- xxli xx <sup>s</sup>	Johnes. Holbyn	- vijli vij <sup>s</sup>
Johnes. Reede, in terris	- xli xij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	Johnes. Hardinge	- vli vs
Willms. Warne, in bonis	- xli x <sup>s</sup>	Willms. Burnell, senior	- vli vs
Nichus. f. mithe	- ixli ix <sup>s</sup>	Lewis Briaunt	- vijli vij <sup>s</sup>
Johnes Curties	- vli vs	Thomas Forde	- vli vs
Johnes. Smithe	- vli vs	Thomas Britayne	- vli vs
Poyntus Smythe	- vli vs	Elbright Brownige	- vli vs
Johnes. Warne	- vli vs	Ricus. Fox	- vli vs
Johnes. Jones	- vjli vj <sup>s</sup>	Walter Smithe	- vli vs
Thomas Crede	- vli vs	Johnes. Bisshoppe	- vijli vij <sup>s</sup>
Willms. Stone	- vli vs	Johnes. Crewe	- vli vs
Johnes. Taylor	- vli vs	Willmus Burnell	- vli vs
		Henryc. Smithe	- vjli vj <sup>s</sup>

Summa xijli ix<sup>s</sup>.

## THE LAST PAYMENT OF SUBSIDY GRANTED 13TH ELIZABETH.

*The Houndrede of Grombaldashe.*

## BYTTON AND HANNAM.

1572.		Subs.		Subs.
Harry Newton, in landes	xiiij <i>li</i>	xvijs iiij <i>d</i>	Willm. Stane, in goods	vj <i>li</i> vj <i>s</i>
Edmund Weston	„ xij <i>li</i>	xvj <i>s</i>	Thomas Reade	„ iiij <i>li</i> iiij <i>s</i>
John Lacie	„ xj <i>li</i>	xiiij <i>s</i> viij <i>d</i>	John Osbourne	„ iiij <i>li</i> iiij <i>s</i>
Stanton Batman	„ iiij <i>li</i>	v <i>s</i> iiij <i>d</i>	Lewes Bryante	„ viij vjij <i>s</i>
Willm. Vnderhill	„ l <i>s</i>	iijs iiij <i>d</i>	Thomas Bryttayne	„ viij <i>li</i> viij <i>s</i>
Nichas. Smithe, in goods	xj <i>li</i>	xj <i>s</i>	John Crewe	„ vj <i>li</i> vj <i>s</i>
Richard Coxe	„ vj <i>li</i>	vj <i>s</i>	Harry Vnderhill	„ v <i>li</i> v <i>s</i>
Elbrihte Browninge	„ vi <i>li</i>	vj <i>s</i>	Edward Bassett	„ iiij <i>li</i> iiij <i>s</i>
Walter Smythe	„ iiij <i>li</i>	iijs	John Hawkyns	„ iiij <i>li</i> iiij <i>s</i>
Richard Smythe	„ iiij <i>li</i>	iiij <i>s</i>	John Davyes	„ vj <i>li</i> vj <i>s</i>
Joane Bisshop	„ v <i>li</i>	v <i>s</i>	John Harding	„ vj <i>li</i> vj <i>s</i>
Roger Cottell	„ iiij <i>li</i>	iiij <i>s</i>	Willm. Burnell	„ vj <i>li</i> vj <i>s</i>
Roberte Stowte	„ iiij <i>li</i>	iiij <i>s</i>	Roger Tibbatt	„ viij <i>li</i> viij <i>s</i>
John Warne	„ vj <i>li</i>	vj <i>s</i>	Thomas Fourd	„ vj <i>li</i> vj <i>s</i>
John Jonnes	„ viij <i>li</i>	viij <i>s</i>	Robert Hawkins	„ iiij <i>li</i> iiij <i>s</i>
Walter Bryttaine	„ vj <i>li</i>	vj <i>s</i>		
			Sum. xli iijs viij <i>d</i> .	

*The Hundrede of Grombaldashe.*

## BYTTON AND HANNAM.

Harry Newton, in landes	(Sums omitted)	Willm. Stane, in goods	(Sums omitted)
Edmund Weston,	„	Thomas Reade	„
John Lacie	„	John Osbourne	„
Stanton Batman	„	Lewes Bryante	„
Willm. Vnderhill	„	Thomas Bryttayne	„
Nichas. Smith, in goods	„	John Crewe	„
Richard Coxe	„	Harry Vnderhill	„
Elbrihte Browninge	„	Edward Bassett	„
Walter Smythe	„	John Hawkyns	„
Richard Smythe	„	John Davyes	„
Joane Bishop	„	John Harding	„
Roger Cottell	„	Will. Burnell	„
Roberte Stowte	„	Roger Tibbatt	„
John Warne	„	Thoms. Fourd	„
John Jounes	„	Robert Hawkins	„
Walter Bryttaine	„		

## FIRST SUBSIDY OF 39TH ELIZABETH.

*Hund. de Langley et Swinshed.*

## BYTTON AND HANNAM.

Willms. Bassett, ar. in ter.	- xjli	xliiij <sup>s</sup>	Edrus. Henton, in bonis	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Weston, gen.	„ - vli	xxs	Thoms. Bishopp	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Danvers, gen.	„ - vli	xxs	Jo. Rede de Highe Kinge		
Willms. Lacy, gen.	„ - iiijli	xvjs	Hill	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Hered. Willi. Price, gen.	„ - iiijli	xij <sup>s</sup>	Willus. West de Westham	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Stanton Bateman	„ - xls	viij <sup>s</sup>	Thoms. Creed	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Willus. Vnderhill	„ - xls	viij <sup>s</sup>	Johes. Burnell de Hanam	- vli	xiijs iiijd
Willus. Atwood, in bon.	- vijli	xviij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>	Barth <sup>us</sup> Rymer	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Britten	- iiijli	xs viij <sup>d</sup>	Johes. Hardinge de Bitton	- iiijli	xs viij <sup>d</sup>
Johes. Osborne	- iiijli	xs viij <sup>d</sup>	Johes. Bryant de Lipyate		
Johes. Crewe	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>	in ter	- xls	viij <sup>s</sup>
Thoms. Flower	- iiijli	xs viij <sup>d</sup>	Ric. Taylor de Hanam, in bon.	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Willus. Tibbett	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>	Johes. Sherborne	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Burnell de Vpton	- iiijli	xs viij <sup>d</sup>	Henricus Stowt	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Editha Ford de Vpton	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>	Joanna Gates, vid.	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Johes. Rede	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>	Johes. Warne	- iiijli	xs viij <sup>d</sup>
Willus. Browning	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>	Robt. Jones	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
Henrice Hardinge	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>	Nicus. Carter	- iiijli	viij <sup>s</sup>
			Sum <sup>a</sup>	xviijli	xij <sup>s</sup> .

## SUBSIDY, 40TH ELIZABETH.

*Hund. de Langley et Swinshed.*

## BYTTON AND HANAM.

Willus. Bassett, ar. in ter.	(Sums omitted)	Henric. Hardinge, in bon.	(Sums omitted)
Johes. Weston, gen. in ter.		Edrus. Henton	
Johes. Danvers, gen. in ter.		Thomas Bishopp	
Willus. Lacy, gen. in ter.		Jo. Rede de Highe Kingshill	
Hered. Willi. Price, gen. in terr.		Willms. West de Westham	
Stanton Bateman in ter.		Thomas Creed	
Willus. Vnderhill, in ter.		Johes. Burnell de Hanam	
Willus. Atwood, in bon.		Barthw. Rymer.	
Johes. Britten		Johes. Hardinge de Bitton	
Johes. Osborne		Johes. Bryant de Lipyate, in ter.	
Johes. Crewe		Ricus. Taylor de Hanam, in bon.	
Thomas Flower		Johes. Sherborne	
Willus. Tibbett		Henricus Stowt	
Johes. Burnell de Vpton		Joanna Gates, vid.	
Editha Ford de Vpton		Johes. Warne	
Johes. Rede		Robt. Jones.	
Willus. Browning		Nicus. Carter	

## SUBSIDY 20TH JAMES I.

*Hundred. de Lanley et Swinshead.*

## BITTON ET HANAM.

Theodrus Newton, miles		Barthol. Rymer, in ter.	- ijli	Oli ijs viijd
in ter.	- xxli	Johes. Foord, in bon.	- iijli	Oli ijs
Johnes. Seed, in ter.	- iijli	Johes. Britten de Vpton		
Henricus Weston, in ter.	iijli	in ter.	- ijli	Oli ijs viijd
Andreas Atwood, in bon.	vli	Johes Burnell, in bon.	- viijli	Oli viijs
Johes. Britten	- iijli	Willms. Lacie, in ter.	- ijli	Oli ijs viijd
Johes. Lowe et Tho.		Robertus Brownings, in bon	iijli	Oli ijs
Underhill	- ijli	Joanna Bishope, vid.	- iijli	Oli ijs
Rogerus Hardingo	- iijli	Humphridus Read in ter.	ijli	Oli ijs viijd
Johes. Britten, sen. in ter.	ijli	Jacobus Stibbs	„ - jli	Oli js iijd
Tobias Read, in bon.	- iijd	Rogerus Joanes	„ - jli	Oli js iijd
Johes. Harding, senn.	- iijli	Johes. Cotle	„ - jli	Oli js iijd
Nicholas Flower, in ter.	- jls	Richus. Stowt et Edwardus		
Johes. Flower	„ - ijli	Seel, in ter.	„ - jli	Oli js iijd
Stanton Batman	„ - ijli	Willms. Tybbat, in ter.	- iijli	Oli ijs iijd
Tho. Daingerfeld	„ - jli	Alicia Wad, vid.	„ - jli	Oli js iijd
Johes. Read, in bon.	- iijli	Willms. Robings	„ - ijli	Oli ijs viijs
Richus. Powe	- iijli	Walterus Joanes	„ - jli	Oli js iijd
		Suma. total.	vli	xiijs viijd.

## SUBSIDY 22ND JAMES I.

*Langley et Swineshead Hund.*

## BITTON ET HANAM.

Theodore Newton, Knight, in ter.		John Davis and John Britten de Vpton, in ter.
Henry Weston, gen.	„	John Burnell de Hanna, in bon.
Andrew Atwood, in bon.		Robert Brownings de Hanna.
John Brytten, fir.		Joane Bishopp, vid.
John Lowe, et Thomas Vnderhill, in ter.		Humfry Reade, in ter.
Boger Hardinge, in bon.		James Stibbs
John Brytten, senior, in terr.		Roger Jones
Toby Reade, in bon.		John Cottell
John Hardinge, senior		Richard Stowt
Nicholas Flower, in ter.		Willia. Tybbatt
Stanton Batman	„	Alice Wade, vid.
John Ford, junior & John Rede, in ter.		Willia. Robbins
Bartholomew Rymer	„	Walter Joanes
John Ford, senior, in bonis		John Hellier

The foregoing extracts of Lay Subsidies are interesting, as they are a record of the chief parishioners living at the respective dates. They are extracted from the originals in the Public Record Office, London. I have been enabled to add the following:—

## SUBSIDY, 3RD EDWARD VI.

*Hund<sup>t</sup> de Gromboldsashe.*

## BYTTON AND HANHAM.

Edward Tybett, in bonis	- xiiij <sup>l</sup> p	Refio xiijs	Thomas Osborne, in bonis	- xli p	Ref. xs
John Crew	- xli p	Refio xs	Rychard Gonyng	- xiiij <sup>l</sup> p	Ref. xiijs
Wyllm. Warne	- xli p	Refio xs	John. Taylor jun.	- xli p	Ref. xs
Henry Weston	- xxli p	Ref. xxs	Rychard Smythe	- xiiij <sup>l</sup> p	Ref. xiijs
John. Cromo	- xli p	Ref. xs	Wyllm. Jonys	- xli p	Ref. xs
Wyllm. Vnd'hyll	- xli p	Ref. xs	Sum.	vili xs.	

EXCHEQUER. LAY SUBSIDIES. GLOUCESTER. NO.  $\frac{113}{200}$ .

## 14TH AND 15TH HENRY VIII.

Decenn. de Olonde. <i>Bytton.</i>			Thoms. Smythe	- vli	ijs vjd
Thoms. Breten, in bon.	xiiij <sup>l</sup> subsid.	vjs	Willmo. Grene	- xls	xijd
Johes. Tebott	- iiij <sup>l</sup>	ijs	Johes. Wodehows	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Johes. Crew	- vj <sup>l</sup>	iijs	Johes. Gregory	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Johes. Rede	- iiij <sup>l</sup>	ijs	Willmo. Jonys	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Johes. Bryantt	- iiij <sup>l</sup>	xviiij <sup>d</sup>	Thoms. Tybbes	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Thoms. Hurne	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>	Johes. Bryantt, sen.	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Johes. Underhyll	- xiiij <sup>l</sup>	vjs	Johes. Jonys al. Brydys	xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Johes. Breten	- vj <sup>l</sup>	iijs	Johes. Teytt	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Johes. Rondell	- vli	ijs vjd	Johes. Warkeman	- vij <sup>l</sup>	iijs vjd
Johes. Tebott, sen.	- xls	xijd	Willmo. Byrde	- xls	xijd
Ricus. Davys	- xls	xijd	Johes. Smythe	- xls	xijd
Walteru. Twyneborow	- xli	vs	Johes. Sheram	- iiij <sup>l</sup>	ijs
Robtus. Hardyng	- xli	vs	Willmo. Waren, in bon.	iiij <sup>l</sup> subsid.	ijs
Thoms. Hogge	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>	Johes. Robyns	- vij <sup>l</sup>	iijs vjd
David Jonys	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>	Johes. Strowt	- xls	xijd
Robtus. Waturford	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>	Johes. Strowt, sen.	- xls	xijd
Henricus Weston, gent.	xli	xls	Johes. Swayne	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Thoms. Curnell, famul.			Johes. Byrde	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
ej. p. stipend.	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>	Ricus. Gonwyn	- iiij <sup>l</sup>	xviiij <sup>d</sup>
Thoms. Bryantt	- vj <sup>l</sup>	iijs	Johes. Jonys	- xxli	xxs
Johes. Smythe	- vli	ijs vjd	Jacobus Cockeson famul.		
Nichus. Graffton	- iiij <sup>l</sup>	xviiij <sup>d</sup>	ej.	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Thoms. Darke	- xxs	iiij <sup>d</sup>	Johes. Taylor	- xli	vs
Thoms. Crede	- xls	xijd	Thoms. Burnett	- xli	vs
Johes. Bryantt	- iiij <sup>l</sup>	xviiij <sup>d</sup>	Nichus. Smythe	- xls	xijd

Decenn. de <i>Hank'm.</i>			Willmo. Tybbott	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>
Robtus. Waren, in bon.	vli	ijs vj <i>d</i>	Willmo. Smythe	- iiij <i>li</i>	xviij <i>d</i>
Johes. Noyrs	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>	Johes. Pycher, sen.	- xls	xij <i>d</i>
Johes. Stewyn	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>	Johes. Pycher, jun.	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>
Henric. Smythe	- xls	xij <i>d</i>	Johes. Jonys	- iiij <i>li</i>	ijs
Ricus. Smithe	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>	Willmo. Gylle	- xxvjs viij <i>d</i>	vj <i>d</i>
Johes. Mors	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>	Willmo. Lewys	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>
Thoms. Jonys	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>	Johes. Ryggervale	xvj <i>li</i> xiijs iiij <i>d</i>	vijs iiij <i>d</i>
Thoms. Jonys de Wylgoce	xxs	iiij <i>d</i>	Nichus. Yonge	- xli	xls
Johes. Bondye	- xxvjs viij <i>d</i>	vj <i>d</i>	Johes. Waron famul. ej.	xxvjs viij <i>d</i>	vj <i>d</i>
Thoms. Gyfford	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>	Willmo. Sawnders	- xxs	iiij <i>d</i>
Johes. Grene	- iiij <i>li</i>	xviij <i>d</i>	Rogeru. Trewbody	- xxvjs viij <i>d</i>	vj <i>d</i>
Johes. Jonys de Castellynd	xls	xij <i>d</i>			

EXCHEQUER LAY SUBSIDIES, GLOUCESTER, No.  $\frac{115}{246}$ , MEM. 2,  
4TH AND 5TH PHILIP AND MARY (1557-8).

*Hundred of Grumboldsash.*

BYTTON AND HANHAM.

Eduo. Weston, gent. in terr.	- xli subs.	xls	Nichus. Smythe, in bon.	ixli subs.	xxiiij <i>d</i>
Juliana Weston, vidua	- vj <i>li</i>	xxiijs	Henricus Smythe	- vj <i>li</i>	xvjs
Johes. Rede, gent.	- xxli	iiij <i>li</i>	Johes. Burnell	- vli	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>
Johes. Stawnton	- iiij <i>li</i>	xijs	Johes. Jonys de Gargas	vj <i>li</i>	xvjs
Johes. Seymoure, gent. in bonis	- xxli	liijs iiij <i>d</i>	Willms. Jonys	- vij <i>li</i>	xvijs viij <i>d</i>
Lewse Brytton	- vj <i>li</i>	xvjs	Thoms. Crede	- vli	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>
Ricus. Smythe	- ixli	xxiijs	Johes. Holbyne	- vj <i>li</i>	xvjs
Willms. Warne	- xli	xxvjs viij <i>d</i>	Roger. Tybpett	- viij <i>li</i>	xxjs iiij <i>d</i>
Johes. Byshoppe	- vij <i>li</i>	xvijs viij <i>d</i>	Thoms. Brytton	- xvli	xls
Willms. Underhyll	- xvli	xls	Willms. Burnett	- vli	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>
Ricus. Gunningy	- vj <i>li</i>	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>	Johes. Hardyng	- vli	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>
Elbright Brownyng	- vj <i>li</i>	xvjs	Macute Grome	- vli	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>
Ricus. Foxe	- vli	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>	Willmo. Burnell sen.	- vli	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>
			Johes. Curtos	- vli	xiijs iiij <i>d</i>
				Sm <sup>a</sup> xxxj <i>li</i> ijs viij <i>d</i> .	

These payments may be traced as far back as the statute of Magna Charta, on the conclusion of which the Parliament granted the King, for the concessions therein made, a "fifteenth" of all their moveable goods. This taxation was originally set upon the several individuals. Afterwards in the year 1334 a certain sum was rated upon every town by commissioners appointed in the Chancery for that purpose, who rated every town at the fifteenth part of the value thereof at that time, and the inhabitants rated themselves proportionably for their several parts, "Fifteenths" continued down to 1624, in which year three "fifteenths" were granted to James I.<sup>1</sup> They continued to 1670, which was the last grant of the kind. After this, in 1693, the Land Tax was imposed. The following is an early specimen:—

<sup>1</sup> See Blackstone, book i, ch. 8.

GLOUCES:—An Assessment made in the year of our Lord 1707 for the Tything of Bitton in pursuance of an Act of Parliament granting an aid to her Majesty of foure shillings out of the pound by a Land Tax by us whose names are heare subscribed.

Impis.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.				
Col. Seymour or his tenant	-	13	10	8	Esquir Hart for part of Jo. Flowers	-	2	0			
Mr. Parker for the Vicaridg	-	3	4	0	Mr. Seed for pt. of Rimers	-	1	13	0		
Esq <sup>e</sup> Hart	-	8	18	0	Bartly or the occupiers thereof	-	1	12	0		
John Bush	-	8	0	0	John Fox	-	-	4	0		
John Holbin	-	1	11	4	Josias Robbins	-	-	2	0		
Abram Bayly	-	1	6	8	Isack Stout	-	-	14	0		
Richard Rifing, or the occupiers of y <sup>e</sup> George & D.	-	-	12	0	Esquire Hart for part of Isa. Stouts	-	-	2	0		
Joshua Burnel or John Bush	-	-	8	0	Walter Jay for Hales	-	-	2	8		
John Boush	-	1	6	8	John Flower for part of Rymars	-	-	-	8		
Roger Harding	-	5	1	4	Christopher Smith for Baglands	-	16	0			
Thomas Burnell	-	-	14	8	John Collett	-	-	8	0		
Hannah and Mary Burnell	-	3	4		The Widdow Greneway for part of Robinses	-	-	5	4		
Mr. Edwards or his tenent	-	5	16	8	John Smith for part of Criswiks	-	-	1	4		
John Powell or his tenent	-	-	1	8	Cornelius Voules for Hiscockses	-	15	4			
William Lidverd	-	-	12	0	Cornelius Voules for part of Rymers	-	-	6	0		
Elizabeth Bush	-	-	18	8	Cornelius Voules for Long Craft	-	-	6	0		
Robert Bryant	-	1	16	0	Mr. Parrot	-	-	8	0		
John Lasbury or his tent.	-	-	8	0	Mr. Day	-	-	3	4	0	
William Nutt or the occupier thereof	-	-	8	8	Christopher Morgen	-	-	-	16	0	
Edward Ward or his tenent	-	1	16	0	William Kight	-	-	1	18	0	
Mr. Weston or his tenent	-	3	2	0	Robart Sharp	-	-	-	16	0	
The occupiers of Haineses	-	-	8	0	Mrs. Rosewell	-	-	5	16	0	
Mrs. Perry or her tenent	-	2	0	0	Mr. Parker	-	-	4	6	8	
John Flower	-	-	18	0	Mr. Parker Jun <sup>r</sup>	-	-	8	0	0	
Arthur Wickam	-	1	16	0	Mr. William Seede	-	-	3	4	0	
The Widdow Grinaway for Arthurs	1	0	0		Mr. Holester for Facknams	-	2	13	4		
The occupiers of Mayoos	-	1	6	8	Mr. Lacy	-	-	5	0	0	
The Widdow Williams	-	0	0	0	Mr. Goodman	-	-	3	14	8	
Mr. Winston or his tenent	-	2	8	0	Mr. Goodman for Arbors Ly	-	-	-	18	0	
Cornelius Voules for Waterses	-	1	0	0	The Widdow Batman	-	-	-	6	0	
Samuell Jones	-	2	10	0	George Willis	-	-	1	2	8	
John Smith	-	-	12	8	Mr. Samuell Balsam and Samu. Brittin	-	-	-	4	8	0
John Thomas for Terviles	-	1	12	6	Gorge Goning	-	-	-	1	4	0
John Thomas	-	2	2	8	Mr Hordge	-	-	3	4	8	
Thomas Jones	-	1	12	0	Edward Harding	-	-	-	10	0	
Mr. Edwards for part of Robinses	4	0			Lambrock Flower	-	-	4	2	0	
Sir Thomas Cann or his tenent	-	2	14	8	John Harding	-	-	-	18	0	
The Widdow Grenaway for Jones	1	0	0		Mr. Holister	-	-	2	0	0	
John Woodman for part of Criswiks	2	0			Robbert Evings for Rudducks	-	-	-	4	0	
Mrs. Perry	-	1	2	0	Robart Evings	-	-	-	13	4	
The Widdow	-	0	0	0	John Smith for Burnels Acre	-	-	-	2	0	
Robart Painter	-	-	1	8	William Dagg	-	-	-	12	0	
Josiph Weeb	-	-	3	0	Richard Kight	-	-	-	16	0	
Thomas Jones for Lemans	-	2	8		John Nut or the Occupiers of Butterwell	4	0				
Edward Fox	-	-	2	0	John Gromet for Laishlies	-	-	-	5	4	
Mr. Fry for Sanderses	-	-	4	0	Mr. Henry Ware	-	-	12	0	0	
Christopher Smith for pt. of Rymers	2	0			Jo. Britting	-	-	2	4	0	
William Brookes for pt. of Rymers	1	0			Mr. Thomas Whittington	-	5	16	0		
Richard Emerson	-	1	17	4							
Joshua Brown	-	2	10	8							



## THE PREBENDAL CHURCH OF

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.			
<b>Thomas Ford and Robart Evings</b>				<b>William Kight for Coulyeat</b>	-	1	12	8		
<b>For Collings and Daggs</b>	-	18	4	<b>Samuel Ross for Butchers</b>	-		6	0		
<b>William Bosh</b>	-	1	14	0	<b>Anthony Kipping</b>	-		2	8	
<b>Gorge Attwood</b>	-		11	4	<b>Richard Kaines or his tenent</b>	-		1	4	
<b>Ann Attwood</b>	-		5	4	<b>Abraham Latham</b>	-		2	8	
<b>Ann Rodborn</b>	-		5	4	<b>John Goome</b>	-		5	4	
<b>Thomas Rodborne</b>	-	1	18	4	<b>John Naish for part of Rodborns</b>			2	4	
<b>Thomas Fox</b>	-	1	4	0						
<b>John Flower</b>	-	2	12	0						
<b>Thomas Haskings for Bartlys</b>	-		7	4						
								£202	1	8

**CHRISTOPHER SMITH** } *Overscers,*  
**JOHN FLOWER** }

## Nominated

**MR. EDWARD PARKER JUNIOR** } *Collectors.*  
**JOHN BOSH** }

**THOS. CANNS**     ×

**RICH. HAYES**     ×

**EDW. HILL**         ×

## APPENDIX D.

PROCEEDINGS IN CHANCERY, TEMP. ELIZ. SS. 25, No. 42.

JOHN SEYMOR, Plt. ; Sir NIC. POYNTZ, Knt., &amp;c., Def.

*Extract from Bill, dated 21 October, 1584.*

JOHN SEYMOR, of Frampton Cotterell, Esq.,—

Recites lease granted by Geo. Wollfett, Clerk, Dr. of Laws, Preb. of Bytton, dated 25th March, 28 Hen. VIII, to Wm. Popley, Gent., of the Prebend of Bytton, with the Mansion House called the Parsonage House of Bytton, and all lands, tenements, &c., &c., to the said Prebend belonging, for 60 years. The Bishop, Dean, and Chapter of Sarum confirmed and ratified the lease.

John Seymor, the plaintiff, got possession of the estate (when and by what means not stated), and being in danger of his life by reason of enemies seeking his destruction, did convey the estate to Thomas Seymor, his son and heir apparent, in trust, but kept possession of the premises, and also of the deed of conveyance, till Jane his wife, Thomas Seymor's mother, did, by the allurement of said Thomas, embezzle the deed. After her death John Seymor missed the deed and applied to his son Thomas and to Sir Nic. Poyntz, Knt. (brother to his late wife Jane) for it, but they with oaths denied having it, but Thomas Seymour offered to convey the premises to John Seymour for the unexpired term of the original lease, and caused two conveyances to be made of the said premises, one to Sir Nic. Poyntz, and the other to John Seymor, who, not knowing of the conveyance to Sir Nic. Poyntz, was satisfied; and about 8 July, 23 Eliz., granted the premises to Thomas Seymour for three years, and at the end of that term endeavoured to enter on them in his own right, but Thomas Seymor kept possession by force and arms, and affirmed that Sir Nic. Poyntz was by virtue of the said conveyance possessed of the premises, and had conveyed them to John Webb for and to the use of him, Thomas Seymor.

## POSTSCRIPT.

The Archæological Association of Somerset met at Bath in July, 1876. In their excursions to places of interest in the neighbourhood they visited Bitton. Mr. E. A. Freeman, D.C.L., was one of the party. He was greatly pleased with the church, which he had never seen before; and as a parish church, judging from the great length of the nave, it might be compared to St. Alban's among cathedrals. He further remarked that the neighbourhood of the Via Julia and the fragments of Roman ware which have been dug up from time to time in the Vicarage grounds and in the churchyard prove that the Romans occupied this spot; and there still remain untouched stones which were placed in their present position by builders in the period next after the Latin, probably on the site of a Roman basilica.

The existing nave of the church is essentially Norman in character, and it presents the usual features of a nave of that period—great length and height in proportion to its width. The Norman corbel table is preserved on both the north and south sides, and there is good reason for believing that the north wall has never been disturbed, except for the insertion of the present two-light windows. There are traces in the wall on the interior—and the manner in which these traces have been preserved and are left uncovered is beyond all praise—of two or three plain round-headed Norman windows which have been walled up. But there are two fragments of greater interest than these. Near the east end of the north wall are distinctly to be seen the large stones of an archway of much earlier date than the Norman Conquest, and near the ground is a block of masonry which the least tutored observer would see is of the same character as that in the little church of St. Lawrence at Bradford-on-Avon. It is undeniably primitive Romanesque work, done by those English ancestors of ours, whom people will call Anglo-Saxons and believe such an amount of fiction about. This archway was the entrance either to a north tower or north transept in the first church on this site. On the south side the foundations of a corresponding transept have been found, though the archway has been replaced by a very late Perpendicular window, pointing to the conclusion that it was destroyed in the abolition of chantries. On the north side however interments have been allowed in times gone by so close to the church that any similar evidence has been swept away. Again, the present chancel

arch, which stone for stone replaces a late Norman one removed in 1843, is built within a still older arch, the rough capitals of which can still be seen on the chancel side. On the nave side there is an old string course of the same date as the first arch, and above it a portion of a carving, of which no one can positively say what it is; but it might be, and is generally believed to be, the feet of the holy rood. On the south side of the Norman entrance a plain but good doorway still remains, and apparently this section was not disturbed by the Perpendicular builders, though finding a rough piece of stone at the end of one of the mouldings they carved it and finished it in their own style. There is a finer doorway on the north side, from which the chancel arch is copied. This must have been either the western entrance or a north entrance; I am inclined to think the latter as more in character with the plan of the church. It is now within the church at right angles to the west wall of the chantry chapel, and there are some who think it has been shifted. I do not fancy myself that it is far from its original position, though its eastern side has been cut down to make room for other work.

I append as a *tail piece* an engraving of a double Bulla or leaden Seal, found about 1825 in a garden at Upton in Bitton, on the site now occupied by a Non-conformist meeting house.

On one side are represented the heads of SS. Paul and Peter; on the other the name of Alexander IV. He succeeded Innocent IV in 1254, and died in 1261. He vexed England with his exactions, intending a war against the Turks. I have not succeeded in tracing the object of the Bull to which this seal was appended. This Bulla is in the possession of Mr. Parker of Upton. Staveley in his *History of Churches*, 1773, p. 90, has printed one of the Bulls of this prelate.



## APPENDIX E.

## TERRIERS: BYTTON, 1603, JUNIJ.

A true Terrier of all the glebes, lands, meadows, gardens, orchards, houses and tithings y<sup>t</sup> doth belonge to the Vicarage ther as followeth :—

In primis ij akers and — of errable land in a field.

It<sup>m</sup> halfe an aker of medow lying by Kains- ham bridge ende ther well known.

It<sup>m</sup> one backside contayninge by estimac'on one farndle of ground.

It<sup>m</sup> one litle garden.

It<sup>m</sup> the churchyarde.

It<sup>m</sup> all the privie tythes except the hoppis.

*In housinge.*

In primis a hall, a parlor, a buttrie.

Itm. iij chambers above and ov' the parlor.

Itm. one barne, a stable, a yatchouse and one other howse called the myllhouse,

And as for the parsonage it is an

Improp'nac'on, and have all the Tithinge Corne, hei, and hoppes.

LEWYS EVANS Vic. ther.

JOHN WARNE and

NICHOLAS FLOWRE,

Churchwardens.

[The above is the earliest Terrier in the Registry at Gloucester. There are none earlier at Worcester. There are other Terriers at Gloucester dated 1619, 1678, 1680, 1764, 1807, 1835.]

A TERRIER OF THE PARSONAGE MANNŌ AND  
PREBEND OF BITTON, 1677.

Imprimis the Parsonage howse, outhouses and garden w<sup>th</sup> thappurtt's.

It<sup>m</sup> 2 Closes of pasture thereto near adjoyning contayning by estimat'on five acres and halfe be it more or lesse.

It<sup>m</sup> 2 grounds one called the Craft and the other called the Hopyard, both nowe used for hopp grounds and both contayning by estimac'on eleven acres be the same more or less.

It<sup>m</sup> the Tythes of Corne, grayne, hay and hoppis within the p'ish of Bitton and sev'ral Villages or hamlets thereto belonginge.

*Copyhold Estates in being for 2 and 3 lives p'cell of the sd. Mannor.*

John Goodman of one Messuage in Upton with the land thereto belonginge.

John Smith of one tenement att Beach w<sup>th</sup> the lands thereto belonginge.

Robert Bryant for one tenement called Mour- tons with the lands thereto belonginge.

John Brittain of the Moytie of a tenement in Upton with the lands thereto belonginge.

The same for th'other moyety of the same tenement.

Joane Croome for a Roffless tenement.

Thos. Rodbourne for one Cottage.

Robt. Hawkins for a tenem<sup>t</sup> att Beach.

Thos. Dangerfeld for a tenem<sup>t</sup> att Bitton.

John Fford for a tenem<sup>t</sup> att Bitton.

Japhet Bunzell for a tenem<sup>t</sup> att Bitton.

[Indorsement : "A Terrier of the Prebend of Bitton given into the Chapter at the renewing of Bitton Lease by Dr. Watson June 1, 1677." Similar ones are attached to all the Leases. These leases have all been transferred with the property to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.]

# HISTORY OF BITTON.

## CHAPTER II.

### NOTICES OF THE MANORS.

In the foregoing chapter, lately issued by the Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society, I have given the fullest extent of the parsonage or prebendal manor, which I have been able to collect, with an account of the mother Church of the parish, and a short notice of each of the daughter Churches. But there are several other manors in the parish, a memoir of which was printed in the *Herald and Genealogical Journal*, vol. iv, 1867, p. 193 *et seq.*, and p. 311 *et seq.*, from which the following is reproduced, with some alterations and additions.

#### OF THE MANOR OF BUTTON OR BITTON, CO. GLOUCESTER.

At the time of the Conquest the manor of Bitton was held of the King by one Dons, a Saxon, who held it in the time of King Edward the Confessor.<sup>1</sup> There were two hides in Bitton, one of which belonged to the church.<sup>2</sup> In 1151,<sup>3</sup> Robert Fitzharding, as a reward for his services to Maud the Empress and her son Duke Henry, obtained, with other estates, the manor of Bitton. This appears by a charter in the Muniment Room

<sup>1</sup> All the Records referred to in these notes will be found in a separate chapter.

<sup>2</sup> Domesday, f. 170b., lxvii.

<sup>3</sup> This date is proved by Mr. Fleming in his argument on the Berkeley Barony before the Lords, July 1860.

at Berkeley Castle, with seal appendant. Smith, in his Lives of the Berkeleys, in the Library of the Herald's College, London, says, "and for an handsell (as it were) of that lump which followed, one hundred pound land of that of Berkeley, with the Manor of Bitton, was given in theis words<sup>1</sup>, "Henricus Dux Normandorum et Comes Andegavorum omnibus Archiepiscopis Episcopis Abbatibus Consulibus, Baronibus et amicis fidelibus Francis et Anglicis salutem: Sciatis me dedisse Roberto filio Hardingi et heredibus suis Manerium Betthone cum omnibus appendicis suis. Et insuper centum libratas terre in manerio de Berkelei,<sup>2</sup> ita libere et quiete in bosco et plano, in pascuis et pratis, in aquis et viris, et terris arrabilibus, cum omnibus libertatibus, et consuetudinibus, cum Tol et Them, et Sorch et Saeke et Belle et Buckleyet, et Infankenethef, et omnibus quietantiis que ibi fuerunt in tempore Henrici Regis avi mei in feodo et hereditate, illi et heredibus suis ad tenendum de me et heredibus meis per servicium duorum mutatarum accipitrum<sup>3</sup> singulis annis mihi et meis heredibus reddendorum. Et pepigi ei firmare ibi castellum secundum voluntatem issius Rodberti. Et propter haec superscripta dicta dona, Rodbertus filius Hardingi devenit meus Homo, et ego per fidem meam affidavi ei, partiones supradictus tenere illi atque heredibus suis; et hoc idem affidavit Reginaldus comes cornubie et Rodbertus de Dunstanvilla et Ricardus de Humer constabularius, et Manerbiseth dapifer et Guavinus filius Heroldi, Camerarius, et Willielmus filius Hamonis, et Philippus de Columbers qui hujus pactionis testes existunt; et preter istos testes sunt inde Abbas sancti Augustini de Briston et frater Adam Canonicus ejus, et Henricus filius Rodberti, et Willielmus Cumin, et Jordanus frater Rodberti, et Jordanus et David nepotes ejus et Ricardus de Hanam, apud Briston."

When Duke Henry became king he granted another charter, in which Bitton is omitted, for it appears in the Planta de Juratis et Assisis (15

<sup>1</sup> I have extended this for the convenience of the general reader.

<sup>2</sup> In the Barony of Berkeley:

A Knight's fee was = 640 acres, or 4 hides.

A Hide = 160 acres, or 4 yard lands.

A Yard Land = 40 acres, or 4 farundels.

A Farundel = 16 acres. *Smith's Lives*, p. 222.

<sup>3</sup> Mewed "Hawks."

Edward I, 1287) (V in Appendix), that Robert Harding had aliened Bitton to Robert de Hanham, whose son, Robert de Berkeley, had enfeoffed Robert de Amnevil to the seignory of the manor, to whom it was confirmed by Henry III, the service being one knight's fee.

Appurtenant to this manor was the manor of Hannum or Hannam.<sup>1</sup> This included the whole parish, excepting what was within the bounds of Kingswood, or the Forest of Furches,<sup>2</sup> and the one hide belonging to the church. Early tiles with the arms Berkeley have been found in the churchyard of Bitton.

Adam d'Amneville, the father of Robert de Hanham, had another son, also named Robert, who usually occurs in records as Robert de Bitton or Button, and was the ancestor of the family of that name. In this family were three bishops, one a Bishop of Exeter, who in 1299 built the chantry chapel on the north side of Bitton church over the bodies of his father and mother, there buried.<sup>4</sup> (See pp. 8, 11, and 35 ante).

This family of Bitton also acquired lands in Bitton and Hanham, and ended in an heiress, Jane Rouge, Rugge, or Rigge, who married first Robert Greyndour of Newland, co. Glouc., secondly Sir John Barre of Rotherwas, co. Hereford. On her death without issue in 1485 the Hanham estates (also called Barres Court Demesne)<sup>5</sup> reverted to the descendants of the

<sup>1</sup> After the western portion was aliened to Keynsham Abbey, that portion was called West Hanham, the other portion, in which the Bitton estates lay, was called Hannam, or East Hannam, and now Oldland.

<sup>2</sup> *Furchis*. 5th Henry III, Close Roll, m. 12, Robert d'Ameneville is allowed to enjoy in peace the wood of Furcis, prope Bristol. Patent Roll, 8th Henry III, m. 2, the custody of Bristol Castle, with the wood of *Furches*, is committed to R. de Willington. Charter, 13th Henry III, part i, m. 18,\* in the charter of deafforestation, "Boscus de Furcis" is cited. After that, what remained was called "Chacia de Kingeswole." By *Ordinatio Forestae*, 33rd Edward I, it is to be continued a chase. (See Plans at the end.)

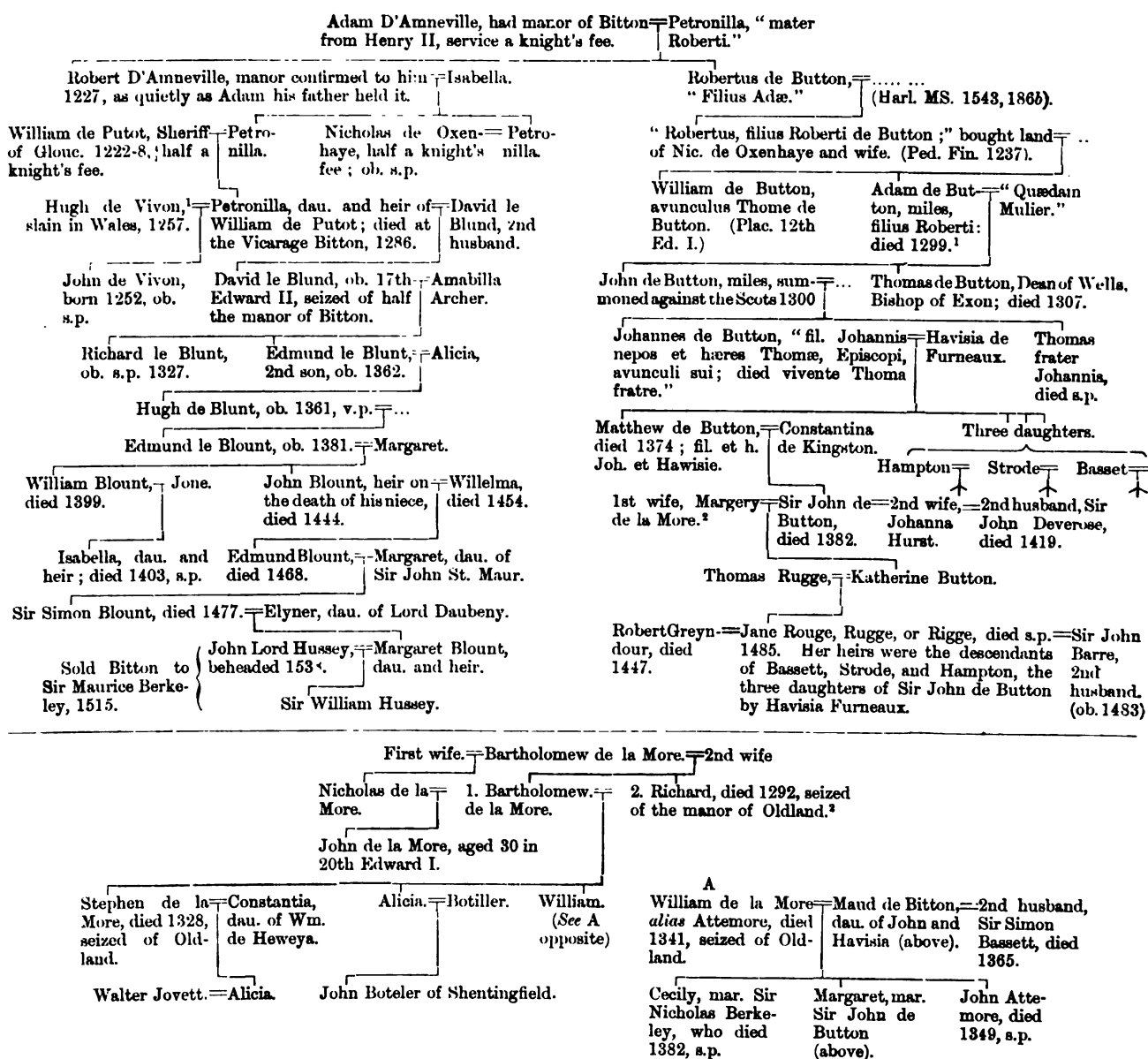
<sup>3</sup> His name occurs in a charter of confirmation of the manor, 11th Hen. III, No. 143, p' *servicium unius militis ita libere, &c., sicut unquam Adam pater suus illud tenuit de Rege Henrico avo nostro: sicut Carta Ricardi Regis avunculi nostri testatur.*" This grant is also recited in *Placita de Quo Warranto*, 1287, page 263. This record seems to show that the Amnevilles held the manor directly of the Crown. Yet in 1287 it was considered to be parcel of the barony of Berkeley. See *Placita de Juratis and Assisis, Glouc*, xv, Rot. 15th Edward I, m. 29.

<sup>4</sup> See the licence for the Chantry at Bitton.

<sup>5</sup> An *extent* of these estates, taken in the time of Robert Greyndour, 1431, is among the Add. MSS. in the Brit. Museum, No. 7361.



TABLE SHEWING IN BRIEF THE DESCENTS OF BLOUNT AND BITTON,  
ALSO OF DE LA MORE, DRAWN FROM RECORDS.



<sup>1</sup> See Pedigree of De Vivonia, in Coll. Top. vii, 137, and House of Yvery, vol. ii.

<sup>2</sup> See Robert's Calendarium Generale, vol. i, p. xxv.

coheiresses of Sir John de Button, who had married Basset, Stode, and Hampton; and so, Cradock *alias* Newton of Harptree, having married a Hampton, became the possessor of Barre's Court. (See Pedigree opposite).

There were *two* Roberts de Button and a Robert d'Amneville. The effigy of the first Robert de Button was discovered in the churchyard of St. Mary's, Bitton, in 1826, on the south side, close to the church, the site no doubt of what was a mortuary chapel of the founder (see *Archæologia*, vol. xxii, p. 437, and vol. xxxi, p. 268). It is carved on the lid of his coffin, partly in relief and partly incised, as shown in the engraving. The armour shows that he must have been the first of the name. (See *Pedigree*). His shield is charged with a fess. See also pp. 8 and 35 ante, with engravings.

To return to Robert d'Amneville, who held the manor of Bitton. He had two daughters each called Petronilla,<sup>1</sup> and, between these two, the manor was divided into Bitton and Oldland, and the service of half a knight's fee annexed to each.<sup>2</sup> One of these daughters married Nicholas de Oxenhaye,<sup>3</sup> who had no issue, and that moiety of the manor was aliened to the family of De la More;<sup>4</sup> being left a widow, she gave (according to the custom of the times) some of her lands to the nuns of Lacock Abbey.<sup>5</sup> These lands abutted on Barre's Court estate, and at the Dissolution were sold; and, after passing through many hands, not without many a suit, they became the property of Mr. Edwards, solicitor, of Bristol, and afterwards of Colonel John Freemantle of the Guards, who sold them to Mr. Samuel Whittuck about 1830.

The other daughter Petronilla married William de Putot, a person of some consequence, for he was a sheriff of Gloucestershire from 1222 to 1228. He filled several high offices, amongst others that of Warden of the Stannaries in Cornwall, and of the coast of the sea of Bristol. He had estates at

<sup>1</sup> In a Quo Warranto, 15th Edward I, it is stated that Robert d'Amneville had two daughters, Petronilla de Vivon, and Petronilla d'Amneville. Rot. Claus., 18th Henry III, p. 34; 19th Henry III, m. 2. Plac. de Quo Warranto, 15th Edward I. (See also p. 28.)

<sup>2</sup> Testa de Nevill, W. Putot paid half a knight's fee, which was Robert d'Amneville's; Nicholas de Oxenhaye paid the other half.

<sup>3</sup> Fine Roll, 13th Henry III: and in 1229 paid a fine "ut ne sit miles."

<sup>4</sup> Inq. p.m. Petronillæ d'Amneville, 45th Henry III, No. 38.

<sup>5</sup> Bowle's History of Lacock, p. xliii, from the Lacock Cartulary.

Mangotsfield (a parish adjoining Bitton), and founded a chantry there. He and his brother-in-law, Nicholas de Oxenhaye, each did service for half the manor of Bitton, thus completing the full knight's fee.

One only daughter was the issue of this marriage, who was called Petronilla. She took for her first husband a baron of some celebrity, Hugh de Vivon, by whom there was one son, John de Vivon, who was born at Sellinges in Kent 1252. This boy was left a minor, and she a widow by the death of her husband, who was slain in Wales in 1257.<sup>1</sup>

Petronilla de Vivon (having married for her first husband a person of some consequence), retained the name of her first husband, though she married secondly one David le Blund, by whom she had one son called David. He married one Amabilla: to this son by her second marriage, and to his wife Amabilla, Petronilla de Vivon conveyed her Bitton estates, viz., the half manor of Bitton. It does not appear why she preferred these to her son by her first husband. The probability is that, as the heir of his father, he inherited large estates elsewhere; but that she did so is most certain, for in 1287 there was a trial at Gloucester between the two half-brothers, John de Vivon and David le Blund, by which the former endeavoured to possess himself of the Bitton estate, but the jury gave a verdict in favour of David le Blund. At this trial<sup>2</sup> it came out in the evidence that, after the mother had conveyed the estates to her son David and his wife Amabilla, she left the place, but afterwards returned to visit her son and his wife, not as a mistress, but as an ordinary friend. While there she was taken dangerously ill; and, that it might not be said that she died there, and so in possession of the place, she requested to be carried to the Vicarage house: this was done on a Monday, and there she died the following Saturday, anno 1286. Fragments of tiles with the arms of De Vivon (a label of five points in chief, see *The House of Yvery*, ii, 498), have been found in Bitton churchyard.

David le Blund died July 1323 (probably at Bitton, as the inquisition on his death was held there), seised of half the manor and hundred of Bitton (for Bitton was then a hundred), the gift of his mother Petronilla

<sup>1</sup> 1st Edward I, No. 65, Inq. p.m. See Roberts's *Calendarium Geneal.*, vol. i, p. 205.

<sup>2</sup> See this remarkable record appended hereafter: *Placita de Juratis, Glouc.*, xv, mem. 16.

de Vivon, a capital messuage, garden, dovecote, &c.<sup>1</sup> He was succeeded by his eldest son, Richard le Blount, who died 1327 without issue, when Edmund his brother and heir succeeded to the estates at the age of thirty.<sup>2</sup> Edmund died in 1362 seised of the same manor; and it is also stated in the inquisition that he held a meadow called Holmeade, and another called Overmeade, which means the Upper Meade.<sup>3</sup> These are two well-known extensive common meadows by the side of the Avon; they have lately been inclosed and sold, and all the rights of common extinguished. They were Lammas lands, and doled out in severalty for the crops; but more of these in a separate chapter, with plans.

The next heir of Edmund would have been his son Hugh, who resided at Filton, where the family held estates;<sup>4</sup> but, he having died in his father's lifetime, Edmund Blount, his son, only nine years old, became the heir, and the custody of the estates was committed by the Crown to Thomas Stiward during the minority. This Edmund died in 1381,<sup>5</sup> leaving a son and heir William, only seven years old. In 1399<sup>6</sup> he died, leaving an only daughter Isabella, upon whose death in 1403<sup>7</sup> her uncle, John Blount (her father's brother), succeeded to the estates at the age of twenty-six.<sup>8</sup> At his death in 1444 he held other estates in Bitton, besides the manor, capital messuage, dovecote, &c., as before recited.<sup>9</sup> The dovecote (*columbarium*) is still there.

The next owner of the estates was Edmund Blount, his son, who married Margaret, a daughter of Sir John Seymour (their arms impaled were on the old church porch at Mangotsfield). Mangotsfield also belonged to the Blounts as descendants from Putot. He died 1468.<sup>10</sup> Smythe, in his *Lives of the Berkeleys* No. 692 (there is an original MS.<sup>11</sup> copy in the Herald's College), says, "Bitton and Mangotsfield had for centuries one manor-house in common, till the Blounts built one at Mangotsfield." That is an Elizabethan building on Rodway Hill; but the *manerium* at Bitton has remains

<sup>1</sup> Inq. p.m. 17th Edward II, No. 53.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. 36th Edward III, No. 35.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid. 4th Richard II, No. 4.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid. 22nd Richard II, No. 7.

<sup>8</sup> Inq. p.m., 22nd Henry VI, No. 20 b.

<sup>10</sup> See *Notes and Queries*, I, v. 616.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. 20th Edward II, No. 41.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. 48th Edward III, No. 97.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid. 4th Henry IV, No. 11.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid. 8th Edward IV, No. 50.

<sup>11</sup> Inq. p.m., 16th Edward IV, No. 79.

of Early English domestic architecture about it, especially a *two-light* window, similar to the one at Coggs, Oxfordshire, engraved in Turner's *Domestic Architecture*, i, 161.

The son of Edmund Blount by Margaret Seymour, afterwards styled Sir Simon Blount, was born at Mangotsfield, October, 1472. He married Elyner, daughter of Giles Lord Daubeney, by which marriage there was one daughter, only two years old in 1477, when her father died.<sup>4</sup> This daughter Margaret became the first wife of Lord John Hussey of Sleaford, who was beheaded at Lincoln in 1538. By this marriage there was a son, Sir William Hussey. In 1515 Lady Margaret Hussey (the last heiress of this branch of the Blount family) was not living. In that year, John Lord Hussey and his son Sir William alienated the manors of Bitton and Mangotsfield to Robert Dormer; who in the same year re-sold the same to Sir Maurice Berkeley, and so that family again became possessed of the manor of Bitton, and it continued with them till about 1633, when the manor was dismembered and the estate sold to several persons.

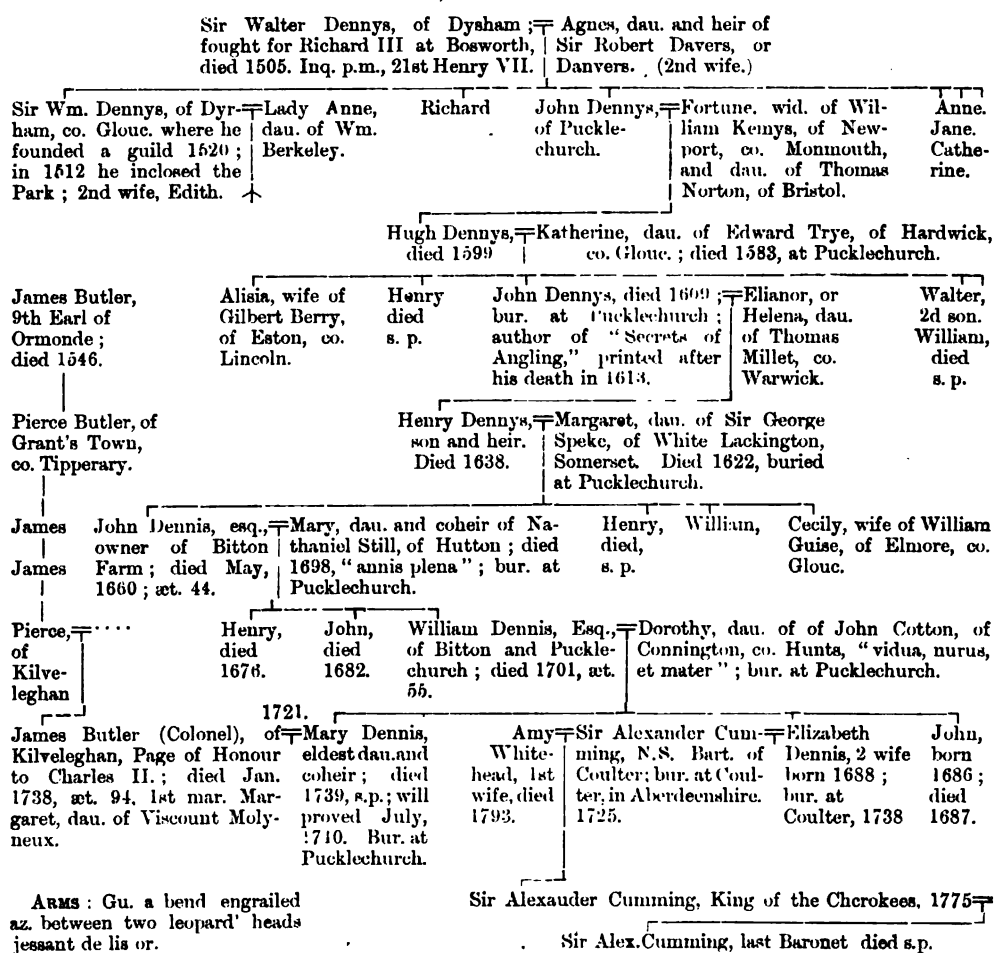
The manor had passed before 1652 into the hands of John Mallet, Esq. (the father of Lady Rochester), who in the survey of Kingwood Chase made in that year is called the "Chief Lord." But Sir John Newton appears to have had or claimed seignorial rights in the same manor. He had by inheritance become possessed of Barre's Court and its extensive demesnes, consisting of the manor of East Hanham (held of the lords of Bitton and Oldland), a distinct manor from that of Hanham or West Hanham hereafter mentioned, which belonged to the family of Saltmarsh, and afterwards to Keynsham Abbey.<sup>1</sup> Sir John Newton also acquired the other half-manor of Bitton called Oldland; thus he became possessed of all the manorial rights in the parish, excepting the prebendal manor (the old one hide of Domesday), and the view of frank-pledge in Oldland, then belonging to Lord Stafford, and now to Henry Howard, Esq., of Greystoke and Thornbury; and the manor of West Hanham (formerly belonging to the Abbot of Keynsham); where there are remains of an Early-English barn (see Plate xi), a chapel and hall, the ancient mansion of De Salso Marisco, who held Hanum before it was subinfeuded into East and West Hanham, under the early Berkeleys.<sup>2</sup> As for the manor house and farm,

<sup>1</sup> See page following.

See the Records at the end.

a capital messuage, &c., at Bitton, those premises were sold about the same time to one John Brittain, who sold them to John Dennis, Esq., of Pucklechurch, who was the owner in 1660. This once very influential Gloucestershire family terminated in two co-heiresses. Mary Dennis, the eldest, married in 1721 Colonel James Butler of Kilveleghan, Ireland, who about 1722-3 first by mortgage sold this estate to Thomas Edwards, Esq., an eminent solicitor in Bristol, to whose use, after a protracted Chancery suit, it was at last decreed. From the Edwards family it passed by will to Thomas Edward Freeman, Esq. of Batsford, whence it descended to Sir Thomas Edwards Freemantle, Bart. (now Lord Cottesloe), who in 1847 sold it to the family of the present writer.

TABLE SHEWING IN BRIEF THE LAST EIGHT DESCENTS FROM SIR WALTER DENNYS, OF CO. GLOUC.



It is probable that D'Amneviles and De Vivons occasionally resided in the "capital message" of Bitton still called the Court. David le Blund<sup>1</sup> certainly ddi, because it is stated in the trial at Gloucester in 1286 that Petronilla de Vivon visited her son and his wife there as a friend. Edmund de Blunt also resided there, because his name appears on a subsidy roll in 1327 (p. 64 ante), when he is assessed for goods in Bitton. After this date the Blounts resided at Filton or Mangotsfield, for the name does not appear in later subsidies, and therefore Bitton Court (then called *Dennisses*) was probably let to a farmer. John Brittain lived there as such,<sup>2</sup> having bought it of Berkeley, and sold it to Dennis of Pucklechurch, *ut supra*.

The manorial rights were probably severed from the residence when Newton, who resided at Barres Court, got possession of the manors of Bitton, Oldland, and East Hanham.

As for the prebendal or rectorial manor, I have already treated it as distinct property. Bitton constituted a *hundred* (afterwards called the hundred of Swineheved), the rolls of which, temp. Richard II, were sold at Puttick and Simpson's, in London, 1851, and some of them are now in my possession. Therein the several divisions of the parish are called tythings, and so there appeared at the hundred court seven tythingmen, namely, decennarius de Buttone, Upton, Rectoria, Oldlond prima, Oldlond secunda, Hanam prima, Hanam secunda. Four milites were elected at each court and sworn as a jury by the steward. The perquisites of the court were divided into two moieties. The Lord of Button took one half, and it is presumed that the Lord of Oldland took the other half.<sup>3</sup>

"The arms of Blount of Bitton were: Azure, two bars argent, over all an escarbuncle of eight rays or, pomettée and florettée gules. Other branches of the family omitted the escarbuncle."<sup>4</sup>

"I cannot help thinking that in some way or other Robert d'Ameneville, the

<sup>1</sup> Who by the bye, having a view of Frankpledge, had "furcas, et tumbrellum," that is, a gallows for the punishment of felons, and a cucking stool for ducking scolds and unquiet women. *Quo Warranto Record, Glouc.*, Ed. m. xv, Rot. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Parish rates.

<sup>3</sup> At the end there will be given a fragment of early Court Rolls of these manors.

<sup>4</sup> The Editor of the *Herald* says:—"Our readers will not have forgotten the article in our third volume (pp. 218 *et seq.*), in which it was shown that the escarbuncle was not really the

father of Petronilla, to whom the manor of Bitton was confirmed by Henry III, was related to Geoffry de Mandeville, whose shield on his effigy in the Temple Church bears an escarbuncle of eight rays, and that therefore David le Blund placed that charge on his own coat upon his marriage with the widow of De Vivon, the heiress of the descendants of D'Amneville or Mandeville. There is one fact in favour of this view, viz., that the honour of Gloucester was for a time held by Geoffry de Mandeville, when he became Earl of Gloucester, 'jure uxoris Isabel, the divorced wife of John Plantagenet' (Nicolas), and Bitton was a part of that honour, and some part of the parish is still under its jurisdiction."— (From my Paper in *Bristol Volume of Archæological Institute*, 1851, p. 252).

The accompanying Table of descent (p. 85) illustrates this brief history of the Dennis family.

It has been shown that De Vivons, D'Ameneville's, Blunts, and Dennisses, resided at the Court or Manerium. The other most influential family would be the Rector or Prebendary at the Parsonage. But soon after the Reformation in 1568, Sir John Seymour of Frampton Cotterel, became the possessor of the Parsonage and Estate (see p. 73) and resided there. He was a "base" son of Edward Seymour Duke of Somerset,<sup>1</sup> and consequently nephew to Lady Jane Seymour. He bore for his arms: gu. two wings enjoined in lure or, within a bordure gobony ar. and az. In the pedigree of the family in the Heralds' College he is entered *Nothus*.<sup>2</sup> He died 1597, and was succeeded by his son Sir Thomas Seymour, who was Sheriff of Gloucester 1605. Next we find his son (at Bitton) Sir John Seymour, who died 1663 (see his monument in Bitton Chancel page 20). Thomas Seymour his son was succeeded by John Seymour, who was born at Bitton, 1649. He was a Lieut.-Colonel in the Queen's Guards, served with his regiment in Flanders; in 1702 he was appointed Governor of Maryland, where he died in 1709. It appears by the Parish Rate that his widow occupied the parsonage till about 1730, and was succeeded by her son Berkeley Seymour, born in 1686: educated at Eton, armorial charge of any ancient English coat, but that the constructional boss of the shield, which was independent of the actual armorial device, has been misinterpreted and confused with it. This remark applies to the case of Blount, as to Mandeville and all others."

<sup>1</sup> Smith's *Lives*.

<sup>2</sup> Vincent's *Baronage*, No. 20.



whence he became Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. He resided for a time at Bitton, but being of unsound mind he was removed to Westminster, where he died 1744. He devised his Bitton property to his sister Jane, who was rated for the Parsonage till 1770; she resided at Woodford, Essex, where she died and was buried. In Coles MSS. in the British Museum, vol. i, p. 94, and vol. xvi, page 168, is a very particular account of Berkeley Seymour's funeral in the Chapel of King's College. He had a nephew of the same name, who in 1750, the Dukedom of Somerset being in abeyance, petitioned the Lords for the title; his claim was submitted to the Attorney-General Dudley Ryder, who in December 1750 reported that the title belonged to Sir Edward Seymour. This Berkeley, though described in his petition as of Bitton, was a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, and lived at Plymouth, where he died and was buried at S. Andrew's, August, 1777. He was born at Oxford, the son of John Seymour, M.D., by Elizabeth, daughter of John Sellwood, of that city. His father graduated from Trinity College, Oxon., M.A. Feb. 21, 1701; B.M. Oct. 23, 1704; D.M. Dec. 1708, and became Physician to the Royal Hospital at Plymouth, where he died 1741, and was buried at St. Andrew's. After 1770 the Parsonage mansion was let from time to time to divers tenants,—Thomas Edwards Freeman of Batsford, Esq., having become the owner in that year.

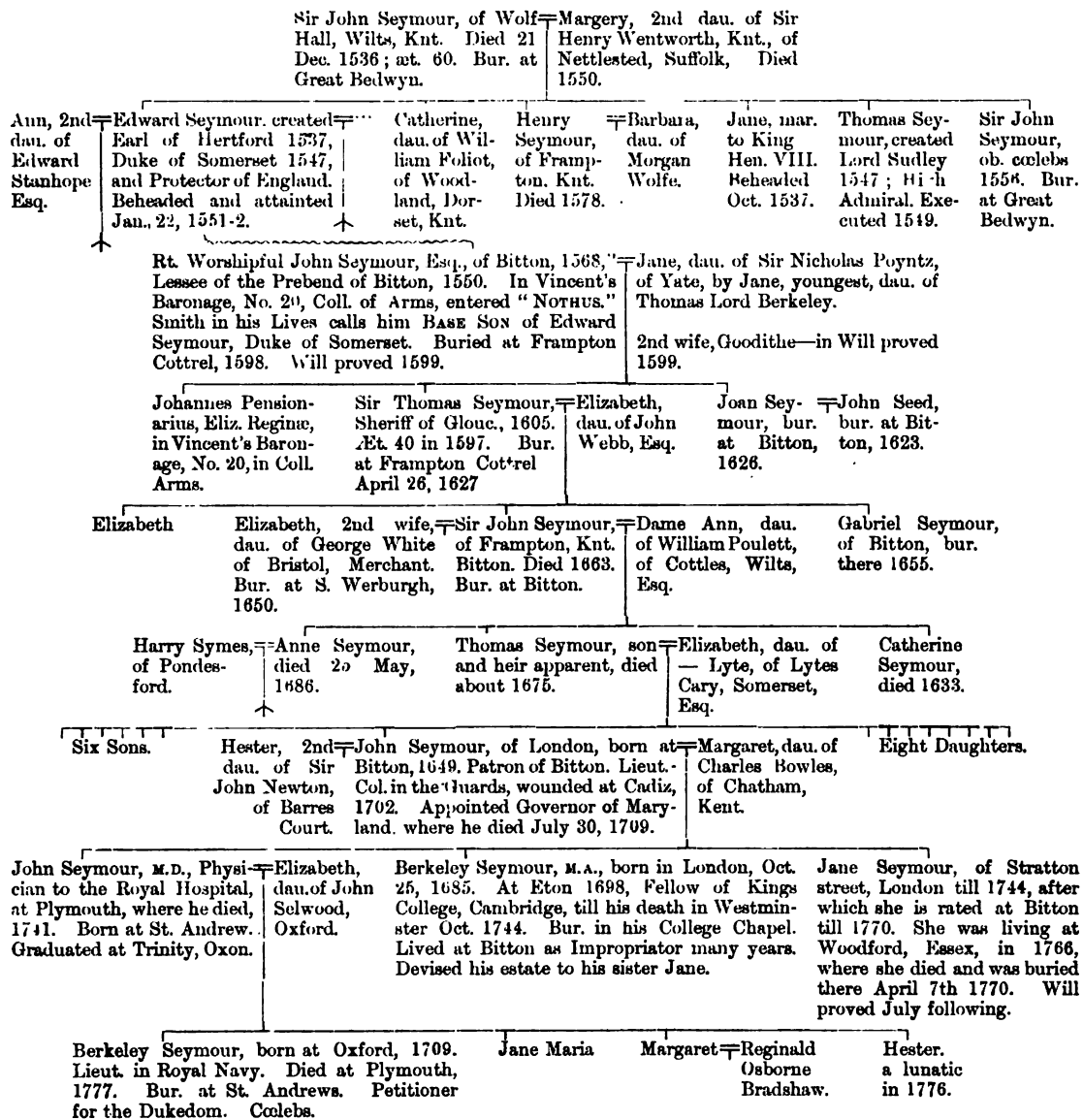
It appears by Parish Rates that during Mr. Berkeley Seymour's residence in Westminster, the Parsonage was occupied by two brothers and a sister, viz., William, Berkeley, and Ann. I have failed to discover their direct relationship, but that they were cousins.

In January 1740-41, Berkeley had sold seven oxen in Bristol, and returning to sleep at the Parsonage, in the night his brother William robbed him and "murdered him by a gun-shot wound," after which he escaped on horseback. The morning being a hard frost, he called at a blacksmith's shop to have the shoes of his horse roughed, and in payment offered a guinea with a hole in it. The murderer was soon taken and committed to the gaol at Gloucester. The purchaser of the oxen swore that the guinea given with the hole in it was one of the coins he paid to the murdered brother. He was finally executed at Gloucester, March 31st, 1742: his body was conveyed to Bitton, and buried on the 1st of April in the Seymour vault in the Chancel by the side of his brother.

TABLE SHOWING THE DESCENT OF THE SEYMOURS OF BITTON.

ARMS OF GLOUCESTER SEYMOURS.

Gu. two wings enjoined in lure, or., within a bordure gobony, ar. and az.



After this the sister left Bitton. He left one illegitimate child by Sarah Bright, a daughter of the parish clerk

Horace Walpole (in his Anecdotes of Painters, 4to, 1798, p. 390) speaks of "a Colonel Seymour, a noted painter in the reign of Queen Anne." I have not succeeded in identifying this man, but that he was one of the

family may be assumed from several old portraits at the Rectory House, and small portraits of King William and Queen Mary, and a clever panoramic view of Bitton Church and its surroundings, and a large picture of Bitton Church now in my possession.

In 1833, Edward Frere of Roydon, Suffolk, Esq., became the tenant, and after his death, 1844, his son William Edward purchased it of the lessee, Sir Thomas F. Freemantle (in 1857), who had purchased the whole prebendal estate of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners (see p. 48).

There are six Alms Houses near the Church, as a memorial of their parents, inscribed—

IN MEMORY OF  
EDWARD AND MARY ANN FRERE,  
SOMETIME OF THIS PARISH,  
THESE ALMSHOUSES WERE ERECTED  
BY THEIR GRATEFUL AND AFFECTIONATE CHILDREN,  
ANNO DOMINI 1859.

A National School was built near the Church in 1830 for 120 children; it cost £360; and in 1838, another school house for 200 children, with master's residence, was built near Oldland Church, within the bounaryd of Bitton Hamlet, at a cost of £650. In both cases the sites were given.

There was a goodly residence for a gentleman's family at Cully or Coly Hall in this hamlet, formerly belonging to the possessions of Hanham Abbots. It is now in the possession of the Whittuck family, having been bought in 1815 by the late Samuel Whittuck, Esq., of Hanham Hall. In the eighteenth century Seedes were the possessors, who built the present mansion. Seedes acquired it of John Reed, who possessed it with Upton Cheney by purchase from Lacy, the possessor of Hanham Abbots after the dissolution. I may be able to say more of the Seede family under the manor of Upton Cheney.

Weston's Court, formerly possessed by an influential family, is now a farm house. It lies between Oldland Common, and North Common belongs to the representatives of Richard Woodward, Esq., late of Bath, a grandson of Dr. Richard Woodward, Bishop of Cloyne, son of Francis Woodward of Grimsbury, on the borders of Kingswood Chase, about which place and family mention will be made hereafter.

Mr. Woodward purchased the property 1794 of the representatives of Richard Jones, Esq., of Hanham Hall, who had purchased the manor of Oldland in 1652 of Westons, a family established in Bitton and Bristol from very early date. The name appears in the early Subsidy Rolls. Weston Court was in possession of Henry Weston, 2nd Henry VIII, as parcel of the manor of Oldland and Gee Moor: as early as 1238, a Weston was Mayor of Bristol. Arms of Weston on several early deeds in my possession, are, as given by Edmonston: on a plate 3 fleur-de-lis, a mullet for difference.

Of Fieldgrove, now so called, or Filgrove, from *Philomela*, though once a grove, still abounds with nightingales, only a few ancient oaks remain; it was the residence of Hart of Bristol, afterwards Sir Richard Hart, who died 1701: it is a good residence, and occupied by Thos. Sealey, Esq., the owner.

Hitherto, chiefly about Bitton proper. I now return to Hannum or Hanham, the principal dependency of Bitton. At the time of Domesday (f. 169, lx) it was the land of "Ernulf de Hesding." It is next found to be held by a family De Hanham, and then by Salso Marisco or Saltmarsh, holding under the superior lord, but whether of Bitton or Oldland was a question raised in 1272, and decided by a jury in favour of the Lord of Oldland (see Records at the end, II, III, IV, V.), for, before that date, Bitton had been divided between the two co-heiresses of Amneville into two moieties, Bitton and Oldland (of which latter hereafter). According to the pleadings in an assize, 15th Edward I (1287), in which John de Salso Marisco was plaintiff, the title of his family to this property was derived from a charter of Richard Foliot; but this appears doubtful, as his opponent, who obtained the verdict in the suit, asserted that the manor was granted by Robert Harding, the ancestor of the Berkeley family, to Robert de Hanum, the ancestor of that of Salso Marisco.<sup>1</sup> In a previous action, 56th Henry III, 1st Edward I (1272-3), the question had been, whether the wardship of the said John de Salso Marisco belonged to David Blount as owner of one moiety, or to Richard de la More, owner of the other moiety, called Oldland; and

<sup>1</sup> See Records in Fine.

the jury had decided in favour of De la More.<sup>1</sup> The original grant of the manor to Harding was in these words, "manerium Bethone cum omnibus appendiciis suis;" and when the manor was divided between the two Petronillas the moieties were called "medietas manerii de Button vocata Button," and "medietas manerii de Button vocata Oldland."

In 1329, under the name of the manor of *West Hanham* (so called 1325 in a Fine relating to John and Hawise de Button), it was sold by Salso Marisco to William de la Grene and John Bagworth (Fine, 3rd Edw. III, No. 20), who the following year gave the premises to the Abbot and convent of Keynsham (Inq. ad qd. d., 4th Edward III, Nos. 80 and 102), "a capital messuage," &c., &c., which at this time is called "*Hanham Court*." The walls of the house, especially the cellars, are very massive and ancient. There is also a little early church or chapel, as before stated, adjoining this mansion, with a late Norman font, and a more curious Norman piscina.<sup>2</sup>

At the Dissolution, the manor of *West Hanham*, also called *Hanham Abbot's*, was surrendered to the Crown by Abbot John, 30th Hen. VIII, (see Eighth Report of Dep. Keeper, p. 25). 2nd and 3rd Philip and Mary, 1553, the Crown sold the reversion to Rowland Hayward, subject to a lease for twenty-one years to Ursula Gresly; Hayward, 2nd and 3rd Philip and Mary, 1555, sold to John Reed, who dismembered the manor by sale of divers lands for a thousand years; and 8th Elizabeth, 1566, sold the manor house and 1,470 acres to John Lacy of London and Bristol. He was a clothworker, and had a house at Fulham, where Queen Elizabeth used to visit him. It remained in this family till 1633, when it was sold to T. Colston of Bristol, who in 1638 sold it to Francis and Henry Creswicke, in whose family it remained till 1842, when it came into the possession of John White of Bedford Row, London, Esq., after whose death in 1869, it was sold for £15050 to Mr. G. W. Hancock of Bath. Of the Creswicke family I will speak more fully hereafter.

The boundaries of this manor of *Hanham Abbots* or *West Hanham*, are well defined, being bounded on the south by the river Avon, on the north by the high road leading from Bristol to Bath, on the west by Strood

<sup>1</sup> See Records in Fine.

<sup>2</sup> Figs. 21, 22, p. 40 ante.

Brook, and on the east by Clack Mill brook, this is still the boundary of the hamlet of Hanham, which for all civil purposes is like a distinct parish.

The Grange in this hamlet, which lies on the south side of the high road boundary, with about thirty-five acres of land, was occupied by Mr. Edmond Stone, in the reign of Elizabeth. In 1680 it became the possession of Sir Richard Hart, Knight, in whose family it remained till 1753, when it was sold for £1450 to Mr. Tongue, on whose death, in 1764, it was bought by Messrs. Smith, Harford, Chapman, and Loscomb, the Bristol Brass Battery and Copper Company. In 1794, James Emerson of Hanham, Brass and Spelter Maker, bought the premises, and in 1832, Samuel Whittuck, the lord of the other manors, bought the estate, and in 1840, the old Elizabethan Grange House was pulled down and a new house built.

There is another good mansion in this hamlet called Hanham Hall, which was built in 1655, by Richard Jones, Esq.<sup>1</sup> On his death in 1697, it became the property of Thomas Trye, Esq. of Hardwick, who had married one of his co-heiresses. In 1726, April 26th, a bill received the royal assent for the sale of Mr. Trye's lands in Gloucestershire. Kedgwin Webley of London, Esq., became the purchaser: his only daughter Frances, widow of David Parry of Noyadd, co. Cardigan, succeeded to the estate. In 1791 the estate was sold to Mr. Emerson; and again in 1803; and it was afterwards purchased by Samuel Whittuck, Esq., in whose family it now remains.

The other manor of Hanham was called Est or East Hanham, which was held of the Lord of Bitton, and it was here that the possessions of De Buttons lay from an early period, as before shewn. The first record in which the possession of De Button is called Est Hanham is in a Fine 1348 (21st Edward III), by which the widow Hawise de Button passed the premises to John and Alice Delarobe for her life. I have shewn (p. 79) that this was the *locale* of the mansion afterwards called Barre's Court.

When Leland made his Itinerary,<sup>2</sup> about the year 1540, Barre's Court at Hanham was the residence of Sir John Newton: and he describes it as "a fayre old mannar place of stone."—"At this Hannam dwellyth

<sup>1</sup> See his Monument, p. 22.

<sup>2</sup> Itinerary, vol. vii, p. 37.

one Sir John Newton."—"The forest of Kyngeswodd cummyth just onto Barres Court, mastar Newton's house." The site is still marked by a moat:<sup>1</sup> and over the door of the present farm-house remain the Newton arms, beautifully wrought in stone, though much mutilated. In 1878 the property was sold to George Hare Leonard of Clifton, Esq.

From aged persons living close by, I have gathered the following: That it was enclosed with a high wall (parts of which remain) all round the park. There were niches all round the outside of the house, filled with colossal leaden statues, a large and lofty entrance hall, richly carved and gilt, particularly the fireplace, the shelf of which was supported by two large figures of wood: it was paved with black and white marble squares; there was a music gallery at the end, and a chapel. The house was square, with square stone mullioned windows, with gothic heads and labels; there was a drawbridge. The porter's lodge had a large gateway and a small one, and images about it; and text of scripture, one of which I recovered, and set up in the chantry aisle at Bitton (see p. 30). The vane was a figure representing the Newton crest, which is still preserved, viz., a Moorish king on his knee, delivering up his sword.<sup>2</sup> The place took its comparatively modern name from Sir John Barre of Rotherwas, co. Hereford, who became its possessor by marriage. Perhaps Newton gave it that name when he inherited the property on Lady Barre's death, or when he set up the arms with all the glory of blazon, which were granted to him in 1557, with which date the description of the house accords. But it did not entirely lose its earlier name of Hannam.

His wife was Jane, the sole daughter and heir of Thomas Rigge, of Charlcombe, co. Somerset, by Katharine, daughter and sole heiress of Sir John de Button, who died in 1382 (as shewn in the pedigree at p. 80) She had been previously married to Robert Greyndour, esquire, who died in 1447; and on her death in 1485 she desired to be buried with her first husband at Newland, in the forest of Dean, co. Glouc., where a chantry had been founded called the chantry of Robert Greyndour.<sup>3</sup> Her

<sup>1</sup> These recollections of the old mansion are given in the *Proceedings of the Archaeological Institute at Bristol*, 1851, p. 244. It was taken down about the year 1770.

<sup>2</sup> See grant of Arms in Appendix

<sup>3</sup> See the letters patent printed in Appendix vi.

will (see Appendix), which is on record in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury is a very long and curious document. The vicar of Newland was enjoined to pray for her soul and those of her two husbands, for her daughter Elizabeth sometime Countess of Worcester,<sup>1</sup> for her father Thomas Rigge, and Katherine his wife. Subsequently she mentions her sister dame Joane Lychefelde and William Walwyne among her immediate kinsfolk. She bequeathed to the altar of Saint Katharine in the parish church at Bytton a goodly pair of vestments of black chamlet, with a cope of the same cloth to serve there, "for myne auncesters be buried in that chapell, and the priest to pray tenderly for the soules of them." "Item, I bequethe to the parishe chirche of Charlecombe, where I was cristenyd, a crosse of copir and gilt, to be borne in the procession, the which is now in my chapel at Clowrewall" There are other legacies to her cousin Alice Beyman [Baynham?] and her heirs; for the chapel of Clowrewall; and to her niece Elizabeth de la Bere.

And with regard to her "ancestors," I would refer to a very long and interesting assize roll of novel disseisin, in the Public Record Office, 19th and 20th Richard II., M. 2, 19, 2,—a most valuable document in a genealogical point of view, as several descents are laid down in pedigree. In this trial, the father and mother of Lady Barre, viz., Thomas Rigge and Catharine his wife, were plaintiffs, against Sir John Devereux and Joan his wife (relict of John de Bitton), touching certain lands in *Bitton Hanham*, &c., wherein it is laid down that the said Catherine was the heir of John de Bitton, by Margaret sister of Cecily, the wife of Sir Nicholas Berkley. Aske, in his Collection, before quoted, says that this Sir John Bitton died in Portugal; that he married Joanna Hurst, and in the Assize Roll it is stated that she afterwards married Sir John Devereux; which Sir John Bitton was son and heir of Matthew de Bitton, whose deed, dated at Hannam, 23rd Edward III, will be found in Appendix. There is a curious circumstance in the life of this Matthew, which I wish to mention.

Upon an inquisition, in 48th Edward III, to inquire who were the

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Greyndour was the first wife of John Tibetot, or Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester, the Lord Treasurer, and he had by her a son John, who died young. Dugdale, *Baronage*, ii, 41.



destroyers of game in the Chace of Kingswood, he is found to be, with others, "communis malefactor de venacione Dom. Regis." Upon his being taken; he acknowledges his transgressions, and throws himself on the king's mercy—"et committitur prisone Dom. Regis in custodia vicecomitis quousque justiciarii de ipso habeant locutionem cum consilio Dom. R." This record is among certain forest proceedings in the Public Record Office, London.

What became of him afterwards, I cannot discover,—whether he was tried, or died in prison, or was executed. Though *his* name appears in the court-roll of Bitton in that reign, in the next year John de Bitton, his son, appears at the court. It was on Friday in the third week of Lent that he was committed, which in that year (1374) would be the 3rd of March; and on the Fine Roll of the same year there appears the writ of his "Diem Clausit Extremum," which is dated April 10th. In the ordinance of the chantry at Newland, founded by Joan Greyndour, on the death of her husband (Pat. 24th Henry VI, p. 2. M 17), in which prayers were to be offered for the good estate of her relations, she altogether omits the name of this Matthew, who was her grandfather, though she mentions the generations above and below him.

It has been supposed that for his transgressions, the killing of thirty-seven head of deer, he might have been excommunicated, and that if he died under that sentence he would not be entitled to the prayers to be offered in the said chantry.

It will be recollected that Leland said that Kingswood Forest was close to Barre's Court.

In the deed quoted above he calls himself the son and heir of John de Button, and in the Assize Roll he is styled the son and heir of John (the son of John) and Hawise. Also in a Fine (Hil. 18th Edward III), John (son of John) and Hawise, occur; which John was the heir of an elder brother, *Thomas*, who died without issue.

This is that John, the son of John, who (see Rot. Orig. 1st Edward II, Rot. 9) did homage "ut nepos et hæres Thomæ de Bitton Episcopi Exon: avunculi sui," and whose wife Hawise was the second daughter and co-heir of Matthew Furneaux, by whom, besides his son Matthew, he had three daughters, viz., *Maud*, who first married William de la More, and

secondly, Simon *Bassett*; Elizabeth, married to Phil. *Hampton*; *Beatrix*, married to George *Strode*, whose descendants were co-heirs on the death of Lady Barre. In 18th Edward II., by fine he acquired lands in Bitton, Hanham, &c.

It is to be regretted that no inquisitions post mortem have been found of any of the family, excepting this Thomas de Bitton just mentioned, who was Bishop of Exeter<sup>1</sup> from 1293 to 1307, having before been Dean of Wells from 1284 to 1293, during which time, viz. in 1287, it appears, by a Plea Roll, 15 Edw. I. m. 3, that his cow and two bullocks were

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to the late Rev. Dr. Oliver of Exeter, for the following biographical sketch of this Thomas de Button, or Bitton, Bishop of Exeter: "Of a worshipful family, was promoted from the Deanery of Wells to the See of Exeter, in November 1292 (Prynne's Records, vol. iii, 474); and the temporalities were restored to him on 2nd December ensuing. Unfortunately, his register has long since perished, but in that of his successor Walter Stapleton, fol. 28, is preserved the interesting report of his visitation of Bosham Collegiate Church, Sussex, on 28th July, 1294: and again in fol. 175, his appropriation to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, of the Church of St. Uvelus, or Evall, in Cornwall, for the maintenance of his Obit. The original instrument, dated Exeter, 15th October, 1297, with his beautiful seal attached, is carefully preserved in the Exchequer Room of the Cathedral, with King Edward the First's license, dated 10th of April following.



"The Bishop, in 1292, appropriated to St. John Baptist's Hospital in Wells, the Church of West Down, in Devonshire. Two years later he obtained a market for Paignton, as also for Newport, near Barnstaple.

"A curious document is extant in the Episcopal Archives at Exeter, viz., a grant of forty days' indulgence, by three archbishops and five bishops, dated Rome, A.D. 1300, in favour of all true penitents, who should avail themselves of the bishop's spiritual ministry, or offer up prayers for his prosperity whilst living, or for the repose of his soul after his death, and for the departed souls of his parents, brothers, and sisters. Three only of the eight seals originally attached to the instrument are in fair preservation, viz., of Basil, Archbishop of Jerusalem; of Ademelphus, Archbishop of Cosenza; and of Manfrid, Bishop of St. Mark's, Venice.

"In nearly the beginning of the earliest Register, at Exeter, Bishop Bronscombe's, is found

seized by De la More, a lord of one of the manors in Bitton; and by another Plea Roll, 12 Edw. I. Mic. (52), he recovered a right of estover in Bitton on the death "cujusdam mulieris,"—his mother, who had a life interest in it, as it had always been enjoyed by William de Bitton, his *uncle*, whose heir he was; so that there can be no doubt that he also had his residence at Hannam. William de Bitton just mentioned, was pro-

Bishop Bitton's purchase-deed, bearing date Sunday before St. Lawrence, 1302, of *Kelly*, in St. Alun's parish, Cornwall, from William de Rostourek, for ten pounds of silver. In the Monasticon of the Exeter diocese are printed, p. 445, his Lordship's excellent regulations for the Collegiate Church of Crediton. To the Abbey of Tavistock he appropriated, on 26th August, 1304, the Church of Barrington. On 31st December, 1305, he assigned Walkhampton Church to the Abbot and Convent of Buckland. The Fabric Rolls of his *Cathedral* abundantly testify to the encouragement he gave to the prosecution of its building.

"The Bishop was unable to attend the Parliament summoned to meet at Carlisle, within the Octave of St. Hilary (January) 1307, to treat 'super ordinatione et stabilitate terre Scotiæ.' According to the *Chronicon* of Exeter Church, he died 17th September, that year (Hooker says 21st of September); but we prefer the Cathedral Calendar or Martyrologium the 25th of September 1307. He was buried just before the lowest step of the high altar, According to Leland (Itin. vol. iii, p. 57) his grave-stone was inscribed:

"THO. BYTTEN, EPUS. EXON.

"From a deed of 17th July, 1310, I learn that his executors were enabled from his means, to erect the new Chapel of St. Gabriel, in the Priest's Hospital, at Clist. (*a*)

"That he was a general favourite amongst his episcopal brethren, of the Province of Canterbury, is manifest from the encouragement they gave to the faithful of their respective dioceses, 'ad orandum pro animâ bonæ memoriæ Thomæ, quondam Exoniensis episcopi."

"Godwin commemorates the tastefully decorated brass on his grave; but that has long since disappeared. In taking up the floor of the choir, in August, 1763, the large slab was removed, covering his very shallow walled tomb, in which lay a leaden coffin six feet long; the skeleton was nearly entire. On the right side stood a small chalice, covered with a paten; a piece of silk or linen was wound round the stem; amongst the dust was discovered a fair gold ring with a large sapphire set in it, and some fragments of a wooden crosier. The remains were respectfully covered; but the ring and chalice are preserved within a case in the Chapter House. In the inventory of the Cathedral Plate, A.D. 1327, Bishop Bitton is recorded as the donor of two silver candlesticks, weight 3*s.* and 8*d.*, and of a silver holy water vase, with two sprinklers, weighing 101*s.*

<sup>1</sup> "When a man has a bastard son and afterwards marries the mother, and by her has a legitimate son, the woman before marriage is called CONCUBINA and afterwards MULIER."—Blackstone's *Commentaries*, vol. ii, Book 2, p. 248, Edit. 1787.

(*a*) See account of his Executors published by Camden Society, 1874.

bably the Bishop of Bath and Wells, who died 1264, having been elected in 1248. The second Bishop of See who died in 1274, whose monumental slab in Wells Cathedral is here represented, taken from the Bristol volume of the Archæological Institute.

At the inquisition taken on the death of Lady Barre her heirs<sup>1</sup> were found to be—

- Robert Basset, aged 50 ;
- William Strode, aged 40 ;
- Lucy Chokke, aged 15 and more ;
- Johanna Chokke, aged 14 and more ;
- Elizabeth Chokke, aged 16 and more.

The three last were sisters ; but, though so young, are mentioned above by their husbands' names. Lucy was the wife of

<sup>1</sup> “The 1st daughter of Sir John of Bytton, Mawde, maryed one Symon Basset, knight, of whome comyth Robert Basset now alyve, that claymyth as heyre to my Lady Barre.

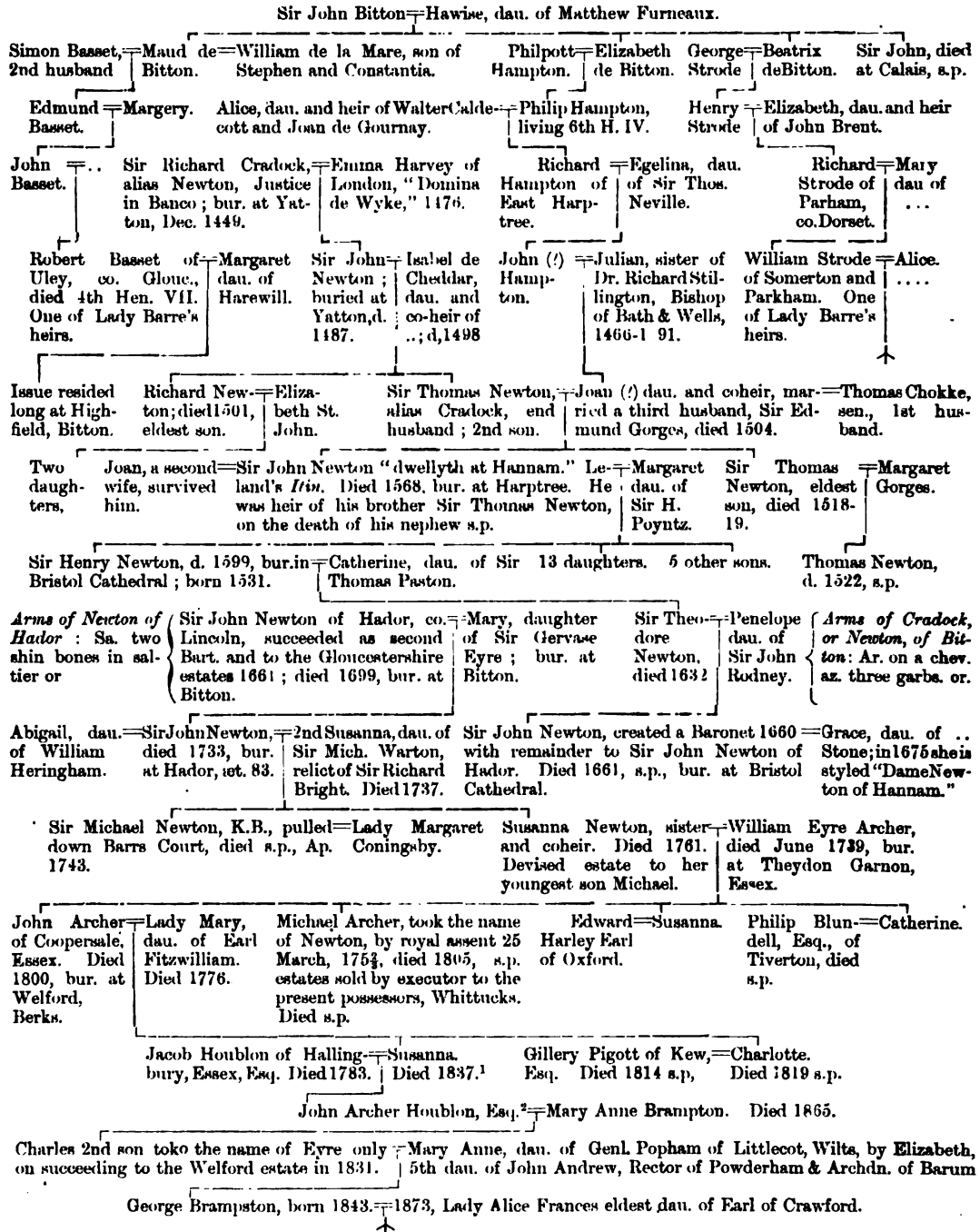
“The 2nd daughter Elisabeth, sister and heir of Mathew of Bytton, maryed Hampton, and had issue Philpot [*i.e.*, Philip] Hampton, which Philpot had Richard, which Richard had John Hampton, which John had 3 daughters, Luce, Jane, and Elisabeth, now being alyve, that claymeth as heyres to my Lady Barre.

“The 3rd sister Beatrice maryed Heugh Strowde knight, and had isseu by hir Henry which had Richard Strowde, which Richard had William Strowde now alive, yt claymyth as heyre to my Lady Barre.” From a paper entitled *Descendants of Matthew Furneaux*, contained in Robert Aske's Collections, in the possession of Sir Thomas Phillipp, and printed in the *Collectanea Top. et Gen.*, vol. i., p. 243.



INCISED SEPULCHRAL SLAB IN WELLS CATHEDRAL  
Supposed to be the Memorial of BISHOP WILLIAM  
DE BYTTON, second of the name, who died  
A.D. 1274.

TABLE SHEWING THE DESCENTS OF THE HEIRS OF LADY BARRE, PARTICULARLY THE NEWTONS OF BARRE'S COURT, BITTON.



<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Houblon took the name and arms of Newton in addition to Houblon, as sole heiress, on her sister's death in 1819, to the Newton estates.

<sup>2</sup> Took the name of Archer on death of his grandfather 1800, succeeding to the Welford estate.

Thomas Chokke junior, Johanna of Thomas Chokke senior, and Elizabeth of John Chokke junior. They were the daughters of John Hampton.

Robert Basset, one of the heirs of Lady Barre, inherited the Manor of Upton Chaun (of which hereafter), Strode inherited her estates in Dorset and Somerset. The descent of all these coheirs may be traced in the annexed pedigree.

Lucy Hampton, first the wife of Thomas Chokke, was married secondly to Sir Thomas Newton,<sup>1</sup> second son of Sir John Newton, of Wyke, in the parish of Yatton, co. Somerset, and was mother of the Sir John Newton who entertained Leland, and gave him much information, which the itinerant antiquary has recorded under the head of—

*Thyngs lerned of Sir John Newton.*

“Newton’s very proper name (he begins) is Caradoc. The name of Newton came by this error and use, bycawse the graundfather of Sir John Newton dwellyd, or was borne, at Trenewith in Poise-land”—Tre-newydd being Welsh for New-town.

“One Newton, a man of fayre lands, inhabytyng at Wyke toward Banwell, had a yonger brothar that maryed one of the dowghtars and heyres of Hampton, and wife afore to one of the Chokkes, that dyed without ysswe by hyr. This was the yonggest dowghtar of the three that Hampton lefte; and yet she being maried unto Newton, fathar to Ser John Newton, fortunod to have all the thre partes.”

Sir John Newton inherited from Hampton an old castle called Richmount, erected on a rock “in the rote of Mendip,” three miles from Wells, and in the parish of East Harptree. “There standith yet (writes Leland) a pece of the dungeon of it.” Syr John Newton dygged up many olde foundations of it, toward buyldinge of a new house hard thereby, caullyd Estewood.” He probably died at that new house, for he was buried at East Harptree, as shown by his monument hereafter noticed.

Sir Thomas Newton, of Barre’s Court, was the father of Sir John, who is styled “of Richmond Castill, in the countie of Somersett, knyght,” in a confirmation of his arms<sup>4</sup> granted by the three kings of arms in 1567, whereby it was declared that he might bear “twelve several coates” or quarterings,

<sup>1</sup> In the Baronetages the heiress that Sir Thomas Newton married is erroneously described as “Joan daughter and heir of Sir John Barr.” The same error occurs in Atkyn’s *History of Gloucestershire*, and elsewhere

<sup>2</sup> *Itinerary*, vol. vii. p. 88.

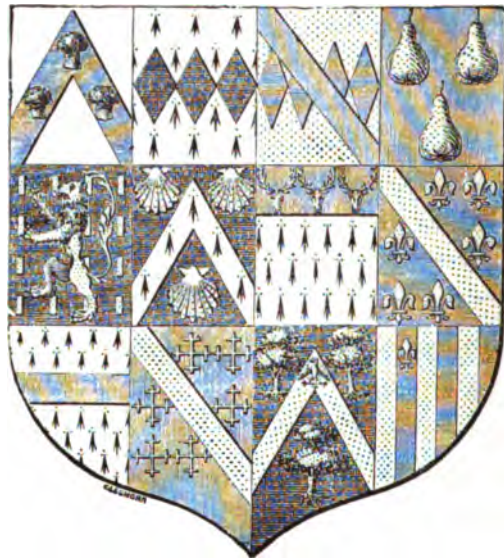
<sup>3</sup> A view is given in the *Record of the House of Gournay*, p. 696.

<sup>4</sup> Printed in the Bristol volume of the Archaeological Institute, p. 239.

viz. Cradock alias Newton, Sherborne, Angle, Pirot, Harvie, Chedder, Hampton, Bitton, Furneaux, Caudecot, Corney alias Gourney, and Harterie or Harptree. The same document conferred a crest, viz. "a King of the Moors armed in mail, crowned gold, kneeling upon his left knee, rendering up his sword,"—the same being (fabulously) asserted to have been the crest of Sir Auncell Corney, or Gourney, his ancestor,<sup>1</sup> said to have been present "at the winning of Acon with King Richard the First, where he took prisoner a King of the Moors."

These are the same quarterings<sup>2</sup> which appear on the stone carving still preserved at Barre's Court, viz. :—

1. *Caradoc* or *Newton*, Argent on a chevron azure three garbs or.
2. *Sherborne*, Ermine, three lozenges fesswise sable.
3. *Angle*, Or, four fusils fesswise azure, over all a bend gules.
4. *Pyrott*, Gules, three pears or.
5. *Harvey*, Sable, billeté, a lion rampant or.
6. *Chedder*, Sable, a chevron ermine between three escallops argent.
7. *Hampton*, Azure, a bend between six fleurs de lis or.
8. *Bitton*, Ermine, a fess gules.
9. *Furneaux*, Gules, a bend between six crosses (sometimes crosscrosslets) or.
10. *Caudecot*, Sable, on a chevron between three trees uprooted or, an eagle displayed of the first.
11. *Gurney*, Paly of six or and azure.
12. *Harptre*, Or, a saltire flory azure.



Several costly monuments of the Newtons remain at Yatton, at East Harptree, and in Bristol Cathedral.

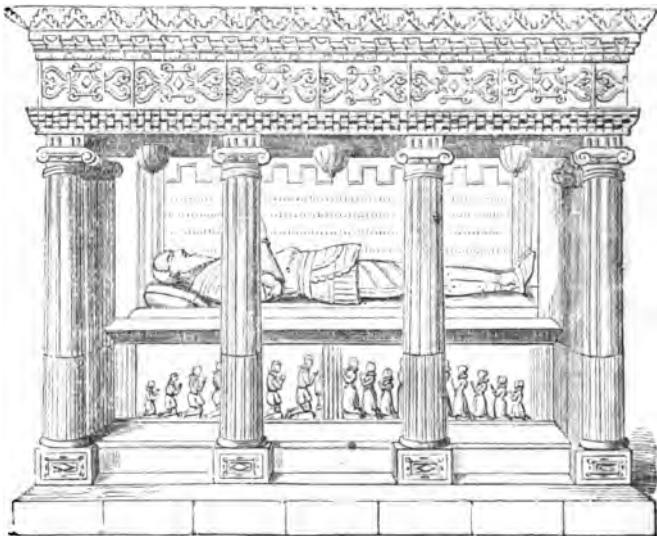
<sup>1</sup> No such person, however, as Sir Anselm Gournay has been traced by the historian of the family until a generation considerably later. This matter has been noticed at p. 357 of the *Herald and Genealogist*, vol. iv.

<sup>2</sup> The engraving represents the same quarterings, somewhat varied, as they appear on the monument of Sir Thomas Newton in Bristol cathedral. The seventh quartering is for *Harmynge*, Ermine, on a chief gules three bucks' heads caboshed. The coat of Gurney of Harptre is paly of eight, and distinguished by a fleur-de-lis placed on the second pale. The last coat of the other achievement, that of Harptre, is omitted.

At YATTON in the Wyke aisle, is a remarkable effigy of Sir Richard Newton alias Cradock, a judge of the common pleas in Henry VI's reign, whose death is believed to have occurred in 1449, when Sir John Prisot was appointed his successor.<sup>1</sup> He is attired in his official robes and coif; a girdle round his waist and a purse at his right side, both shown by the opening of his robe, as is a small portion of his collar of eses on his right shoulder. His hands, on which he wears massive rings, are raised together in the attitude of prayer. His head rests on a garb, his crest; and at his feet are two dogs. By his side is his wife, attired in a close surcoat and a mantle; a head-dress somewhat resembling that of the women of Normandy; and wearing a solid necklace and a heavy chain of gold.

In the same church is another pair of effigies, presumed to represent Sir John Newton (who died in 1488), the son of the judge, and his lady; and her head-dress so closely coincides with that of the judge's wife, that we may well attribute all these effigies to nearly the same period,<sup>2</sup> if not to the same sculptor. The knight is in plate armour, with a large collar of eses, his head resting on a helmet with a garb for crest, and his feet on a lion.

At EAST HARPTREE the monument of Sir John Newton, who entertained Leland on his itinerary, formerly exhibited the appearance shown in this engraving.<sup>3</sup> At one end are the arms of Newton with twenty quarterings.<sup>4</sup>



It was erected against the

<sup>1</sup> Foss, *Lives of the Judges*, vi. 347, His will is at Lambeth. In Register Stafford, fol. 169, dated November 28th, 1448.

<sup>2</sup> Sir John and his wife are both of very juvenile aspect. We may imagine that the effigies were made by his own order, during his lifetime, and not long after his father's death.

<sup>3</sup> Extracted from *The Record of the House of Gournay*, by kind permission of Daniel Gurney, Esq., F.S.A., to whom I am also indebted for these blocks.

<sup>4</sup> Described in *Collinson's Somerset*, vol. iii, p. 589.



eastern wall of the chancel, and the communion table consequently stood partly in front of it. The ecclesiastical taste of the present generation has suggested the removal of this monument. The canopy with its Ionic columns has been destroyed, and the tomb alone remains. It sustains on its summit a very indifferent figure of the knight in armour, bareheaded, and his hands raised in prayer. In front, in bas-relief, are kneeling figures of ten sons and fifteen daughters. Sir John Newton died in 1568.

The Newtons of Barre's Court had their sepulture in the cathedral church of Bristol, in the south transept, named after them the Newton Chapel. The oldest of their monuments there is one that in style resembles the



Monument of a Newton, in Bristol Cathedral.



Monument of the Poet Chaucer, in Westminster Abbey.

monument of poet Chaucer in Westminster abbey; and it was formerly attributed,<sup>1</sup> but erroneously, to Sir Richard Newton alias Cradock, the

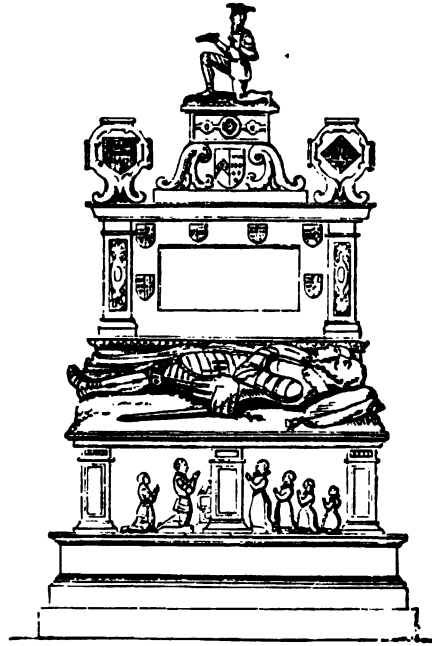
<sup>1</sup> The following inscription was placed upon it in the last century: "In memory of Sir Richard Newton Cradock, of Barrs Court, in the county of Gloucester, one of his Majesties Justices of the Common Pleas, who died December the 13th, 1444, and with his Lady lies interr'd beneath this monument, which was defaced by the Civil Wars, and repaired by Mrs. Archer, sister to the late Sir Michael Newton of Barrs Court, 1748." The judge's death did not occur in 1444, for he was living in Nov. 1448 (*Foss's Lives of the Judges*, iv, 347), and his successor was not appointed until June 1449.

judge of the Common Pleas already mentioned as buried at Yatton. It was probably erected to commemorate one of the family who died about a century later.<sup>1</sup> I would venture to assign it to Richard Newton, a grandson of the judge, the time of whose death, 1501, would accord well with the design of the monument, and it is not known where he was buried: the circumstance of his being called Richard, after his grandfather, might have led to the mistake.

A lofty monument, which is here represented, is that of Sir Henry Newton. It bears the following inscription:—

Here lyeth Sir HENRY NEWTON of Barriscourt, co. Gloucester, knight, who married Catherine, daughter of Sir Thomas Paston, knight, by whom he had two sons and four daughters He died 1599, ætatis 70.

Gurney, Hampton, Cradock, Newton last,  
Held on the measure of that ancient line  
Of Barons' blood; full seventy years he past,  
And did in peace his sacred soul resign.  
His Christ he loved; he loved to feed the poor,  
Such love assured a life that dies no more.



Sir Henry Newton's Monument.

. The arms upon this monument have been blazoned in the article on the "Heraldry of Bristol Cathedral," in the *Herald and Genealogist*, vol. iv, pp. 299-301.

<sup>1</sup> The recess at the side of these table tombs seems to show that it was intended for the accommodation of a chantry-priest, and was therefore of a date shortly precedent to the Reformation. There is reason to believe that the monument erected to the memory of Chaucer by Nicholas Brigham in the year 1555 was one purchased *at second hand* during the changes of this period. The monument of Sir William Fitzwilliam in St. George's Chapel at Windsor (engraved in Lysons' *Magna Britannia*, vol. i, p. 704) is still more nearly of the pattern of Chaucer's. A fourth, resembling the other in many of its features, is at Ringwood, in Hampshire, and is figured in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1807, p. 1001. The last has a step for the chantry-priest to kneel on in front, instead of in the recess; it has been inaccurately attributed to Richard Line, the founder of a free-school at Ringwood so late as 1577.

Immediately adjoining to the last, and also below the south window of the chapel, was erected another still grander monument for Sir John Newton the first Baronet. On the tomb is his effigies in full armour, but bare-headed, the right hand raised holding a truncheon, the left extended by his side and resting on his sword. The head is placed on a large cushion. In the rear the monument was raised to a great height, two twisted columns of black marble, with Corinthian capitals, supporting an architrave, above which is a shield of arms: Argent on a chevron azure three garbs or; impaling Party per pale or and gules, an eagle displayed azure, for *Stone*. On either side of the shield are two female figures, in the place of supporters; and, crowning the whole, is the crest of the kneeling Moorish king, as on the other monument. The epitaph was inscribed on two tablets, but they were entirely obliterated, from the dampness of the wall, before Browne Willis made his survey of Bristol Cathedral. Dingley, in his *History from Marble*, gives the inscription as follows:—

HERE LYETH INTERRED THE BODY  
OF SIR JOHN NEWTON OF BARSCOURT  
IN THE COVNTY OF GLOVCESTER BARO-  
NETT WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE XIV  
OF FEBRVARY

MDCLXI.

But this was evidently not all that occupied the two tablets, and Barrett<sup>1</sup> supplies these imperfect copies:—

(1st Tablet). Here lyeth the body of Sir JOHN NEWTON, Bart. son of Sir Theodore Newton, Kt. and his Lady Grace, daughter of ..... Stone, esq. who dy'd without issue 1661.

(2nd Tablet). He was a man of great courage, and the greatest loyalty to his Prince, an honour to his country, a credit and noble ornament to his name and family.

Party per pale or and gules, an eagle with two heads displayed counterchanged azure and or, for *Stone*.

<sup>1</sup> *History of Bristol*, 1789, 4to, p. 307. In his account of St. Peter's Church, Bristol (p. 519), Barrett writes, "In the south aisle is a very large tomb within a Gothic arch, adorned with a great deal of curious workmanship, and various arms without any inscription; there is the figure of a lady carved, lying upon the tomb who was of the family of Barrs Court, Gloucestershire, as appears by the arms."

Sir John Newton, when he was created a Baronet, adopted for his heir a namesake of a different family, and bearing a wholly different coat of arms. The title was therefore conferred upon him for the term of his natural life, with remainder to John Newton esquire of Hador in Lincolnshire. The following are the terms of the letters patent:—

(Patent Roll 12 Car. II, par, 7).

Sciatis modo quod nos de gratiâ nostrâ speciali ac ex certâ scientiâ et mero motu nostris ereximus præfecimus et creavimus ac per præsentés pro nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris erigimus præficimus et creamus dilectum nostrum Johannem Newton de Barscourt in comitatu nostro Glouc. armigerum, virum familiâ patrimonio censu et morum probitate spectatum, qui nobis auxilium et subsidium satis amplum generoso et liberali animo dedit et præstitit ad manutenendum et supportandum triginta viros in cohortibus nostris pedestribus in dicto regno Hiberniæ per tres annos integros pro defensione dicti regni nostri ac præcipuè pro securitate plantacionis dictæ provinciæ Ultoniæ, ad et in dignitatem statum et gradum Baronetti Anglicè *of a Baronett*, pro termino vitæ suæ naturalis; ipsumque Johannem Newton Baronettum pro nobis heredibus et successoribus nostris præfecimus constituimus et creamus per præsentés. Et quod post decessum prædicti Johannis, prædicta dignitas status et gradus perveniat ad fidelem subditum nostrum Johannem Newton de Hador armigerum, et heredes masculos suos de corpore suo legitime procreatos. Habendum dicto Johanni Newton de Barscourt pro termino vitæ suæ naturalis et post decessum dicti Johannis Newton, prædicto Johanni Newton de Hador in comitatu Lincoln armigero et heredibus masculis de corpore suo legitimè procreatis in perpetuum. Apud Westmon. decimo sexto die Augusti.

Sylvanus Morgan, in his *Sphere of Gentry*, 1661, gives for "The atchievement of a Baronett," facing the second chapter of his fourth book, the conjoint arms (side by side) of the existing and future Sir John Newtons:—

*Insignia utriusq. Johannis Newtoni, Armig. & Baronet. tam præsentis, hisce titulis insigniti, cum futuri seu successivi.*

The first shield is quarterly: 1. Newton; 2. Hampton; 3. Bitton; 4. Caudecot; the second is Sable, two shin-bones in saltire argent.

Motto: HUIC HABEO NON TIBI.

(Upon this enigmatical motto, also used by the family of Ellis of Kiddall, see remarks in *Herald and Genealogist*, 1869, p. 357).

There is a full pedigree of Newton, showing the two families, in Nichols's *History of Leicestershire*, vol. iv, p. 807. It appears, however, to require material corrections.

The first Baronet having died in 1661, shortly after his creation, the Lincolnshire esquire succeeded to the dignity; but Dame Grace Newton, the widow, was living at Hannam in 1672.

The second Baronet was the son of Mr. Thomas Newton, a chief constable at Hatherthorp in Lincolnshire, and had derived a large fortune from one Hixon a usurer who lived with his father.<sup>1</sup> He was M.P. for Grantham during the the whole of the reign of Charles II, and died in 1699. His history and character are delineated in the epitaph at Bitton, ante page 29.

Sir John Newton, his son and successor, married, 1. Abigail, daughter of William Heveningham, or Heningham, esquire, of Heveningham in Norfolk, by Lady Mary Cary his wife, daughter of John Earl of Dover, and had issue a daughter, Cary the wife of Edward Coke, esq., of Holkham, and mother of Thomas created Earl of Leicester in 1764; 2. Susanna, widow of Sir John Bright, Bart., of Badsworth in Yorkshire, and sister to Sir Michael Warton of Beverley, by whom he had issue Sir Michael Newton the fourth Baronet; who became possessed of a great estate on the death of his uncle Sir Michael Warton, and was made a Knight of the Bath in 1725. He married in 1730 Margaret (in her own right) Countess of Coningsby, the eldest daughter and coheir of John Earl of Coningsby, of Hampton Court, co. Hereford; but their only offspring, John Viscount Coningsby, died in its infancy, the victim of an accidental fall, occasioned, it is said, by an ape that frightened its nurse. Sir Michael Newton pulled down Barre's Court, and the baronetcy became extinct on his death in 1743. The Countess survived until 1761. (See Pedigree extended p. 100.)

An extent of the demesne lands of Barre's Court under the title of "Hannam," made 10th Henry VI for Robert Greyndour, is in the British Museum, No. 7,361: it is a roll of parchment twenty-five feet long, and was bought at the Hon. Miss Harley's sale, July 9th, 1850, with two volumes of surveys, made in 1740, for Michael Newton, Esq., numbered in Addit. MSS. 18,266, 18,267.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See in the *Herald and Genealogist*, vol. ii, p. 124, the curious contemporary notice of Sir John Newton in Sir Joseph Williamson's "Notes upon Lincolnshire Families temp. Charles II."

<sup>2</sup> Ernulf de Heding who held this manor of Hannam at the time of Domesday, came into England with the Conqueror, and became the holder of large possessions in various counties. See his descendants in the *Herald and Genealogist*, vol. vi, p. 241, &c.

This Survey gives the names of all the tenants, and the terms on which they held. In the margin are the names of succeeding tenants in a later hand. Several of the tenants were to mow and make the hay, and reap and carry the corn for the manor lord, for a certain number of days. Some held "Monday-lands," involving working for the lord every Monday. Each customary reaper was to be paid twopence a day, and every mower one mark. The names of all the common fields occur.

The Abbot of Keynsham was one of the tenants in fee, holding by other services than by rent, as by suits, aids, homages, and other things; as appears by a certain charter and donation, made to the heir of Hanam by Thomas, the knight of Oldland. I have failed to discover who this worthy was—probably one of the early D'Amenevilles.

Within the year 1878, the estate has been sold by John Whittuck (with the exception of the minerals) to G. H. Leonard, Esq., of Clifton.

I have thus endeavoured to give a correct account of how the Newtons became possessed of this extensive property. One historian, copying from another, without reference to other authorities, often perpetuates error upon error: such is particularly the case with this family, all originating with ATKYNS in his *Gloucestershire*.

It had been laid down, without any proof, that Margaret, a daughter of *Blount*, who was lord of the manor of Bitton, married Sir John Barre, who left a daughter *Joan*, who married a Newton. Even Sir Alexander Croke, in his *Genealogy*, p. 343, has depended upon ATKYNS' statement. All this has now been corrected, by reference to records, some of which may have been discovered since ATKYNS' time.

It can be shown, that no such marriage ever took place—that Sir John Barre left no daughter by his wife, through whom he acquired that property. Upon the death of Lady Barre, without issue, in 1485, it was found by the inquest at her death, that her next heirs were Basset,<sup>1</sup> Hampton, and Strode, descendants of the co-heiresses of Sir John de Bitton by Harvise de Furneaux. It was so far true that Newton (Sir Thomas) married *an* heir of Lady Barre, but not a daughter, viz: Lucy Hampton; and in that way Cradock or Newton of Richmount Castle acquired Barre's Court estates.

<sup>1</sup> See Pedigree, p. 79.

## OLDLAND MOIETY.

This moiety of Bitton called Oldland, which apparently passed by purchase from Nicholas and Petronilla de Oxenhaye to Richard de la More, who died s.p. 1292 (Inq. p.m.) seised of Oldland, and a capital messuage, &c., leaving Stephen de la More his nephew and heir, which Stephen (who died 1328, seised of the same premises) by his wife Constantia de Heweya left a daughter, Alicia de la More, who married Walter Jovet, and a son, William de la More, who married Maud or Matilda de Button, the same who was remarried to Simon Basset (see Pedigree, p. 79 and 100). William de la More (also called Attemore) died 1341 seised of the manor of Oldland. By Maud de Bitton he had one son and two daughters, viz., John Attemore, Margery and Cecily. John was only three years old at his father's death, and he died 1349, whereupon Cecily, only fourteen, succeeded as heir, and married Sir Nicholas Berkeley of Dursley. She died without issue 1393. The inquisition on her death found her possessed of half the manor of Bitton, called "Holdlonde," held for her life, having aliened it by fine to Sir John Deverose and his wife Joanna, who was the relict of Sir John Button the father of Katharine by his first wife Margery de la More or Attemore, the sister of Cecily de Berkeley.

The next heir of Cecily was John Boteler of Shentinfeld, Berks, the son of Alicia de la More.

In 7th Henry V, 1419, Sir John Deverose died seised of this manor, from whom it passed to his daughter and heir Joanna the wife of John Chesebrook. From these persons it passed by Fine, 10th Henry V (1422), to Thomas Wykis, who died 13th Edward IV, 1473, and it continued in that family till 4th and 5th Philip and Mary, 1557-8; when Nicholas Wykis died seised of it, leaving a son Robert,<sup>1</sup> who 20th Elizabeth (1578) passed it by Fine to Edward and Henry Coulthurst. In the records, authorizing the sale of this manor, its extent is thus described: 15 messuages, 10 gardens and orchards, 300 acres of land, 100 acres meadow, 200 acres of pasture and of wood, 300 acres of heath, with common of

<sup>1</sup> Smith in his *Lives of the Berkeleys*, under Dursley, gives a melancholy account of the state of beggary to which this Robert Wykis was reduced, becoming a beggar in the streets of London.

pasture for all sorts of cattle in Hannam, Downe Hanam, West Hannam, Oldland, Bitton, and Upton. From Coulthurst it passed to the family of Weston, with whom it remained till 1652, when it was sold to Mr. Richard Jones of Bristol, merchant, for £1,854 10s.; on whose death, 1697, it passed by his will to his grandson, Thomas Trye, after having been greatly dismembered and encumbered. By some means the Newtons got hold of portions of it, but it was not till 1791 that the "reputed manor" and manor-house were sold by public auction in Bristol.

This reputed manor house was Hanham Hall, which Mr. Richard Jones built in 1655, and so called it (see p. 93). Aged persons have told me that the ancient manor house of Oldland stood near Willsbridge, on the site where Mr. John Pearsall built a fair house of residence about 1730, and mills for rolling and slitting hoop-iron; in whose family it remained till about 1816.

The old house stood by the side of the mill-clack brook, with gable and dormer windows. It was remarkable for rich carving, elaborate ceilings and wainscoting. Pearsall made a dam across the brook to form a pond and mill-head for his iron works, flooding a meadow and orchard, called Swan's Flat. A single stone of the chimney of the ancient house was left *in situ*, which carried right of common in all the Bitton meads.

Another member of the Pearsall family built a house of residence on the other side of the road, opposite a noted public well called Goldwell. The mills were discontinued about 1816, and the various members of the family, left the parish excepting Mr. Robert Lucas Pearsall, who after residing a few years at the upper house, retired to Germany, having sold the estate to Robert Straton, Esq.; after whose death in 1851 it passed into other hands.

There was another gentleman's house in this division of the parish, now a farm house, called Londonderry, a comparatively modern name corrupted from *Londoner's*, by which it was once known. It is in the manor of West Hanham.

In 1666, the premises were sold by Mr. Lacye, of Hartrow, (who had bought Hanham Abbots), to Mr. Richard Jones, as a "roveless tenement called Burnt house," afterwards called Brand house. Mr. Jones built a gentleman's residence, which he sold to Thomas Costar, Esq., M.P. for Bristol. His only daughter married John Quicke, of Newton St. Cyres,



Devon, Esq. About 1770 Mr. Quicke sold the property, and it is now in possession of the Kennett and Avon Canal Company.

There is an entry in Domesday which implies that before the entire manor of Button was divided into two moieties, Oldland was a separate manor at that date. It was the land of Osbern Bishop of Exeter, and was called Aldelande, fol. 165, v.<sup>1</sup> Alwin held it, Earl Harold's man, and he could go where he pleased. When Leland visited Sir John Newton, in his "fayre mansion or place of stone caulld Barescourt," at Hanham, he adds, "there be divers villages, together caulld Hanhams." And so we find Downe-Hannam and Hanham Prior, of which I would now give some account.<sup>2</sup>

Here there is a small estate, about thirty acres, called the Grange, which was given to Farleigh Priory, Wilts, by Humfry de Bohun and his wife, in the reign of Henry III, in perpetuam elemosinam or free alms.<sup>3</sup> The grant runs thus in the charter, as given by Dugdale, (Edit. 1825, vol. 5, p. 26):

"Proterea concedimus eis et confirmanus terram de Hanum, quam Hugo de Chaldefelde et Leolselina mater sua, cum hæredibus suis, ipsis vendiderunt, solutam et quietam, de omnibus rebus, exceptâ quartâ parte fœdi unius militis."

In another charter by Henry III, given in Dugdale, confirming these gifts, this gift is styled "unam virgatam terræ in Buthonâ quæ vocatur Puriland, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis."

At the dissolution, Queen Elizabeth, August 1st, 1565, granted to Roger Langesford and Christopher Martin the lordship and manor of Hanam, &c., belonging lately to the dissolved monastery of Farleigh, and the mansion house called Le Grange, in Downe Hanam.

Langesford and Martin soon after sold the property to William Neale, from whom it passed into the Weston family, and afterwards to divers persons; by mortgages and suits, it has long been subjected to litigation.

<sup>1</sup> A view of the ancient chapel of Oldland, Plate XII. Copied from a Plate in the *Gent. Mag.* Nov. 1830, from a drawing by the late Henry Aston Barker of panoramic celebrity.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 81, ante.

<sup>3</sup> In perpetuam elemosinam, or free alms. This mode of tenure, usually called frank almoign, was the freest and least fettered of any of the feudal tenures. The grantees held the donatum for ever, under the light and easy service of praying (not, however, at any specific time) for the soul of the donor, if dead, or for his welfare, if living. It was a tenure by which almost all the religious houses anciently held their possessions.—BLACKSTONE.

It never could have been much of a mansion, and is now a plain farm house. It appears by the Minister's accounts, 27th and 28th Henry VIII, 1536, that it was then in the tenure of John and Elizabeth Parsons and assigns, by deed, dated August 20th, 1533, for a term of sixty years.

The other monastic estate in Down-hanham (see the site in Plate iii) was about thirty acres, abutting on Barre's Court; it belonged to the nuns of Lacock, Wilts, to whom it was given by Petronilla D'Anteneville, the widow of Nicholas Oxenhaye<sup>1</sup> in perpetuam elemosynam.<sup>2</sup>

The grant, as extracted from the Lacock Chartulary, runs thus:—“Petronilla filia Roberti de D'Amenevilla concessit eisdem monalibus viginti duas acras terræ arabilis de dominiea terrâ sua in manerio de Button, videlicet in Northfelde, &c.”<sup>3</sup> Next we find the following:—“Robertus Marmium remisit eisdem totum jus quod habuit in terris et teneimentis quæ Robertus Perpunt apud Hanum, quo quâ remissione moniales dederunt ei 40s.<sup>4</sup> “Petronilla de D'Ameneville dedit eisdem totam terram quam habuit in manerio de Button, faciendo inde regi debitum servitium.”

At the dissolution, this tenement was in the tenure of John Taylour and Julia his wife, and William, a son, by deed (February 11th, 1517, 7th Henry VII), for their lives, at 13s. 4d. per annum. The seal of the abbess, attached to the deed in my possession, is here produced, by the kind courtesy of the publisher of Bowle's *Lacock*. The abbess and convent reserving all the timber, underwood, and coal-pits. Very early in the next reign, disputes and suits arose in the family about this property; and they continued for many years. After a time, the estates passed into the hands of Mr. Edwards, of Bristol, Solicitor, who sold to the late Col. Fremantle, who sold to Mr. Whit-tuck, as stated p. 81.



<sup>1</sup> See pedigree, p. 79, and Bowle's *Lacock*, p. xliii. <sup>2</sup> See note, ante. <sup>3</sup> Fol. 119. <sup>4</sup> Fol. 120

The continued and expensive suits in which these two estates, formerly monastic lands, were involved, are a striking instance of the fate of what Sir Henry Spelman calls the "Infelicity of Sacrilege;" as also is the estate of Hanham Abbots, which will be more clearly pointed out when we speak of the Creswick family, under the Bitton meads.

The Newtons deduced their title to the manor of Bitton, Oldland, and Hanham from 1662.

Besides the manor of Oldland there is a distinct view of frankpledge in Oldland, Upton, &c. (see p. 84), an offset of the Honour of Gloucester, which was once held by Henry II, by whom it was sold to Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex,<sup>1</sup> on whose death it devolved to Gilbert, son of Richard de Clare.

It appears by the Hundred Roll, p. 175, that this court or view was held by Gilbert de Clare, 1275,<sup>2</sup> in these words: "the Jury say that Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, now living, has taken away the suit and service of persons of Hanam, and many others of the manor of Button, who were accustomed to come to a view of frankpledge twice a year at the Court of Button for six years past. In the Quo Warranto Roll it is proved that David le Blund and Stephen de la More held the like view in their manor of Bitton. From the Clares it passed to the Earls of Stafford.

46th Edward III (1372), Inq. p.m., 62, Ralph Earl of Stafford held in right of Margaret his wife the Manor of Thornbury and a view of frankpledge at Oldlonde, parcel of the Honour of Gloucester.

In the 10th Richard II (1386) Inq. p.m., No. 38, Hugh Earl of Stafford held the same, and one-third of a knight's fee in Oldland, Upton, and Breche, which John de Button once held.

<sup>1</sup> Fosbrooke *Glouc.*, vol. i, p. 126.

<sup>2</sup> View of Frankpledge, or court leat, held once a year before the steward of a manor, according to the institution of Alfred; originally intended to view the frankpledges or sureties for the good behaviour of each other, and the punishment of various minute offences against the public good.—BLACKSTONE.

HONOUR OF GLOUCESTER.—First possessed by Aylward Sneaw, a Mercian nobleman, in the reign of Athelstan, who succeeded 925. See Sayer's *Bristol*, vol. i, p. 243.

Cowell defines it thus: "Honour is used for the more noble sort of seignories, whereof other inferior lordships or manors do depend. And I have reason to think that none are Honours originally, but such as are belonging to the king, howbeit they may after, be bestowed upon other nobles."

16th Richard II, Inq. p.m., No. 27, Thomas Earl of Stafford was seised of a view of frankpledge at Oldland, value 13s. 4d.

22nd Richard II (1308), Inq. p.m. 46 Thomas Earl of Stafford held the same.

4th Henry IV (1403), Inq. p.m. 41, Edmund Earl of Stafford held the same. He was killed at the battle of Shrewsbury, July 21st 1403.

38th Henry VI (1460), Inq. p.m., No. 59, Humphrey Duke of Buckingham held the same. This Duke was slain at the battle of Northampton, July 10th, 1460. His successor was Henry Stafford Duke of Buckingham, who was beheaded at Salisbury by Richard III, without judge or jury 1483.

Edward Stafford was the next Duke. He was beheaded 1521 for high treason, and being attainted, all his estates forfeited to the King; but in 1547 Henry Stafford, his son and heir, was restored in blood, and so the Honour continued in the family till 1776, when the Honour of Gloucester was sold to Edward Duke of Norfolk by the Earl of Stafford for £24,000, but there was excepted "all that reputed manor, liberty, or fee of Ouldland in co. Glouc. lying in Oldland, Hanham, Upton Cheyney, or any of them," which by a deed of the same date is conveyed for the use of Henry Thomas Howard and his son in tail male.

Within the jurisdiction of this Honour are Beach, Upton Cheyney, Barres Court, Oldland, and Hanham. The ancient Court Rolls of these holdings are among the Stafford MSS. in the possession of Lord Bagot, at Blithfield.

In 1766 a map of this property was made for Thomas Howard, Earl of Effingham. The boundaries are Stump Brook, Hough Lane, including North Common, Lower Cadbury Heath in front of Mr. Bragg's House (the Grange), and outside Dr. Woodward's (Grimsbury). The boundary then passes along Hanham Road (since called Wraxall Lane), passing the mouth of Cockroad to Upper Cadbury Heath, the whole of which is included; then Barr's Court estate is the boundary passing along the Park Wall to the Bristol Road, including part of Langdon's Green. Dod's Lane is the boundary to Oldland Chapel, including lands known by the name of *Staffords*; Nuns Lane to Leapyate, and then along the old southern boundary of Oldland Common to the old eastern boundary of North Common, including both the Commons, Cann Wood, and Highfield: but not including the land between the two Commons, measuring about forty acres.

## UPTON CHAUN OR UPTON CHEYNEY.

This is another lordship or subinfeudation to be noticed. In Domesday it is one of the hides belonging to the King and it is called Optune, p. 162 b, and is accounted for to Earl Alwin, the same who is mentioned under Aldelande.

3rd Edward II. In a Fine, John de Button bought land in Upton of Henry le Chaun, by service of a rose at Christmas during Henry's life.

7th Edward II. Charter of free warren was granted to John de Bitton in Upton, Button, and Hanham.

In a Fine, 18th Edward II it is recited that Upton Chaun, with land in Button, Hanam, Oldland, West Hanam, passed to John son of John de Button and Hawise his wife; and it is stated to be held by Henry Fitz Johan Chaun for his life.

31st Henry VI, by a Fine the manor of Est Hannam and Upton, with divers lands in Oldland, Upton Chaun, and West Hannam were settled in trustees for the use of Sir John Barre for life, and after his death to revert to his wife's heirs. In the Inq. p.m. of Sir John Barre it is recited that 22nd Edward IV the manor of Est Hannam was held of Margaret Blunt, lady of Bitton, and Jane Wykis, lady of Oldland; the lands in Upton Chaun were held of Stafford by a bunch of gillyflower (*gariofli*).

Lady Barre died 1485 (2nd Richard III) seised of the manor of Est Hanham held of John Blount, Lord of Bitton, and the manor of Upton Chaun held of the Earl of Stafford, Robert Basset one of her heirs. He died October 13th, 1488; but in the inquisition on his death taken June following, no mention is made of any lands in Bitton, a strong proof that a distribution of the estates of Lady Barre had not then taken place. His son and heir was Giles Basset, who died February 1543 seised of the manor of Upton Chaun and Highfield where he afterwards resided, not perhaps at that date, as it appears by an entry in the following particulars, that John Burnel was the tenant at that time. His next heir was his son Robert, who held the same premises of Lord Stafford as of his Honour of Gloucester. The property continued in this family till about 1650, much dismembered; but the manorial rights passed about that time to Brice Seed, in whose family it continued till by the

marriage of Alice Seed, his daughter, it passed to the Rev. Edward Parker, B.A., the Vicar of Bitton. This gentleman, in 1701, under a private act, bought the mansion and estate of Arthur Lacy, Esq., whose family had acquired the property by purchase in 1566 as part of the estate of Hanham Abbots, *see* p. 92. Edward Parker his son succeeded, and by his wife Elizabeth (died 1778), daughter of Joseph Rosewell, of Bitton, Esq., left a son Joseph his next heir. He, by his wife Sarah, (died 1745 æt. 25), left a son William his next heir, who married Cœlia daughter of John Stanford Perrot of Highfield, by whom he left Joseph, who married Martha the youngest daughter of George Bush, of Cliff House, Bristol, Merchant. On his death (Dec. 1860, aged 90) he was succeeded by the present possessor Joseph Parker, Esq., who has a family by Louisa Jane, daughter of B. Milward, of Keynsham, Esq.

The following are the particulars of the Manor of Upton Cheynew, as laid down in an Inquisition taken on the first of September 35th Henry VIII (1543) after the death of Giles Basset, Esq.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Occupiers.</i>	<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Occupiers.</i>
Medietas Firme	- John Sawden	One Messuage	- Will. Hardyng
Ditto ditto	- William Burnell	One Pasture 30 a.	- John Rudgebale
Two Messuages	- John Sawden	Land 16 a.	- John Snalham
	F. W. Burnell	One Messuage	- Rowland Tynborough
Courte Orchard	- Will. Burnell	One Messuage	- John Smyth
One Messuage	Thomas Clarke	Pasture	- Robert Cokeston
Three Messuages (one)	Thomas Shepard	Pasture, <i>Fifteen Acres</i>	Thos. Tybott
Upton Cheynew—		A Close (Caules)	- John Bryan
One Corn mill (one)	John Danyell	Pocke (Laid)	- Wm. Maynard
One of the Three		Arable 1 a.	- John Willis
Messuages	- John Burnell	Upton Cheynew—	
Upton Cheynew—		Highfield (Pasture)	} Giles Bassett
One Pasture	-	Canwood (a Grove)	
Highfeld	-	Moremede (Mead)	
Redcroft	-		
Brodmede	-		

NOTE. The said Manor of Upton Cheynew and Premises in Upton Cheynew and Bytton are held of the King as of the Honor of Gloster, by service of one-third of a Knight's Fee.

It appears by the above particulars, that Highfield and other pieces were then let to John Burnell, therefore it may be concluded that the mansion house was built afterwards. Some of the Bassets lived there; but in 1619, Sir Thomas Escourt, by fine, &c., conveyed the estate to John Barker of Bristol, merchant, who in 1627, sold the mansion, &c., to Sir Vincent Gookin, Knt. He lived at Highfield till his death, and both he and Lady Judith were buried in Bitton Churchyard, the one in 1637 the other in 1642. In 1646 Vincent Gookin, his son, sold the same lands to Samuel Bave, M.D., who resided there till 1706, when it became the property of Benjamin Perrot of Bristol, glass-maker; he died November, 1754, and was succeeded by his son John Stanford Perrot, who resided at Highfield. His issue were Benjamin, Jason, John, and Robert, and three daughters, one of which (Coelia) became the wife of William Parker of Upton, Esq., in 1768. Highfield was deeply mortgaged, when by a private act (12th Geo. III 1773-4), for vesting the property in trustees, and for sale, Archibald Drummond, Esq., M.D., became the purchaser, and in his heir it was vested, till lately devised to J. A. Werg, Esq. In the act the house is said to be too large for the estate. Standing on high ground the view from it is very extensive. The mansion was pulled down by Dr. Drummond, and ever since it has been a farm house.

The pedigree of Perrot as given by Kimber in his *Baronetage*, vol iii, p. 43, is headed by thirty-two British kings, and continued to Sir Richard Perrot, Bart., living in 1771. Perrots of Highfield are supposed to be an offshoot.

Vincent Gookin, Esq., the son of the knight, was Surveyor-General of Ireland. See a further account of the family in *Notes and Queries*, vol. i, pp. 385 and 492.

By will, dated 1682, Brice Seed gave to Brice Seed, son of his son Tobias, "all his rights to the manor of Upton Cheynew—also Upton Cheynew;" to his son John, he gave his tenement called *Tuckers*, now a substantially built farm-house, lately occupied by Mr. Roger Mayne; it is the site of the manor house of Upton Cheynew.

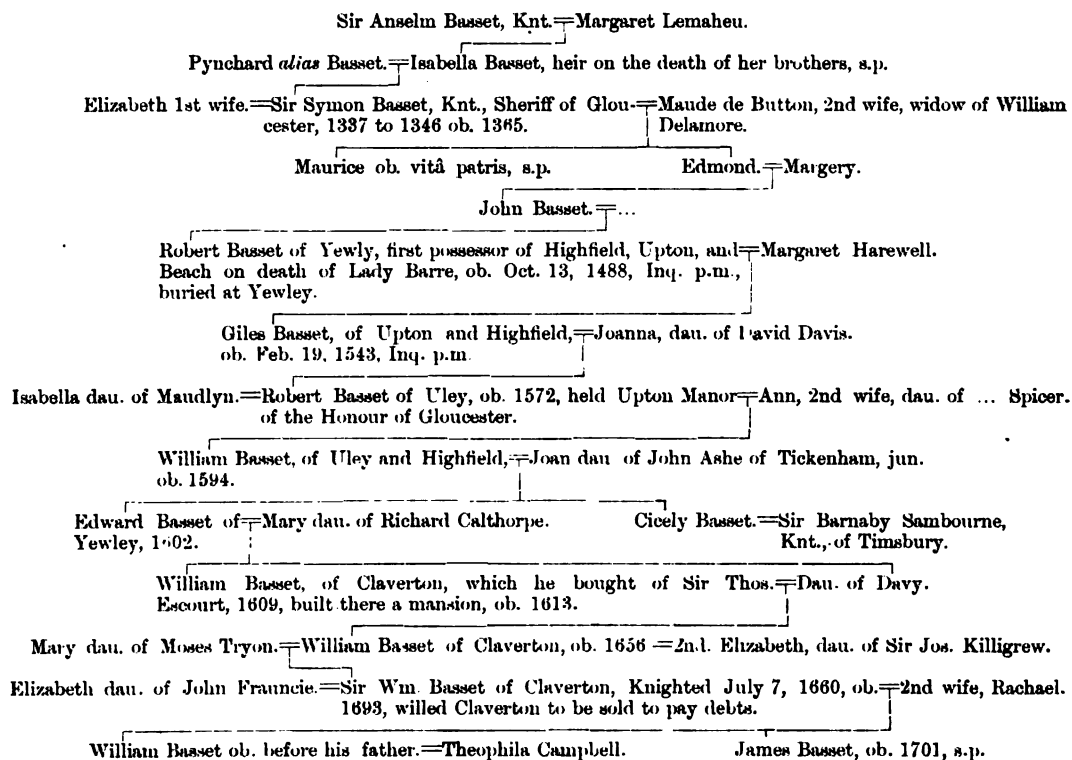
In a field on the north side is an ancient dove cot or columbarium, the usual appendage of a manor. But the principal residence was that now

occupied by Mr. Parker, called Upton House ; this is where the Lacy family resided. It was acquired with the purchase of Hannam Abbots by John Reade in 1565, but he had previously dismembered the manor by the sale of lands in Bitton to William Underhill, then a copy holder, for 2000 years, now called *Underhills*.

Lacy lived at Upton till 1701, at which time Arthur Lacy, as before stated, obtained a private Act, 12 Will. III, for the sale of his manor and estates to discharge mortgages, and lay out the surplus for the benefit of three coheireses, Ann, Elizabeth, and Dorothy, his sisters (see Lacy Pedigree). Rev. E. Parker, the vicar of Bitton, became the purchaser.

TABLE SHEWING IN BRIEF THE FAMILY OF BASSET, OF YEWLEY;  
AND OF HIGHFIELD, BITTON.

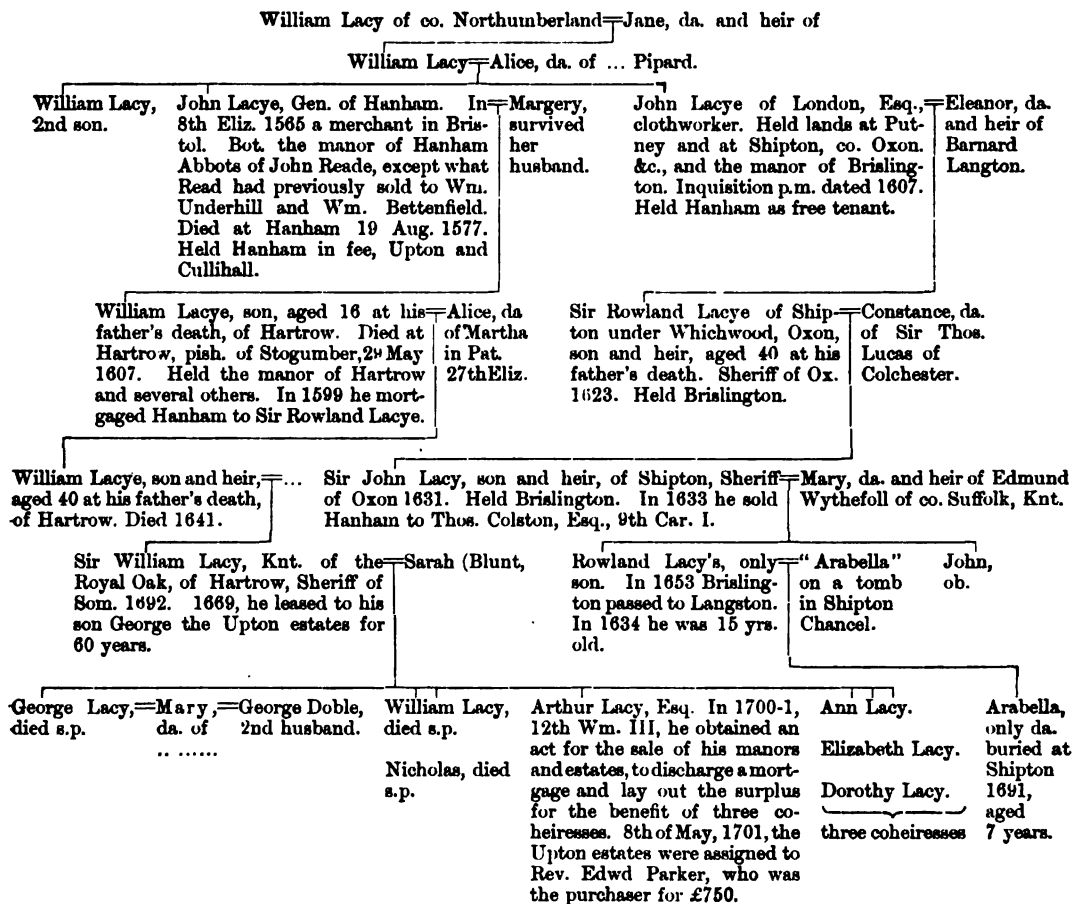
ARMS:—Ermine on a chief gu, three mullets or,



NOTE:—See Collectanea Topogr. and Geneal., vol. i, p. 245, also Gloucester Visitation, 1623.



ARMS, by Burke:—Gules, two bars wavy ermine, Oxon. and Somerset.



Besides the Upton property and Cully Hall, the Seeds held a goodly tenement and land lying between Upton and Beach, called Bartons, part of the manor of Upton ceded to Mr. Parker.

Nearly all the copyhold lands of the parsonage manor lie in Upton. There are other houses in the village, once occupied by gentlefolk, but now they are farm houses.

Early in the seventeenth century Whittington of Ivythorne, co. Somerset, was one. I have not been able to make out where it was: many of the family lie buried in the Chancel, being lessees of the prebendal tithes for a few years. They bore Az. three fishes hauriant. The family is distinct from

Sir Rich. Whittington's, the Lord Mayor's family, who resided at Hamswell, in the adjoining parish of Cold Ashton; their arms being Gu., a fess checky or and az. But some members of this family resided at *Fifteen Acres*, a tenement bought of Seed, a part of the Upton Manor. Dr. Drummond bought it of Mr. Whittington, and it is now vested in his representatives.

*Swinford*, within memory called Swineshead, and giving name to the hundred, is a village adjoining Upton on the Avon: enjoying a stream from Lansdown, water mills of some sort or other have always existed. Of old a *molendinum* is met with. Besides this, Logwood mills established here early in the last century, by Messrs. Tyndall of Bristol, and mills for rolling copper by the Bristol Copper Co., and now lead mills.

At Beach, or la Beche, the chief residence in 1586 was described as a capital mansion, held as copyhold under the prebendal manor; it was then, and long after, occupied by the family of Atwood, and by marriage and renewed leases it passed to Weare of Bristol. The family lived at Beach. Many of them are buried in Bitton Church; and the descendants are the present possessors (see p. 46).

An extensive wood annexed on the west side is called Tibbot's Grove, from an earlier copyholder. All the customary tenants of the prebendal manor had a right to take wood for wattle and spike (see Proceedings in Star Chamber, 1590, A. 32, No. 27) from a certain part of this wood. It extends to the top of Lansdown, on the outskirts of which, within and without the boundaries of the parish, the celebrated battle of Lansdown was fought on the 5th of July, 1643, between the king's forces and those of the parliament, the latter under the command of Sir William Waller; the result was a doubtful victory on either side.

Sir Beville Granville, marching from Marshfield over Toghill, charging from Frizen or Furzen hill (see Map, Plate i), crossing the intervening valley up the Lansdown steep; having gained the summit, took possession of the enemy's battery. On the plain there was a bloody hand to hand fight. At the third charge Sir Beville was mortally wounded by a blow from a pole-axe. The enemy returned to Bath for the night, leaving the king's troops in possession of the hill.

On the spot where Sir Beville fell, a few yards outside the boundary of la Beche, stands a monument recording the event. In the wood adjoining,

bullets and cannon balls are often found. For particulars, see Clarendon, Rushworth, and other historians of the day.

So long was the fight that this quotation from Herodotus (vii, 167) is most applicable:—

*ἐμάχοντο ἐξ ἥους ἀρχάμενοι μέχρι δέιλης ὀψίης.  
ἐπὶ τοσοῦτο γὰρ λέγεται ἐλκῦσαι τὴν σύστασιν.*

#### THE MANOR OF GEE OR JOY MOOR.

This manor, as will be seen by the Map (Plate iii), is not of large extent. It was part of Weston Court estate, and in the map of Kingswood, 1610 (Plate vii), is called Weston's Woods.

It lies in the heart of Kingswood Chase, and is bounded on the south by COCKROAD, a place notorious for thieves and lawless characters. Even within the last century, the state of the district may be imagined by a circular issued in 1812, which will be found in a following chapter about Kingswood.

A few years ago Gee Moor became the property of Samuel Batchellor, Esq., of Bath, whose son, the Rev. Ed. Batchellor, sold it in divers lots in June, 1862, and now the manor is dismembered.

With so many entangled and conflicting subinfeudations (qu. before the statute "Quia emptores") it can be no matter of surprise that there have been endless lawsuits respecting the exact rights and boundaries of each: and respecting the rights of common spread over many acres of open fields and meadows, including the right of pasture and cutting of wood in the royal chase of Kingswood, which abutted on the Hannam manors, and the digging of coal. With the exception of West Hanham and Mr. Howard's view of frankpledge in Oldland, the others are nearly lost sight of, and the entire parish has long been divided for civil purposes into three hamlets, with separate officers, viz., Bitton, Oldland, and Hanham. Ever since the Act 43 Eliz., c. 2, each hamlet has maintained its own poor, although appeals had been made, early in the seventeenth century, by the inhabitants of Oldland and Hanham, to the Sessions at Gloucester to throw the whole parish into one.

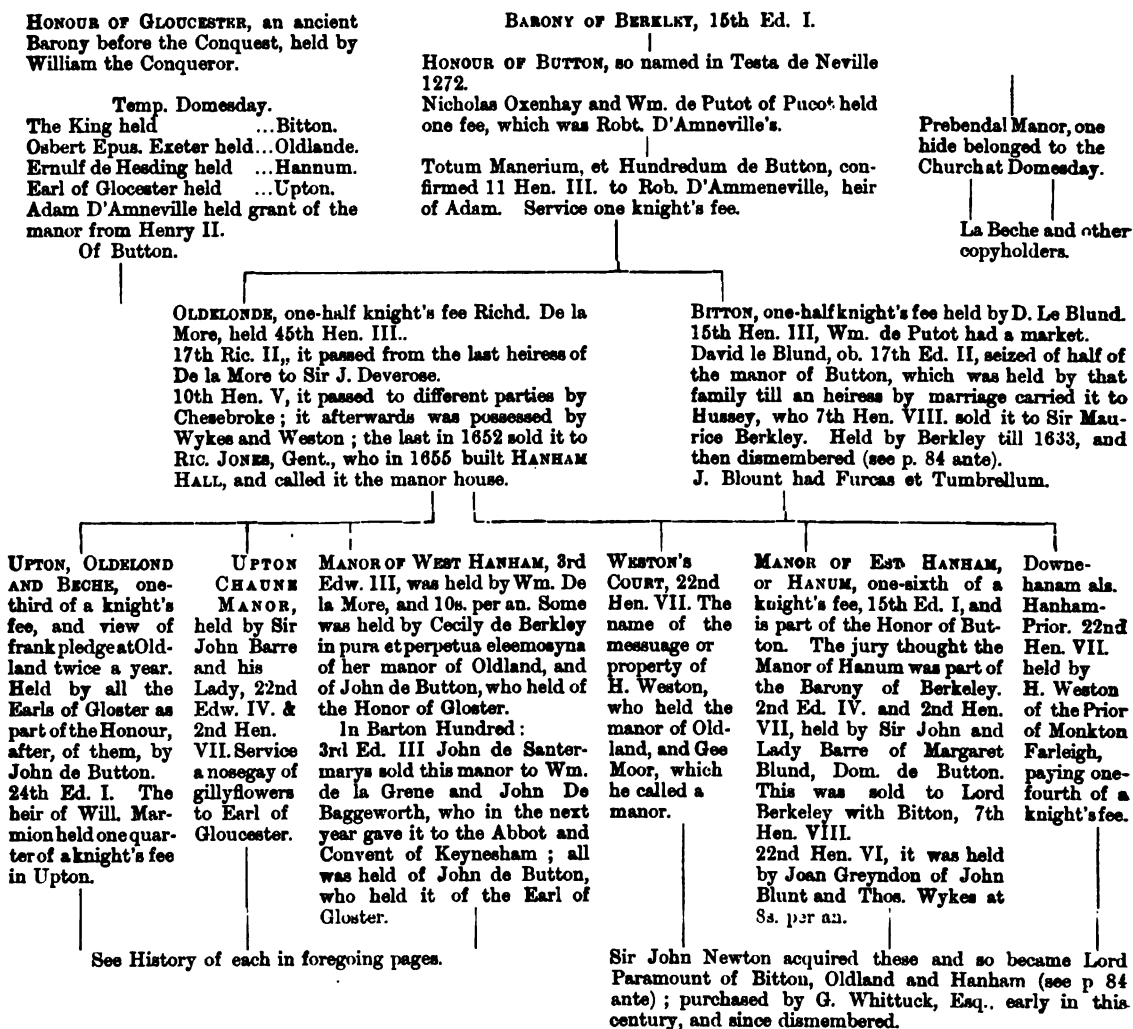
What are now called hamlets used to be called tythings (see p. 86 ante). Besides these civil divisions, there are various LIBERTIES as to mining, and modern districts for ecclesiastical purposes. For the administration of the poor, the whole parish is in the Keynsham Union, where it is represented by seven guardians.

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ANCIENT NAMES OF THE MANORS.

<i>Betthons</i> in grant of ma-	Aldelunde, 1086.	Hanun, 1086.	Optune, 1086.
nor by Duke Henry	Holdlonde, 2 Ed. III.	Hanum, 15 and 20 Ed. I.	Uptune Chaun, 1324.
to Robt. Fitzharding.	Oldelonde, 1327.	West Hanam, 1324.	Upton Cheyeny, 12 Eliz.
Beton.	Holdelond, 2 Rich. II.	Hanam, 1327.	Upton Cheney, 1573.
Betone, 1086.	Oldelond, 9 Hen. IV.	Esthanam, 1348.	Upton Chaune.
Betune, 1086.	Wholdland, 1564.	Haneham, 22 Hen. VI.	Upton Chenew.
Bettione, 7 John.	Oldland, 20 Eliz.	Hangham, 4 Ed. VI.	Upton Cheyney, 3 C. I.
Betton, 7 Hen. III.	Eland, 39 Eliz.	Hanham.	Upton Cheynew.
Bittone, 11 Hen. III.	Wooland, 42 Eliz.	Hannam.	
Button, 15 Hen. III.	Wolland, in maps 1611.	Hannan Abbots.	
Buthon, 45 Hen. III.	Eldland, 1 Car. I.	Henham Abbots, 1565.	La Beche, 10 Ric. II.
Byttone, 1230.	Ouldland, 1661.	Hannam Pryor, 1572.	Beach, 1655.
Buttone. 1342.		Henham, 1587.	Beache, 6 Anne.
Bitten, 10 Ric. II.		Hannam Abbots, 43 Eliz.	Beech.
Butham, 10 Ric. II.	Swynford, 1482.	West Hannam.	
Bytton, 1540.	Swineherd.		
Bycton, 1561.	Swineheard.		
Bytten, 1572.		Dounehanam, 1422.	
Bitton.		Donnhannam, 1561.	
Bucton.			
Buthon.			
Buton, 1625.			

## TABLE SHEWING THE SUBINFEUDATIONS OF BITTON MANOR.



"Tempora mutantur, et nos mutamur in illis."

# HISTORY OF BITTON.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE COMMON MEADOWS.

*“Prata recentia rivis  
Æterno vestiti gramine Campi.”*

“Sunt privata nulla naturâ; sed aut vetere occupatione, ut qui quondam in vacua venerunt; aut victoriâ, ut qui bello potiti sunt; aut lege, pactione, conditione, sorte, ex quo fit, ut ager Arpinas Arpinatium dicatur: Tusculanum Tuscanorum: similisque est privatarum possessionum descriptio.”—*Cic. de Off.*, lib. 1, c. vii.

# HISTORY OF BITTON

## CHAPTER III.

### THE COMMON MEADOWS.

“Prata recentia rivis

Æterno vestiti gramine Campi.”

“Meadows trim with cowslips pied,

Shallow brooks and rivers wide.”—MILTON'S *Allegro*, 75.

The year 1819 was an eventful period in the annals of the parish of Bitton. A new turnpike road, leading from Bitton over Oldland and North Common to the Passages on the Severn was begun; the foundation stone of a new Church, called Holy Trinity, was laid on Kingswood Hill; and a local Act, 59 Geo. III, obtained for inclosing certain commons, fields, and other waste places and for stopping up several public highway roads and footways was put in operation.

The common lands were West Field, Red Field, Longwell Green, Cadbury Heath, Oldland and North Common; the particulars of which, with plans, are all set forth by the Commissioner in the Act, Mr. Young Sturge, and signed by him 31st March, 1827, and enrolled by the Clerk of the Peace for the county of Gloucester; a copy of which is deposited in the parish chest at Bitton.

The Act specially excepted the four meadows (see p. 2, *ante*) which form the subject of this chapter; but since that time, namely in June, 1853, application was made to the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales, under the Act 8 and 9 Vict., c. 118, for their inclosure; which was finally settled, and all the ancient rights and privileges connected with them were extinguished April 18th, 1864; therefore, nearly all that follows relates



to the former history of these meadows, which will be the subject of this chapter, viz., Holm-Mead, Micklemead, Sydenham Mead, and Edensfield-Mead, measuring, as before stated (p. 2), 216 acres. The Plates iv, v, vi, vii, represent the pieces owned by various persons in severalty (their names will be found at the end), in the year 1844, when these plans were made.

Holm-Mead, pronounced *Howme*, is probably derived from the Saxon *Holme*, a river island, the river Avon, the Boyd, and the Grip or Dyke, (on the north side), make it an island. In *Promptorium Parvulorum* it is defined, "a place be-sydona a water," with a long note.<sup>1</sup>

Micklemead, from the Saxon *Micel*, means the great meadow. In the Inquisition on the death of Edward le Blunt, 31 Edward III. In Court Roll of Richard II, 1380, Micklemead is rated.

Sydenham may be derived from its approximation to the *Hams* or low meadows adjoining.<sup>2</sup> It was partly bounded on the west by West Field, which lay fallow one year and was sown with corn another, and so on alternately.

Edensfield is called Edenshulle in the Extent of the Demean of Barre's Court, A.D. 1431 in Additional MSS. No. 7621. The Map (Plate vi), shows it is bounded by the Avon on one side and by Cleeve's Wood on the other. I have not found any clue to the meaning of the word.

In the Inquisition taken in 1362 (36 Edward III),<sup>3</sup> on the death of Edmund le Blunt, the lord of Bitton, among other lands he held Holmede and Overmede, meaning the upper mead; he also held a portion of wood in Kingswood Chase; and so in a fragment of a Court Roll, which will be found at the end, held in the reign of Elizabeth, persons were fined for pulling up certain weeds growing in either of these meadows, as well as for beating down acorns in the Chase of Kingswood.

In the Nona Roll, 1342, mention is made of the hay of the Demean Meadows in this parish, which is supposed to be these. There is a record in the Exchequer in 1370, the end of the reign of Edward III, proving that the Abbot of Keynsham recovered these meadows by king's writ to the Sheriff of Gloucester; this could only apply to some portion, which

<sup>1</sup> See *Notes and Queries*, Feb. 1st, 1877, p. 93.

<sup>2</sup> See *Notes and Queries*, 5, xi, p. 93.

<sup>3</sup> Note, p. 1, No. 35.

might have belonged to the manor of West Hanham. Be that as it may, certain it is that at the dissolution as a whole, they formed no part of the abbot's possessions. In Holm-Mead he had seven acres, and in Edensfield two acres, and small pieces intermixed.

All the meadows are of a deep alluvial soil, lying mostly on a substratum of gravel, in which many fossils have been found—teeth of elephants and bones of other animals—they were much admired in their unenclosed state as a little prairie; they were all part of the demean of the manor lords—common one part of the year for pasture, and private property as to the hay. Similar lands were to be found in many parts of the kingdom, especially in the neighbourhood of rivers, or lands liable to be flooded; they are generally called Lammas lands, from being thrown open at that time of the year; and Dole Meads, from having been at some time or other doled out by the lord of the manor in allotments for private math, the private holdings being marked by dowle stones or meers, the divisions for marking the lands.<sup>1</sup>

How many persons there were originally in the enjoyment of this right of common of pasture does not appear, many having lost the right from not having been able to prove the exercise of it for twenty years, as required by the general Inclosure Act; but at the time of the Bitton Inclosure Act, 1819, 168 persons established their right. As a record of history, their names will be found at the end. Those who had this right of depasturage were the occupiers of ancient houses and sites which formerly had four acres of land attached to them. The right was for cattle of all sorts, excepting pigs, provided the said cattle were the sole property of the claimants, and had been in their possession and in the parish forty days immediately preceding the time when they were turned into the meads, and a fire had been kindled in the chimney of the tenement to which the right was appended, implying occupancy, hence called *Auster* right,<sup>2</sup> the word meaning the hearth of the chimney. All these commodable beasts might enjoy themselves in the said meadows, and feed to their full, from Lammas-tide till old Candlemas Day, the 14th February, provided they bore on their backs the initials of the christian and surname of their owner, marked with pitch. After the above dates, the meadows were shut; the

<sup>1</sup> See *Cowell and Blount*.

<sup>2</sup> See *Spelman*.

gates being locked, and kept in repair by the owner of certain estates adjoining; viz.—the impropiator of the rectorial tithes—Fieldgrove, Barre's Court, and Londonderry. They were then laid up for mowing, which the particular tenants might do when they pleased; but no person might carry away his crop over another man's land before the 24th of June.

There was a curious custom connected with the use of these meadows for common of pasture called *shooting the meads*. It took place at noon, on the first Saturday next after the 21st of August. Before the new style, it was the first Sunday after the 10th August, S. Lammas-day. It used to be done by the manor lords leading a white bull, a black stallion, and a black boar, through the several meadows; or, instead of the bull, a horse with a white sheet over him. This custom was abandoned many years before the inclosure.

In olden times, an unseemly revelling took place at the gate leading into Holm-Mead, which in later years was removed to the east end of Mickle-mead, at Swinford. It used to be quite a festive, and anything but a solemn, day in the parish. People used to crowd from the neighbourhood to witness the sight; tents were erected, and music and drinking on the whole day; but owing to the riotous and drunken proceedings which took place it was all stopped by the magistrates about 1814. The Sunday following was called the Meadow Sunday, when many persons were naturally attracted, from traditional associations, to enjoy each other's company, and to look at each other's beasts. The first milking used to take place, very early on Sunday morning, even at midnight; and whoever was the first to milk was considered by the farmers to be the king or the queen of the meadows *pro tempore*.

An Act was obtained 10th of Queen Anne, cap. 8 (1711), for making the river Avon navigable for barges from Bath to Hanham, and a towing path to be made by the side of these meadows. At the south end of Sydenham locks were built. But we are told by Barrett, in his *History of Bristol*, that thirteen years elapsed before anything was done. At last it was completed by subscription; and on 27th December, 1727, the first barge was brought to Bath from Bristol, laden with deals, lead and meal. An annual payment is made by the Canal Company to the owners of the meadow lands for the towing path.

SYDENHAM MEADOW. It was in this meadow that the unfortunate and imprudent Duke of Monmouth and Lord Grey, with a rebel army of 1,000 horse and 10,000 foot, with field-pieces, &c., encamped, on the 25th June, 1685. On the same day they had a skirmish there with a party of the King's Dragoons, commanded by Col. Oglethorpe, and got the worst of it—a foretaste of their total defeat at Sedgemoor, about ten days afterwards.

The following papers will give some particulars of interest, which will show how Mr. Francis Creswick, of Hanham Court, got entangled in this rebellion, which was the beginning of a series of troubles and ended in the ultimate ruin of the family, not perhaps immediately, but in a few generations.

#### F. CRESWICKE'S CASE.

Francis Creswicke of Hannam's Court in the parish of Bitton in y<sup>e</sup> County of Glouc., Esq<sup>r</sup>, being informed that Monmouth and the Rebels were come on the 25<sup>th</sup> June last into y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Parish where hee then lived (viz) in a Meed there cull'd Sidnam Meed adjoyninge to Keynsham, beinge within a mile of the said abode, immediately after dinner went towards the s<sup>d</sup> Meed havinge there a Mow of Hay worth £30 which he feared y<sup>e</sup> Rebels would seize, & which afterwards they did take without givinge any compensation; but as soon as hee came into y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Meed there rodd forth of y<sup>e</sup> Rebell campe a trooper directly to him who was y<sup>n</sup> about 2' bow shots of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Campe, & unlightinge off his horse he came up & saluted him whom he y<sup>n</sup> discovered to be Tylve of Bristoll y<sup>e</sup> outlaw. The s<sup>d</sup> Tylve then asked him what Newes, I answered him that I knew none. Then Tylve told that hee was come once more to England, I asked him what number was with him, Tylve said that they mustered 10,000 on Mendip. I asked him w<sup>t</sup> they did doe here. Whereupon Tylve tooke out of his Coat pockett a paper or two & opened one being a sheet close wrott on one side & offered it mee, w<sup>ch</sup> when I had seene the Title w<sup>ch</sup> was REASONS FOR Y<sup>E</sup> TAKINGE UP ARMES or to y<sup>t</sup> purpose, I returned it him, & which he pressed mee to keep, but I refused it tellinge him in the presence of many of my neighbours that I would have none of his papers, & soe tooke leave of him, & returned imediately backe y<sup>t</sup> I might y<sup>e</sup> better shun him & there discoursed severall of my neighbours awhile, one whereof asked mee whether y<sup>t</sup> man I discoursed was not Monmouth, whom I then told y<sup>t</sup> 'twas Tylve of Bristoll, who y<sup>n</sup> replyed y<sup>t</sup> hee formerly knew Tylve. I asked one of y<sup>e</sup> Countrymen whether hee had any Hay in y<sup>e</sup> Meed, it beinge a common Meed, & some Hay then in Cocke, who y<sup>n</sup> told mee hee had not, I told him y<sup>t</sup> I doubted if I should lease my Mow of Hay there being close by it. I also advized him to returne home, & secure his Horses and Cattle, sayinge y<sup>t</sup> if the Rebels

should come forward, wee should bee all undone, who (as I advized) with a neighbour went homewards. I then went nearer y<sup>e</sup> Campe, seeinge y<sup>e</sup> Countrye flockinge there without any disturbance, & at a considerable distance I observed Monmouth a Horse backe, but not Grey, but did not goe neare him. A Country neighbour standinge by mee, asked mee if I knew Monmouth or Grey, I told him Monmouth was yonder pointinge towards him. He asked if I knew Grey, I told him noe, who y<sup>a</sup> replied y<sup>t</sup> hee would shew him mee, I asked him how hee knew him, who said y<sup>t</sup> just now one had shewne him, & by & by hee directed my sight towards one hee called Grey but beinge amonge many other horsemen I could not distinguish him, & after y<sup>t</sup> I saw not Grey, nor ever did speake to Monmouth or Grey in my whole life. And y<sup>a</sup> I passed by the Rebell Army to S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Bridges's Summer House in Keynsham, where I mett S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Bridges's daughter & waitinge maide, & stayinge there a little while in comp<sup>a</sup> only of those 2 lookinge on y<sup>e</sup> Rebells passing to & fro, wee all three went thence to S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Bridges's dwellinge House, & att y<sup>e</sup> Doore wee mett S<sup>r</sup> T. Bridges Lady & maide, wee all stood awhile att y<sup>e</sup> Doore, where came one of y<sup>e</sup> Rebells to shelter himself from y<sup>e</sup> Raine, y<sup>e</sup> waitinge maide there discoursinge y<sup>e</sup> Rebell, stiled Monmouth in her discourse, his Maj<sup>ty</sup> wch I immediately cheeked her but softly y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Rebell might not heree, sayinge to her y<sup>t</sup> shee had a mind to be hanged. And y<sup>a</sup> I was desired to walk in S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Bridges's House, y<sup>e</sup> daughter soon after cominge & telling mee y<sup>t</sup> her ffather was glad y<sup>t</sup> I was come, for y<sup>t</sup> hee was about leaving his House, & soe brought me to S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Bridges, who told mee y<sup>t</sup> hee would not stay in his house, for y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Quarter Master Bouvet, his Cozen Speeke & ferguson had been with him just before, & had taken Lodgings there for Monmouth & others & bespoke a supper. S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Bridges y<sup>a</sup> alleadinge y<sup>t</sup> if hee should stay there, y<sup>e</sup> King's party as soon as y<sup>e</sup> Rebells were gone would plunder & burne his house. Thereupon I offered him my House to lye there y<sup>t</sup> night, who readily accepted it, & immediately wee both walked thence towards Hannams-Court, but in y<sup>e</sup> middle way wee mett w<sup>th</sup> an old man of Keynsham whom as I remember called himself Webb, S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Bridges asked him if hee would goe into Sidman & see w<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Rebells did there & learn w<sup>t</sup> hee could, & bringe it him, & hee would stay till hee returned at his Lodge w<sup>ch</sup> was close by & in his way to Hannam. Y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Bridges y<sup>a</sup> alleadging that he must learne somew<sup>t</sup> to send y<sup>e</sup> Duke of Beaufort who was y<sup>a</sup> at Bristoll, I y<sup>a</sup> replied that I thought y<sup>t</sup> that old fellow would bee but little serviceable to him in gettinge any Intelligence, & therefore if hee pleased to walk alone to his Lodge, I would goe myself & learne w<sup>t</sup> I could, & bringe it him, who desired mee soe to doe, & alsoe call on his Lady to see if shee would have anything w<sup>th</sup> him. Accordingly I returned to Keynsham & thence to Siddenham observinge & inquireinge w<sup>t</sup> I could of & amonge y<sup>e</sup> Rebells for about 2 houres, makinge it my chiefe businesse to know w<sup>t</sup> force y<sup>e</sup> Rebells had, & where they intended y<sup>r</sup> march, & after y<sup>t</sup> long inquiry & not beinge able to learne to what place they designed to goe, some sayinge Bristoll, some

Gloucester, some Bath, and some Warminster. At last I mett w<sup>th</sup> Tylle againe whom I asked where they intended goeing, who y<sup>n</sup> told me y<sup>t</sup> they never knew where they should goe till w<sup>th</sup>in a quarter of an houre before they marched. beinge satisfied w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>t</sup> answer, I forthwith went to Sr Thos. Bridges' House to see his Lady and w<sup>t</sup> shée had to say, and findinge she had nothings of news to send, I presently went Homeward, & just w<sup>th</sup>out ye Towne y<sup>e</sup> Centinell stayd mee & callinge 2 troopers they seized mee & my boy sayinge y<sup>t</sup> they believed I was a spy for y<sup>t</sup> I went hastily, & out of all road, I told y<sup>m</sup> y<sup>t</sup> it was my nearest way home. They said y<sup>t</sup> they were not satisfied with y<sup>t</sup> answer but told mee I must goe w<sup>th</sup> them before my Lord, & soe they brought mee thro y<sup>e</sup> Towne to Sidnam Meed & as I was just entred ye Meed I mett Tylle againe to whom I called & desired to bee released & who accordingly did release mee. Soe againe I returned homeward & Tyly by & by overtakinge mee offered mee a paper againe, w<sup>ch</sup> I refused, not knowinge w<sup>t</sup> it was, but believeinge it y<sup>e</sup> like hee offered mee before, hee y<sup>n</sup> pressed mee urgently to receive it, soe beinge loath to hazard displeasinge him, I tooke it putt it up in my coat pockett, & immediately went to Sr Tho. Bridges who tarryed for mee at his Lodge, but by y<sup>e</sup> way I opened y<sup>e</sup> Paper, & found it to be a print stiled Monmouth's declaration. Whereupon as soon as I came to Sr Tho. Bridges, beinge a Justice of y<sup>e</sup> Peace for y<sup>e</sup> County, I tendred it him, who bidd mee putt it up till I came home, & soe immediately wee went for Hannam, & y<sup>n</sup> I tendred him againe y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> declaration, who tooke it of me & opened it, but y<sup>e</sup> Print being I suppose too small for his sight, he desired me to read it, w<sup>ch</sup> accordingly I did, & y<sup>n</sup> offered it him againe, who still refused it, sayinge hee had one given him before he came forth y<sup>t</sup> day. I told him I would y<sup>n</sup> burne it, & soe immediately I went out of y<sup>e</sup> parlour where we were then into y<sup>e</sup> Kitchinge, & threw it in y<sup>e</sup> fire, & y<sup>n</sup> returned & told Sr Tho. Bridges, who y<sup>n</sup> said y<sup>t</sup> hee would doe y<sup>e</sup> like w<sup>n</sup> hee came home & y<sup>n</sup> Sr Tho<sup>s</sup> Bridges began a discourse on y<sup>e</sup> declaration to w<sup>ch</sup> I referred myself in my affid<sup>t</sup> annexed. Soe y<sup>t</sup> night Sr Tho. Bridges lay at my house who said in y<sup>e</sup> morninge he would write y<sup>e</sup> Duke of Beaufort, soe earely about 2 or 3 o clocke in y<sup>e</sup> morninge I arose & went forth on y<sup>e</sup> top of a hill by my house, & y<sup>n</sup> I pceived y<sup>e</sup> Rebels were marched away out of Sidnam & presently I saw one cominge frō Keynsham, who gave mee an acc<sup>o</sup> y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Rebels were just gone out of Keynsham towards Bath or Warminster, whereupon I returned & called on Sr Tho. Bridges in his chamber & desired him to rise and write y<sup>e</sup> Duke, who desired mee to lett him alone till his man came from Keynsham, whom he had ordered y<sup>e</sup> night before to come to him for y<sup>e</sup> letter, I y<sup>n</sup> told Sr Thomas y<sup>t</sup> my man should carry the letter who replied y<sup>t</sup> hee would stay till his owne man came. And about 3 or 4 houres after his man came whom I againe awakened, & brought him pen, Ink, & Paper, who y<sup>n</sup> rose & wrott a letter to y<sup>e</sup> Duke & sent it away by his servant from my house w<sup>th</sup>out impartinge y<sup>e</sup> contents to mee. And afterwards in y<sup>e</sup> same morninge

S<sup>r</sup> Tho. told mee y<sup>t</sup> Fferguson did y<sup>e</sup> day before intimate to him of y<sup>r</sup> goinge to Warminster, for y<sup>t</sup> they expected 2000 foot & 500 Horse to joyne them there. And about a day after I mett w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Lady Bridges whom I told (amongst other discourse) y<sup>t</sup> Thursday last I received a declaration from one of y<sup>e</sup> Rebels, & had burnt it. Shee y<sup>a</sup> made answer, y<sup>t</sup> she had one given her too, but she had hid it in a cunning place. And on Satturday y<sup>e</sup> 27<sup>o</sup> of June last, I went againe into Sidenham Meed, to see if any of my mow of hay (w<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Rebels thursday before had taken) might be gathered up, where I found S<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Newtons servants rakinge y<sup>e</sup> hay together. I asked y<sup>m</sup> what they meant, they told mee S<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Newton had ordered y<sup>m</sup> to take to it, it beinge traytors goods, meaning Monmouths, sayinge y<sup>t</sup> I had sold it him for 20 guenneyes, w<sup>ch</sup> provoked mee to tell those servants y<sup>t</sup> I never did nor never would assist traytors, nor never did assent to exclude my lawfull prince, & bid y<sup>m</sup> goe & tell y<sup>r</sup> master soe & leave my goods alone. Whereupon S<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Newton very earely y<sup>e</sup> next day beinge Sunday morninge sent forth 3 of his Servants amongst y<sup>e</sup> poore Cottagers in Kingswood Chace, and elcewhere w<sup>th</sup> this inquiry in y<sup>r</sup> mouths. Did ye heare Mr. Creswicke say y<sup>e</sup> Duke of Beaufort & all his Officers were papists. And some of ye most infamous of ye Cottagers inhabitinge in y<sup>e</sup> Chace of Kingswood (whose Cotts & inclosures are lyable to be pulled downe by vertue of y<sup>e</sup> decree lately gotten by mee & my partners) were alsoe brought (thro' subornation) to sweare that they did see Mr. Creswicke discourse Monmouth & Grey & delivered y<sup>m</sup> papers. Upon w<sup>ch</sup> I was comitted to y<sup>e</sup> Castle of Glouc for Hygh treason on y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> July last. And on y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>o</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> last y<sup>e</sup> Assizes for y<sup>e</sup> County beinge held there, I petitioned on y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> day of y<sup>e</sup> Assizes to be brought to my tryall, findinge my prosecutors had delayed it, w<sup>ch</sup> ye Judge there was willinge to admitte, but y<sup>e</sup> 2 prosecutors S<sup>r</sup> J. Newton & M<sup>r</sup> Player designinge only to deprive mee longer of my liberty, sent forth one of y<sup>e</sup> Kings evidences, a poore profligate servant of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>t</sup> S<sup>r</sup> J. Newton out of towne, & y<sup>a</sup> caused another servant of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>t</sup> Newtons to sweare y<sup>t</sup> one of y<sup>e</sup> Kings evidences was not ready. Whereupon I could not be admitted to a tryall, nor baile. Then after y<sup>e</sup> Assizes by menaces y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>t</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Jno Newton getteth a new evidence, another cottager in Kingswood Chace, purposely to baffle Baron Gregory's report y<sup>e</sup> Judge of y<sup>t</sup> Assize & S<sup>r</sup> Ro. Atkyns y<sup>e</sup> Justice of peace y<sup>t</sup> made my mittimus, allcadginge that they two are strangers to y<sup>e</sup> new evidence.

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Annexed will be found notes of papers connected with Monmouth's Rebellion, as printed in the 5th Report of the Hist. MSS. Commissioners, 1876, p. 327. At the end of this chapter they are given in extenso, from the originals in my possession.

Francis Creswicke stands indicted for talking with the rebels at Keynsham.—At two following assizes he petitioned to be tried, but his prosecutors, Sir John Newton, &c., pretended not ready. The 3rd assizes Mr. Attorney-General gave him a certiorari and at the same assizes it was allowed and he then indicted a tenant of Sir John Newton for suborning 2 witnesses against him, which bill the grand jury then found. At the hearing before the King and Council the Duke of Beaufort declared to his Majesty that he did believe that Creswicke did not talk with the rebels with any ill intent, for that he gave his grace the best intelligence that he had in the west of England. To pray a *Noli prosecute* to free him from the malice of his prosecutors.

1. Petition to the King, of Francis Creswicke of Hannams Court in the co. of Gloucester now a prisoner in the castle of Gloucester.—In this he charges Sir John Newton with malice on account of a suit at law about Kingswood Chace, and prays that he may be heard before the King and Council, and that Sir John Newton may be ordered to attend.

2. Petition by Francis Creswicke to Sir William Gregory, one of the barons of the exchequer and judge of the assize for the county of Worcester.—After mentioning the device by which his tryal had been delayed and noticing the malice of Sir John Newton and Mr. Player, two of the most violent opposers of his Majesty's right of chace in Kingswood,—he asks that the Judge will take bail for his appearance at the next assizes held for the county.

3. Another petition (at the back of the last) asks the Judge to allow him to remain in Gloucester jail till he can have his habeas corpus to appear at the King's Bench.

4. Petition to the King by Dame Elizabeth Davies, relict of Sir Thomas Davies, deceased, Lord Mayor of London in 1676 and 1677—asking that her brother-in-law Francis Creswicke may be bailed, and that his wife and relations may have access to him.—And another by her asking that Creswicke may be heard before the King and Council, and that Sir John Newton might be ordered to attend; or that he might be discharged or bailed.

5. Another petition by Creswicke to the King. Creswicke being then removed by habeas corpus to the King's Bench Bar.—Alludes to the malice of his neighbours by reason of his having got a decree in the matter of Kingswood Chace: and that they charged him with having had discourse with the rebels at Keynsham. Says that his house being half a mile from Keynsham, he went there to get intelligence for the Duke of Beaufort, but did not go near Lord Grey.—Asks that the attorney may be allowed to consent to his (Creswicke) being bailed, and that he and Lord Grey may be confronted.

6. 1 James II., Aug. 31. Original deposition by James Phipps of Bitton, cole-



miner, sworn before J. Lowforde.—Says that on Thursday 25 June last about 2 p.m. he was at a mead called Sydenham in the parish of Bitton near Keynsham, looking on the rebels there, viz., the late Duke of Monmouth and his army: he saw a trooper ride out of the said army towards Francis Creswicke, who was then walking in the path in the said mead, and alight, go up to Creswicke, and soon afterwards return. He saw William Hawkins, of Bitton, and the said Creswicke immediately come and stand by the wall there for the space of one hour about 60 yards from the place where the Duke of Monmouth was. When the rebels cried Horse and away, Creswicke and Hawkins were standing with the deponent. Says that Creswicke did not deliver any papers or speak to the Duke of Monmouth or Lord Grey. Says that there were near a hundred people looking at the rebels, and that Hawkins is a person of ill fame.

7. Draft affidavit by F. Cr. (Creswicke) that Sir Ric. Hart, of Hannam, is the son of a decimator, who decimated the deponent's father in the late usurper's times, and lately married a sister of Sir Wm. Jones, formerly Attorney-General to his late Majesty, and that Lady Hart declared, as the deponent is credibly informed, when the Duke of Monmouth and rebels were at Keynsham, that if the Duke had come a little further into Gloucester she would have given him some hundreds of cheeses, she keeping then a dairy on a farm called Filgrove, near that place. That soon after the last sessions of Parliament held at Oxford, Sir Richard Hart, a member thereof, declared that he was for the Bill of Exclusion, and after that made his brags ('tis reported) that he had opposed the delivering in the charter of Bristol to his late Majesty.

8. Copy of Sir T. Bridges's affidavit.—That on the 25th of June last when the rebels were at Keynsham, Creswicke came and (deponent's house being taken up for Monmouth's quarters) asked him to go and stay at Hannam. As they were going they met an old man whom the deponent sent to a place called Syddenham mead, to get intelligence that the deponent might send to the Duke of Beaufort. Creswicke thought the old man not capable, and offered to go himself, if deponent would go to Hannam alone. In about two hours Creswicke returned and gave deponent some account of what he had seen and learned there in the camp as he pretended. They both then went on to Hannam and lodged there that night. Next morning Creswicke came early to deponent and asked him to write to the Duke of Beaufort that the rebels were gone from Keynsham towards Bath or Warminster, as he, Creswicke, was informed, and the deponent did so, and sent the letter the same morning by his own servant from Creswicke's house.

A few short memoranda of what Thomas Harrison, Thomas Rose, and Anne Siswek had deposed (or could depose) about Sir R. Hart's sayings.

9. (Indorsed.) William Hawkins and John Isles, their testimony as T. Rosse gave me.—28 June 1685.

“William Hakens made othe be fore the gostes apase (Justice of Peace).—He says that he saw the squire (Creswicke) in Sydenham give 2 papers to Lord Grey, “one about a foot long, and the other about a foot and a half long, and that Lord Grey gave them to a man that was by him with a star on the left breast,” &c.

10. 1685, July 8. Thornbury. Copy (by Creswicke) of letter to the Duke of Beaufort.—He says what Bridges says in the deposition above:—“The contents of Sir Thomas’s advice I know not: what I observed was that Monmouth’s army consisted of above 1,000 horse and about 8,000 foot, 8 field pieces with some Drakes, and 30 ploughs, whereof 4 was teemes of good horses and the rest oxen: his men some well arned, others indifferent, and some not at all, only having an old sword or a sticke in their hand; however, I observed many musketts and other ammunition in their carriages. Gray, Ferguson, Wade, Tyler, and Specke were there at Keynsham.”—Defends himself against Sir John Newton’s accusations.

11. (Indorsed.) Copy of the Kalendar, my affidavit, D. of Beaufort’s Mittimus, and Sir W. Atkyns Mittimus.

John Stone to be hang’d, drawn, and quartered.

Elizabeth Lumbart to be hang’d, but after reprieved.

John Asplin to be transported.

Christopher Tilly remain as before.

George Martin, burnt in the hand and acquitted.

William Randle, the like.

Robert Peere,  
Thomas Stephens, } To find bail for appearance the next, and acquitted.  
Hanna Gale,

Peter Rivers to find bail for his appearance the next sessions of the peace for the county, and acquitted.

Philip Cambridge, to be sent into Somerseshire to be tried for high treason.

Francis Creswicke,  
Geo. Saunders, } Accused for high treason, to remain in Goale.

Tho. Skyn, to find bail before one of the justices of this county, to appear the next.

12. Copy of an affidavit by Creswick, regarding Sir Jno. Newton purposely keeping away a witness so as to delay Creswick’s trial.

13. 1685, July 1. Duke of Beaufort to Col. John Jefferyes.—Order to send two troopers to assist the constable in taking Francis Creswicke and Geo. Saunders to Gloucester Gaol. (Copy.)

14. 1685, July 1. Rob. Atkyns to the keeper of ye castle of Gloucester.—Order to receive the bodies of Creswicke and Saunders. (Copy.)

15. 1685, Nov. 30. Affidavit by Thomas Attwood of the Inner Temple, Gent., sworn before F. Wythens, that on 28th instant Creswicke attended on Lord Grey

and asked him whether he had any conference with, or received any paper from Creswicke on the 25th of June, at or near Keynsham, and the Lord Grey declared the negative, nor did he ever see Creswicke before to his knowledge.

16. 1686, Jan. 13. Whitehall. Sunderland to the Attorney-General.—Directs him to enter a *Noli Prosequi* on the record of the indictment against Creswicke. (Copy.)

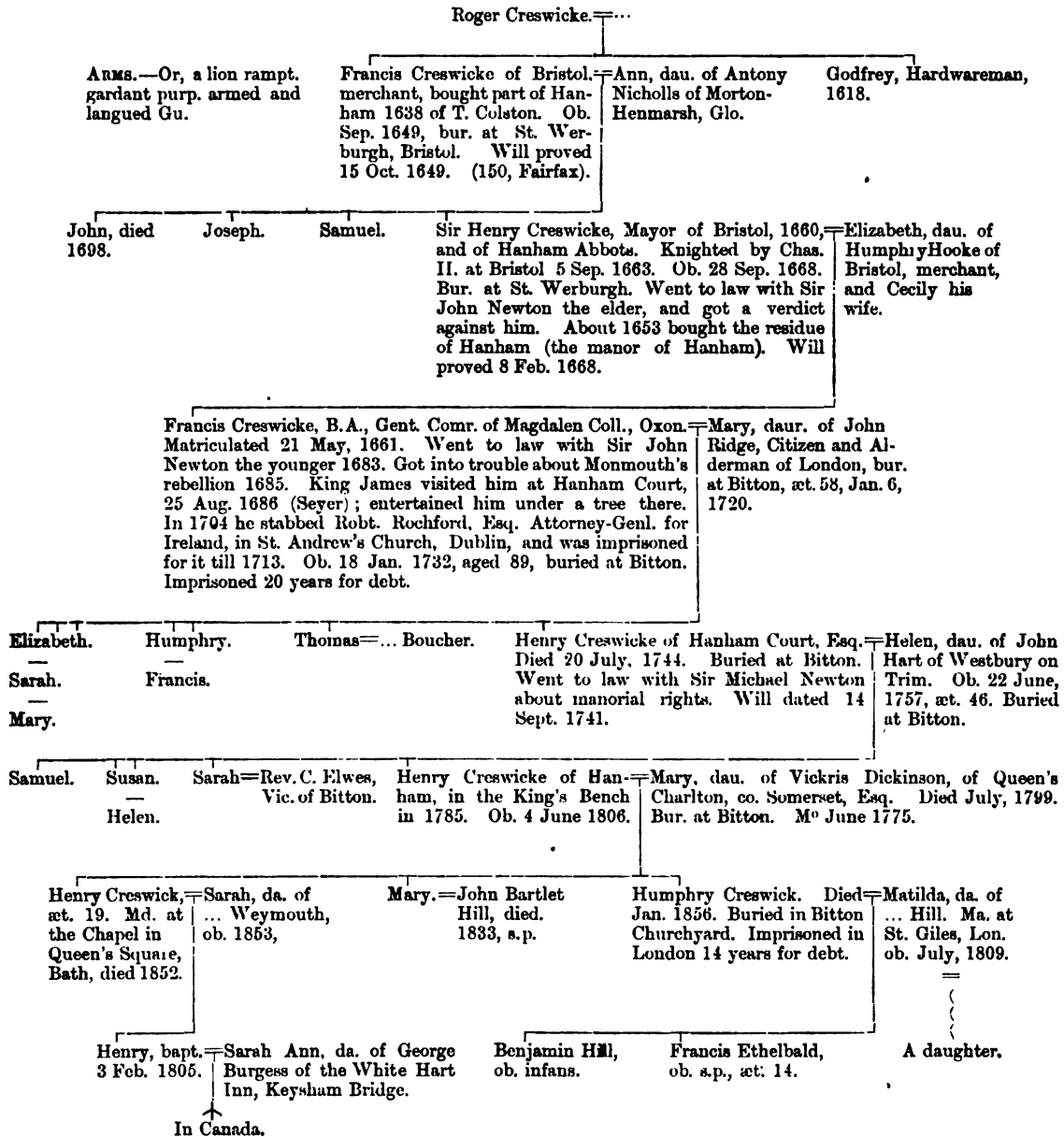
17. 1686, Jan. 17. R. Sawyer to Sir Samuel Astey, Kt., His Majesty's coroner and attorney in the court of K. B.—Says that an indictment was preferred at the assizes at Gloucester on March 3, 2 James II., against Creswicke for holding correspondence with the late rebels in the west; and that by virtue of the King's sign manual, dated 13 January 1687, he authorises Astey to enter a *Noli Prosequi*. (Copy.)

The notoriety of this family of Creswicke deserves more than a passing mention of the name. Francis Creswicke, who bought the manor of Hanham Abbots, 1638-49, was a Bristol merchant, and died in 1649. His son Henry, by his wife Anne Nicholls, succeeded as heir. He was mayor of Bristol in 1660; and in 1663 was knighted, at Bristol, by Charles II. He had frequent law-suits with Sir John Newton, about manorial rights as to coaling. His son Francis, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Humphrey Hooke, merchant, succeeded him; he also had continued law-suits with Sir John Newton about the manor. In 1685 he got into trouble about Monmouth's Rebellion, as shown by the above papers. After that, he was imprisoned at Dublin, from 1704 to 1713, for stabbing with a *skean*<sup>1</sup> on Sunday, May 21st, in the church of S. Andrew, Dublin, after service, Robert Rochford, Esq., Her Majesty's Attorney General. Francis died in 1732, at the advanced age of eighty-nine, and was buried in Bitton Church. He was succeeded by Henry, his eldest son, who went to law with Sir Michael Newton, about manorial rights. Dying in 1741, his son Henry succeeded, who was many years a prisoner in London for debt. Henry married Mary Dickenson, of Queen Charlton, leaving two sons, Henry and Humphrey. The last bought Hanham Abbots of his elder brother, Henry, by whom he was imprisoned fourteen years in London for non-payment.

The annexed table of descent will show the end of this remarkable family, verifying the truth of Sir Henry Spelman's words, the "Infelicity of Sacrilege," quoted before (p. 114), and a sad instance of the fate of those who possess monastic lands.

<sup>1</sup> An Irish short sword.

TABLE SHEWING THE DESCENT OF CRESWICKE OF HANHAM COURT.



In 1692 Francis Creswicke borrowed money of James Marmion, of London, Goldsmith, and mortgaged Hanham to him. In 1693 Marmion took possession, ejecting the wife and family. Afterwards Creswicke took forcible possession; and from that time there were no end of suits.

27 September, 1845, Thomas White, of London, Esq., executed release of the equity of redemption; and resided at Hanham from 1846 till his death, 1869 (see p. 92). It was sold to Mr. G. W. Hancock of Bath, who resold to Mr. G. Gerrard, the present possessor.

PAPERS CONNECTED WITH MONMOUTH'S REBELLION (*from the originals*).

## No. 1.

To his Sacred Majestie.

The Humble Petition of Francis Creswicke of Hannams Court in ye County of Glour Esqe. now a Prisoner in ye Castle of Gloucester.

Humbly Sheweth yt yr Petitioner having had severall contests at law wth one Sr John Newton & others about yr Majties Chace of Kingswood in ye sd County, & for wch hee hath now lately got a decree. Upon the Malitious contrivance of ye sd Sr Jno. Newton & those wth whom hee hath had ye sd Contest was committed prisoner to Gloucester Goale ye 1st of July last as a Prisoner suspected to have had discourse wth Monmouth & Grey ye late Rebels in ye West. And in Augt last ye Assizes was held at Glour. wñ yr Petitioner desired to bee brought to his tryall, but ye sd Sr Jno. Newton designinge further Malice procured yn' one of his servants to make Oath yt one of yr Majties Evidences & another Servant of ye sd Sr Jno. Newton was not in towne, & whom hee had just before purposely sent out of towne. Whereupon Baron Gregory ye Judge of yt Assize thought it not proper yn to trye yr Petitioner.

That yr Petitioner & his Ancestors have been always Loyall & Dutyfull Subjects to yr Majtie & Royall Predecessors.

Yor Petitioner Humbly prays yr Majtie will be graciously pleased to Order yt hee may bee admitted to bee heard before yr Majtie & Councill & yt ye sd Sr Jno. Newton be ordered to Attend. Or that yr Petitioner bee discharged or Bailed.

FRANCIS CRESWICKE.

## No. 2.

For ye Right Honourable Ye Sr Wm. Gregory one of The Barons of the Exchequer & Judge of ye Assize for ye County of Worcester.

The Humble Petition of Ff. Creswicke Esq. a Prisoner in ye Castle of Glour.

Humbly Sheweth

That yor petitioner beinge a prisoner at yor Ldpps sittinge last at Gloucester in ye Castle there & unacquainted wth ye Habeas Corpus Act did forbear moveinge yor Ldpp for his tryall ye 1st day of ye Assizes in respect yor Ldpp had come a great Journey yt day & ye 2d day of ye Assizes ye prosecutors of yor petitioner gave out in sudden & sent him word that they had preferred ye bill of Indictmt agt him, but afterwards findinge they had deceived him, Yor petitioner ye 3d day of ye Assizes moved yor Ldpp to be tryed, wch yor Ldpp was willinge to have done had ye Kings Wittnesses beene ready, but there beinge Oath made yt One

Cornelius Merry one of ye Evidences (& a servant of Sr John Newtons one of ye prosecutors) was absent, yor Ldpp did not think fitt then to trye yor petitioner, & Mr. Player beinge there demanded whether yor petitioner was ye Occasion of ye sd Cornelius Merrys absence, answered yt he could not say he was, it beinge really ye pure Artifice of ye sd Sr Jno Newton & Mr. Player ye other Prosecutor to keepe backe ye sd Cornelius Merry, thereby knowing they should deprive yor petitioner further of his liberty wch is ye rather to be believed for yt presently after ye Lords Assizes ye sd Cornelius Merry returned again to Sr J. N. Service & still is there continued. And ye better to accomplish this yr designe, they then gave yor Ldpp a sight of ye Informations yn agt yor petitioner, wch beinge Singly Considered were of sufficient Moment to restrayne yor petitioner as to his libertys. But had yor petitioner been yn brought to his tryall he had manyfested to yor Ldpps ye Infamous liues of those wittnesses & the Incredibility of yr Testimonies, a.....of most despicable wretches of ye worst reputation in ye Countrey as Deer-steelers, Sheep-steelers & ye like, & that they were suborned to give such yr Evidences. All wch yor petitioner was ready to have proved by ye most Substantiall & best livers in ye Countrey who would have confronted all yr Evidences. And yt this prosecution was only ye implacable Malice of Sr John Newton & Mr. Player who have beene for many yeares last past violent opposers of his Majties right of Chace in Kingswood in ye sd County, wch yor petitioner at his great cost maintained & at last gotte a Decree in ye Court of Exchecquer for his Majties sd Right, wch truly is ye Cause & ye only Cause of this prosecution.

Yor petitioner therefore Humbly prays yor Lordpp will be pleased to take bayle or Order ye same to be taken for his appearance at ye next Assizes held for ye sd County, when & where he doubts not but to make his Innocency appear.

And yor petitioner shall ever pray &c.

Ff. C.

### No. 3.

Moreover yor petitioner being informed yt Mr. Ben. Hyett ye Chiefe malicious Agent in this prosecution by reason of some private differences did at ye sd Assizes at Glour informe yor Ldpp yt there was enough to hang yor petitioner at Glour but much more in Sommersetshire. Yor petitioner thereupon made his application to his Grace ye Duke of Beaufort to know if any Charge was agt him in Sommersetshire, who knew of none, & yn readily & freely forgave yor petitioner for ye scandalous reports of his Grace charged agt him, wherfore yor petitioner have reason to believe yt his Grace was satisfied wth ye Malitious prosecution, ye rather for yt ye next day after yor petitioner had been in ye Rebëll campe wch was yn neere his House he gave his Grace a true Intelligence of all yt he had there

observed, to learne wch was ye only reason of yor petitioner goinge there. And yor petitioner being alsoe informed yt ye sd Mr. Hyett likewise gave yor Ldpp an account of a letter he recieued fro ye Attorney Generall requiring to defere yor petitioner's tryall at Glour for yt there was more accusations agt yor Petitioner. Wch letter (if any) might be pured by ye psecution of yor petitioner upon an Information given Mr. Attorney of more Evidence, wch to Compasse ye sd Sr J. N. & Mr. Player a little before ye sd Gloucester Assizes did examine 2 or 3 pfligate wretches agt yor petitioner namely Wm. Hawkins &.....Monke 2 Cottagers in Kingswood Chace whom yor petitioner can proue were tempted wth 10/ apiece in an Ale house in the said Chace by one Nicholas Wornell a tenant of Sr J. N. to swear any thinge agt yor petitioner to hange him, whereupon those 2 wretches found dayes afterwards.....ye Information agt yor petitioner before ye sd Sr J. N. & Mr. Pl. Moreover wn ye sd Hyett had declared to hand a letter to Mr Attorney, Sr Robt. Atkyns then twice desired a sight thereof but could not haue it, whereupon Sr R. A. declared to yor petitioner yt he did not belieue yt Mr Hyett had any such letter, & yt he never knew or heard of any Charge agt yor petitioner in Sommersetshire, but if my psecutors should bring any (wch must be only to trouble, charge, & disrepute me) yt yn he would possibly ride there himself to Justifye yt yor petitioner did giue ye aforesaid Intelligence to his Grace of Beaufort, to learne wch was ye Occasion of yor petitioners being there.

Yor Petitioner therefore Humbly prays yor Ldpp will be pleased to lett yor Petitioner remaine in Glour Goale til he can haue his Habeas Corpus to appeare at ye Kings bench where he will be ready to answer all Accusations agt him both in Gloucestershire & Sommersetshire (if any) soe yt there beinge then an accumulation of all yor petitioners Offences as pretended his Majties service thereby will be ye better pformed & ye Malice & wicked designes of yor petitioners Enemies detected.

No. 4.

To his Sacrid Magesty

the Humble Peticion of Dame Elizabeth Davies rileck of Sir Thomas Davies decesed Lord Mayor of the city of London in the year 1676 and 1677.

humbly shoeth that ffrances Criswick of Hannams Court in Gloster Esq your petitionrs Brother in law haveing had savarall Contests at law about your Masts Chase of Kingswood and for which he hath now a Decree as your petitionr is informed by the malicious contrivance and upon the Informacons of the parsons with whom he hath had the sade Contest is Comitted prisoner to Gloster Goale as a parson suspected to have had discorse with sum of the late Rebels in the weest that your petitionrs sade Brother and his Ancesters have bin all ways loyall and dutiful subjects to your Majsty and your Royall predecessors

your petitioner humbly prays your Majesty well be graciously pleased to order that he may be Bayled and that his wife and relations may have access to him

ELIZ DAVIES

No. 5.

To his Sacred Majesty

The Humble Petition of Francis Creswicke of Hannams Court in ye County of Glouc Esq A Prisoner in ye Castle of Glouc & now removed by Heas Cor to ye Kings bench barre

Humbly sheweth

That yr petitioner having had severall contests at law wth some of his Neighbours about yr Majties Chase of Kingswood in ye sd County & for wch hee hath now lately got a Decree. Upon ye Malitious Contrivance of those wth whom hee hath had ye sd Contest was comitted Prisoner to Glouc Goale ye first of July last as a s̄nson charged to have had discourse wth ye Lord Grey at Keynsham in ye time of ye late rebellion. Yor petitioner indeed beinge then at Keynsham wch is wthin half a mile of his abode purposely to gett Intelligence for his Grace ye Duke of Beaufort then at Bristoll, but did not come neare ye said Ld Grey. & in Augt last ye Assizes was held at Glouc when yr petitioner desired to be brought to his tryall, but his prosecutors sent one of yr Majties Evidences out of towne & yn made Oath yt one of ye Kings Evidences was absent (all ye evidences agst yor petitioner being only cottagers & trespassers in yr Majties sd Chace whom yor ..... had long before fined for yr trespasses) wh... arts .....yn deferred yr petitioners tryall.

That yr Petitioner & his Ancestors have been always Loyall and Dutifull Subjects to yr Majtie & Royall predecessors

Yor Petitioner Humbly prayes yr Majtie will be graciously pleased to order yr Majties Attorney Genll to consent in Court to ye Baylinge of ye Petitioner & further to order yt yr Petitioner may be admitted to ye sight of ye said Grey before whom yr Majtie shall thinke fitt to see whether ye sd Ld Grey knows yor petitioner or have any accusation agt him.

No. 6.

James Phipps of the parish of Bitton in the County of Glouc Coleminer maketh Oath that on thursday the twenty-fifth daye of June last past about two of the clock in the afternoone of the same day he was att a meade called Sydenham in the said parish of Bitton & county of Glouc neere keinsam in the county of Somersett lookeing on the Rebels there (vizt) the late Duke of Monmouth and his army, and saith that he saw a Trooper ride out of the said army of the Rebels towards Francis Creswicke Esqr who was then walking in the Path in the said meade and that the said trooper alighted from his horse & came up to the said



Mr Creswick and soon after returned, and saith that he saw William Hawkins of the said Parish of Bitton and the said Mr Creswick immediately come and stand by the wall there for the space of aboute one houre which was aboute sixty yards from the place where the said late Duke of Mon Mouth was and saith that when the Rebels cried horse and away the said Mr Creswicke and the said Hawkins were standing with the ..... by the said wall and this Dept. further saith that dureing that time the said Mr Creswick did neither deliver any papers or speak to the said late Duke of Mon Mouth or the Lord Gray, and further saith that he beleeveth that there were there neere one hundred persons of the neighbourhood looking on the Rebels And saith that the said William Hawkins is a person of very ill fame and reputacon and a poore indigent fellow and one of a very loose life and conversason haveing been questioned for stealing sheep and seldome or never frequentng his parish Church but frequently Cutts and steales young Oakes and other trees in the Chase of Kingswood to make cart bowes cleeds and posts.

JAMES PHIPPS.

Jurat apud Civit Bristoll tricesimo primo  
die Augusti Anno regno Jacobi soci nunc  
Regis Angli gr primo coram me,  
Aon. Lowforde.

No. 7.

ff. Cr. of H. com Glour ar maketh Oath yt Sr Ric. Hart of Hannam aforesd is ye son of a Decimator who decimated this Deponts father in ye late Usurpers times & yt ye sd Sr Ric. Hart lately marryed one Sr Wm. Jones's Sister yt was fomuly Attorney Generall to his late Majtie & yt ye sd Lady Hart did declare as this Depont is Credibly informed at ye time wn ye late Duke of Monmouth & the Rebels were at Keynsham yt if ye sd Monmouth had then come a little further into Glour that her Ladyshipp would have given him some hundreds of Cheeces, shee keepinge then a dayry on a ffarm called ffilgrove neare yt place. & further deposeth yt soon after ye last Sessions of parliamt held at Oxford the said Sr Ric. Hart a Member thereof boastingly declared that hee was for the Bill of Exclusion, and sometime after yt ye sd Sr Ric. Hart made his brags likewise yt he had opposed ye delivering up ye Charter of Bristoll wn his late Majtie required it, saying yt if hee had not opposed it, it had beenc delivered up then.

No. 8.

Sr T. B(ridges) maketh Oath yt ffrancis Creswicke on ye 25 June last when ye Rebels were at Keynsham aforesd came to this Deponents House there, & desired him to goe to Hannam about one mile distant where ye sd Creswicke lived & lye there yt night by reason ye Deponents house was taken up for Monmouths Quarters.

And as this Deponent wth ye sd Creswicke was goinge towards Hannam, they mett wth an Old man who said hee lived at Keynsham, & whom ye depont desired to goe to a place called Syddenham meed adjoininge to Keynsham where yn Monmouth & ye Rebels were encamped to gett wt Intelligence hee could & bringe it him, yt this Depont might send it to his Grace ye Duke of Beaufort. Whereupon ye sd ffrancis Creswicke replied yt he believed yt that Old fellow was not capable of Servinge him in yt messuage & therefore if this Depont. would goe by himself to Hannam aforesaid ye sd ffrancis Creswicke would goe there himself & learne what hee could & bringe it him. The Depont yn alsoe desired ye sd Creswicke to call on his Lady too at Keynsham to know if shee had any thinge to say to ye Depont. Whereupon ye sd Creswicke returned to Keynsham & Syddenham as this Depont believes & sometime after about 2 houres returned to this Depont who in ye mean time stayd at a Lodge house of his lying by the way, & gave him some acct. of wt hee had seene & learnt in ye Campe there as hee pretended & then this Depont & ye sd Creswicke both went forwards to Hannam aforesaid to ye House of ye sd ffra. Creswicke & lodged there that night. The Depont. resolvinge ye next morninge to give his Grace of Beaufort an Acct. of wt hee had received from ye sd Creswicke. & very early in ye sd next morninge presently after it was day, ye sd Creswicke called upon this Depont. in his Chamber & desired him to rise & write his Grace of Beaufort, sayinge yt ye Rebels were gone from Keynsham towards Bath or Warminster as hee the sd Creswicke was informed since hee was up. & sometime after yt ye sd Depont. did rise & write his Grace of Beaufort ye sd Intelligence & yt morning sent it his Grace by his owne Servant from the dwellinge house of ye sd ffrancis Creswicke.

## No. 9.

Wm. Hawkins & Jno. Isles, yr Testimony as T. Rosse gave me.

July the 28th day An. Donno, 1685 William Hakons made othe beffore the Gestes apase That he saw ffrances Creswik give in Sedname with my Lord Graye And the Duke of munmuthe And that Se tha Squire delevar to papars to me Lorde Graye Againe he Said tha he Saw The Squire take to me Lord Graye 2 papers and one of Them wase about affut Long And tha other affut and ahalfe Longe.

And he So my Lord delefer one of them to aman that wase by hem with a Star on hes Left Breast.

The Jesteses asked hime agane how fur he ware from them when he Saw them.

John Ilese Sayde that he wase Thare at the Same tyme and Squire Criswik and they ware decoasing.

Tho. Rudes confeshon tha he hade at Tha Same time ahoss the powne and he went to Sednam and to Kaine Same to Se whare he colde Spake with tha Squire.

But he culde not finde him.

## No. 10.

*Copy of a Letter, not signed, but written in Francis Creswicke's hand.*

May it please your Grace,

Should I be wholly silent it would argue some guilt, & should I be importunately troublesome it would argue more rudeness, I will there fore endeavour to keepe a mediu, & by avoidinge the former I shall discharge my duty to myself & family, & by observing the latter I shall pay all due reverence to Your Grace. My case is this. Being formerly under your Grace's displeasur for a pretended disaffection suggested by some when these late troubles broke forth, to avoid the like chance I wholly retired from company and kept my own home that my neighbouring adversaries might have noe advantage against me, but when the Rebell army came within a mile of my owne house I then went over to Keynsham to S<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Bridges who I found was leaving his house to avoid offence, & whom I persuaded to accept of my house; upon going thereto I was persuaded by him to return alone and learn what I could amonge the soldiers y<sup>t</sup> he might the better advize your Grace, w<sup>ch</sup> I the more readily undertooke being sometime before told by Capt Stubbs y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>r</sup> Grace said you would give 50 guennys to be truly informed of Monmouth's forces & condition. This service of mine I thought wuld have been gratefull to your Grace which I was contented to perform & lett S<sup>r</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> have the credit of y<sup>r</sup> Intelligence w<sup>ch</sup> he wrotte in my house to y<sup>r</sup> Grace myself satisfyed only with my labour of 3 hours walkinge in y<sup>r</sup> raine to make y<sup>r</sup> discovery knowing S<sup>r</sup> Thomas to be a more fitt person to converse with y<sup>r</sup> Grace than myself. The Contents of S<sup>r</sup> Thomas's advice, I know not, but what I observed in short was y<sup>t</sup> Monmouth's army consisted of above 1000 Horse, & ab<sup>t</sup> 8000 Foot, 8 field pieces with some Drakes, & 30 ploughs whereof 4 was teemes of good horses, the rest oxen. His men some well armed, others indifferent, and some not at all, only havange an old sword or a sticke in y<sup>r</sup> hands, however I observed many musketts & other ammuniti in y<sup>r</sup> carriages. Gray, Ferguson, Wade, Tyler, & Speke were there at Keynsham, this was my discovery, & how my friend S<sup>r</sup> Jno Newton & M<sup>r</sup> Player have construed this action of mine, I am too sensible. I lost by the Rebels a mow of hay, & y<sup>e</sup> next day S<sup>r</sup> Jno Newton was seizinge y<sup>e</sup> remnants as traytors goods, w<sup>ch</sup> provoked me to tell his servants, that I never did nor never would assist rebels, nor never did assent to exclude my lawfull Prince, w<sup>ch</sup> I suppose made him the next day to send out 3 of his servants to enquire after my actions in the army, who did almost t<sup>h</sup>reaten many to have spoken what they knew not, & himself particularly one Henry Jones his tenant & constant workman to his house, who was soe honest as not to be prevailed with. But besides all this I was informed just before I was sent from Bristoll that another charge ag<sup>st</sup> me was for traducing y<sup>r</sup> Grace in speech w<sup>ch</sup> is a most untrue & malicious suggestion. I can safely depose that I have been soe carefull at all times & in all companyes to pay all just respect unto y<sup>r</sup> Grace, y<sup>t</sup> I wonder what malice will not invent. Againe y<sup>t</sup> I swore ag<sup>st</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Jno Newton to

Monmouth, a thinge soe farre from truth that I never spoke to Monmouth in my whole life, nor to any other person in the army about y<sup>t</sup> worthy Gentleman, & yet he, his Lady, and servants run up and down exclaiminge y<sup>t</sup> I directed Troopers to seize his horses an invention of theyr owne. I dare.....my conscience that Monmouth would never have seized any Horse of his knowingly. My Lord, this is my condition. I have adversaryes that I thiuke will not scruple at any ill thinge. I have seen and felt th<sup>r</sup> corruptions, as briberies, subornation, perjuries, and murder itself. Witnesse y<sup>r</sup> information formerly ag<sup>t</sup> Capt Stubbs & y<sup>r</sup> dayly murtheringe of my reputation. I must now againe feele y<sup>e</sup> effects thereof, beinge w<sup>th</sup> my servant by some of them or y<sup>r</sup> meanes disgracefully sent from my home full of little ones & a wife newly lyinge in, in y<sup>e</sup> middle of my harvest havinge none within or w<sup>th</sup>out doors fit to take care of my concernes, they well know this must teud to my ruin, unless prevented by y<sup>r</sup> Graces' favour. These things considered I beseech your Grace to permitte my return to my owne home upon good bayle given in Bristoll for a fortnight, y<sup>t</sup> I may settle my family in some better order than I left them, & I will engage to returne without trouble or charge at y<sup>e</sup> expiration thereof, & I shall be ever bound to pray for your Grace's Happinesse subscribinge myself

Yo<sup>r</sup> Graces

Most faithfull humble Servant.

Thornbury: 2<sup>d</sup> July. 85.

No. 11.

John Stone to be hang'd draw'd and quartered.

Elizabeth Lumbart to be hang'd but after reprieved.

Samll Asplin to be transported.

Christophr Tilly remaine as before.

George Martin burnt in ye hand & acquitted.

Wm Randle ye like.

Robt Peere

Tho Stephens } to find baile for yr appearance ye next and acquitted.

Hanna Gale }

Peter Rivers to find baile for his appearance ye next Sessions of ye Peace for this County and acquitted.

Phillip Cambridge to bee sent into Sommssetshire to be tryed for Hygh treason.

Francis Creswicke } accused for Hygh treason to remaine in Goale.

Geo Sanders }

The Skyn to find baile before one of ye Justices of this County to appeare ye next.

## No. 12.

ffrancis Creswicke of Hannams-court in ye County of Glour Esqr. maketh Oath yt at ye last Assizes held for ye County before ye Right Honble Sr Wm Gregory one of ye Barons of ye Exchecqur and Judge of ye Assize Hee ye sd ffrancis Creswicke yn a prisoner in ye Castle of Gloucester did on ye 3d day of ye Assize petition ye sd Judge to be brought to his tryall, who was willinge to have tryed him, but Oath beinge made (as this deponent was informed) yt one Cornelius Merry (a Servant of Sr Jno Newtons one of ye prosecutors) who was an Evidence for ye Kinge was not in towne, his Lordshipp thereupon thought it not fitt to trye him, but yn told this Deponent yt hee might have his Habeas Corpus ye next terme. And yn it was reported yt this Deponent had bribed ye sd Cornelius Merry to be out of ye way yt Assizes & yet presently after ye Assizes ye sd Cornelius Merry returned againe to ye Service of ye sd Sr John Newton, & still is there continued, as this Deponent is Credibly informed. And this Deponent further saith yt he never did directly or indirectly occasion such ye sd Cornelius Merrys absence nor was privy thereto but doth verily belieue yt ye sd Sr Jno. Newton did himself designedly keep backe ye sd Cornelius Merry purposely to detaine this deponent longer in Goale.

FFRANCIS CRESWICKE.

## No. 13.

Bristol

you are hereby Ordered to send two of yr Troopers for ye Assistance of ye Constable in Conveyinge of his Prisoners Ffrancis Creswicke & George Saunders to ye Goale of Gloucester. But in Case (on ye way) they should meet with ye Militia of Herefordshire that yn they deliver them Over unto ye Superiour Officer commandinge ye sd Militia & soe returne, who is hereby required to call for ye next Constable, & putt ym into his hands Orderinge two of his Troopers to be aidinge to ye sd Constable untill hee shall safely deliver them unto ye Keeper of ye Goale of Gloucester who is hereby likewise commanded to keepe ye sd Ffrancis Creswicke & George Saunders in safe Custody til he shall recieue further Order. Given under my hand & seale this first day of July, 1685.

BEAUFORT.

To Collonell John Jefferyes.

## No. 14.

Glour

To ye Keeper of ye Castle of Glour & to his under Keepers & under Keeper there.

For as much as Ffrancis Creswicke & George Saunders stand Charged before mee for seuerall Treasonable matters in adhearinge to James Scott late Duke of Monmouth a knowne Rebell now in actuall Armes agt his Majtie These are therefore in

his Majties name to require you to recieue ye bodyes of ye sd Ffrancis Creswicke & George Saunders & ym safely to keepe untill they shall be thence legally discharged thereof faile not at yor perill. Given under my hand & seale, ye 1st day of July Anno Rni Rs Jacobi secundi nunc Angli & primo. 1685.

Ro ATKYNS JUN.

No. 15.

Thomas Atwood of ye Inner Temple Gent maketh Oath yt on ye 28th day of this instant November, hee this Depont wth Ffrancis Creswicke of Hannams-Court in ye parish of Bitton in ye county of Gloucester Esqr. attended on ye Lord Grey of Warke, & ye sd Ffrancis Creswicke then askinge his Lordshippe, whether hee had any conference wth or received any papers from him ye sd Ffrancis Creswicke on ye 25th of June last past at or neare Keynsham in ye County of Sommersett, his Lordshipp was pleased then to declare, yt hee had noe conference wth, nor recieved any paper from ye sd Ffrancis Creswicke att or neare Keynsham aforesd on ye sd 25th of June nor att any other place or time, nor ever saw the face of ye sd Ffrancis Creswicke before ye sd 28th day of November to his knowledge. All wch his Lordshippe did say hee would publikely attest, when thereunto required.

THO. ATWOOD.

Jurat 30<sup>o</sup> die 9bris 1685.

Coram me

S. W. J. AKENS.

No. 16.

A Copie of Mr. Creswicks orde for a Noli prosequi.

(Locus Sigilli.)

James R.

Whereas Francis Creswick Esq. hath by his humble Petition informed Us, that he stands Indicted for having held correspondency with the late Rebels in the West, and that though he hath attended with his Witnesses at severall Assizes, in order to a Tryall, the same hath not yet been brought on; Wee having seen yor Report in this matter, have thought fit hereby to signifie Our Will and pleasure to you, that you forthwith cause a Noli prosequi to be entred on Record of the said Indictment, & Discharge all Proceedings thereupon. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given at Our Court at Whitehall the 13th day of January 1686 in the Second year of Our Reigne.

By his Mats. Command

SUNDERLAND P.

To Our Trusty & Wellbeloved  
Our Attorney Generall.

## No. 17.

Whereas an Indictment was prferred at the Assizes held at Gloucester on Wednesday the third day of March Anno Seclo Jacobi Secundi Rs against Francis Creswick late of Bitton in the County of Gloucester Esqr. for holding correspondence with the late Rebels in the West. These are by Vertue of his Mats. Signet & Signe Manual bearing date the thirteenth day of January 168<sup>e</sup>; unto me directed to require and Authorize me to enter or cause to be entred a Noli prosequi upon Record of the said Indictment, And Discharge all Proceedings thereupon. I doe hereby require and authorize you in my name to enter or cause to be entred a Noli prosequi upon Record of the said Indictment and Discharge all proceedings thereupon against the said Francis Creswick according to his Maties Royall pleasure & intention And for so doing this shall be yor Warrant. Given under my hand the 17th day of January 168<sup>e</sup>;

R. SAWYER.

To Sr. Samuel Astry Knt.  
his Mats. Coroner; & Attorney  
in the Court of Kings-Bench.

FRAGMENT OF A COURT ROLL RELATING TO THE MEADOWS AND  
KINGSWOOD CHASE, DATE ABOUT THE 16TH CENTURY.

\* \* \* \* \*  
way thereunto adjoining bee not annoyed by such default, under the paine of 3/4  
a peice for everie such default.

14/ Item it is further ordred that no person or persons shall put in any sheepe into the stubble feild before the Sondag next after the feast of S<sup>t</sup> Michael tharchangell yearelie, & longer if the corne bee not clearelie rid and carried out of the same under the paine of 20/ for everie such default.

15/ Item it is further ordred that all & everie person & persons that have anie ground in Michaell-meade Holmeade & Siddenham shall make their hedges and mounds sufficientlie about the same meads from time to time & at all times when neede shall require yearely under the paine of 10/ for everie such default.

16/ Item it is further ordred that the grippe that runs from Croft gate over thwart Michaell meade to the brooke called Boyde shall be scoured and kept cleane by everie person or persons to whom it doth belong unto continuallie from time to time, & so often as neede shall require, & that thc said grippe shall be made two foote broade & two foote deepe under the paine of 10/ a peice for every one soe neglecting the same, and this paine to continue.

17/ Item it is further ordred that no person or persons at the time of harvest shall let loose any cattle in the common meades of Bitton aforesaid, whereby the said cattle shall trespasse anie Inhabitant in their ground grasse or hay in the said common meades under the paine of 10/ apeice for everie such default, & this paine to continue.

18/ Item, it is further ordred that no person or persons shall at anie time hereafter pull cut or gather anie Clobweedes or Swinesmeate in the common meades of Bitton aforesaid whereby anie Inhabitant that hath anie ground there maie be trespassed in their grasse growing in the same, under the paine of 3/4 a peice for everie such default, and this paine to continue.

19/ Item it is further ordred that no person or persons shall suffer their swine or piggs to goe into anie of the said common meades, or into anie of the cornfeilds within the said parish, under the paine of 3/4 a peice for everie pigge that shall soe trespasse therein for everie such default, and this paine to continue.

20/ Item it is further ordred that all & everie person or persons that have anie land or ground betweene the hedge nearest unto Filgrove & that of the lane against Barrow hill feild, & Andrew Burnell's Leaze, or adjoining or abutting to either side of the said lane shall at all tymes when neede shall require scoure and make cleane their ditches, that the said lane maie bee made more drier and fitter for ploughs and carriages to passe without damage through the same under the peine of 10/ a peice for everie one soe neglecting the same, and this paine to continue.

21/ Item it is further ordred that all and every person and persons to whom it doth appertaine shall at all times when and so often as neede shall require rid make cleane and cut up all such stowles and rootes of trees and all other wood that may be a stopping to the water in the said brooke called Boyde, that the said water maie the more better and clearlie run into the river of Avon that the Kings Majest's highway in Bitton Streete and beyond the bridge there maie be kept more drier and passable for Travailers to goe and passe there without damage of water under the paine of 3/4 a peice for everie one so neglecting the performance hereof contrarie to this present order.

22/ Item it is further ordred that no person nor persons shall at anie time hereafter force & beate downe anie mast and acorns from anie trees within the Forrest of Kingswood, whereby to gather and carye the same away under the paine of 6/8 a peice for everie such default.

23/ Item it is further ordred that no person or persons professing & using the trade of bakinge and selling of bread, shall cut, gather or carry away anie gosse or other fuell out of the said Forrest of Kingswood or out of the commons or wast



ground within the Libertie aforesaid, under the paine of 6/4 a peice for every such default.

24/ Item wee doe further order that John Britten<sup>1</sup> sen. farmer shall make a sufficient goute out of his out house, near the Church path, and ..... it with stone that the said goute be not offensive to the said Church path there unto adjoining, and that the stenche thereof bee not noysome to the persons that shall pass that waie, at or before the last daie of November next, under the paine of 10/.

25/ Item wee doe further order that Richard Peryn & Robert Cross or one of them shall scoure his or their ditches, & make his or their mounds about his or their grounds belonging to the tenement of the said Robert Cross sufficientlie that the Kings Majesties highwayes and Church paths thereunto adjoining bee not annoyed by such default at or before the 25<sup>th</sup> daye of November next under the paine of 20/.

<sup>2</sup> 326/ Item wee doe further order that Thomas Underhill shall not anie tyme hereafter throw out the ..... & earth or muck out of . . . . .

In the following Tables will be seen the names of the Proprietors and Occupiers of the Meadow Lands in 1844, with the measurements against each number.

#### IN MICKLE MEAD.

No.	Proprietor.	PLATE 4.		Occupier.	Quantity.		
					A.	R.	P.
1.	Henry Sealey ...	...	Daniel Harris	...	1	0	15
2.	John Popham Sainsbury	...	Henry and John Tanner	...	2	1	21
3.	Avon and Gloster Railway Co.	...	Daniel Shellard	...	3	30	
4.	Henry Sealey ...	...	Daniel Harris	...	3	21	
5.	John Popham Sainsbury	...	H. and J. Tanner	...	1	36	
6.	Henry Sealey ...	...	Daniel Harris	...	1	0	20
7.	Samuel Whittuck ...	...	Samuel Gerrish	...	2	3	37
8.	Edward Parker ...	...	Jonas Cryer	...	3	37	
9.	{ Thomas Thompson Bush John Nash Bush ...	{ ... ... }	Hannah Herringshaw	...			35
10.	Edward Parker ...	...	Jonas Cryer	...	3	0	
11.	{ James Bush Flower, for the late George Aaron Brain	{ ... ... }	James Bush Flower	...	4	3	20

<sup>1</sup> This John Britten died 1611.

<sup>2</sup> This clause is scored through in the original.

No.	Proprietor.	Occupier.	Quantity.		
			A.	R.	P.
12.	Joseph Parker ...	Edward Burnell ...	...	3	1
13.	John Popham Sainsbury ...	H. and J. Tanner ...	...	3	13
14.	Samuel Whittuck ...	Samuel Gerrish ...	...	3	3
15.	John Popham Sainsbury ...	H. and J. Tanner ...	...	2	0 30
16.	John Braikenridge ...	William Matthews ...	..	9	1 7
17.	John Popham Sainsbury ...	H. and J. Tanner ...	...	1	28
18.	Joseph Parker ...	Edward Burnell ...	...	1	13
19.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	...	1	0 32
20.	Sir Thomas Freemantle ...	Sarah Dore ...	...	1	8
21.	Francis Waters ...	Abraham Oliver ...	...	2	0 5
22.	Sir Thomas Freemantle ...	Sarah Dore ...	...	1	3 39
23.	Joseph Parker ...	Edward Burnell ...	...	2	0 4
24.	Anne Bush ...	Daniel Burnell ...	...	3	2
25.	Joseph Parker ...	Edward Burnell ...	...	1	1 12
26.	Sir Thomas Freemantle ...	Sarah Dore ...	...	1	2
27.	John Hughes Morgan ...	Edward Burnell ...	...	2	31
28.	William Clarke ...	Himself ...	...	2	3
29.	{ James Bush Flower for the late George Aaron Brain ... }	James Bush Flower ...	...	2	3
30.	{ Joseph Parker, Martha Proctor, John Popham Sainsbury, Samuel Ger- rish, John Hugh Morgan Brown }	Aaron Brain ...	...	2	2 32
31.	Joseph Parker ...	Aaron Brain ...	...	2	2 4
32.	T. T. Bush and J. N. Bush ...	Hannah Herringshaw ...	...	2	0
33.	Joseph Parker, junr. ...	Aaron Brain ...	...	3	13
34.	Edward Frere ..	Himself ...	...	1	4
35.	Joseph Parker ...	Aaron Brain ...	...	3	1 0
36.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	...	2	8
37.	Sir Thomas Freemantle ...	Sarah Dore ..	...	2	6
38.	Joseph Parker, junr. ...	Aaron Brain ...	...	2	6
39.	Martha Proctor ...	Herself ...	...	2	5
40.	William Ward ...	Richard Mayne ...	...	1	0 20
41.	John Popham Sainsbury ...	H. and J. Tanner ...	...	1	13
42.	Anne Bush ...	Daniel Burnell ...	...	1	9
43.	Henry Sealey ...	Daniel Harris ...	...	1	19
44.	Joseph Parker, junr. ...	Aaron Brain ...	...	1	19
45.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	...	1	6
46.	John Popham Sainsbury ...	H. and J. Tanner ...	...	1	6

No.	Proprietor.	Occupier.	Quantity.		
			A.	R.	P.
47.	Martha Proctor ...	... Herself ...	...	...	3 16
48.	} Joseph Parker and others,	{ Aaron Brain ...	...	...	1 2 5
49.			{ Ditto ...	...	...
50.	Ditto ...	... Ditto ...	...	...	1 3 25
<b>TOTAL</b>			...	...	<u>63 1 16</u>

## IN HOLM MEAD.

## PLATE 5.

1	John Stout Stibbs ...	... Martha Bush ...	..	2 20
2	Avon and Gloucester <sup>a</sup> Railway Co. ...	... Daniel Shellard ...	...	18
3	Samuel Whittuck ...	... Daniel Harris ...	...	32
4	Ditto ...	... Ditto ...	...	24
5	Ditto ...	... Ditto ...	...	2 3 8
6	Martha Proctor ...	... Herself ...	...	2 37
7	Samuel Whittuck ...	... Daniel Harris ...	...	1 0
8	Ditto ...	... Ditto ...	...	33
9	Henry Creswicke ...	... Daniel Shellard ...	...	3 0
10	Samuel Whittuck ...	... Daniel Harris ...	...	2 0 30
11	Henry Sealey ...	... Ditto ...	...	3 6
12	Samuel Whittuck ...	... William Stibbs ...	...	1 20
13	Ditto ...	... Daniel Harris ...	...	2 21
14	Henry Sealey ...	... Ditto ...	...	1 6
15	Ditto ...	... Ditto ...	...	1 33
16	Anne Cryer ...	.. Herself ...	...	1 28
17	Sir Thomas Freemantle	.. Sarah Dore ...	...	31
18	Henry Sealey ...	... Daniel Harris ...	...	1 3
19	Samuel Whittuck ...	... Ditto ...	...	1 30
20	Henry Sealey ...	... Ditto ...	...	1 18
21	Sir Thomas Freemantle	... Sarah Dore ...	...	1 31
22	Henry Sealey ...	... Daniel Harris ...	...	2 7
23	William Herapath ...	... Robert Hemmings	...	3 27
24	William Boulton ...	... Thomas Gully ...	...	3 9
25	Anne Cryer ...	... Herself ...	...	1 25
26	Henry Sealey ...	... Daniel Harris ...	...	3 8
27	Ditto ...	... Ditto ...	...	6 1 7

No.	Proprietor.		Occupier.		Quantity.		
					A.	R.	P.
28	Martha Proctor	...	...	Herself	...	2	33
29	Samuel Whittuck	...	...	James Parsons	...	1	22
30	William Bevan	...	...	Himself	...	4	0 8
31	Samuel Whittuck	...	...	James Parsons	...	2	3 30
32	Ditto	...	...	Ditto	...	6	0 38
33	Charles Joseph Whittuck	...	...	George Hook	...	2	7
34	Henry Sealey	...	...	Daniel Harris	...	5	1 10
35	John Pring	...	...	John Fry	...	1	19
36	Joseph Parker, junr.	...	...	John Godfrey	...	2	38
37	Anne Cryer	...	...	Herself	...	1	32
38	Samuel Whittuck	...	...	William Stibbs	...	1	20
39	Henry Sealey	...	...	Daniel Harris	...	3	24
40	Henry Creswicke	...	...	Daniel Shellard	...	1	1 28
41	Henry Sealey	...	...	Daniel Harris	..	1	26
42	Avon and Gloucester Railway Co.	...	...	Daniel Shellard	...	1	33
43	John Popham Sainsbury	...	...	Henry and John Tanner	...	1	8
44	Ditto	...	...	Ditto	...	1	8
45	Ditto	...	...	Ditto	...	1	2 4
46	Henry Sealey	...	...	Daniel Harris	...	3	12
47	Samuel Whittuck	...	...	James Parsons	...	1	29
48	William Bcult	...	...	Thomas Gully	...	1	0 6
49	Henry Sealey	...	...	Daniel Harris	...	1	27
50	Henry Creswicke	...	...	Daniel Shellard	...	2	1 33
51	Henry Sealey	...	...	Daniel Harris	...	1	2 25
52	Joseph Parker, junr.	...	...	John Godfrey	...	3	14
53	Samuel Whittuck	...	...	Samuel Gerrish	...	2	2 2
54	Ditto	...	...	Thomas Gully	...	1	38
55	Anne Cryer	...	...	Herself	...	2	0
56	Avon and Gloster Railway Co.	...	...	Daniel Shellard	...	1	0 4
57	Henry Sealey	...	...	Daniel Harris	...	2	20
58	Ditto	...	...	Ditto	...	1	0 15
59	Anne Cryer	...	...	Herself	...	3	8
60	Henry Sealey	...	...	Daniel Harris	...	1	38
61	Samuel Whittuck	...	...	Samuel Gerrish	...	3	25
62	Henry Creswicke	...	...	Daniel Shellard	...	3	26
63	Joseph Parker, junr.	...	...	John Godfrey	...	1	34
64	Samuel Whittuck	...	...	Lewis Bright	...	3	18
65	Ditto	...	...	James Parsons	...	3	30

No.	Proprietor.	Occupier.	Quantity		
			A.	R.	P.
66	Charles Joseph Whittuck	William Stibbs	...	3	0
67	Samuel Whittuck	Samuel Gerrish	...	2	1 26
68	Henry Sealey	Daniel Harris	...	1	54
69	Ditto	Ditto	...	1	29
70	Sir Thomas Freemantle	Sarah Dore	...	1	21
71	Anne Cryer	Herself	...	1	31
72	John P. Sainsbury	Henry and John Tanner	...	1	22
73	Samuel Whittuck	Lewis Bright	...	2	6
74	John P. Sansbury	Henry and John Tanner	...	1	3 33
75	Sir Thomas Freemantle	Sarah Dore	...	1	0 28
76	John P. Sainsbury	Henry and John Tanner	...	2	0 16
77	Ditto	Ditto	...	1	0 8
78	Ditto	Ditto	...	2	29
79	Ditto	Ditto	...	4	3 21
80	Francis Waters	Abraham Oliver	...	1	1 27
81	Joseph Parker, junr.	John Godfrey	...	1	0 14
82	Henry Sealey	Daniel Harris	...	1	0 14
83	Francis Waters	Abraham Oliver	...	3	0 35
84	Sir Thomas Freemantle	Sarah Dore	...	1	0 3
85	Samuel Whittuck	Samuel Gerrish	...	4	1 22
86	Henry Sealey	Daniel Harris	...	2	17
87	Ditto	Ditto	...	2	11
<b>TOTAL</b>			...	<b>99</b>	<b>2 19</b>

## IN SYDENHAM.

## PLATE 6.

1.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co.	Daniel Shellard	...	2	1 28
2.	Samuel Whittuck	Thomas Gully	...	2	24
3.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co.	Daniel Shellard	...	31	
4.	John Fry	Himself	...	33	
5.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co.	Daniel Shellard	...	2	12
6.	Ditto	Ditto	...	1	2 5
7.	Samuel Whittuck	John Wrench	...	2	1 8
8.	Ditto	Ditto	...	1	21
9.	Ditto	Ditto	...	1	3 5

HISTORY OF BITTON.

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No.	Proprietor.		Occupier.	Quantity		
				A.	R.	P.
10.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ..	...	1	1	27
11.	Samuel Whittuck ...	John Wrench ...	...	1	1	4
12.	Henry Creswicke ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...		3	0
13.	William Boulton ...	Thomas Gully ...	..		2	19
14.	Samuel Whittuck ...	John Wrench ...	...		1	11
15.	William Boulton ...	Thomas Gully ...	...		2	7
16.	John Fry ...	Himself ...	...		1	15
17.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...		1	21
18.	Samuel Whittuck ..	Himself ...	...		1	9
19.	Ditto ...	John Wrench ...	...		1	0
20.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...		1	29
21.	Samuel Whittuck ...	Himself ...	...		1	36
22.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...		1	33
23.	William Boulton ...	Thomas Gully ...	...	1	2	16
24.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...		1	38
25.	Ditto ..	Ditto ...	...	4	0	9
26.	Samuel Whittuck ...	John Wrench ...	...		3	11
27.	Ditto ...	Himself ...	..		3	36
28.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	..		1	38
29.	John Fry ...	Himself ...	...		2	2
30.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...		3	25
31.	William Boulton ...	Thomas Gully ...	...		1	26
32.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...		2	54
33.	Samuel Whittuck ...	John Wrench ...	...			32
34.	Charles Whittuck ...	George Worlock ...	...	1	0	4
35.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...		1	20
36.	Charles Whittuck ...	George Worlock ...	...		1	16
37.	Samuel Whittuck ...	John Wrench ...	...		1	15
38.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	...		3	24
39.	Sir Thomas Freemantle	Sarah Dore ...	...		2	0
40.	William Boulton ...	Thomas Gully ...	...		1	37
41.	Samuel Whittuck ...	John Wrench ...	...			20
42.	John Cox ...	Himself ...	...			37
43.	Avon and Glostershire Railway Co. ...	Daniel Shellard ...	...	2		24
44.	Samuel Whittuck ...	John Wrench ...	...		3	33
45.	Henry Creswicke ...	Thomas Shellard ...	...		3	29
46.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	...		2	35

## HISTORY OF BITTON.

No.	Proprietor.	Occupier.	Quantity.		
			A.	R.	P.
47.	John Fry	... Himself	...	1	15
48.	Samuel Whittuck	... John Wrench	...	1	1 6
49.	Edward Harris	... Timothy Gully	...	1	1 22
50.	Samuel Whittuck	... John Wrench	..		11
51.	Henry Creswicke	... Daniel Shellard	...	2	4
52.	Glebe ...	... Ditto	...	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>			...	<u>40</u>	<u>1 37</u>

## IN EDENSFIELD.

## PLATE 7.

1	Henry Creswicke	... John Fry	...	2	20
2	Edward Burnell	... Himself	...	2	20
3	Samuel Whittuck	... John Fry	...	2	20
4	Henry Creswicke	... Ditto	...	5	0 26
5	Robert Willis	... Ditto	...	2	0
6	Henry Creswicke	... Ditto	...	1	0 0
7	Thomas Jones	... Ditto	...	1	10
8	Henry Creswicke	... Ditto	..	3	1 25
9	Samuel Whittuck	... Ditto	...	1	1
10	Henry Creswicke	... Ditto	...	1	10
11	Robert Willis	... Ditto	...	1	10
<b>TOTAL</b>			..	<u>13</u>	<u>0 22</u>

The following Table will shew the Names of those who claimed Right of Common of Pasture in these meadows, and what amount of acreage was awarded to them by the Inclosure Commission in consideration of such claim in 1859.

Persons to whom awarded	Names of Tenements of which Rights were claimed and allowed.	Acres more or less.			Present Proprietors.	Present Occupiers.	Where Situate.
		A.	R.	P.			
John Stouts Stibbs	- Stouts Hill house	52	0	0	North Pritchard	North Pritchard	Stout's Hill
John Stouts Stibbs	- Oldland Mill	8	0	0	Rev. W. Morrice	William Broad	Oldland Bottom
George Burgess	- The Queen's Head	5	2	0	Daniel Harris	William Caple	Willsbridge
George Burgess	- Flowers or Dymocks	2	0	2	G. Burgess		
William Fry	- Brents	28	0	0	Mrs. Fry	Mannings	Hanham
William Waters	- Pinkers or Stibbs	40	0	0	In Chancery	Abraham Oliver	North Common
Samuel Lloyd Harpford and Bristol Brass Battery Company	- New Inn	3	0	9	Free Methodist Chapel Committee	The Public	Near Warmley Tow
Samuel Lloyd Harpford and Bristol Brass Battery Company	- Blakes	14	0	0	Alfred Davidson	Albinas Humphries	Oldland
Thomas Bevan	- Pitton Mill	26	0	0	William Sommerville	William Sommerville	Bitton
Robert Nurse	- Strattons	2	0			Himself	
Isaac Hicks	- Robbins's	2	0		Isaac Hicks	Isaac Hicks	Oldland Common
Thomas Bevan	- Long Croft	8	0	0	William Bevan	John Caple	Golden Valley
Sarah Bishop, widow	- George Inn	3	0		James Freeman	James Freeman	Bitton
John Bush	- Bush's	32	0	0	George Bush	George Bush	Beach
John Bush	- The Swan	1	0	0	George Bush	Sarah Rose	Swinford
John Bush	- Flowers or Hardings Copyhold	39	0	0	Henry Bush	Henry Bush	Beach
James Mantell and others Trustees of Francis Riners, deceased	- Greens	17	0	0	Francis Riners Mantell	J. R. Mantell	Bitton
Thomas Palmer	- Mercer's or Coole's	25	0	0	} John W. Palmer	James Olds	
Thomas Palmer	- Evans's	2	0			} Ditto	
Thomas Palmer	- Dimerys	3	0	0			
Joseph Whittuck	- Way House	30	2	0	C. J. Whittuck	Edw. Williams, late Bailey	Hanham
Joseph Whittuck	- Park Estate	59	2	0	C. J. Whittuck	Edward Williams	Oldland Common
Joseph Whittuck	- Fry's	8	2	0	Trustees of British School	William Stibbs	Near Hole Lane Colliery
George Alcock	- White Hart Inn	1	2	0	Richard Bryant	William Parsons	Bitton
James Burnell	- Malt House	3	0	0			
Elizabeth Thirkill	- Fox's	16	0	0	} John B. Stanley	William Marsden	Longwell's Green
Elizabeth Thirkill	- Hicks's Stile	6	0	0			
Elizabeth Francis	- Late Holbins	20	0	0	Ann Cryer	Ann Cryer	Bitton
Elizabeth Francis	- Stouts	32	0	0	} Elizabeth Francis		
Elizabeth Francis	- Late Martha Holbins	8	0	0			
Thomas Webb	- Kerby's	16	2	0	Whittuck Brothers		Stone Hill
Rev. John Pring and wife	- Brownings	76	0	0	} John W. Palmer		
Rev. John Pring and wife	- Gowings	4	0	0			
Robert Williams	- Hobbles	1	0	0	R. Williams	Himself	
Thomas Stephens	- Tapsters	14	0	0	Richard J. Parker	R. J. Parker	Cadbury Heath
William Bush and wife	- Martins	2	0		William Bush	R. Williams	
William Bush and wife	- Hugh Smyths	20	0	0	} Ditto	W. Williams	
William Bush and wife	- Cherry Orchard	2	2	0			C. Leonard
William Bush and wife	- Parrys	1	2	0	} W. Boulton	John French	
William Boulton	- Hix's	15	0	0			Himself
William Boulton	- Cooles, held by lease for lives under Samuel Whittuck	23	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Josiah Hawkins	



Persons to whom awarded.	Names of Tenements of which Rights were claimed and allowed.	Acres more or less.			Present Proprietors.	Present Occupiers.	Where Situate.	
		A.	R.	P.				
William Stephens	Parrys	21	0	0	Exra. of W. Stephens	Mrs. Bence and S. Gerrish	Longwell's Green	
Francis Earl (now Robert Willis)	Mould House	4	0	0	Robert Willis	Himself		
Francis Earl	Wornells, held by lease for lives under Samuel Whittuck		2	0	Whittuck Brothers	Robert Jones		
Francis Earl	Trubodys, held by lease for lives under Samuel Whittuck		1	0	Whittuck Brothers			
Francis Monk	Pettegrove	1	0	0				
Joseph Parker	Parkers	162	0	0	Joseph Parker	Himself		
Joseph Parker	Laceys <i>alias</i> Dobles	70	0	0	Joseph Parker	Roger Mayne		
Joseph Parker	Chedwins	16	0	0	Joseph Parker	Himself		
Joseph Parker	Hipsleys	135	0	0	Joseph Parker	John Glass		
Joseph Parker	Hollister	42	0	0	Joseph Parker	William Builder		
Joseph Parker	Seeds, copyhold	40	0	0	Joseph Parker	W. Shipp		
Martha Quarman	Caines's	2	0	0	Mr. Holbin	Silas Jenkins		
George Whittington	Howards	25	0	0	Daniel Dore	George Lee	North Common	
Samuel Whittuck	Colletts	36	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	James Parsons		
Samuel Whittuck	Haringtons	20	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Stephen Jones	Upton	
Samuel Whittuck	Sanders's	30	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Samuel Long		
Samuel Whittuck	Lower Cully Hall	60	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Thomas Hatlway	Cully Hall	
Samuel Whittuck	Hanham Hall	44	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	John J. Wittuck	Hanham	
Samuel Whittuck	Parry's	50	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Himself		
Samuel Whittuck	Parry's	44	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Robert Hemmings		
Samuel Whittuck	Parrys	30	2	0	Whittuck Brothers	Himself		
Samuel Whittuck	Parrys	2	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Joseph Gorsen		
Samuel Whittuck	Parrys	1	3	0	Whittuck Brothers	John Couch	Hanham	
Samuel Whittuck	Willis's	43	2	0	Whittuck Brothers	John Knowles		
Samuel Whittuck	Lydiards	47	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Himself		
Samuel Whittuck	Ashes	2	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	W. Chidgers		
Samuel Whittuck	Ross's	17	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Lewis Moss		
Samuel Whittuck	Reeds	6	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Ditto		
Samuel Whittuck	Durns	19	2	0	Whittuck Brothers	James Rogers		
Samuel Whittuck	Abrahams	23	2	0	Whittuck Brothers	John Wrench		
Samuel Whittuck	Barrs Court	90	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Jac. Fowier		
Samuel Whittuck	Barrs Court	210	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Himself		
Samuel Whittuck	Mount Pleasant		2	0	Whittuck Brothers	Aaron Webb		
Samuel Whittuck	Cooles		9	2	0	Whittuck Brothers	Ditto	
Samuel Whittuck	Davies's	16	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Robert Leonard		
Samuel Whittuck	Lapham's		3	0	Whittuck Brothers	Samuel Cary		
Samuel Whittuck	Reed's or Lewton in Lease to James Stone		3	0	Whittuck Brothers	James Stone		
Samuel Whittuck	Late Wm. Batman's	12	0	0	Sarah Bateman		Upton	
Sarah Bateman	Proctor's	8	0	0	Procter Family	Job Thomas	Upton	
Martha Proctor	Blacker's Copyhold	20	0	0		Herself	Upton	
Thomas Baynton	Grinsbury	96	0	0	Benjm. Waters	Benjamin Waters	Oldland	
Thomas Baynton	The Grange	32	0	0	Henry Stone	Ditto	Oldland	
Mary Hopes	Late Evans's	2	0	0	William Clark	W. Francis & others	Upton	
William Ship	Late Harding's Copyhold	2	0	0	Mr. Kitchin	Chas. King & others	Upton	
George Hook	Chequers Inn	1	2	0	Elisha Hook	Elisha Hook	Oldland Common	
Edward I rnton	Late Whittuck's	3	0	0	Joseph Hawkins	Widow Russ	Upton	
Samuel Webb	Robins's		2	0		John Knapp		
Sir Thos. Francis Fremantle	The Pasonage Prebendal	20	0	0	William Frere	Mary Ann Frere	Bitton	
Sir Thos. Francis Fremantle	Late Bryants now Bash's Copyhold	30	0	0		Elizabeth Matthew	Bitton	
Sir Thos. Francis Fremantle	Late Dennis's	100	0	0	H. T. Ellacombe	Alfred Sperrin	Bitton	
Sir Thos. Francis Fremantle	Late Underhills	90	0	0	Daniel Harris	William Godwin	Bitton	
Sir Thos. Francis Fremantle	Late Lashleys	2	0	0		H. Peddigham		
Sir Thos. Francis Fremantle	Late Nutts	5	0	0		Thomas Bush	Bitton	
Sir Thos. Francis Fremantle	Sheppards	6	0	0		John Meere		
Robert Jefferis	Gee Moor	100	0	0	Batcheler	Various	Kingswood	
Rachel Humberstone	Ross's Copyhold	29	0	0	William Clark		Upton	
Charles Warren	Brand House	84	0	0	J. Whittuck			
William Sutton (now Stibbs)	Stouts Hill		1	0	Whittuck	Edwin Grove	Londonderry	
					North Pritelard	Robert Furber	Willsbridge	

Persons to whom awarded.	Names of Tenements of which Rights were claimed and allowed.	Acres more or less.		Present Proprietors.	Present Occupiers.	Where Situate.
		A.	R. P.			
Samuel Malpass	Formerly Foxes	1	2 0	- - -	Joseph Lindsey	
John Lewton	Lediards or Phipps's Leasehold for lives under Samuel Whittuck	-	-	- - -	Himself	
Thomas Peckstone Peterson	Rogers's	1	0 0	Whittuck Brothers	Himself	
John Holbin	Robins's	25	0 0	In Chancery	William Fry	
John Fremantle	Gibbs's	1	0 0	- - -	- - -	
Arthur Lysaght	Fieldgrove	23	0 0	Whittuck Brothers	- - -	
Peter Gerrish	Fords Copyhold	130	0 0	Henry Sealy	Daniel Harris	Fieldgrove
Peter Gerrish	Flowers	18	0 0	Robert Parker	William Mannings	Beach
Peter Gerrish	Partridges	50	0 0	- - -	Himself	
Samuel Whittuck	Hardings	4	0 0	- - -	John Brice	
Hill Collicott	Bettertons	30	0 0	- - -	Louis Bright	Bitton
John Couch	Harris's	4	0 0	Daniel Harris	James Long	
Bethia Lapham	1 ymock's Leasehold for lives under Samuel Whittuck	2	0 0	Whittuck Brothers	Himself	Hanham
		10	2 0	- - -	Herself	Park Wall
Andrew Drummond	Brittons	39	0 0	Miss Drummond	George Gibb	Beach
Andrew Drummond	The Old House or late Wm. Bush's	51	0 0	Miss Drummond	Thomas Gibba	Beach
Andrew Drummond	Fifteen Acres	94	0 0	Miss Drummond	George Sparrow	Fifteen Acres
Andrew Drummond	Highfield	160	0 0	Miss Drummond	Moses Gibbs	Highfield
Andrew Drummond	Cann Farm	50	0 0	Miss Drummond	James Savory	Cann Farm
Andrew Drummond	Kings Field	20	0 0	Miss Drummond	James Lacey	Kingswood
Richard Brain	Jays	1	0 0	R. Brain	A. Webb	
William Weare	Beach Farm Prebendal	270	0 0	Jno. Braikenridge	William Matthews	Beach
William Jason Parker	Bolsoms	36	0 0	Eleanor B. Peterson	E. B. Peterson	Beach
Richard Emerson Gerrish	Whittings	10	0 0	William Saunders	John Saunders	Hole Lane
Richard Emerson Gerrish	Williams's	2	0 0	Jacob Long and Wm. Joy	T. Worlock	Court Lane, Oldland
Rev. William Macdonald	The Vicarage House	4	0 0	H. N. Ellacombe	Rev. H. N. Ellacombe	Bitton
George Willmot	Brownings	1	0 0	Elizabeth Hicks	Mary Pillingier	Oldland Common
John Popham	Fishers	80	0 0	Mr. P. Sainsbury	George Davis	Swinford
John Popham	Kites	14	0 0	I. P. S.	Mary Trubody	Upton
James Gulley	Tile House	4	0 0	- - -	Elizabeth Green	
Rachel Wilton	Fords	40	0 0	Moses S. Wilton	William Gibbs	Beach
Henry Creswicke	Hanham Court	150	0 0	Thomas White	Thomas White	} Hanham
Henry Creswicke	Stones	130	0 0	Thomas White	John Knowles	
Henry Creswicke	Grigsons or Tongues	40	0 0	Thomas White	G. Bailey	
Henry Creswicke	The Engine House	7	0 0	Thomas White	R. Britton	
Henry Creswicke	Reids	10	0 0	Thomas White	S. Waters	
Henry Creswicke	In Hanham Street	7	0 0	Thomas White	C. Bull	
Henry Creswicke	Late Newman's	49	0 0	Thomas White	D. Shellard	
Francis Walters	Hudds	6	0 0	(?) R. Willis	R. Willis	
Thomas Walters	Burnells	14	9 0	(?) R. Willis	T. Willis	
Thomas Willis	Poyntz Smiths	6	0 0	Whittuck Brothers	William Lear	
Samuel Whittuck	Castle Inn	44	0 0	- - -	S. Willis	
Thomas Peter	Croft	3	0 0	- - -	W. Lewton	
Thomas Martin	Hancock's	9	2 0	Robert Mountain	Himself	
William Winwood	Pearsalls	10	0 0	- - -	Ditto	
William Trubody	Trubody's Copyhold	2	0 0	- - -	Ditto	
Henry Roberts	Sweets, held by lease for lives under Samuel Whittuck	2	0 0	Whittuck Brothers	Thomas Gibbs	Beach
John Bush	Goodmans Copyhold	54	0 0	- - -	- - -	
John Lee	Upper Cully Hall	60	0 0	Edwd. Wm. Plowright	William Sibbs	
John Lee	Innocks	6	0 0	Edwd. Wm. Plowright	William Sibbs	
Soloman Leonard	Cling Close	9	0 0	Whittuck Brothers	Robert Hemmings	Ditto
Thomas Tyndall	Brimbles	-	-	Thomas Tydel	W. Brimble	Swinford
Thomas Ward	Late Seeds	24	0 0	T. Ward	G. Harding	Upton
Rev. Richard Woodward	Grange	38	0 0	Robt. L. Jefferies	Richard Jefferies	North Common
Rev. Richard Woodward	Cowbill	19	0 0	Robt. L. Jefferies	Ditto	Oldland
Samuel Whittuck	Woodwards or Wards and Blackers	47	0 0	Whittuck Brothers	Richard Gerrish	Ditto
Rev. Richard Woodward	Late Jones's	30	0 0	Robt. L. Jefferies	A. Brain	Ditto
Rev. Richard Woodward	Late Creswicke's	17	0 0	Robt. L. Jefferies	R. Gerrish	Ditto
Sarah Hix	Mays Farm	1	1 0	George Hicks	George Hicks	Court Lane

Persons to whom awarded.	Names of Tenements of which Rights were claimed and allowed.	Acres more or less.			Present Proprietors.	Present Occupiers.	Where Situate.
		A.	R.	P.			
Thomas Willis	- Crews	-	4	0	0	Himself	} Hanham
Thomas Hooper Riddle	- Martins	-	15	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	
Samuel Whittuck as Trustee of John Stibbs	- Chapel House	-	1	1	0		Oldland
Simon Newman	- Harts	-	8	0	0	R. J. Parker	Park Wall
Rev. Lawrence Short	- Wasbroughs	-	35	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	Upton
Rev. Lawrence Short	- Emersons	-	18	0	0		
Joseph Parker as Trustee of William Atkins	- Atkins	-	13	0	0	Whittuck Brothers	W. Jarratt
Rev. John Ryland	- Evans's	-	2	0	0	William Cains	Upton
George Flower	- Englands	-	2	0	0		
Samuel Brain	- Winstones	-	32	0	0	Wm. Bevan	Bull Halls
Samuel Brain	- Winstones	-	2	0	0	Wm. Bevan	Bull Halls

"CLAUDITE . . PUERI . . . SAT PRATA BIBERUNT."—*Virgil.*

SHORT ANNALS

OF THE

FOREST AND CHASE OF KINGSWOOD.

“Forests have ever been in use, in all parts and ages of the world. When Nehemiah was in captivity, in the court of Artaxerxes, and had obtained leave of that Prince to rebuild Jerusalem, it is recorded (Nehemiah ii, 8) that Artaxerxes granted him, among other favours, a letter to Asaph, KEEPER OF THE KING'S FOREST, to supply him with timber!”—POTTER'S “CHARNWOOD.”

“The royal appropriation of most of our English forests, seems to have been at the least as early as the times of the Heptarchy. Every petty Prince had his royal demesnes. Afterwards, when one Sovereign obtained possession of the whole Island, he found himself proprietor of a number of these forests scattered over the different parts of it!”—GILPIN.

# HISTORY OF BITTON.

## CHAPTER IV.

### SHORT ANNALS OF THE FOREST AND CHASE OF KINGSWOOD.

“Itur in antiquam sylvam, stabula alta ferarum.”—*Æn.* vi, 179.

As the hunter in the pursuit of the object of his chase is often carried beyond the bounds of his own circuit, so having ventured into the forest of Kingswood, I find myself of necessity taken off into other parishes, skirting on Bitton, without which, the history of a large portion of the Chase which lies in Bitton would be most incomplete; but after making a circuit of the outer bounds and purlieus of the forest we shall find ourselves at home, whence we set out.

“Longæ

Ambages : sed summa sequar fastigia rerum.”—*Æn.* i, 345.

It is generally supposed that this forest was a portion of the uncultivated woody tract of country belonging to the Anglo-Saxon kings resident at Pucklechurch, (where the outlaw Leolf, a notorious robber, who during the solemnization of the Festival of S. Augustin at that place, A.D. 948, stabbed Edmund, the successor of Athelstan, to death, the king himself having attempted to arrest him, at the banquet where he had audaciously intruded himself); and extended to the Severn beyond Bristol.

No mention is made of Kingswood in the Doomsday Survey of 1066; probably because forests were extra-parochial, or it was included in “Terra Regis” thus translated.

In Bertone King Edward held nine hides. Of these seven were in demesne, and there are four ploughs and fourteen villeins and ten bordars with nine ploughs. There are seven serfs. Of this manor two freemen hold two hides

and have there nine ploughs. They can neither sever themselves nor their land from the manor. There is one mill at 4s. The reeve of King William accrued eight bordars and two millstones and one plough. In the time of King Edward it rendered £9 2s., and three thousand loaves for the dogs, 16s.

From the last clause in this record it may be fairly assumed that Edward the Confessor was a sportsman, and that all his compeers before and after him enjoyed themselves in this forest: for, for what other purpose was the barton required to supply 3,000 loaves for dogs annually?

Bristol Castle was appendant to it, and it is laid down by Lord Coke in his *Institutes*, that "where this is the case the constable of the castle is by forest law the chief warden of the forest."

That part of the forest which abutted on Bristol was called the wood of Furcis, or Furchis, the meaning of which name I have failed to discover. Mr. Smith, in his *Lives of the Berkeleys*, translates it "the wood of 'Fuzzes:'" certainly not Furze nor Firs as some have supposed. For the present I would leave it as a *questio vexata*.

This forest extended itself into Somersetshire under the name of Filwood, the liberties and jurisdiction of which were under the Constable of Bristol Castle; but it is my intention to avoid as much as possible this southern portion, though as a matter of history it may be interesting to mention that it appears by a petition in the Rolls of Parliament (i, p. 439, 10 Edward II., 1325), that "John le Warre prays to be allowed to cut down 30 acres of wood, &c., in his demesne land of Brislington, lying within the King's Chase, and that a mandate might be issued to the Constable of Bristol Castle." This petition was granted on certain conditions. In the second of the next reign, (1328) the same petitioner alleges, that beyond the memory of man, this manor of Brislington belonged of right to his ancestors, that it was not within the bounds of the chase, but that it had been filched away. Be that as it may, certain it is that the Lord Le Warres built a chapel, dedicated to S. Anne, in the wood still bearing that name, skirted by the Avon, where the ruins of it may now be seen.

It appears in a Close Roll (2 Henry III, m. 6, 1218) that the forest was perambulated by Hugh de Neville in the reign of King John, but that record

<sup>1</sup> "Forests and chases anciently belonged to no county or diocese, they were governed by a law of their own, neither municipal nor civil, and acknowledged no sovereign but the king, then acting with arbitrary power."—Fosbroke, vol. i, p. 80.

cannot be found. The earliest record I have found is a Close Roll (17 John, m. 21, 1265) addressed to the Constable of Bristol Castle to allow Geoffry de Marisco, an Irish judge, to take three stags and some poles from the wood of Furchis for *clating* (ad cleiendas) his ship; and in the next year a mandate was issued to Hugh de Vivon the Constable (see about him, chap. ii, p. 82 ante) to allow Roger Alard to take ten oaks from the same wood for the building of his ship.

About this time several mandates were issued from the king to deliver up to Gilbert de Clare, the Earl of Gloucester, the Berton of Bristol with the wood of Furchis and the Chase of Keynsham as belonging to his Honour of Gloucester by heirship. This was notified to him, 2 Hen. III (1218), and it was repeated the next year, 29th June, 1219, with the wood of Furchis and the Chase (Brullia) of Keynsham. The same mandate was repeated 7th March following, with a threat that unless done within forty days from that date all the lands which he possessed would be seized and held until the mandate is complied with.

Among the royal letters preserved in the Public Record Office there is one (No. 71) from Hugh de Vivon to the king on this business, dated about March, 1219 (see it *in extenso* in Appendix). The letter is worded most courteously: that though a king's officer, he refused to comply with the mandate, "until I am provided with the means for maintaining the Castle of Bristol, having been promised by his council 100 pounds rent and 100 marcs in silver for that purpose, of which I have not received anything. As for what you threaten to do, that you will seize and keep all my lands until I comply, I scarcely think I deserve such treatment, considering the services I have rendered to you and to your father, King John, having given up much richer and more profitable lands than I have obtained in England. I have always served you and your father most faithfully, and am still ready to continue my service as long as I live, if it be your pleasure."

The order was repeated over and over again, 1219-1220, but without effect; the Earls of Gloucester never recovered Bristol Castle.

It was repeated 9th August, 1220 (m. 6), and again 12th September, and again 27th January, 1221. After that date it is probable that De Vivon gave up the castle, for it appears by Patent Roll (8 Henry III, m. 2, 1224, October 8th) that the king appointed Ralph de Willington to the



Castle and Berton of Bristol with everything thereto belonging, and on the 9th of October following the king ordered the keeper of his wine to deliver six casks of wine at the castle for his use (Close Roll, 8 Hen. III, m. 3); and on the 15th October (Close, m. 2) he is ordered to supply timber from the wood of Furches for the repair of the king's mills at Bristol, to be selected by the verderers and foresters. In the following year (9th Henry III, m. 4) the keeper is ordered to supply Richard de Vain two planks and other timber from the same wood.

We now come to the disafforestation of the forest. Smith, in his *Lives of the Berkeleys* (quoted by Fosbroke, vol. i, p. 122, and Kington, in his *Nibley Green*, p. 261) says: "At the general petition of the inhabitants of all those parts, especially of the men of the forest of Horwood, and for £150 in money, King Henry III (I am quoting from Kington, p. 261) in the twelfth and thirteenth yeare of his reigne, did disafforest all the towns, lands, and woods betweene Huntingford (where Berkeley Hundred and this Lord's [de Gourneys] landes parted), and the wood of Furzes now called Kingswood, within fower miles of Bristol, and soe from Severne side to the browes of the hilles by Sodbury, excepting only Alleston Parke, and for more assurance, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and some other lords, tooke particular patents of disafforestation of their proper manors."<sup>2</sup>

The following is a free translation of the Record:—"The king for himself and his heirs has granted that all the woods, towns and lands which lie within the wood of Furcis,<sup>3</sup> near Bristol and Huntford, and between the river Severn and the Rudgeway on the brow of the hill of Sodbury as the hill stretches itself towards Lansdown to the river of Ardeleigh, be for ever disafforested, not only as to hunting, but to everything else relating to a forest, excepting the park of Alwston lately inclosed, and that all persons who have hitherto had any woods within the forest may now use them as they please, make parks,

<sup>1</sup> It appears by Fine Roll, 7 Hen. III (1213), that all the lands of Hugh de Gourney were seized for hunting in that part of the forest called Huntingford Chase, without the king's licence. (Fosbroke, i, 122). Sayer says (*Bristol Hist.*, p. 356):—"Hugh de Gournay had his lands seized by a precept to the Constable of Bristol Castle from y<sup>e</sup> King for hunting in the King's Chace (King's wood) by Bristol for three days without licence, 7 Hen. III, m. 9."

<sup>2</sup> The charter of disafforestation will be found at the end *in extenso*. 13 Hen. III, pt. 1, m. 18.

<sup>3</sup> In a private memorandum book, June, 1670, I find this entry:—"Furchis is a wood near Mrs. Nyz's house, and Huntingford is by it." (Old MS. book of F. Creswick, dated about 1679, penes the author.)

fell and sell timber, and grub up as they please, without hindrance from the verderer, without cheminage or tolls for passing through the forest. All persons on the east side of Severn who used to attend the pleas of the forest of Harewood be for ever acquitted thereof. Dated 6 May at Westminster, anno xii."

After this a mandate (Close Roll, 12 Henry III, m. 6) dated June 20th following, was issued to the Sheriff of Gloucester to make proclamation throughout his district, that the lands had been disafforested. On the back of this Record are the names of the knights who had been summoned as a jury to perambulate the forest, and give the bounds, as may be seen in Appendix.

In 1251, 35 Henry III, an order was issued to the Constable of Bristol Castle to supply old wood and brush wood to the workmen for firing.

The portion of the forest left as a Chase, comprising about 3432 acres, lying in the parishes of S. Philip and Jacob, Stapleton, Mangotsfield, and Bitton, enables me to confine the chief points of history to Bitton, occasionally noting any matter of interest in the adjoining parishes; and as the constable of the castle was still the chief ranger he will occasionally be mentioned.

1st Edward I (1273) the king commands the Constable of the Castle of Bristol, that he allow to Hugh Malverne, keeper of the forest of Kingswood, the wages of 7½d. per day for himself and three footservants.

In the great Pipe Roll (1223), 8 Henry III, and in the years 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 17, 19, 22, 28, and 33 of Edward I, the profits of the forest are accounted for yearly under the title of the Castle of Bristol. One person being divers times constable of the castle and keeper of the forest; and he accounted for a certain custom called WOOD SILVER, both in the forest on both sides of the Avon, and for sea-coal dug within the limits of the forest; and for earth dug for making pottery within the forest, and for quarrying stone. The wages of the constable of the castle and keeper of the forest are allowed out of the profits belonging to the Castle of Bristol.

9th Edward I (1281), "Thomas Lord Berkeley, in consideration of his services in the wars, had liberty to hunt in the King's forests of Mendip and Kingswood. He was in most of Edward's battles as general." Barratt's *Bristol*, p. 253-54.

It may be supposed that great destruction of deer took place, and therefore we need not be surprised to find that on 17th August 1292, (20 Edw. I,

Pat. Rot., m. 6) authority was given to Walter Bello-Campo, to inquire who are the malefactors in the Chase of Kingswood who lately, *vi et armis*, drove and seized the game. I have not succeeded in finding an account of the proceedings arising out of the above patent; no doubt there were very many such malefactors.<sup>1</sup>

Michael de Dune was the keeper in 1325; he was accused of cutting down 100 oaks and acres of gorse without leave and selling it to his own use; having also taken six bucks and six does, and that the forest was not well looked after; whereupon the sheriff was ordered to take it into the king's hands; and on the 15th December, 1325 (Patent Roll, 19th Edward II, p. 1, m. 9), the king granted the custody of the Chase to Thomas de Bradeston<sup>2</sup> for life during the king's pleasure, according to the accustomed wages, and by mandate (in the same Patent) Dune, the late keeper, is to deliver up to Bradeston; and the Constable of the Castle of Bristol is to pay the said Thomas the accustomed wages.

It must not be omitted (for the following record connects the Chase with the Manor of Bitton), that on the 5th of May, 1221, as appears by a Close Roll 5 Hen. III., m. 12, the king commanded the Constable of Bristol Castle to allow Robert de Ameneville to have quiet possession of his wood of Furchis, as he held it in the time of King John; and in 1223 (Close 7 Hen. III., m. 12) an inquest was held whether Robert de Ameneville—when he allowed strange pigs to have agistment in his own wood of Bitton—was accustomed to be allowed to let his own pigs run in the wood of Furchis also, at the time when the Bishop of Norwich was the Constable of the Castle? And they give their verdict that such was the case. Also they say that the pigs of the people of the Berton of Bristol were allowed agistment in the wood of Bitton, without pannage (that is payment), therefore the Constable was commanded not to interfere with this custom, and at once to return to Robert D'Ameneville the five pence which had been exacted.

Robert D'Ameneville was Lord of the Manor of Bitton, which was confirmed

<sup>1</sup> Gilbert White, in *Hist. of Selborne*, ed. 1802, 8vo., vol. i, p. 32, says: "Tho' large kinds of deer do much harm to the neighbourhood, yet the injury to the morals of the people is of more moment than the loss of their crops. The temptation is irresistible, for most men are sportsmen by constitution, and there is such an inherent spirit for hunting in human nature, as scarce any inhibition can restrain." Bishop Hadley, when urged to restock Waltham Chace, refused, replying that "it had done mischief enough already."

<sup>2</sup> See about Bradeston (an Extinct Peer), in Fosbroke's *Gloucester* under "Winterborne."

to him by Henry III. in 1227, (Charter Roll, 11th Henry III, p. 1, No. 143), by virtue of this lordship he and his successors had a right to a certain quantity of wood.

3rd Edward II, (1309-10, Originalia, Rot. 5), the king granted to Bartholomew de Badlesmere the Castle and the Barton of Bristol, at the yearly rent of £210, and to pay to the Abbot and Monks of Tewkesbury 60s. from the mill, and 60s to the same for the maintenance of a certain Chantry within the castle; and 14s. 3d. a year to the keeper of the Forest of Kingswood.

14th Edward II (1320-21, Inq. ad quod damp. 36), Joh'es Salso Marisco was allowed to cut down and sell twenty acres of wood in the Chase of Kingswood. He was a member of the family of that name, who resided at what was afterwards, and is still called, West Hanham. Hanham in its entirety was the principal dependency of Bitton. In 1325, West Hanham became the property of the Abbot and Convent of Keynsham. See p. 91, ante, and Records ii, iii, iv, v, at the end.

15th Edward II (1321, Fin. Rot., m. 5), the king appointed Hugh le De Spencer the keeper of the Castle and Barton of Bristol at £210 a year, and to pay the forester of Kingswood 7½d. a day.

In 38th Edward III. (1364, Pat. Rot., m. 5), a Commission was issued to Sir John Tracy, Robert Foulhurst, and William de Wrotham, to inquire who were the disturbers of the peace, and had broken down the coverts and trees to the value of £1,000 in the Chase. An order was issued to the Sheriff at the same time to assist in the inquiry. I have not succeeded in finding the Record of the proceedings which arose out of this Commission.

In the 45th Edward III., 1371, the king commanded the keeper of his Chase to allow the then Lord of Bitton, Hugh Blunt, to take, cut, and carry away his wood and gorse, growing within the bounds of his moiety of the Manor, without payment of toll or other accustomed payments. This right was continued and acted upon, as will be seen in the after part of this history, when the Chase was divided into *Liberties* by the parties whose names will then appear.

Queen Philippa had the Barton and Chase granted to her. After her death, 1369, the king granted to Sir Robert Knowles<sup>1</sup> what was seized into the

<sup>1</sup> Sir Robert Knowles. Hume, vol. ii, p. 482 (edit. 1807), quoting from "Froissart," liv. i, c. 311,

king's hands, and in the next year, the bailiff accounted in the Pipe for £10 8s. 4d., for timber and gorse sold in the Chase of Kingswood, and so he did in the 46th Edward III (1372).

47th Edward III (1373, Pat. Rot., p. 2, m. 32), the king reciting that ' Hugh de Segrave had surrendered his grant of the constablership of Bristol and keepership of the fforest of Kingswood and ffillwood, granted the said constablership and keepership of the said fforest to John de Thorpe, Knt., to hold for his life with the like wages fees and profits as the said Hugh might have taken.'

In 48th Edward III (1374-5, Pat. Rot. p. 1, m. 37), the king having been informed that very many, as well foresters as others, had entered into his chase and freewarren of Kingswood and ffillwood without licence, and taken and carried away fish, hares, conies, pheasants, &c., and wild beasts of the chase, and that divers oppressions had been committed, granted a commission to John de Foxle and other justiciaries to enquire, and the sheriff is to assist in the inquiry, &c. This Commission found many trespassers in the Chase, hunting and killing the deer without licence, for which they were fined. They found also that three oaks had been ordered by Privy Seal for making a new lodge in the Chase, and that one Thomas Morton took them to his own use, on the 23rd April, 1372, 46 Edwd. III. They also found that the said Thomas kept two horses carrying wood for sale in Knowles' time, and they went on daily. Another transgressor was Hugh Wernell, who killed four conies that year, and that Robert Godwyn had cut gorse worth forty pence, and that the beasts of the Chase suffered much by the destruction of the gorse. Also that Moreton, lately a forester, had unwarrantably cut bushes and an oak and trees to the value of 100s., and had carried them away and sold them. But the most heinous transgressor was Matthew de Button.

The first inquest on this case was held at Bristol Castle before a jury of twelve on Monday the third week in Lent, 1374, and they found that Matthew de Button killed two does on Monday after the feast of S. Lawrence, 1365; and in the same year, Sunday next after the feast of the Nativity Beatae Mariæ, one sorrel and a doe; and that on Thursday next after the feast of the Nativity in the same year, in company with John Crook, he killed two does; also that the same Matthew and John killed two does and one fawn on Friday says that this man in 1370, at the head of 30,000 men, marched out of Calais and ravaged the country to the gates of Paris.

next before the Purification of the Blessed Virgin in 1366. And that the same two, in the same year, killed two does on Thursday before the feast of S. Peter ad Vincula; and that the same Matthew and John and their servants killed six does, four sorrels and three sorelles on Monday between aforesaid feast and the feast of S. Michael. Also that they killed two does on Thursday next before the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross in the same year, viz., 1366. Also they found that the said Matthew and the servants in his company, whose names they do not know, killed three does, three precketts (two year old bucks), and two fawns, on Sunday before the Nativity of our Lord, 1367. And that he killed one doe on Tuesday before the feast of S. Margaret, 1368. Also that the said Matthew and John killed two does on the Vigil of the Purification of the Blessed Mary in the 43rd year of the king's reign, 1369. And that he killed one sorrel on Monday next after the feast of S. James in the 44th year, 1370. And they say that the said Matthew and John are common malefactors of game in the King's Chase.

The jury met again on the next day at the same place, and a warrant was issued to the sheriff to arrest the culprits the next day, when it was reported that Matthew had been taken by Richard Scott and — Stout, but as they did not appear they were amerced, and the sheriff was ordered to arrest on the following Friday. The justiciars met at Bitton, when the sheriff returned that the said Matthew was taken by Roger Mare and John West, who bring him into court. He threw himself on the mercy of the king for the charges laid against him, and is committed to prison until the justiciars consult the council of the king.

The record from which the above is abridged is in the Public Record Office, London. There is also a copy among the Hale's MSS. (No. 81) in the Library of Lincoln's Inn. Nothing more can be found, neither is any record of trial or gaol delivery, therefore I would repeat here, what I have already stated in the History of the Manor, ante p. 96.

“What became of him afterwards, I cannot discover,—whether he was tried, or died in prison, or was executed. Though *his* name appears in the court-roll of Bitton in that reign, in the next year John de Bitton, his son, appears at the court. It was on Friday in the third week of Lent that he was committed, which in that year (1374) would be the 3rd of March; and on the Fine Roll of the same year there appears the writ of his “*Diem clausit*

extremum," which is dated April 10th. In the ordinance of the chantry at Newland, founded by Joan Greyndon, on the death of her husband (Pat. 24th Henry VI, p. 2, m. 17), in which prayers were to be offered for the good estate of her relations, she altogether omits the name of this Matthew, who was her grandfather, though she mentions the generations above and below him. It has been supposed that for his transgressions, the killing of thirty-seven head of deer, he might have been excommunicated, and that if he died under that sentence he would not be entitled to the prayers to be offered in the said chantry."

The execution of such a person must have caused a great sensation in the neighbourhood. His residence was at Hannam, afterwards called Barres Court, which Leland in his *Itinerary* says is close to Kingswood Forest.

I would refer the reader to the pedigree of De Button (p. 80, ante), where it will be seen that he was son and heir to Lord John de Button, Knight, nephew of Thomas de Button, Bishop of Exeter. There will be found in the appendix a copy of a short deed with this seal attached, dated Hannam 23rd Edward III (1369), it is a lease of a tenement at Goldwell, in the Hundred of Bitton, a place lying on the south of Stout's Hill, near the site there was a gate entering the chase. In this deed he calls himself the son and heir of John de Button, and in the Assize Roll he is styled the son and heir of John (the son of John) and Hawise. Also in a Fine (Hil. 18th Edward III), John (son of John) and Hawise, occur; which John was the heir of an elder brother, *Thomas*, who died without issue.

On the 26th of February, A.D. 1371, 45th Edward III, the king issued a mandate to the keeper of the Chase of Kingswood to allow Edward, the son of Hugh Blunt, the Lord of the Manor of Bitton within the chase, as had been the custom within the memory of man, to take, sell and carry away without payment of any chiminage or other fees, wood and gorse and sea coal within his demesne. A similar mandate was issued by Henry IV, 1407, in favour



of John Blount; again in 1454 by Henry VI, in favour of Edmund Blount; and so the Lord of the Manor of Bitton on the division of the chase into liberties acquired their portion.

15th Richard II (1392). Among the memoranda, Easter, Rot. 8, great destruction of vert and game having taken place in the Chase of Kingswood, a commission was issued to Thomas Broke, Maurice de Berkeley and others to make inquiry by inquest, and to report. Among the same Records, 20th Richard II, Rot. 4, the commission is repeated to the same parties. What the result was, I have failed to find.

In the following years the records do not reveal any thing of local interest, excepting the appointment of the Constable of the Castle and Barton of Bristol and the Keeper of the King's Forest. I mention these because reference is frequently made to them in the endless suits which occurred in the seventeenth and eighteenth century.

By Patent 4th Henry IV (1402-3), the king granted to Edward, Duke of York, the Manor and Barton of Bristol, with all proper franchises, liberties, &c., to hold to him and heirs male in lieu of 400 marks.

By Patent 14th Henry IV. m. 22, (1412-13), Hugh Lutterel was appointed Constable and Keeper of the Forest for life. He was a man of great worth and was honourably employed by three successive kings of England.

3rd Henry V. (1415-16), the king granted the same pension, with the same beneficial clauses, to Humphry, Duke of Glo'ster, in taylor (p. 129, Old MSS. Book of F. Creswick, penes the author.)

15th Henry VI., July 15th (1436-7), the king granted to Richard, Earl of Warwick, the Constablership of the Castle of Bristol and Keeper of the Forest of Kingswood for life.

Patent 21st Henry VI. (January 16th, 1443), re-citing a former grant of the Constablership of the Castle and town of Bristol, and the custody of the forest of Bristol to John Saint Loc, and Nicholas his son, to hold them from the death of Richard, Earl of Warwick, now grants it in fee, with several fees, out of which several officers were to be paid out of the revenues of Bristol, as fully as Sir Hugh Lutterel, deceased, and by the same patent he granted primagium et herbagium within the forest and all woodfalls and dead wood now and always for his own use, and a customary called comyn woodin in Kingswood, also the fishery at Stapleton.



By inquisition taken after the death of John Saint Loc, the jury of the neighbourhood found that he died seized of the above, and also that the appointment of all officers of the forest belonged to the Constable of the Castle of Bristol, and that all who break the soil of Kingswood for coal, clay, or sand, or other profit, must have the licence from him at a rent to be agreed upon.

24th Henry VI. (1445-6), the king granted to Henry, Duke of Warwick, the Manor of the Barton of Bristol, with the appurtenances in Gloucestershire, to him and his heirs for ever.

By Patent 39th Henry VI. the king granted the Constablership of the Castle and Vil of Bristol, and the Keeper of the Forest of Kingswood to Edward, eldest son of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, Earl of March, for his life; the next year he became Edward IV.

36th Henry VI. (1457-8), the Constable of the Castle was ordered to deliver 30 oaks to the Priory of Bristol.

Edward IV, the last Patentee, having obtained the crown on the 2nd of January, 1462, the first of his reign, he granted the Constablership of the Castle and the custody of Kingswood to Sir Humphry Stafford, of Hooke, for life.

By an Inquisition taken 1478 it was found that George Duke of Clarence and Isabella his wife were seized in the demean as of fee in right of the said Isabella at her death, December, 1474, of the Manor and Hundred of Barton, next issue—leaving issue Edward Plantagenet and others—that he survived her and held the premises and the rents of £60 a year—the duke died 18th of February last—and that Edward Plantagenet was his son and next heir to the said Isabella, three years old.

A.D. 1485, the King granted to Sir Giles Daubeny, Knt., for life the Constablership of the Castle and Town of Bristol. Pat. Roll, 1st Henry VII, p. 2, m. 2, No. 562.

1st Henry VII, Pat. Roll, p. 1, m. 8, No. 551, (1485), Thomas Fulbrok, one of the king's yeomen of the guard, was appointed forester and ranger of the Forest of Kingeswode and Fulwood during life, with the usual fees and allowance.

13th December, 3rd Henry VII, (1487). Anne Countess of Warwick granted the Manor of Barton Regis next Bristol and Barton Hundred, to

King Henry VII and the heirs of his body. In Hilary Term of the same year a fine was levied of the said premises by the said countess.

24th Henry VII (1508-9), the King granted to the Lord Maurice Berkeley for his life the rangership (so says Fosbroke) and custody of the forest. On the surrender of the patent letters, which were not found sufficient, he had a new grant 3rd Henry VIII (1511, July 11) and was appointed keeper of the Forest, and 7½d. a day out of the fee farm of Bristol, and 10s. a year from the 25th October, 24th Henry VII (1508). He died 1506.<sup>1</sup>

15th Henry VIII (1523, Nov. 26th). Sir Francis Poyntz was appointed keeper of the forests of Kingswood and Fyllwood, with herbage and pannage at 2d. a day, in the place of Maurice Berkeley deceased. Pat. Rot. p. 1, m. 12.

17th Henry VIII (1525), another grant to the same, the former being invalid. Pat. Rot., p. 1, m. 33.

17th Henry VIII, (1525), granted the custody of Kingswood, after the death of Francis Poyntz, occupator, to Sir Anthony Poyntz for life as fully as Sir Maurice Berkeley and the said Francis held; and reciting a surrender of the patent made to Sir Anthony Poyntz the same custody of Kingswood is granted to Sir Anthony and Nicholas his son for their lives. Pat. Rot., p. 2, m. 26. The last sold to Henry Lord Berkeley.

The king (35th Henry VIII, 1543), by the authority of Parliament, granted to Queen Catherine in lieu of dower, the Manor, Hundred, &c., of Barton, part of the possessions of the Earl of Warwick, and all forests, chases, woods, and property thereto belonging, and all money for wood sales from Lady-day, 1542.

36th Henry VIII (1544-5) in a Survey in the Augmentation Office, the Surveyor accounted £8 2s. 8d., for the sale of shrubs in the Forest of Kingswood, 5s. for bark sold to divers persons, and the sellers had a fee for the sales.

Queen Catherine demised her possession to Henry Braine by Indenture dated March 2nd, 1st Edward VI (1547), for 21 years, and this, by the auditor's particulars, is certified to be all the lands the king had in Barton in the right of the said queen.

King Edward the VI, April 27th, 1564, in consideration of £8,440 7s. 2½d, granted to the Earl of Pembroke and William Clarke, and the heirs of the Earl, the Lordship and Manor of Barton Regis, near Bristol, and everything

<sup>1</sup> This Lord Berkeley built his house at Yate with timber from the forest.

thereto belonging, and by virtue of this grant the Earl and Clarke were seized of the Manor and Hundred; also they were to hold courts, as their predecessors had done.

Edward the VI having thus granted away the Manor of Barton Regis, without any mention of forest or chase amongst all franchises thereby granted, the Earl of Pembroke never claimed the chase. From this earl the Manor of Barton Regis came to Sir Maurice Denny, who died seized 7th Elizabeth, 1565, but he had nothing in the Chase, as appears by his Inquisition p. m.; from Denny the premises passed to Thomas Chester, Esq., who died 28th of Elizabeth, 1585-6, seized of the said Manor and Hundred. Although no mention is made in the post mortem inquest, *Kingswood*, it is said, was afterwards foisted in, and the family claimed a moiety of the soil of the Chase. In the 41st of Elizabeth (1598-9), an information was brought against Chester for intrusion on the king's soil in the chase and felling 1000 oaks, and a trial at bar ensued in the 4th of James, (1606-7), when it was found by evidence on both sides for the king's title; but further proceedings were twice delayed, as appears by several orders in Hilary Term, 4th James. But in the 15th of James (1617-18), a new information was brought against Chester, and on the 17th January it was tried at bar, but after evidence and a privy verdict given against the King, the Attorney-General moved a *Nolle prosequi* because one Fitzgerald became a lessee of the coal mines only, receiving money of Chester and others; and the cause of nonsuit was because the claimants could not prove the place to be within the chase where the woods were supposed to have been cut.

It may here be observed with regard to the soil, that Henry Lord Berkeley having been made keeper of the chase, 1st Elizabeth, 1558-9, and so continuing till 11th of James, so long a time was the cause of the intrusion on the soil of the common; for setting up his claim for 1000 acres in the chase, as belonging to his Manor of Bitton, he set up bounds there, and allowed Mr. Chester, who had got his grant of the Manor of Barton, to intrude also and set up bounds.

With regard to Mr. Fitzgerald, I find that on the 11th of March, 1608-9, King James, by indenture of this date, grants to one Capt. Edward Fitzgerald, of Rathshillarth, co. Kildare, Ireland, in consideration of long and faithful services, for the term of sixty-one years from the 26th of January before this

date, all coal works, coal pits, and mines of sea-coal, stone coke, and slate to be found within the forest of Kingswood, in co. Gloucester and Somerset, for the yearly rent of £40, with a covenant not to hurt the timber, wood, or underwood. It appears by a letter dated May 2, 1610, among State Papers, that the captain was hindered in his proceedings in the forest by certain parties. (alluding no doubt to Chester and others), who deny the soil to belong to His Majesty; and this, notwithstanding a verdict and judgment appears given in His Majesty's favor, the suit having been carried on twelve years or more before the verdict by Mr. Tavenner, the late Surveyor of Woods.<sup>1</sup>

The following proceedings in this suit explain all this; they are among the Exchequer Queen Remembrancer Records, B & A, James I, No. 360, Gloucester:—

Sir Thomas Coventry, Attorney-General, plaintiff, *v.* Richard Berkeley, Esq., Sir Theodore Newton, knight, and William Player, defendants. The bill sets out that the forest of Kingswood has been seized by the sovereign time out of mind, as their demesne as of fee, in the right of the Crown of England, and of all grounds, woods, and soil, and hath from time to time appointed officers for preservation of the game of the said forest, with certain fees for executing the same. Accounts were rendered of the profits coming and arising therefrom, that is, of the woods and mines therein, as by divers and several records of the Court of Exchequer most fully and plainly appear. The bill also mentions that information was heretofore exhibited in the Exchequer by Sir Edward Coke, Attorney-General, *versus* Sir Richard Berkeley and William Chester for committing spoils of the woods and timber trees in certain parts of the forest grounds, to which the defendants pleaded not guilty, whereupon issue was joined and judgment given for the king. Notwithstanding the said judgment,

<sup>1</sup> The long and vexatious suits between Fitzgerald and Player and others, may be found in Exchequer *Decrees* and *Orders*, the King *v.* Chester, 1605, 3 Jac. I, vol. xxix, fol. 253; 3 Jac. I, vol. xxix, fols. 268, 301; vol. iii, fol. 47; 4 Jac. I, vol. iii, fols. 224, 242; 5 Jac. I, vol. iii, fols. 344, 350; vol. ii, fol. 239; vol. iii, fols. 305, 317, 347; vol. iv, fol. 112; vol. v, fol. 102; 5 Jac. I, vol. vi, fol. 13, A.D. 1607; 7 Jac. I, vol. viii, fol. 58, A.D. 1609, and fol. 72; vol. x, fol. 154; 9 Jac. I, vol. xii, fol. 298; 10 Jac. I, vol. xiv, fol. 150; vol. xv, fol. 185, A.D. 1612, and 242; 11 Jac. I, vol. xvi, fol. 165, 193; 12 Jac. I, vol. xix, fol. 151, 257, and 306; vol. xx, fol. 147; 14, vol. xxiii, fol. 170 and 278; A.D. 1616, in this last a Survey is ordered; 16 Jac. I, vol. xxvi, fol. 43; vol. xxvii, fol. 15; 17 Jac. I, vol. xxviii, fol. 26 and 160, this last trial contains the *Nolle prosequi*.

the Lord Stafford, Lord Berkeley, Sir Henry Billingsley, Sir Rowland Lacy and Sir Theodore Martin, knight, Richard Barkeley, Thomas Chester, William Player, Langley, and Weston, Esqs., being seized of divers manors and lands adjoining to the said forest, by colour thereof, and by reason that "Meres, battalls, and boundaries between the proper soil and freehold, of them the said defendants, and the said forest are much defaced and obscured," do unjustly challenge, claim, and share amongst themselves all the king's soil, ground woods, and other profits within the said forest, intending to make total "*disesisn*" of the king, and did about fifty years since enter into the said forest, upon the possession of the king, and hath ever since, and yet doth take the profits, by felling and cutting of the several woods growing and being within the said forest, and by digging of divers coal mines, coal pits, stone pits, and slate pits, and converting the same to their own use, the said profits amounting yearly to the value of £4,000. They also sent their beasts, sheep, and all manner of cattle into the said forest as freely as if it were their own proper inheritances, without yielding any accompt or paying any rent for the same. The Attorney-General therefore desired that a subpoena might be directed to the said defendants to appear in the Court of Exchequer, and to declare what parts of the forest they claimed and by what title they take the same.

Sayer, in his *History of Bristol*, vol. ii, p. 262, says, that 10th April, 1609, the Duke of Lennox, the king's uncle, visited Bristol from Bath, when the sheriff with 200 horse, met him in Kingswood.

12th James I (1614) Sir George Chaworth was appointed the keeper of the forests of Kingswood and Filwood, vacant by the death of Lord Berkeley.

The Records supply no further information about Fitzgerald: it is to be feared he was a ruined man. Player seems to have monopolized the coal trade, by which he made himself most unpopular to the Bristolians and others; this is evident from the way in which he is mentioned in the following Survey, and by a petition, preserved in the Harleian M.S., 363, though not dated, belongs to this period.

"The humble petition of the Mayor and Commonaltye of the Citye of Bristol, to the Right Honorable the Lordes of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privie Council,—

"That, whereas the poorer sort of the inhabitants of Bristol doe use only to burne stone coals al's sea coals in their houses, which coals they have had from Kingeswoode and other places adjoyninge

to the said citie, paying for the same not above threepence halfpenny for a bushel, being brought home to their houses, which hath been a very greate benefit unto theym, not being able to buy woodde, which is very deere and scarce to be hade. So it is that one Arthur Player, now inhabitant in the city of Bristol, of a greedy desyer of gayne to hymselfe, hath to the greate grievance of all the poore people of the said citie and places adjoyninge engrossed and taken into handes all the coale pyttes in Kingswood aforesaid and other places in the county of Gloucester, and neere adjoyninge to the said citie, and giveth yearly rentes to have . . . . and will shutte up . . . . savinge only some fewel at his pleasure, whereby the price of the said cole is much enhanced, and hath cutte and diminished the sakes of such as are to bring coal to the sayd cities, and bringeth e verye sacke to contayne but one bushel and three packes for some special gayne to himselfe.

Upon supplication, &c.

Fosbroke, in his *History of Gloucestershire*, vol. i, p. 119, says that a violent commotion arose from the conduct of Player.

The following copy of the execution of a Commission issued for the survey of Kingswood<sup>1</sup> by John Norden, surveyor, discloses to us the state of affairs at that time.<sup>2</sup>

“As touchinge Kingswood, I have taken the plot thereof, and of everie division clayme within the same, all approved by the depositions of divers antient borderers uppon the said forest in everie parte, which claymes doe swallowe up the whole forest, not allowinge his Majestie the breadth of a foote. The timber, wood bushes, soyle, coale mines, and all other profittes altogether carried from his Majestie by unknown rights.

His Majestie is only allowed herbage for his deere. But everie pretended owner, in his division, cuts downe, consumes, and takes the profittes of all kinds of verte, at their pleasures. \* \* \* \*

These pretended owners not beinge restrained of their wastinge the verte, there will not be browse within these few yeares to releev the deere.

There are within the forest four several walkes, and as many keepers, all havinge under charge by their owne depositions not above 100 or 120 deere at the most.

As for lodges there is not one now in use; one there was of antiquitie,

<sup>1</sup> Domestic Papers, James I, vol. lxxxiv, No. 46.

<sup>2</sup> There was an earlier survey of the chase by John Hencage, Esq., 35th Henry VIII (1543-4), in which it is returned ten miles in compass, besides the purlieus belonging to certain gentlemen. I have not succeeded in finding this.

knowne by the name of the old lodge, now utterly decayed. A second was built by and in the time of King Henry VIII, as is proved by others, the use whereof is altered and converted to an ale house, standing in the principall parte of the forest, upon a hill fittest for a lodge to keepe the deere, now fitt to harbor thieves and enimies to the game, standinge verie privately within the claime of one Mr. Richard Barkeley, who disposes of the same to his owne use.

Everie keeper has 40s. per annum of his Majestie, besides other knowne and casual profittes incident to their places.

Sir George Choworthe is master of the game, who hath under him a ranger, whose fee per annum is £111 8s. 1½d. These wages and fees are paid by the Sheriffe of Bristole yearly, who are allowed the same againe upon their accompt in the Exchequer.

Sheepe and goates, most pernicious cattle, intolerable in a forest, make a far greater shew than His Majesties game. As for the goates, they have confounded by their barking and pelling off the barke infinite manie faire holleyes, the chiefest browse now in use.

The coale mines also devoure the principall hollies in all partes of the forest, for the supportation of these pittes, His Majestie having no share of the profittes thereby in the browse fit for deere consumed, and the herbage dayely impaired by castinge of their coal mines over manie places of the forest.

It is proved by others also that in former tymes, the keepers have used to cutt downe the boughs of oke in all partes of the forest, as big as a Soare or Soarell could turn over with his head, and to sell the wood thereof to their own use, which cutting has been lately discontinued, by reasons that everie pretended owner presumes at his owne will to cut downe his wood, and by that, their lybertie prevents the deere of that kind of browse, and force the keepers to either to take bushe browse or to famish the game in winter; and the small browse that the keepers are enforced to take, the offall thereof the woodwards of everie division doe usurpe and take from the keepers, which makes them so much the more remisse in guardinge and relieving His Majesties game, insomuch that the game is allmost consumed.

There are verie many cottages raysed upon the forest maintained under the toleration of the statute for erecting of houses neere unto mineralle places. But in this forest are far more erected than the necessitie of the coal mynes requireth, which cottages are a great spoyle of the browse, and much hurtfull

to the game. Everie particular pretended owner of the divisions wherein they are erected receiving the rents for the same.<sup>1</sup>

The coales yearly taken within the whole of the forest are deposed to be yearley worth clearley about £200, but by relation they are esteemed to be worth about £500 per annum at the leaste.

There is one division claymed by Mr. Thomas Chester (against which it is said there is a judgment for the kinge), wherein is a place called Megg Thatchers Greene, upon and neere which, it is proved by others, that Mr. Chester hath caused to be felled and sould neere 40 timber trees since (February, 1613), and one that carried parte of them deposite, that he carried about 30 tuns of timber; and there is more lately sould to a tanner of Brightstoll, about 40 timber trees to be felled this season without present restraint. Also within the same division are dayly coales digged by one Player, the generalle farmer of the coales within the whole forest, but the judgment considered it were fit he were inhibited from digging. Quousque, &c.<sup>2</sup>

There are within the forest ten severall clayms, viz :—

	Acres.	
Thomas Chester, Esq. ...	1300	} <sup>m.</sup> <sup>xx.</sup> iij ccciiij xviii acres by estimation.
Richard Barkeley, Esq. ...	540	
Sir Henry Billingsley ...	810	
The Lord Barkeley ...	... }	
The Lady Newton ...	1350	
The Lady Stafford ...	22	
Mr. Weston ...	83	
Sir Rowland Lacie ...	28	
Mr. Evans of Bitton ...	36	
Sir Raulfe Sadler ...	58	

If any graunts have paste from his Majesties progenitors of their claimes it were fit to consider with what words, by what name, and in what lymits it is paste, and assigned to lye.

(Signed) JOHN NORDEN.

In Dorso.—The Surveyes of the Forest of Kingswood and the Chace of Fulwood, 1615.

<sup>1</sup> In a suit in 1675, between Attorney-General, Chester and others, one of the witnesses, William Rodburn of Week, aged 84, yeoman, “remembers when there was only one cottage between Siston Brook and Dongeon’s Cross, near the Causeway.”

<sup>2</sup> I omit about Fulwood.



In 1629 (5th Charles I.) another trial was held between the Attorney General *v.* Berkeley, Chester, Newton and Player defendants.

Among the special depositions of the witnesses there is much relating to the history of the chase, therefore I will extract a few.

Thomas Walter says it was sometimes called a forest, sometimes a chase, and sometimes a heath; that deer have been there for forty years past, and that James Dyer is the ranger; also four deer-keepers, viz. : William Tucker, William Gregory, Nicholas Reed, and Richard Prosser, each has forty shillings a piece per annum, besides "Vails," that the wages are paid by the sheriff of Bristol. An old house in the middle of Kingswood is called a Lodge, but he never knew or heard of any keeper dwelling there; that thirty years ago (that would be 1599) several "Meerstones" were set up to mark the liberties claimed by the Lords of the Manors adjoining.

Thomas Fido of Oldland, clerk, aged sixty-eight, has known the forest about forty-eight years, that the king has now and ever had deer there, and that the Earl of Arundel has now the custody of the forest and the deer; he knows the Lodge, but never knew of any ranger being there; that the liberties which are claimed meet at a place called Oldwyfe's Cross *alias* Old Down Cross, about the middle of the forest. The claimants maintain that the soil belongs to them, and that only the feeding and browse belong to the king's deer; cannot say when the boundaries of the liberties were set up, as it was done before he can remember. About twenty cottages have been set up in Geemore, towards Jefferies Hill, and ten more towards Oldland and Hanham side, to which garden plots have been enclosed within the last ten years. Richard Prosser's walk in Oldland and Hanham extended from Conham to Siston Brook, William Gregory's is from Siston Brook to Mangotsfield Mill, William Tucker's extends from Mangotsfield Mill to Stapleton Sides, and Nicholas Reed from Stapleton Sides to Conham; these keepers *have walked* their said several walks without any contradiction. They have also cut browse for the king's deer from time to time and have taken *moneys* at *Lafford's* (sic) Gate, and sometimes at Breach Gate, at S. James's-tide and Paul's-tide, and at the end of Keynsham Bridge in Gloucestershire at S. Lawrence-tide of some strangers coming by with pack-saddles marking the same, but whether for chimenage or not he cannot say. He knows August Causway in the forest near Dungeons

Cross, Gossnell near the lodge, Golden Kaye and Broad Arrowhead Oak within the forest, also Gillard's Inn near the lodge.

Giles Musley of Barton Regis, yeoman, aged fifty, knows the heath of Kingswood and "New Pools," near Stapleton.<sup>1</sup> Deer belonging to king and queen have always been in Kingswood. Mr. James Dyer is the ranger, and has supervision over four keepers. There is a lodge, but never a ranger or keeper dwelling there; his evidence is on other points the same.

Richard Prosser of Hannam, aged sixty, yeoman, gave similar evidence; his grandfather was a keeper, and has heard that the deer first came out of Filwood, and in consequence of the wood being very thick in Kingswood the deer could not be destroyed. The keeper's wages are sometimes paid by the sheriff of Bristol, and lately by Lord Chaworth, then Sir George Chaworth, who had the custody of the deer; he has heard the lodge was built by Lord Berkeley, who was lieutenant of the forest, for the keepers to meet in. The keepers have walked in these liberties without hindrance, and have lopped holly trees for the deer, and taken money as chimenage at certain times, as the other witnesses have stated. All passengers passing Roegate and Dungeon's Cross with wains, carts, and pack-saddles, viz., a penny for every pack-saddle and fourpence for every wain and cart, marking them with an iron mark.<sup>2</sup>

William Tucker of Stapleton, a baker, aged fifty-five; he was a keeper of the deer twenty years; he speaks of the boundaries of the chase; his grandfather was a keeper, and his father and mother told him that when he died there were 1600 deer in Kingswood.

James Dyer is the ranger under the Earl of Arundell, he is paid £3 8s. 1½d., and the keepers 40s. each per annum in wages; he knew *the Lodge*, and also another lodge near the pound at Downinge. Has heard that the keepers have formerly cut oak and ash for browse. He speaks of the tolls collected, and that it is called "conducting" money or cheminage or wheelage. Conceives the money is paid for aiding travellers and strangers

<sup>1</sup> These were old Pennant quarries, now called *Fishponds*.

<sup>2</sup> In the reign of Elizabeth one Thomas Pytley was one of the keepers of the forest: this appears on the verge of a flat monumental ledger stone in the Church of S. Philip, Bristol, inscribed, "Here lieth the Body of Thomas Pytley Symtims keeper of the Queen's Forest." In the centre of the stone is a representation of a cross bow and a dog.

through and over Kingswood, if they happen to be out of the way or crave assistance; he knows Conham, Stanshall Oak in Kingswood, Derridge adjoining Kingswood, the *Rudges* near Hanham, the "Houng Splotts" near to Broad Faulte, Pigg's Green, &c.

Edward Woolie speaks of the Lords of the Manors holding certain parts ever since it was bought of one Dennys who purchased the same from the King. When the said Manors were entire in the king's hands or his farmers, the same parts in Kingswood were undivided and open, and that the marks and meers which now divide the same one from another were set up since the same were bought from the King, and by direction of the persons who bought them from Dennys.

William Gregory, one of the keepers, aged sixty, in stating the boundaries speaks of Deveridge and Dungeon's Cross; he knows Kingswood Lodge; never knew a ranger or keeper dwell there; the keepers generally use it as an ale house and to shelter or warm themselves.

Richard Haynes says that the Lords of Barton, Bitton, Hannam and others have been reputed owners of these liberties in Kingswood; has never known any division of the liberties. There were very ancient marks and meers when he first knew Kingswood, but about twenty years ago new marks and stones were set up in some of the ancient bounds by direction of Mr. Richard Barkley and Mr. Chester.

All the above witnesses and some others whose depositions were the same were given in favour of the plaintiff, the Attorney General.

The following are from witnesses in behalf of the defendants from special depositions. Glouc. 5th Charles I. (1629) 1 Mic. No. 191.

John Harding of Bitton, yeoman, aged seventy-eight. He knows that those who have been Lords of the Manor of Bitton dig coals and stone and cut down trees within their manors; that Mr. Rob: Weekes (see p. 110 ante) who preceded Sir Theodore Newton about fifty years ago cut down about one hundred loads of wood on that part of Kingswood for his own use, and not long after Mr. Coulthurst, who bought that part of Mr. Weekes', cut down a great quantity at a place called Golden Caye, and made charcoal of it, and then enclosed the ground; but two or three years after the poor people pulled it all down, and it has been open ever since. The Westons, who have lands in Bitton, have done the same, and so

has Lord Stafford in Oldland. All the lords and owners of the waste of Kingswood have, as long as he can remember, done the same in their several liberties, and leased coal works, which have been quietly enjoyed.

John Marne, of Barton Regis, yeoman, aged seventy, deposed that the lands of Newton, Berkeley, and Chester called their "Liberties," and the land held by Wm. Player, and called the liberty of Henry Billingsley, Esq., all lie upon. It is well known how far each liberty extends by ancient meers, &c.

John Ball, yeoman, of Mangotsfield, aged eighty, stated that about twenty years ago new stones were set up where ancient trees before stood to divide the lands. By strangers, Kingswood is called a forest, but the usual name among neighbours is Kingswood Heath, but his father used to call it Kingswood Heath Chase to the forest of Filwood.

John Noble of Bitton, Collier, aged 70, deposed that he knew the manor of Bitton belonging to Lord Berkeley and Sir Theodore Newton, and the grounds which divide it from the Manors of Barton Regis, which begin at Conham, by Stradbrook, Elder's Cross, Garratts Mead, and so to Brimbles, the Lords of the Manor usually made their drift beginning at those places, and so drove to Bitton and Oldland to his knowledge for sixty years.

Thomas George of Barton Regis, aged eighty-three, deposed that the Manor of Bitton extends unto and through and beyond the waste or Common of Kingswood northwards, and is well known by ancient marks on each side. Other depositions are recorded, but they do not contain anything of particular interest. What the issue of this suit was, cannot be found.

It may be worth while to observe that in the Survey by Norden 1616 he says a good deal about the liberties, though in the old map of Kingswood, dated 1610, they are not laid down nor marked in any way.

That map is copied from the original in the possession of S. W. Chester Master, Esq., of Knole Park and Cirencester Abbey; on its margin is noted, "This mapp of Kingeswoodd as it is now fynished (excepteng the trewe placinge of the lodge and the addinge of the Borderinge to same), was received the twentithe of September 1610, by U. Cox, Esq., ye persons whose names are subscribed to vppon and examined

Fitzherbert Warre, Anno Dom'i, 1610."

Many of the spots mentioned in the foregoing depositions will be found in it; the map was discovered among the archives of the late Mr. Chester of Knole and Cirencester Abbey, in whose family the Barton Regis property has been held from the time Mr. Thomas Chester purchased it in the reign of Elizabeth.

During the last fifty years the whole of the manor has been sold, principally to the lease-holders with the exception of the manorial rights, which in June, 1875, were sold and conveyed to Messrs. Handel Cossham and Joseph Wethered, colliery proprietors.

Before proceeding with the future history of Kingswood, it may be well to give a short account of Bristol Castle, as its connection with the forest will soon come to an end. In early records it is called the "Great Dungeon Tower;" its outworks were very large and extended to Lawford's Gate, which is worthy of note, because the forest came close to it; in the reign of Stephen, as is found in Barratt's History, p. 191, it was the stronghold of free-booters and robbers, and exempt from the jurisdiction of the citizens. In a petition to the privy council from the mayor and citizens, they complain that Sir John Strafford, knt. (who was appointed by Queen Elizabeth the constable of the castle) never resided, seldom visited, and left a mean deputy who allowed all sorts of bad characters, as many as forty-nine families, to reside there: that the castle not being within the jurisdiction of the city was a refuge of malefactors of all sorts. In 1630, 5 Car. I., the King granted to the mayor and citizens the Castle of Bristol, separating it from the county of Gloucester, and annexing it to the city. When the civil war began the fortifications of the castle were repaired; in 1642-3 the castle was garrisoned by parliamentary forces, and Colonel Essex took upon himself the governorship of the castle; in 1643, July 24th, Prince Rupert attacked the city, and on the 27th the garrison marched out, and Rupert became the governor of the city and castle. In 1645 the parliamentary rebels determined to recover the Castle and City of Bristol, and on August 21st, 1645, General Fairfax and Lieut.-General Cromwell were quartered at Kainsham—on Friday the 22nd—Fairfax and Cromwell removed to Hanham their head quarters, and the next day to Stapleton.<sup>1</sup> In September following, Cromwell was ready to storm; but on the 11th of that month

<sup>1</sup> British Museum Pamphlet, fol. Sheet, No. 3.

the castle surrendered: Philip Skippon was made the governor; and after him Adrian Scroop, who was the last governor of the castle. After Cromwell was proclaimed Protector (in 1653), orders were given in 1655 for demolishing the castle, which were carried out in the following year. It is noticeable, that the castle is called the DUNGEON, and in the foregoing depositions, all the witnesses speak of the "Dongeon's Cross," it being within a short distance of the city gate, and the nearest to the castle, it might be very fitly called the "Dongeon's Cross;" if so, the tradition that its present name, "Don John's Cross," is in commemoration of the resting of the corpse of some Spanish nobleman on its way to Spain falls to the ground.

Before the expiration of the grant of the chase to Chaworth and during the civil wars and the troublous times of Charles I. it was utterly destroyed; for those that pretended to the soil there caused all the deer to be killed, and cut down great quantities of wood there, and built, or permitted to be built almost 300 cottages, with great inclosures, granting leases and taking fines for the same as if it were their own lands. Before the civil wars there were no cottages in the chase, and very few coal mines.<sup>1</sup>

We now come to the time of the Commonwealth and by order of a Parliament in 1653, the following survey was made:

"A survey of Kingswood comonly call'd Kingswood Chase, al's Kingswood Forest, al's Kingswood with ye rights members and appurtenances thereof, scituate lying and being in the parishes of Phillip and Jacob in Bristol, of Bitton of Mangarsfild and of Stapleton in the County of Gloster, late p'cel of the possessions of Charles Stuart late King of England or of Henrietta Maria the relict of said late King, as p'cell of her joynture as a Queen of England, made and taken by us whose names are hereunto subscribed by vertue of a comm'on granted to us by the Hon<sup>ble</sup>. the trustees appyted by act of y<sup>e</sup> commons assembled in parliament for the sale of y<sup>e</sup> Honor<sup>e</sup> Mann<sup>e</sup> and Lords'pp<sup>e</sup> heretofore belonging to y<sup>e</sup> late King, Queen, and Prince under their hands and seales.

"All that peece and parcell of pasture and woody ground comonly called Kingswood Chase scituate in the parishes of Bitton Mangotsfield and Stapleton in y<sup>e</sup> County of Glouc. as it is now abutted and bounded,

<sup>1</sup> Old MSS. penes H.T.E.

beginning at a smith's shop called Sims shopp, at y<sup>e</sup> road which passeth y<sup>e</sup> said chase from Bristole towards London and neere unto a stone standinge in y<sup>e</sup> side of y<sup>e</sup> said road called Dungons Crosse and over against a smith's shop called Sym's shop passing northwards along by certaine enclosed lands called Deane and Chapters land behind a cottage and garden, in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of one John Wood *alias* Burges, unto an old oake standinge neare John Rod's gate and thence alonge behinde and on y<sup>e</sup> west side of a cottage and garden in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Henry Smith and from thence passeth through y<sup>e</sup> middle of William Coxe's garden unto y<sup>e</sup> south east corner of Wm. Coxe's cottage and along by his house and y<sup>e</sup> hedge adjoyning to his house inclosinge his garden on y<sup>e</sup> west and soe alonge behinde y<sup>e</sup> cottage and ground in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Jno. Coxe into Scorsbyry bottom and being thus farr abutted on y<sup>e</sup> west by y<sup>e</sup> said Dean and Chapters land and soe passing over Scorsburrough bottom and up Croft end hill passing by y<sup>e</sup> dwelling house of Thomas Roach standinge within certaine inclosures in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Mr. Chester and so along behind two cottages and ground in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Wm. Stone and of one Thomas Maynard unto y<sup>e</sup> north east end of certaine inclosures called y<sup>e</sup> Croft's end aforesaid being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> west by y<sup>e</sup> said Roach's house and Croft's end grounds aforesaid and thence passinge westward along Row Green unto a way or land's end from y<sup>e</sup> said chace being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> south by y<sup>e</sup> aforesaid Croft's end land and thence turninge northwards againe over y<sup>e</sup> said way or land unto another inclosure in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of y<sup>e</sup> aforesaid Mr. Chester called Croft's End and soe passing behinde a new cottage in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of one Mr. Williams unto y<sup>e</sup> north-east corner of y<sup>e</sup> said Croft's end being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> west by y<sup>e</sup> said Croft's end grounds, and from thence turning westwards along by y<sup>e</sup> said inclosures unto another lane end of y<sup>e</sup> said chace called Newlands Lane and thence passinge northwards over y<sup>e</sup> said lane and along y Gosse's Hill unto Rowgate lane and soe on unto a brook or rivulet, Gossie Hill's Gully beinge abutted hitherto on y<sup>e</sup> west by certaine inclosures in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of y<sup>e</sup> said Mr. Chester and soe on from Gosshills Gullye up alonge by Constable leas unto Rowgate and y<sup>e</sup> said road from Bristoll towards Mangotsfield includinge y<sup>e</sup> grounds called y<sup>e</sup> Constables leas aforementioned beinge abutted on y<sup>e</sup> west by Mrs. Smith's grounds and from Rowgate passinge eastward neerunto y<sup>e</sup> said road way along by y<sup>e</sup> mannor house and

ground called y<sup>e</sup> Ridgeway unto a gate called Longlands Gate being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> north by y<sup>e</sup> said Ridgeway house and ground and from thence along unto Bullybrooke being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> north by a certaine house and ground called y<sup>e</sup> Inn's house and ground, and by Henry Silcox house and grounds, and by a close called Coles Parke, and by Mr. Barkley's lands, and by Charnell's Hill grounds adjoyninge unto Bullybrooke aforesaid and thence passing still eastward along by Wm. Long's house and behind y<sup>e</sup> new cottage and garden of William Goldinge, and soe along unto Nicholas Milson's house end being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> north from Bullybrooke by y<sup>e</sup> house and grounds in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of y<sup>e</sup> said Wm. Long and John Hondes and thence passing northward by y<sup>e</sup> said house in the tenure of Milson aforesaid unto Bullybrooke at y<sup>e</sup> foot of y<sup>e</sup> new pooles and thence unto Rubley's Gate Lane being abutted in y<sup>e</sup> west of y<sup>e</sup> house and lands in the tenure of y<sup>e</sup> said Milson and by John Nation's house and the close called the Heath Close and thence along by Mr. Wyatt's quarry close and grove unto a gate and lane leading to William Wolleys mill being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> west and north by Mr. Wyatts quarr-close and y<sup>e</sup> grove and thence passing eastward unto a house in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Wm. Hill being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> north by a certaine close called y<sup>e</sup> Corncroft Close and by Jno. Ponges house and grounds and y<sup>e</sup> house and grounds in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Walter Houbn and by y<sup>e</sup> house and grounds in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Wm. Hill aforesd., and thence returning southward unto y<sup>e</sup> south-west corner of Longwalls ground being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> east by y<sup>e</sup> Longwalls grounds and thence passing north-eastward unto an "ash" called y<sup>e</sup> Bound Ash at Hoyslades where begins Mangerfield parish, being abutted thither on y<sup>e</sup> north by y<sup>e</sup> Longwalls house grounds before mentioned and thence passing along by Erford's Lane, passing by Heyslades grounds and soe along winding towards y<sup>e</sup> east behind Thos. Goldings little cottage and thence passing along northward by Lantham's Poole and soe downe Bromleys Heath unto Brimble Gate and thence returning towards y<sup>e</sup> south surrounding y<sup>e</sup> said heath passing along by Mr. Players mansion house and grounds called Cleaves Hill and soe along by y<sup>e</sup> east side of Lantham Pool before mentioned and thence south-eastward passing behind Wm. Wolley's cottage and garden and soe unto Downinge Greene being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> north by divers lands in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Mr. Player and soe passinge northward along Downings Green behind



y<sup>e</sup> cottage and garden of Thomas Eshar and soe on to Sodbury Gate and Road and thence eastward surrounding y<sup>e</sup> said green unto y<sup>e</sup> gate called Westerlye Gate—and thence returning southward along by Wm. Nolleys gate soe unto y<sup>e</sup> south-west corner of y<sup>e</sup> said Downing's Green against Jno. Bamptons house and yard and thence passing westward behind Henry Sandys cottage and garden and unto Roger Phipps house and thence toward y<sup>e</sup> south up a road toward Kainsham unto a house in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Thomas Wickwicks and thence passing eastward behind two cottages in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Thomas Lovell and Ellen Smyth and soe along to Pathwayes Corner—and thence returneth southward unto y<sup>e</sup> highways inclosing and surrounding y<sup>e</sup> cottage and garden in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Richard Clement and thence returning along by y<sup>e</sup> north-west corner of a close Wm. Midfords Stable Leas passing southward and y<sup>n</sup> eastward alonge by y<sup>e</sup> outward bound of y<sup>e</sup> said Stable Leas and thence passinge southward and eastward along by certaine grounds called y<sup>e</sup> Charnalls and soe along by Charnalls Stile and by a dwelling house in the tenure of one — Fox into Mangerfield bottom along Siston's brooke unto y<sup>e</sup> highway or road called London Road from Dungell's Cross before mentioned—being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> east by a certaine ground called Siston's common—and thence returninge south-westward behind Wm. Hardings cottages and garden unto Grimsbury lane above Mr. Woodward's house, being abutted on y<sup>e</sup> south by divers grounds and y<sup>e</sup> mansion of y<sup>e</sup> said Mr. Woodward and thence winding westward and then southward alonge Grimsbury's hill soe alonge Cock rode hill towards the windmill in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Mr. Newton—passing behind divers cottages and gardens said to be in Mr. Weston's liberty and hereafter mentioned—and thence returning eastward downe Workmans green and thence southward unto y<sup>e</sup> highway towards Mr. Newton's mannor house passing behind certaine cottages and gardens in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of John Harris and of widdow Marks and of Widow Fford and of one Weekes and thence passing alonge y<sup>e</sup> said lane unto Herring lane end and soe on westward and southward over y<sup>e</sup> hill called Martins Horse hill along by certaine grounds in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Captaine Sherriffe and soe alonge by a house and grounds in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of one Thomas Lewise and behind a new encroached garden in his occupation—and so on into Cadbury's bottom and thence south-eastward up Jeffery's hill into the roadway from Bristol to Bath and soe passing northward up y<sup>e</sup> said

road unto y<sup>e</sup> door of Henry Stone whose tree crosses y<sup>e</sup> said road and thence passes southwards behind two cottages and gardens in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of — Bussie and Barrott and thence returninge westward along by Prosser gate and soe on behind John Lester's cott and garden unto Cadimore brook and soe windinge alonge by y<sup>e</sup> enclosed lands unto Hannam land and thence over Jeffery's hill passinge behind a garden in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of John Wilson and soe along downe Conham's hill unto y<sup>e</sup> lower end thereof against William Williams's tenement and Mr. Hayes at y<sup>e</sup> lower end of Stroadbroke and thence returning up y<sup>e</sup> said brooke unto y<sup>e</sup> south-east corner of certaine lands called Deanridge lands and soe alonge by Deanridge house unto y<sup>e</sup> north-east corner of y<sup>e</sup> said lands and thence returninge westward by Deanridge gate and soe along southward rounding y<sup>e</sup> said grounds called Deanridge lands unto y<sup>e</sup> river Avon and thence returninge short towards y<sup>e</sup> north-west- passing along by Deanridge meed unto y<sup>e</sup> north-west corner of y<sup>e</sup> said meed and thence passing northward rounding y<sup>e</sup> outward bound of certaine grounds called y<sup>e</sup> Harris hill unto y<sup>e</sup> north-east corner of y<sup>e</sup> said grounds near unto Bath rode aforesaid and thence returninge westward along by y<sup>e</sup> said Deanridge lands and house in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of one — ffox and soe along westward passing behind a cottage and plott of ground in y<sup>e</sup> tenure of Wm. Curroll and y<sup>e</sup> cott and ground of John Jarveis and y<sup>e</sup> cott and ground of Richard Williams and soe along by Dean and Chapter's lands till wee come over against Sym's y<sup>e</sup> smith's shopp returninge northward unto y<sup>e</sup> place where wee first began—and conteyninge in all by admeasurement three thousand four hundred thirty-two acres and halfe, viz :—

			ACRES.
Chesters Division contains	...	...	880 $\frac{3}{4}$
Barkley	...	...	720 $\frac{1}{2}$
Players	...	...	571
Newton 1st Division	...	...	213 $\frac{1}{2}$
"    2nd    "	...	...	193
"    3rd    "	...	...	198
Rochester 1st	...	...	201
"    2nd    "	...	...	275
"    3rd    "	...	...	38 $\frac{1}{2}$

} 604 $\frac{1}{2}$   
 } 514 $\frac{1}{2}$

Stafford	...	...	...	...	17½
Westons	...	...	...	...	63½
Creswicks and Wickhams			...	...	60¼
					3,432½

“ Which said chace is claymed by

1. “ Mr. Chester, All his in St. Philips. A list of the cottages is given Libertie or and their value then follows (fol. 19), “ Mr. Chester’s Division.” Clayme ” in these words :—

Memorandum that Thomas Chester Esq<sup>ro</sup> vpon Sum’ons given did appeare and p’duce a declarac’on of a Clayme to divers Mann<sup>rs</sup> and Lands made before the Barrons of y<sup>e</sup> Exchequer & exemp<sup>l</sup>ified wherein was reeyted as followeth, viz<sup>t</sup>

That Henry y<sup>e</sup> Eight by Letters Pattents dated the 28<sup>th</sup> of ffebruary in y<sup>e</sup> 35<sup>th</sup> of his Raigne did grant vnto Queene Katherine during his Life (*inter alia*) y<sup>e</sup> Lo<sup>pp</sup> and Mann<sup>r</sup> of Barton Regis neare Bristoll and Hundred of Barton Regis, and his Parke of Barton w<sup>th</sup> all and singular fforrests Chases, walkes, Circuitts, inclosures, Compassings, Asserts, Purprestures, Parkes, Warrens, woods and vnd<sup>r</sup> woods w<sup>th</sup> th’apprtenances in y<sup>e</sup> said County of Glocester p’cell of y<sup>e</sup> possessions of y<sup>e</sup> late Earle of Warwicke, &c. And alsoe that Edward y<sup>e</sup> Sixt did by Lett<sup>rs</sup> Pattents dated 27<sup>o</sup> Aprill : 7<sup>o</sup> grant vnto Wm. Earle of Pembroke and Wm. Clarke, Gent. all y<sup>e</sup> said Mann<sup>o</sup> of Barton Regis and Hundred of Barton Regis in y<sup>e</sup> County of Glocester w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Rights members and app’tenances thereof. late p’cell of y<sup>e</sup> Lands and possessions of y<sup>e</sup> Joynture of Queene Katherine, Ann all and singular Lands and tenem<sup>ts</sup> woods and und<sup>r</sup> woods growing and being in the Towne feilds Parish or Hamlett of Barton Regis or elsewhere w<sup>th</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> said Countye to y<sup>e</sup> said Mann<sup>o</sup> by any meanes belonging or in any waies app’taineing Habendum to y<sup>e</sup> said Earle, and to W<sup>m</sup>. Clarke and to y<sup>e</sup> heires of y<sup>e</sup> said Earle ffor eu<sup>er</sup>. Together w<sup>th</sup> all Courts Leete veiw of ffranke pledge And all that did or hereafter might or ought to app’taine to y<sup>e</sup> said Courtes, w<sup>th</sup> all ffree Warrens, and whatsoever to them did belong.

Which said W<sup>m</sup>. Earle of Pembroke and W<sup>m</sup>. Clarke, Gent. did convey the same 18<sup>o</sup> Junii 10<sup>o</sup> Eliz. vnto Maurice Dennis, Kt., and his heires

for ever. ffrom whom y<sup>e</sup> same descended to Thomas Chester, Esq., y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>r</sup>esent possessor of y<sup>e</sup> said Mann<sup>r</sup> and Hundred: All w<sup>th</sup> was sett fforth more ffullye and largely in y<sup>e</sup> Claime before menc'oned.

But fforasmuch as noe Pattent was p<sup>r</sup>duced whereby y<sup>e</sup> said Chace of Kingswood was past away ffrom y<sup>e</sup> Crowne: Neyther in y<sup>e</sup> Recytalls of y<sup>e</sup> Pattent menconed in y<sup>e</sup> Declaracon of the said Clayme was there any menc'on made of any grant of y<sup>e</sup> said Chace vnto W<sup>m</sup>. Earle Pembroke and W<sup>m</sup>. Clarke, Gent., neyther in the Recytall of their grant vnto Maurice Dennis, Kt., therefore wee return y<sup>e</sup> same in possession valued as aboue said.

- 2. "Stableton Division." Described as particularly as the former one, with list and value of Cottages; "claymed by Sir Maurice Berkley."
- 3. Mangerfield Division. Described in the same way as the others, and claymed by Philip Langley, Esq.

(Folio or Page 33.)

"Hanham, First Division.	"Al's Mr. Newton's first part." It is then described as being in the north part of the chace, and in the parish of Bitton, and measures	..	..	213	2	0
Hanham, Second Division	In the parishes of Bitton and Hanham, and measures	...	...	193	0	0
Hanham, Third Division	In the parish of Bitton and Hanham, is on the south side of the chace, and measures			198	0	0

Jones New House, lately erected situated near Hanham Windmill, described as "a fayre dwelling house erected by Mr. Newton."

Wind Mill on Wind mill hill, near the last named house. Besides these two items all the cottages in the three divisions are described, also: "the Trees and Cole Mynes."

Mr. Newton's Clayme. (Folio 41), is the charter of Henry IV, m. 35, viz, the grant to John Blunt to cut wood, &c., in Kingswood; and an Inquisition post mortem, John Blunt, 17

Edward II, No. 53, wherein it is laid down that he died seized of 200 acres in Kingswood Chace.

Mallett's First Division	}	In Bitton and Hanham, measures	...	201	0	0
Mallett's Second Division		Ditto	...	275	0	0
Mallett's Third Division		Ditto	...	30	2	0

Mallett's Clayme (Folio 46) said to clayme as part of the Manor of Bitton, but no person appeared for him.

Stafford's Libertie	In Bitton and Hanham	...	17	2	0
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Stafford (Sir John) none appeared.

Weston's Division	In Bitton and Hanham	...	63	3	0
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Weston's Clayme, is an Indenture of one Henry Weston, by ancient deeds as reported, but he did not attend.

Mr. Dyer.....claimes to hold his house by a grant from Mr. H. Weston, but no evidence was produced.

Jefferays Hill and Conham Hill being Wickham and Creswickes Liberties.	They claime under an Indenture dated 28th December, 9th Car. I, from Sir John Lacy and Anthony Sands to Giles and Andrew Mursley, of the Common of Jeffereys Hill, measures	...	60	0	0
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Creswickes .....claime to cottages and inclosures about Jefferys Hill. Mr. John Creswicke claims by a Poll Deed 21, 8th Elizabeth, from John Reede and John his son to John Lacy of Bristol and John Lacy of London, all the Manor of Hanham Abbots; but they produced. no evidence and therefore we value them.

Deere .....about thirty.

“MEMORANDUMS.”

“There used to be 1500—1800, and sometimes 2000 Deere. Some Freeholders in Bitton & Hanham claim Right of Common in the Chace for all their cattle. W<sup>m</sup> Day of Bitton, who holds of Mallet as chief Lord, & M<sup>r</sup> Bryce Seed of Upton as holding of y<sup>e</sup> Honor of Gloster, & Sir John Seymour claims as belonging to an Impropriation. All claim by Custom & usage & none by Grant.

“Also M<sup>r</sup> Ric. Jones of Kensington claims a right of Common of pasture as belonging to an ancient Site of a Manor in Bitton, & to other Lands & Tenements, & also part of s<sup>d</sup> Chace called Jay More, by ancient grant, but no proof.

“The division of the Chace among the several Lords, was made by a mutual consent as tis said, or Combinacion & not by Grant from the Crown.”

At Folio 65 is :

“An abstract of y<sup>e</sup> Improved value of y<sup>e</sup> said Chace p’ an’u, and of y<sup>e</sup> Acres, and of y<sup>e</sup> grosse value for woodes and vnd<sup>r</sup> woodes therin.

		<i>li. s. d.</i>		
Chesters	}	Total imp’ued value p’ ann’	278 01 06	
		Total of acres	880	3 00
Liberti	}	Total of Grosse value	1100 00	0
		Total imp’ued value p’ ann’	155 15 00	
Stableton	}	Total of acres	720	2 00
		Total of Grosse value	342 10	00
Libertie	}	Total imp’ued value p’ ann’	210 04 00	
		Total of acres	571	0 00
Manger- field	}	Total of Grosse value	115 00	00
		Total imp’ued value p’ ann’	267 19 06	
Hanhams	}	Total of acres	604	2 00
		Total of Grosse value	145 00	00
3 De- visions	}	Total imp’ued value p’ ann’	218 11 [8]	
		Total of acres	514	2 00
Malletts	}	Total of Grosse value	<i>ccclli.</i>	
		Total imp’ued value p’ ann’		

Staffords	{	Total imp'ued value p' ann'	007 00 00
Libertie	{	Total of acres	017 2 00
Westons	{	Total imp'ued value p' ann'	055 07 04
Libertie	{	Total of acres	063 02 00
Wiek-	}	Total imp'ued value p' ann'	048 01 04
hams and			
Cres-			
wicks	}	Total of acres	060 1 00
Libertie			
Total imp'ued value of y <sup>e</sup> whole Chace p' ann'			mccxlili. iiij <i>d.</i>
Total of acres			3432 2 00
Total of Grosse value			mmlili. xs.

And of Deere xxx*li.*

Jeremie Baines.

"This Survey was p'fected this 26 day of May, 1652, by us

John Fiske,

John Haddocke,

Samuel Cottman.

Exd. by Will. Webby 1651."

After this survey and a report of the commission, the records do not supply any information as to what action was taken thereupon; it was a time of great national trouble, everything being disorganized; therefore the probability is that nothing was done: the lawless became more lawless, more inclosures were filched, and every deer was killed. After the Restoration of Charles II (Cromwell having died September 3rd, 1658), all their transgressions were pardoned by the Act of Indemnity.

The year after the Restoration Sir Humphry Hooke was by patent dated March 5th, 1661, appointed ranger for life, with £40 a year for the maintenance of keepers, but he did not put in any deer nor pay any keepers.

Under date of October 14th 1661, a warrant was issued to certain gentlemen to inquire about the Chase. The following is a copy of their return to the Rt. Honble. the Lord High Treasurer of England.<sup>1</sup>

May it please y<sup>r</sup> Lordshipp,

In obedience to your Lordship's warrant of y<sup>e</sup> 14th Oct<sup>r</sup> 1661, to us & others directed,

<sup>1</sup> From Old MS. penes H.T.E.

wee have called before us y<sup>e</sup> severall Lords of y<sup>e</sup> soyle of ye said Chace & also y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants & Commoners of ye severall Parishes of Bitton, Mangottsfield, Stapleton & S<sup>t</sup> Phillip's near Bristoll who clayme a Right of Com'on there, & upon strict enquiry & Examination of deeds & evidences, wee cannot find the King hath any right of soyle in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace, & that by reason of y<sup>e</sup> many Quarries & Cole-pitts, & y<sup>e</sup> totall destruction of his Maj<sup>ties</sup> Game & Woods there it is altogether unfittinge to be replenished with Deere.

We have therefore treated with y<sup>e</sup> severall Lords of the soyle, viz., S<sup>r</sup> Jno. Newton, who hath subscribed for to sett out one third part of y<sup>e</sup> lands for his Majesties share, & y<sup>e</sup> 10th part of y<sup>e</sup> Cole, as it is landed within his Maj<sup>ties</sup> share or lott to y<sup>e</sup> use of his Maj<sup>ty</sup> within his Lordshipp or Royalty, & alsoe one third part of ye lands & y<sup>e</sup> 10th part of y<sup>e</sup> Colinge in like manner, to y<sup>e</sup> use of y<sup>e</sup> Commoners & y<sup>e</sup> poor as in our Rules prescribed is hereunto annexed.

The Widdow Player & Phillip Langley Esq. have subscribed to sett outt y<sup>e</sup> like shares, as is before & by y<sup>e</sup> Rules annexed sett downe, out of their Royalty.

John Tooke Esq. who holdeth y<sup>e</sup> Royalty belonginge to y<sup>e</sup> Lady Berkeley duringe her life, hath in like manner subscribed. But in regard Sir Maurice Berkeley deceased hath soe entailed y<sup>e</sup> Estate that noe good title in Law, without Act of Parliament, can be made to his Majesty, for his Majesties share, upon reasonable Time & Rent for Terme of 31 yeares or more.

The Lord Hawley & Sir John Warre, who are guardians to y<sup>e</sup> Heyrese of John Mallett Esq., deceased, in regard of her minority are willing to condescend to sett out y<sup>e</sup> like shares & become Tenants to his Majestie, in like manner, for y<sup>e</sup> Terme aforesaid in her royalty.

Thomas Chester Esq. hath subscribed to sett out a 3rd part of y<sup>e</sup> Lands to his Majestie, & a like 3rd part to y<sup>e</sup> Commoners. But refuseth to part with y<sup>e</sup> 10th part of y<sup>e</sup> Colinge to his Majestie or y<sup>e</sup> poore, for trespassers in theyr shares. And would reserve the Colinge wholly to himself, & become his Majesties Tenant for his Majesties share, upon Reasonable Rent & ffine, soe that all Cottages enclosed by him & his Preddecessors Authority, w<sup>ch</sup> are very many, & all assarted lands thereto annexed, may be allotted to his owne share, with y<sup>e</sup> Rents thereupon reserved.

Wee have also taken y<sup>e</sup> subscriptions of most of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants, that have Right of Common within the Libertys of Bitton, Mangottsfield, & Stapleton, who for the greatest part have subscribed for enclosure, according to our Rules annexed, iff y<sup>r</sup> Lordshippe shall approve thereof.

Wee have taken but few subscriptions from y<sup>e</sup> Commoners that claime in Mr. Chester's Liberty of S<sup>t</sup> Phillip's beinge unwillinge to proceed any further w<sup>th</sup> them, in Regard of Mr. Chester's nonconformity to y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>te</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Colinge & other things aforementioned, untill wee knew y<sup>r</sup> Lordshipp's future pleasure therein.

My Lord. Having considered of our whole proceedings, wee conceive it best for those



Lords of y<sup>e</sup> Soyle that have fully consented & subscribed, should become His Majesties Tenants, upon reasonable Fines & Rents, They beinge best able to manage y<sup>e</sup> Commoners & Cottagers to conformity. We alsoe conceive that if Commission of Oyer & Terminer were but awarded by y<sup>r</sup> Lordshipp & taken out (tho' it were never putt in Execution) it would be a speedy means to bring all persons to conformity, to Augment his Majesties fines & rents to be reserved, And to make y<sup>e</sup> Encroachers and Cottagers sensible of his Majesties gracious Act of Oblivion, who for y<sup>e</sup> most part, thro' those longe distracted late times, have forgotten His Majesties Interests, & doe believe it to be y<sup>r</sup> owne inheritance; W<sup>ch</sup> wee humbly offer to yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>d</sup>shipp's more serious consideration, & shall be ready to obey yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>d</sup>pps further Commands herein.

My Lord,

Y<sup>r</sup> Lordshipp's most Humble Servants.

In 1666 another Commission was issued to survey the Chase as appears by the following record.

*Gloucr. To the petty Constables & tythingmen of the Pysh. of Bitton & Tythingmen of Oldland & Hannam in ye sd. County of Gloster, & to every & any of them.*

Warrant of the Com. to examine into the Chace, right of Commons, 20 Sep. 1666.

WHEREAS the Kings most excellent Maty. by his Letters Patent or Commission under y<sup>e</sup> seale of his Majesties Court of Excheq<sup>r</sup> to us & others directed as well for inquiring examining of all & all y<sup>e</sup> manner of nusances, offenses, encroachments, destructions, wasts & spoyles what, soever committed & done within his Maj<sup>ties</sup> forest or Chace of Kingswood in the s<sup>d</sup> County of Glouc<sup>r</sup> as also for y<sup>e</sup> disafforesting, dischasing-enfranchising & improving y<sup>e</sup> same, hath authorised & empowered us (amongst divers other things) to summon & call before us all & every the Lords or pretended Lords, Freeholders and other pretended owners of any part of y<sup>e</sup> soyle of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> forests or Chace, or that claime or pretend to have any right of Common or other benefit or advantage out of y<sup>e</sup> same, to the end their respective rights & interests may be ascertained and made forth, and that they may have such benefit & advantage of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> deafforestation & enfranchisement as by y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Commission is directed. These are therefore in his Maj<sup>ties</sup> name to will & require you or some of you or one of you to give public notice (by publishing this precept in your parish Church & Chappells, upon Sunday next after divine service & sermon ended, to all y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Lords, freeholders, & other persons before mentioned within y<sup>e</sup> parish & tythings to appear before us at the house of Samuel Sandford in Westbury upon Trym upon Friday the fifth day of October next by ten of the Clock in the forenoon for the purposes before mentioned, and that you bee then & there

present to make a return of the precept, together with a note or list in writing of the names of all such Lords, Freeholders, & other persons within your said parish & tythings that claime or pretend to have any right or interest to any part of y<sup>e</sup> soyle or common of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Forest or Chace, as aforesaid, & hereof you are not to fail: given under our hands & seales this twentieth day of Sep<sup>r</sup> in the eighteenth yeare of his now Maj. reigne, Annoqu<sup>e</sup> Domini, 1666.

(Signed)	Tho. Tracy	⊕
	Geo. Probert	⊕
	Tho. Carpender	⊕
	W <sup>m</sup> Jones	⊕
	Tho Pritchard	⊕

The following extracts taken from a petition laid before the King in council, January 12th, 1668, shew the state of affairs afterwards. It first sets forth that Sir Charles Harbord, Surveyor-General, made a report in 1661, to the Lord Treasurer, that the soil, the wood, and the coaling belonged to the lords, the King having nothing but the pasturage for deer, and free-warren for hunting; that in consideration of their services and sufferings for Charles I, and on their petition granted per Privy Seal, dated 17th March, 1662, to Sir Gilbert Gerrard and Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, £1500 to the first and £1000 to the latter, to be raised out of the chase by composition with the lords and others; but before anything was done (though commission of inquiry was issued), Sir Nicholas died in 1664, leaving Lady Alice a widow and six small children sadly destitute.

In 1665, Sir Gibert Gerrard and the widow prevailed on Sir Baynham Throckmorton, of Clewerwall, Bart., nephew of Sir Nicholas, to prosecute the business: articles of agreement were signed and sealed between the Lord Treasurer and Sir Baynham on the 10th May 1666. After this two commissions were issued out of the Exchequer to persons of quality in the neighbourhood, who reported that the Chase had become wholly unfit to be replenished with deer, and that the lords were obstinately opposed to such a measure. Thereupon Sir Baynham, November 1667, petitioned the King to grant him all his interest in the Chase, with his franchise, for sixty years, having already spent £1000 among some of the pretenders to the soil, and had paid (10th March 1666), £100 to Sir Humphry Hooke for the surrender of his patent of rangership, &c., the Chase had become a public nuisance, as was

lately represented to the judge by the grand jury at Gloster, being inhabited by a numerous company of idle, dissolute characters, resorting thither from all quarters, living as they please; the roads through from London and other places to Bristol were very dangerous to passengers, especially in the night, the highway not being fenced or bounded; the goods and houses of the adjacent inhabitants were insecure and daily getting worse and worse. The second petition (his first having been referred to the Council by the Lords of the Treasury) was laid before the King in Council on the 10th of June 1668, and ordered to be heard on the 12th, on which day it was ordered that the Chase should be re-stocked with deer and Sir Baynham was appointed Ranger. In January following a patent was granted to him, which was followed by a lease,<sup>1</sup> dated 20th January 1670, for sixty years, on condition to restore the Chase within seven years, and within three years to repair the lodges, the King to hunt when he might please, and to have five brace of bucks and five of does yearly, to maintain keepers and preserve the vert and suppress purprestures (inclosures) and nuisances, without charge to the King. Sir Baynham had before appointed one Robert Dover his deputy.

After the execution of this lease Sir Baynham went to work, by prosecuting many indictments against intruders. Upon which the sheriff issued his warrants, and some were arrested. The sheriff's men were greatly opposed, especially by Sir John Newton, who most unwarrantably committed one of them to gaol till the assises, for which Sir John was reprimanded by the judge and the prisoner was discharged. In the following September the sheriff apprehended about twenty more cottagers accepting bail; but as the sheriff's officers were returning home they were attacked by a riotous mob of four hundred persons, who destroyed the keeper's gardens, cut down trees, and threatened to murder them and the keepers. About thirty of the rioters were found guilty at the Epiphany Sessions 1670.

Sir Baynham re-stocked the Chase with 5000 deer, and exhibited a Bill in the Exchequer against the intruders, the pretended lords of the soil of the Chase, viz., Sir John Newton, Thos. Chester, Jno. Berkely and Wm. Player, Esquires, for their intrusions and encroachments as well on the soil as the franchise.

<sup>1</sup> See copy *in extenso* in Appendix.

Interrogator at another Commission issued Sep. 1671.

ARTICLES OF INSTRUCTION to be observed by y<sup>e</sup> Commission named in the Commission hereunto annexed, in order to y<sup>e</sup> punishment and correction of all offences committed in his Majesties Chace of Kingswood called Kingswood Forest in y<sup>e</sup> County of Gloster, & for the ascertaining his Majesties right there & for the better regulating and settling of the said Chace & otherwise as is hereafter directed.

The said Comm<sup>rs</sup> according to the power contained in y<sup>e</sup> said Commission shall inquire by jury & examination of witnesses & by all & every & any other lawful ways & meanes as they shall think fit of all & . . . the particulars hereafter specified in manner as they are herein expressed. And shall summon all person & persons as can give any evidence for his Majestie in any of the said particulars, & review . . . tions & certifiye y<sup>e</sup> names of such persons as shall neglect or refuse to give their information & . . . therein, & shall also certifiye unto his Maj<sup>ty</sup> Court of Exchequer all matters & things which the said . . . shall find by any such enquiry, together with the examinations of such witnesses as shall be examined therein, as in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Com<sup>n</sup> is directed.

1. To inquire They shall perambulate y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace if they think fitt, or cause the same to be perambulated by a jury of able men, inhabiting without the wasts & boundarys thereof, & having noe lands or tenements within the same, & shall take into their consideration the survey thereof made under or in the time of the . . . parliament, & shall inquire & certifiye the true meetes, limitts & boundes of the said forest or Chace by particular names & descriptions, within which his Majesties franchise or liberty of Chace aforesaid is conteyned, hath been or ought to be of right used & enjoyed, as also the limits and bounds of each l<sup>d</sup>ship or . . . lying intirely or in part within y<sup>e</sup> meetes & perambulation of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace, to y<sup>e</sup> end the same may be distinctly & certainly knowne.

2. To inquire of They shall likewise inquire & certifiye how many lodges his Maj. or any lodges or w<sup>h</sup> do of his . . . have or ought to have had & used within the s<sup>d</sup> Chace for y<sup>e</sup> belong thereto. habitation of his or their Ranger keepers or other officers of the s<sup>d</sup> Chace, & in what places by particular boundaries they stood & how long since & how the same came to be demolished, & when & by whom & what gardens inclosures grounds or . . . belonged or do belong thereunto, & who is or are in possession of the said lodges gardens grounds or easements or any of them, & for how long time such person or persons have or hath been in possession thereof.

3. To enquire They shall inquire & certifiye what person & persons by name & whether who have had living within y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> or without y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace & where living do claime & use or ought to by any pretense of right common of pasture, estoores or turbary within have any right y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace for themselves or tenants whether in grose or appurtenant to

of common any & to what manors messuages lands & tenem<sup>ts</sup> and where y<sup>e</sup> same are according to lying or situate, & to what number of acres particularly & for what & to custome. how many ..... in what proportions or other certainty, and how long they or any of them have claimed & used the same, and by what title, whether it be by prescription or how & in what other manner.

4. To inquire They shall enquire & certify what person or persons by name & where who have put dwelling have at any time since y<sup>e</sup> ..... day of June 1660 put any cattle cattle in have & what number & of what sort unto all or any of y<sup>e</sup> wasts or other lands not any right lying within y<sup>e</sup> said chace to depasture there, not having right of common of common. in the said wasts or having right who have overcharged the said common.

And further who have taken or cutt any timber & ..... or turbary there, & what quantities thereof, & when & whether having or not having any right of estovers there or other interest in the said timber woods or turbary to the prejudice & disadvantage of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace or the herbage or coverts thereof & the value of such prejudice & damage.

5. To inquire They shall enquire & certifie how many trees, loads or other quantities whattreeshave of timber, oaks, elms, ash, hollies, hazels or other underwoods for coverts, been cut down have been felled cut downe or carried away within y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace at any time since 24 June or times, since y<sup>e</sup> 24 June 1660 within or without pretence of right soe to 1660. do, whereby the said Chace or the correct franchise or liberty thereof hath been in any wise prejudiced & damnified & to what value, & what person or persons by name & where dwelling have cutt & felled & carried away the same.

6. To inquire They shall inquire & certifie how many pitts of coal & quarries of stone about pitts or & in what ..... or places of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace have been sunk opened or digged quarries wh. within y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace att any time or times since y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> 24th of June 1660 & have been dig- when & by whom & by what right or title were the said pits or quarries ged & not filled so sunk opened or digged & the coles or stones thereof carried away, & up. what prejudice there hath been to the s<sup>d</sup> place or the franchise thereof or liberty, & whether any of the pits or quarries within y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace after they have been fully wrought have been filled up againe & made even as the same ought to bee by those that sunk opened digged & wrought the same, & how many do now lye open & who ought to fill up & make the same plaine.

7. Q. What in- They shall inquire & certify what assarts purprestures or incroachments croachments or have been made & what number of acres, perches or other quantities have inclosures have been taken or inclosed by incroachments or otherwise ..... the wast been made since grounds of or within the said Chace, & annexed to old or any other 24 June 1660? inclosures, or ..... severally within y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace, since y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> 24 June 1660

or before & when & by whom & where dwelling to the prejudice of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace or any of the woods or covertes thereof & what damage his Majestie hath susteyned in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace by such assarts purprestures, ineroachments or inclosures or any of them.

8. Q. What They shall inquire & ceytifye what Cottages or Hutts have been erected Cottages have upon new foundations in the said Chace at any time during the terme of been erected. 40 years last past to the terror hurt or destruction of the Deer there or to the prejudice of the said Chace, & by what person or persons & upon whose soyle, & whether the owners of the soyle whereon the s<sup>d</sup> Cottages or huts were built did authorize or give leave for the erecting thereof & the names of such owners respectively. And what person or persons of what profession or employment have continued & inhabited in the s<sup>d</sup> Cottages or huts, or any of them since the s<sup>d</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> day of June above named, or whether the owners or pretended owners of the soyle thereof, & who by name have demised or lett the s<sup>d</sup> Cottages or hutts or any of them to the inhabitants thereof or any of them, & for & under what fine or fines Rent or Rents or have recev<sup>d</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> same any & what Rent or Rents.

9. They shall enquire & certify which & how many of the s<sup>d</sup> Cottages or hutts ..... are of such prejudice to the state of the said Chace that they may not be permitted to remaine & continue & which & how many of the said Cottages & hutts & where standing may be permitted to stand, and be arrented to the occupiers thereof at a certain fyne & under a certaine yeares rent without any considerable prejudice to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace, & what fines are reasonable & fitt to be taken & what yearly rents to be reserved upon the arrentation thereof upon his Majties lease to continue the said Cottages which shall be thought fit to be continued.

10. They shall inquire & certifye what libertyes profits fees authorities & priveliges his Maj<sup>tie</sup> Ranger Keepers & other officers of the said Chace have been used to take receive & exercise within y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace, either to his Maj<sup>ties</sup> use or their owne benefits. And whether they have used to make any drift or drifts of or in the said Chace or to take or impound such beasts & cattle as have been found there trespassing or have seized all wayfes & strayes there found to his Maj<sup>tie</sup> use or other or otherwise & in what other manner, & how long the said priveledges libertyes proffits fees & authorities have been there exercised taken or used.

11. They shall inquire & certifye what new parkes or warrens have been of late years erected, made, or used as parkes or warrens either within or adjoining the said Chace & who have erected inclosed or used any such parkes or warrens, of what extent or quantity the same are & in what places ..... and how long they or any of them have been so erected enclosed or used, & upon what right or ..... of right & whether such new parkes or any other parks within or adjoining to the said Chace have any deer leap leaft open in them, or any of them, & whether any person or persons ..... of warren within or adjoining to the said Chace have enlarged his or their warren or ..... & how long they have been enlarged & how much & to what prejudice of the said Chace.

12. They shall inquire & certifie all & all manner of other assarts purprestures wasts nusancess over burdenings of commons incroachments erections destructions of vert & vension ..... & offences whatsoever committed acted omitted or suffered within or in relation to the same to the prejudice of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace or the vert or venison thereof since the said 24th of June 1660, & all other matters things & circumstances for the better finding out & discovering the truth & certainty of the said premisses in order to the punishment & correction of all offences committed in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Chace, & the ascertaininge his Maj<sup>ties</sup> rights there & therein, & the regulating & settling of the said Chace which by the said Com<sup>rs</sup> or any three or more of them according to the purport of the Commission hereunto annexed shall be thought most conducing to his Maj<sup>ties</sup> said service therein.

13. And lastly in case any question or doubt shall bee moved in this service which the said Commissioners or any of three of them cannot reconcile amongst themselves, then they or any three of them are to certifie the Lords Com<sup>rs</sup> of the Treasury or Lord Treasurer & Chancellor of the Exchequer of such question & doubt that such timely order may be taken therein, that his Majestie's service be not delayed or hindered.

*Signed,* FANSHAWE.

Once it was proposed (in 1661, *vide* p. 199 ante) by the Lords of the Treasury to disfranchise the Chase and inclose it, and to accept a third part for the King, a third to go to the freeholders, and a third to the pretended lords. The commission issued in 1666 also endeavoured to treat with the owners and commoners, and it would have been effected had it not been opposed by Sir John Newton (he had lately by purchase become an owner) who receded from his promise of agreement.

In 1675, Mr. Robert Dover, deputy ranger, one of the witnesses in the suit then pending, says that he perambulated the Chase with "a jury of several of the antientist of the inhabitants aboute the said Chase, by virtue of the Commission issued from the Exchequer in 1666 for that purpose." He describes the boundaries of the Chase, in all essentials the same as before, but worded rather differently. Rudder in his *History of Gloucestershire*, p. 458, has printed them. He speaks of Don Johns, *alias* Dungs Cross, &c., also that one Grimes, a Pursuivant from Charles I, was sent down, and imprisoned some for killing deer, that some compounded on payment of 20s., that the same had been done before. Mr. Dyer built a lodge and enclosed three acres of coal ground, which he held twenty years and then sold to Captain Burges.

The suit lasted Sir Baynham's life; for he, having consented to a special

jury, could never get all the judges to argue it, so great interest was made against him, especially by Sir John Ernley, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and brother-in-law to Chester, one of the defendants. Whereupon Sir Baynham was induced to defer the matter, as the nation was in such a state. About the same time (1680) he died. After which the intruding or pretended lords forcibly entered the Chase, killed the deer, denying the King's right.

On 3rd of January 1681-2 the three daughters, Elizabeth, Caroline, and Mary (devises under Sir Baynham's will dated 16th July 1680 and proved 13th February 1681) assigned to Francis Creswick, Esq.,<sup>1</sup> Thomas Stubbs and Stephen Chapman, Gents., the Chase with all the deer, &c. for the residue of the term of sixty years unexpired; the consideration money was £850.

The assignees, being thus possessed, and become the farmers or lessees of the Chase, immediately exhibited a bill in the Exchequer in Trinity term 1682, after which they had a long and tedious controversy with the lords for the King's franchise, the Attorney General acting for the plaintiffs. In these suits every record from the Conquest to the present time was produced in Court, copies of which I have been allowed to see and to possess. At last, in Michaelmas term (October 27th 1684), the King's right to free chase was decreed to him and all claiming under him against the opposers.

Notwithstanding this DECREE (copies of which were served to each) the intruders still continued to spoil the Chase destroying the deer, building cottages and adding inclosures, cutting down timber, &c., though served with many injunctions from the Exchequer. It was proved by many witnesses that they and others bordering on the Chase kept deer harness for catching the deer, and cross-bows for killing them.

The lords, against whom the decree was made, during the troublesome time of Charles had divided the Chase among themselves, and called them LIBERTIES, after their own names, and allowed the cottages to be built, taking rent for the same. After the decree the lessees made the best terms they could with the cottagers, granting leases.

It may here be noted, that in August, 1687, when the Queen of James II was at Bath, a letter from the Board of Green Cloth, with a warrant, was

<sup>1</sup> The same who was afterwards mixed up with Monmouth's Rebellion, see p. 140 ante.



addressed to the Ranger of the Chase to deliver to the King's larders five brace of bucks on certain days, and others when required.

In 1718 a negociation was opened with Creswick by one Joseph Durden, of London, for the eleven years to run of the unexpired lease; in reply he writes, "much good may it do the Peer who wants it. I should not advise my son to have any thing to do with it. At a great expence we got a Decree for the King's right, and not one farthing the better for it—nor will any body—for it is now utterly destroyed—woods all cut down. Mr. Chapman and Stubbs have been long since dead—myself surviving—nobody now claims, or concern themselves with the Chase, but the Lords. Stubbs sold his right to them, and they will never part with it till the eleven years to run are expired."<sup>1</sup>

The lease expired in January, 1729, when it was stated that the lands were held by several personages who had no title thereto, the lessee or his representative having neglected to maintain the king's rights, or to make any advantage of the lands for many years previous to the expiration of the lease, so that it was apprehended that the boundaries would be very hard to ascertain and the possession very difficult and expensive to recover.

On 27th September, 1734, a lease was granted to Onisiphorus Tyndall, jun., for thirty-one years, on condition of the payment of 40s. yearly, and that he should try the title of the crown to the premises, with the aid of the exchequer if need be; and not compound with any pretended owner or occupier of the premises, to the prejudice of his Majesty his heirs and successors. In addition to the said lease, in 1736 he obtained a demise of the quarries of stone, pits of coal, and mines of lead, copper and other minerals within the Forest and Chase of Kingswood for thirty-one years, rendering the yearly rent of 6s. 8d. and a tenth part of the clear yearly profits.<sup>2</sup>

It does not appear what was done in consequence of this lease, whether Mr. Tyndall ever took any measure towards the fulfilment of the condition of it.

The next record is by the Committee of the Land Revenue, in their first report to Parliament, dated the 25th of January 1787, in which it is merely stated that "this was a disputed matter, and the lessee was to try the Crown's title." Whether he succeeded or not does not appear to the Surveyor-General.

<sup>1</sup> Creswick died aged 89 in 1732.

<sup>2</sup> *Exchequer Book of Abstracts of Crown Leases*, vol. x, p. 343).

From the foregoing history it will be seen how from generation to generation a set of lawless persons had not only encroached upon the King's right, but had converted it into an instrument of spreading immorality and desolation throughout the neighbourhood.

In April, 1786, Joseph Fry and Samuel Ward were executed. They made the number of ten persons from Bitton who had died at the gallows within three years. The gang to which they belonged kept the neighbourhood in so much dread that people used to pay them an annual stipend not to rob them; some paid 10s. 6d., some 5s., which was regularly collected at Lansdown Fair.<sup>1</sup>

In 1795 riotous persons from Kingswood attempted to prevent the supply of coals and other provisions to the city of Bristol, committing robberies on the highways; when a reward of fifty guineas was offered by the city chamberlain for the apprehension, and on conviction, of any of the offenders. Edward Peacock (*alias* Peake), Richard Hobbs, Henry Lewis, Jacob Porter, Moses Isles, William Fry and George Thomson were the principals.<sup>2</sup>

Things of this sort were come to such a climax that at the beginning of the present century an association was formed for the prosecution of thieves, housebreakers, &c. Also a troop of yeomanry called the Bitton troop was raised, which proved a great assistance to the constabulary, most of the cottages in the Chase being surrounded by a hedge and a road all round; many of these roads were closed by the Bitton Inclosure Act 1819.

The following prospectus issued in 1811 gives a woeful account of affairs at that time,—

*“Kingswood Association  
for the Prosecution of Thieves, Housebreakers, &c.*

“Whereas the alarming Depredations continually committed, by a very daring and daily increasing Combination of Villains, extending their ravages for many miles round the Country, and well known to reside chiefly in this

<sup>1</sup> *Bristol Gazette*, April 23rd, 1786.

<sup>2</sup> In October, 1261, Roger de Button with others broke into the Abbey of Glastonbury and robbed the coffers, carrying away two hundred pounds worth of treasures and the Abbot's seal and the seal of the abbey, which they kept four years. (Abb. placit., Coram Rege Roll, 44th Henry III, Rot. 12.) Though I have failed to graft the above Roger into the pedigree of the Bishop's family, no doubt they were a gang from the same parish.

neighbourhood, have induced a few Persons, desirous of promoting the welfare of the Community, to unite their efforts, in attempting to form a Society, for the suppression of such enormous evils; and they did, by Advertisement, convene a considerable number of respectable Inhabitants, at the Flower-Pot Inn, at Kingswood, on Monday the 9th of September last; when certain Resolutions were agreed to, and a committee chosen, for the purpose of taking into mature consideration the peculiar circumstances of the Case,—in order to adopt and vigorously prosecute, with unwearied diligence, such measures as may tend to produce the desired effect, by striking a decisive blow at the root of such a System of Iniquitous Practices, as it is supposed, never was equalled in any other part of the Kingdom;

“The Committee, in pursuance of such appointment, have since met at a room, engaged for the purpose, at Kingswood Hill, and resolved (in an entirely gratuitous manner, and with unremitting attention) to use every exertion in their power to promote the designs of this Institution; and having acquired a comprehensive view of this singular System, as to the different modes in which their diabolical purposes are accomplished, conceive it not irrelevant to detail a few particulars.

“This Scheme of unparalleled enormity, demanding such earnest attention, has been progressively and uninterruptedly maturing for a long series of years; and such is the nature of their establishment, that whole families are dependant on this combination for maintenance, and many hundreds of the younger branches are well known to be now in actual training for the like purposes. It is also ascertained, that they are in the habit of decoying labourers from their accustomed employments, and formally admitting them into their society.

“Great numbers of hucksters, in this and the surrounding neighbourhood, are in alliance with them; the vendors of the goods are seen passing with cart-loads, to and from different places, by night, none presuming to interrupt them; and although it seldom occurs, that any of these plunderers succeed in securing their booty, without being recognized by colliers passing to and from the mines, before they arrive at their several places of residence, yet they consider themselves as inviolably secure: for any one daring to impeach them, would endanger both property and life: consequently, ordinary means adopted by Societies in general, in offering Rewards, &c. would be altogether abortive.

Should the statement of these circumstances create surprise, or be deemed an exaggeration, suffice it to observe, that the committee (several of whom have been long resident in Kingswood, close observers of the transactions alluded to, and for those peculiar reasons, selected as most suitably qualified to meet the exigencies of the society) stand pledged to give the most positive proof of their existence, which is sufficiently notorious to the majority of the inhabitants of these parts.

“The great number of Persons resident in the Neighbourhood of Kingswood might reasonably have encouraged us to expect extensive assistance. Such, however, is the astonishing terror prevalent in the minds of very many, arising from an apprehension that the incensed miscreants would reward their interference with still greater destruction, and so many are prevented from aiding this Association on account of Relationship to them, that when it is considered, in addition hereto, that thousands are connected, by receiving and vending the goods, it will not appear surprising that very few, comparatively, remain sufficiently virtuous or courageous to unite with us; and it must be needless to hint at the unparalleled enormities we have to expect, unless such prompt and energetic measures be adopted as the nature of the case requires. Under the impression therefore of their very urgent necessity, the Committee have determined on such cautious and vigorous steps as are very likely to accomplish their designs, and hope, through the united exertions of many of the respectable Inhabitants of Bristol, Bath, Kingswood, and their vicinity, to be soon enabled to proceed to successful operation.

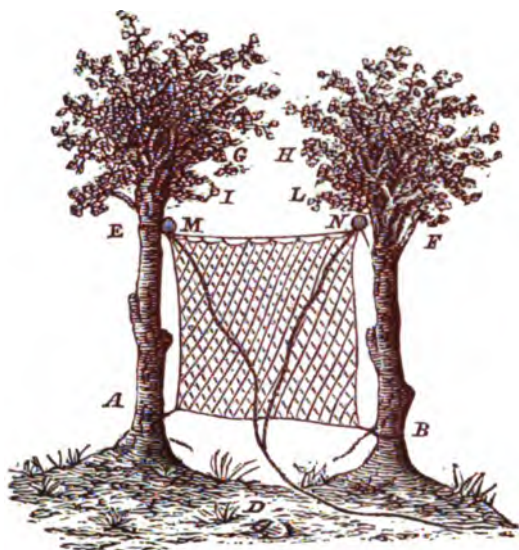
“Subscriptions are received at all the Banking Houses, at the Commercial Rooms, by Mr. Thomas Roberts, Stokes-Croft; Mr. James Ewer, Dighton Street; Mr. Thomas Stock, Lewin’s Mead; and Mr. William Stockham, Castle Street, in Bristol; Mr. T. Parker, and Mr. Hobbs, Stapleton; Messrs. Emmett and Gunter, Downend; Messrs. Piper and Jefferys, Siston; Mr. R. Jarret, at the Tower, Warmley; and the Treasurer; for which purpose suitable books of entry will be left with them. And in order to give the utmost satisfaction relative to the manner in which the business of this Society shall be conducted and the money applied, Mr. Robert Lewis, Merchant of Bristol, has obligingly consented to become Treasurer and Inspector, to whom progress will be regularly reported.

“December 28th, 1811.

“ROBERT LEWIS.

“THOMAS STOCK.

“THOMAS SANDERS.”



In 1815 there were in Gloucester gaol twenty-five prisoners committed for divers offences. They were spoken of as the "COCKROAD GANG." A part of a Chase known as COCKROAD [see Plate III] is found in many forests; it means a passage or opening cut in a wood for the more convenient catching of woodcocks by a net placed, as here represented, across the opening:<sup>1</sup> there is another place on the Chase called Cockshot allied to it.

The most notorious characters of the gang were the family of Benjamin Cains.<sup>2</sup>

It was my lot to go to the parish in July 1817, as Curate in sole charge of the mother Church, with an Assistant at the two Chapels of Ease; and one of the earliest funeral services I had to perform was that of Benjamin Cains (aged 23), executed at Gloster for burglary. I preached after the Lesson to a numerous and attentive congregation. At that time all the inhabitants in that part of the Chase were buried at Bitton.

Strangers to the neighbourhood will very naturally ask, how it came to pass that such a population, so close to the city of Bristol, was apparently neglected and allowed to make such lawless head? It must be borne in mind, that at that time the Church was almost powerless. Bitton Church and the two Chapels of Ease, Oldland and Hanham, and SS. Philip and Jacob in Bristol were the nearest to the Chase; miserably endowed, and, it may be, the ministerial duties were carelessly attended to.

There were no schools for poor children. The Baptists appear to have been the first who came to the rescue; for they set up a meeting house in Hanham, dated on the outside 1714. Mr. Andrew Gifford and his son Mr. Emanuel

<sup>1</sup> *Archaeological Journal*, vol. v, p. 119.

<sup>2</sup> The eldest son George was transported for life for housebreaking; Thomas and Benjamin were executed for burglary; Thomas, Joseph and Samuel transported for burglary; James, a grandson of old Benjamin, executed for murder; Francis and Thomas, grandsons, transported; other descendants transported or executed; three daughters had their respective husbands executed or transported. Richard Bryant (the noted "DICKBOY") was of this gang, as were Ben. Kayford and Geo. Ward (*alias* DAGGER) and some others, all hanged at Gloucester, Bristol, Salisbury and Ilchester.

were the first who ministered there; afterwards for many years it was supplied from the Pithy meeting house in Bristol. In 1737 Mr. John Cennick of Reading, then an associate of the Rev. G. Whitfield, preached his first sermon in the house of Mr. Tippet on Kingswood Hill, on the site of which he afterwards built a chapel in association with the Revs. John and Charles Wesley, from whom he separated in 1744 and joined the Moravian Brethren, who still hold their own on the Hill.

In 1739 the neglected state of Kingswood attracted the notice of Whitfield, who was then at Bristol. "At length," says Southey in his *Life of Wesley*, vol. i, p. 230, "he considered it a matter of duty and of sound policy (which is always a duty) that these people should not be left in a state of bestial ignorance; heathens, or worse than heathens, in the midst of a Christian country, and brutal as savages in the close vicinity of a city, which was then in extent, wealth, population, and commercial importance the second city in England." In the afternoon, therefore, of Saturday, February 17, 1739, he stood upon a mount in a place called Rose Green, his "first field pulpit," and preached to as many as came to hear, attracted by the novelty of such an address. Not above two hundred persons gathered round him, for there had been no previous notice of his intention, and these, perhaps, were more astonished than impressed by what they heard; but the first step was taken, and Whitfield was fully aware of its importance. When he went again to Kingswood, his second audience consisted of about two thousand persons, his third from four to five thousand, and they went on increasing to ten, fourteen, and twenty thousand. "The sun shone very bright," he says in his Journal, "and the people standing in such an awful manner round the mount, in the profoundest silence, filled me with a holy admiration." After this, by frequent and urgent request, Wesley came to Bristol in 1739, and was introduced by his friend Whitfield, who then left. "His journey," Southey goes on to say, p. 243, "lay through Kingswood, and there the colliers, without his knowledge, had prepared an entertainment for him. Having been informed that they were willing to subscribe towards building a charity school for their children, he had preached to them on the subject, and he says it was surprising to see with what cheerfulness they parted with their money on this occasion, all willing to assist, either by their money or their labour, and now at this farewell visit they earnestly entreated that he would lay the first stone. The

request was somewhat premature, for it was not yet certain whether the site which they desired would be granted them. A person, however, was present who declared he would give a piece of ground in case the lord of the manor should refuse, and Whitfield then laid a stone; after which he knelt and prayed to God that the gates of hell might not prevail against their design, the colliers saying a hearty Amen." The place is still standing, and is called the "Old Tabernacle," but a more enlarged building has since been erected.

The next place of worship is called "THE OLD SCHOOL," built by John Wesley in 1748. Annexed to it was a large building called Kingswood School (see plate xii). It was afterwards much enlarged. On two stones are recorded—

HANC SCHOLAM CONDITAM, DEDICAVIT REV.  
JOHANNES WESLEY, A.M., JUNII 28, 1748.  
IN GLORIAM DOM. OPISSIMI MAXIMI  
IN USUM ECCLESLE & REIUPBLICÆ.

The buildings were enlarged in 1832, as appears by this inscription on another stone tablet—

WESLEIADARUM FILIIS  
DOCTRINA LIBERALI  
COMMEDIUS INSTITUENDIS  
Ps. 68, 11.  
A.D. 1832.

The school, as a place of education for the sons of Wesleyan ministers, was carried on many years most successfully; but in 1851 the premises were sold and the scholastic establishment was removed to Lansdown, near Bath. The buildings are now used as a reformatory school, founded in 1852 by Miss Carpenter and Mr. Scott Russell, as an Asylum for young persons who had been amenable to the law. It is still carried on with the happiest results, for the western counties, assisted by grants from the Treasury.

At last the Church made a move. In the year 1751, Dr. Butler, Bishop of Bristol, obtained an Act of Parliament for dividing the parish of SS. Philip and Jacob, severing from the mother Church a large portion of the parish lying in the Barton. Mr. Thomas Chester, as lord of the manor, gave a site a little to the

south-east of Dungeon's Cross for a church and churchyard and a parsonage. On the 3rd of March, 1752, the first stone was laid by David Paloquin the mayor of Bristol, but the building was not consecrated before September 6th, 1756, when it was dedicated to S. George.

The building was not very ecclesiastical, and therefore it was pulled down in 1845 and enlarged and reopened in 1846; that church was burnt down December 22nd 1878: since which a most handsome building, with a spire and six bells, has been erected and opened May 8th, 1880. At the opening of the second church I read the First Lesson, and at the opening of the third church my son officiated in the same way.

After this date nothing more appears to have been done to civilize and educate the inhabitants, who had become more and more notorious for wickedness, before Sunday the 26th of July, 1812, on which day a school was opened on Mount Pleasant, in the very heart of Cockwood, under the direction of the Bristol Methodist School Society; seventy-four children were first admitted, many of them children of the worst characters in the district. It was soon found that the building was not large enough for a day school, which it was most desirable to establish, therefore a piece of land was purchased on the same site, large enough for a building capable of containing three hundred children, and a master's residence; through the energies of Mr. Henry Hill Budget (who for a time, and from the first, managed the school), and other members of the Wesleyan body, and many members of the Society of Friends, and some Moravians, the present buildings were erected.

In 1818, immediately after the liberality of Parliament had voted one million for Church building purposes,<sup>1</sup> and a Society was formed in London to assist in particular cases the building of churches, the Honble. and Right Rev. Henry Ryder, the Bishop of Gloucester, turned his attention to the state of Kingswood; a subscription was set on foot to meet what might be granted either by the Building Commission or the Society; the Patron and Incumbent offered to appropriate a portion of tithes towards an endowment; the Commission immediately voted £2143, and the Society £700. "Furnished with these means preparations were immediately made to begin the work, a site on Kingswood Hill was given,—within sight and not far

<sup>1</sup> 58th George III, cap. 45.



from the Wesleyan and Whitfield buildings and the Moravian's, and on the 9th of June, 1819, the first stone of the Church of the Holy Trinity was laid by the Bishop of Gloucester. When all expected that the superstructure (wholly of Bath stone from Beech, within the parish and on the prebendal manor) would shortly follow, a gloom, for some months, hung over the undertaking, arising from difficulties with regard to the title of the site,<sup>1</sup> nor was it till the following May, in 1820, that the work proceeded; notwithstanding this unexpected delay, the building was completed at the time appointed and was the FIRST of the Million Fund Churches consecrated, viz., on Tuesday, the 11th September, 1821. On the same day his Lordship perambulated and pointed out a line of demarcation, for that part of the parish to be attached as an Ecclesiastical district to the new church, according to the provisions of the Act. By the census 1821, that district contained 3,692 souls, the total of the whole parish being 7,171. The New Church was dedicated to the Holy Trinity.<sup>2</sup> It was a day that would not be easily forgotten by the old and young of Kingswood Forest. It was well said in a provincial paper that "the service had everything connected with it to render it as solemn and interesting as any we have ever witnessed." A very great concourse of people was assembled on the occasion, and though the Church is calculated to contain one thousand persons (nine hundred sittings being free) it is supposed that twice that number was present, beside many who could not gain admittance. No persons were admitted into the Church before the Bishop except the Clergy (who were in waiting to receive his Lordship) and the children of the Cock-road and other schools in the neighbourhood, who had been previously trained to be the leading singers of the day. The Bishop, soon after eleven, was received at the gates of the yard by the Churchwardens, who conducted his Lordship to the west door of the Church, where the Clergy and other principal inhabitants were waiting. Mr. Whittuck as lord of the Manor, in his own name, and that of the other parishioners, presented a petition to his Lordship, setting forth the necessity of an additional place of worship, owing to the great population of the neighbourhood, the distance from the mother Church at Bitton, and other local circumstances. The petition was received by the Bishop, and given to

<sup>1</sup> *Christian Remembrancer*, January, 1822.

<sup>2</sup> See plate xiii.

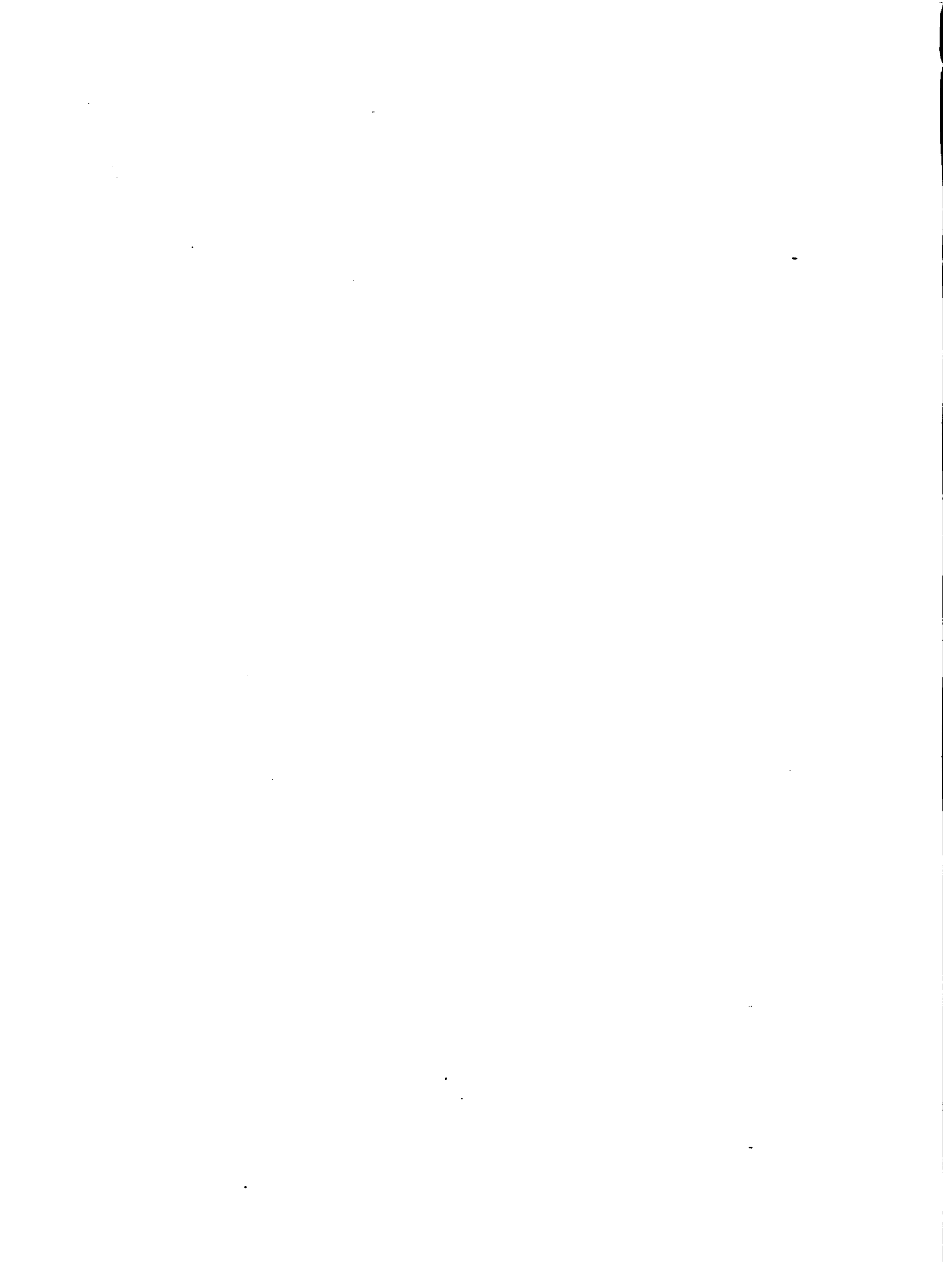
his Registrar to read. After which the doors were opened, and his Lordship preceded by his mace-bearer and the Churchwardens, and followed by the Clergy, repaired to the vestry. When the congregation was accommodated, and every thing quiet and orderly, the Bishop, accompanied as before, went to the west door, where he began the appointed service of the day, viz. the 24th Psalm; "The earth is the Lord's," &c., which was alternated by the Clergy and people. The Bishop having gone to the north side of the altar, and the Rev. Mr. Macdonald, the Vicar of Bitton, with the Rev. Mr. Kempthorne (his Lordship's Chaplain), to the south; the deed of endowment was presented to him by the Rev. Vicar. His Lordship then proceeded to read, in a most impressive manner, the Exhortation and Prayers of Consecration; the sentence of Consecration was read by the Chaplain, and signed by the Bishop. After which, the Rev. Mr. Ellicombe, the Curate of Bitton, began the Morning Service. The Psalms<sup>1</sup> and Lessons<sup>2</sup> appointed for the occasion, are particularly striking, so well are they adapted to such an interesting solemnity. The 100th Psalm, and part of the 26th Old Version, were admirably sung by the children and congregation. The sermon followed, in which his Lordship expatiated at some length in an elegant and animated manner, on the privileges and advantages of the public service of our church, and beautifully introduced the long neglected inhabitants of Kingswood hailing with joy and gladness the temple lately raised for their accommodation. The sermon being ended his Lordship, accompanied as before, proceeded to consecrate the burying ground adjoining, and returned to administer the Sacrament to those who remained. Thus was completed the first church built with the assistance of Government: and it is devoutly hoped, that the blessing of the Almighty ever lighting upon this church it may be instrumental in reforming the lives and manners of those for whose benefit it has been erected.

At the Fishponds, in the parish of Stapleton, adjoining Bitton, about two miles from Holy Trinity, on 31 August in the same year, an additional church, capable of accommodating eight hundred people, was consecrated by Bishop Kaye of Bristol.<sup>3</sup> This church was built by a grant from the

<sup>1</sup> Psalms lxxxiv, cxxii, cxxxii.

<sup>2</sup> First Lesson, part of viiith chap. 1st of Kings. Second from Hebrews x, 19 to 27.

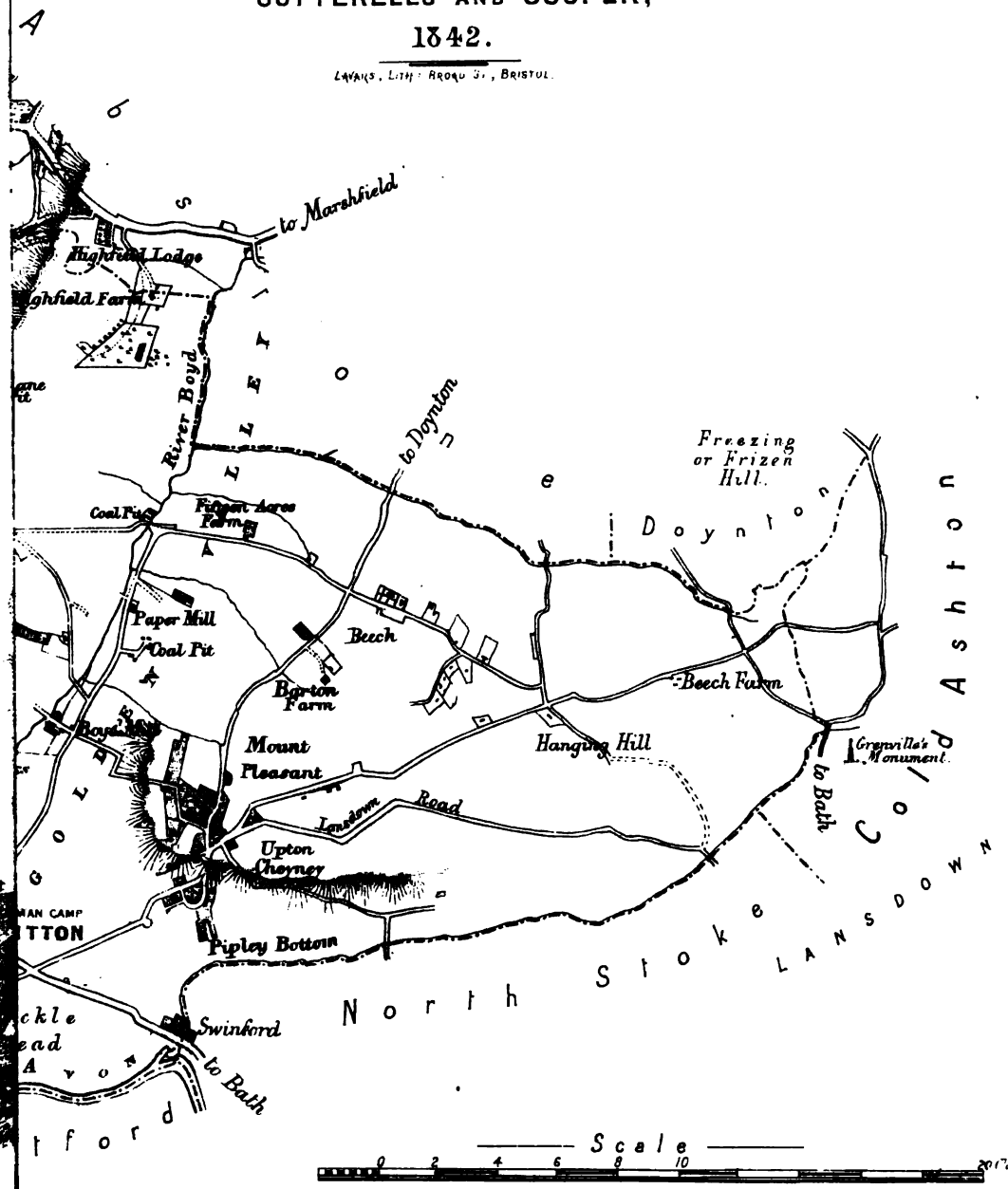
<sup>3</sup> The consecration of churches was then a solemnity "few and far between;" there was no authorized form, therefore the Bishop adopted that drawn up by Convocation 1712, which is set forth in Burn's *Ecclesiastical Law*.



Map of  
THE  
**PARISH OF BITTON,**  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

From the Ordnance Map  
BY  
COTTERELLS AND COOPER,  
1842.

LAVALS, LITH: BROOK ST., BRISTOL.



What though gay youth no more his song renews,  
 Life's summer-light dies, like the rainbow hues ;  
 The Christian hails the ray that cheers the gloom,  
 And throws its heav'nly halo round the tomb.

Who bade the grave its mouldering vault unclose ?  
 ' Christ—Christ who died ; yea, rather Christ who rose : '

Hope lifts from Earth her tear-illumined eye,  
 She sees dispersed the world's last tempest fly ;  
 Sees death arrested 'midst his havoc vast,—

Lord, at Thy feet, his broken weapons cast !

In circles, far retiring from the sight,  
 Till, undistinguished, they are lost in Light,  
 Admiring Seraphim suspend their wings,  
 Whilst, hark ! th' eternal Empyrean rings,  
 ' Hosannah, Lord of lords, and King of kings ! ' }

These thoughts arose, when from the crowded fane  
 I saw retire the mute assembled train ;  
 These images beguil'd my homeward way,  
 That high o'er Lansdown's lonely summit lay.

There seem'd a music in the evening gale,  
 And looking back on the long-spreading vale,  
 A blessing seem'd to wait upon the hour

When the last light from Heav'n shone on the distant tower

W. L. B.

Having given an account of the consecration of these two churches of the Holy Trinity and S. Mary's at the Fishponds, as published in the *Christian Remembrancer*, January, 1822, it will not be out of place to record here the other churches which have since been built and consecrated within the purlieus of the Old Chase, not to mention several others beyond the old boundaries.

1831, Oct. 28, Christ Church	at Downend.
1832, Feb. 17, Holy Trinity	at Lawford's Gate.
1834, Aug. 21, S. John's	at Frenchay.
1842, Oct. 18, Christ Church,	on Jefferies' Hill.
1843, Sep. 19, S. Luke's,	on Barton Hill.
1845, Oct. 10, S. Saviour's,	on Coal Pit Heath.

1848.	May 18.	S. Michael's	at Lower Easton.
	„ Aug. 23.	S. Michael's	on Two Mile Hill.
1860.	Nov. 1.	All Saints	on Winterbourn Down.

Besides Meeting Houses of various denominations, one called APPII FORUM, near three public houses, built by Mr. George Pocock of Bristol.

But to return to Kingswood Hill. The Rev. Joseph Ditcher, M.A., was the first minister appointed to Holy Trinity. He lost no time in building a parsonage house and a large national school. Other good works, set on foot before the building of the Church, were in full operation; chiefly through the energy of Mr. Henry Hill Budgett, assisted by many benevolent friends in Bristol.<sup>1</sup> The first of all was the KINGSWOOD BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, begun in 1804, from which date to 1814, four thousand persons had been relieved. In 1817 there were six hundred applicants, who suffered from hunger, nakedness, and disease, in a circuit only of two miles, supported chiefly by friends in Bristol, and has ever since continued its works of benevolence. The whole district teems with poverty.

It deserves to be mentioned that in 1831 very serious riots took place in various parts of the kingdom, ricks of corn and machinery being destroyed. In October of that year riots took place in Bristol, when the Bishop's palace and other buildings were destroyed. During all that time nothing of the sort occurred in Kingswood or the neighbourhood. It was stated in London and other newspapers that colliers from Kingswood were principals in the riots, which was a slanderous libel. I visited the Bristol Infirmary the day after the outrages, but I could not find among the wounded sufferers any person from Kingswood, or other parts of the parish of Bitton. Mr. Budgett, who had resided in Kingswood over thirty years, issued a circular as an act of justice to the colliers, denying the statement. He said "very few of them were concerned in the outrage, and that the few who were are such as the colliers as a body would altogether disapprove of and disclaim." One to whom I mentioned the report replied to me, "I think we know'd better than that." Surely this quietness may be attributed to the religious *tone* which then pervaded the district.

<sup>1</sup> He was the eldest brother of Samuel Budgett, made known to all the world as "*the successful merchant*;" they had a large mercantile establishment on the Hill, from which the country for many miles round was supplied.

Again, when the Beer House Act passed, the colliers petitioned both Houses of Parliament on the propriety of repealing or modifying the same. Whatever the colliers may have been in former times, it is a pleasure to me to say, that during my long residence amongst them, from 1817 to 1850, they were, with very few exceptions, the cleanest and most industrious parishioners: the majority (for some worked in the night) going down the Pits at five a.m., and returning at one p.m., they washed in hot water, on reaching their neat cottages, and then worked as gardeners, tailors, shoemakers, or some other handicraft during the remainder of the day.

The building of a new Church, with parsonage house and school, on that naturally and spiritually wild and uncultivated spot Jefferies' hill, in the southern extremity of the Chase, was too important a transaction to be passed over without some particulars of interest.

The first stone was laid on the 28th of February, 1840, with a solemn service of prayer and sacred song, by Jane Isabella Ellacombe, the eldest daughter of the Vicar of Bitton, on which day she completed twenty-one years from her birth in the parish. As it pleased our Heavenly Father to take her to himself, on the 27th December, 1854, after ministering many years among the poor in the north of London, this Church may be considered as her monument, no other having been raised at Clyst S. George, where she died, nor at Bitton where she rests in hope.

It was consecrated by the Right Rev. Dr. Monk, Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, on the 18th of October, 1843, on which occasion a large congregation was assembled, with many clergy from Bristol and the neighbourhood. Concurrently with the Church a school and parsonage house were built. The site was given by Samuel Whittuck, Esq., the lord of the manor (See Plate xiii). The Diocesan Church Building Society and the late Rev. Dr. Warneford were munificent contributors to this good work.

West Hanham, in which the Church stands, was made a separate parish by Queen Anne's Bounty; and by an Order in Council, dated March 4th, 1844, the new Church was made the parish Church, and the ancient Chapel of Hanham Abbots, a Chapel of Ease to it (see p. 3 *ante*).

The following historical and interesting verses were written by the late Mr. George Pocock, of Bristol, who for nearly thirty years was in the habit of visiting the spot, and preaching, sometimes under a tent, sometimes in a

cottage, and sometimes in the open air. He became a subscriber to the new Church, and afterwards ceased his visits.

The information embodied in these verses was given by a very old man, who had lived on the spot from his infancy.

ON THE ERECTION OF CHRIST-CHURCH,  
JEFFERY'S HILL, HANHAM.

<p>Lo! on the self same pleasing site, Where smiles that sacred pile, There met of yore, for brutal fight, The lawless, rude and vile.</p> <p>Around, unseen, unknown, untaught, Here the rough quarrier dwelt, His soul uncared for, and untaught, His end no pastor felt.</p> <p>The collier, too, distinct of race, From his lone hovel came, He sought no God or means of grace, But gloried in his shame,</p> <p>These different clans their champions brought, This hill their Sunday stage, Where, urged by blasphemies, they fought In fierce and fiend-like rage.</p> <p>Unchecked, alas, on God's own day, Thus 'midst the King's free Wood, By combat and by savage play This hill was stained with blood.</p>	<p>With mingled gore of man and brute, For here the game cock bled ; And the brave bull to persecute Were maddened mastiffs led.</p> <p>It is a remnant of those tribes Who leave their lairs, and toil When Bristol's parties tempt with bribes And blood is mixed with broil.</p> <p>From such still spring the burglar bold, Horse-stealer, petty thief, Too oft found here in sin's strong hold, And dragg'd to sentence brief.</p> <p>And though much zeal has wrought around, Uncultivated still Has lain this sad unhallowed ground, This long neglected hill.</p> <p>But now we hope <i>Established Truth</i>, <i>Extending</i> here her ray, Shall guide to Heaven both age and youth And make CHRIST'S CHURCH the way.</p>
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Since the above date, various societies have sprung up for the social and moral improvement of the inhabitants ; the happy result is that Kingswood (Cock-road especially, once a city of refuge for deserters from the army, and outlaws of every kind) is now, by God's blessing, as quiet, orderly and peaceable as any place in the County of Gloucester.

In the Appendix will be found many Records of the historical parts given in these short Annals. In the next chapter will appear a short account of the various manufactures carried on in the parish or on its border.

"Jam. satis est."



## CORRIGENDA.

## CHAPTER I.

Page.	4,	l. 9, for Landsdon read Lansdown.
"	6,	l. 8 from bottom, for 1100 read 1000.
"	7,	l. 11, for tones read torus.
"	8,	l. 8, for North read South.
"	12,	l. 7 from bottom, for Landsdon read Lansdown.
"	15,	l. 2, for Hollins read Holling's.
"	18,	l. last, for Lawdoom read Landom.
"	20,	l. 10 from bottom, for 1872 read 1871.
"	24,	l. 9 from bottom, for scede read seede.

## CHAPTER II.

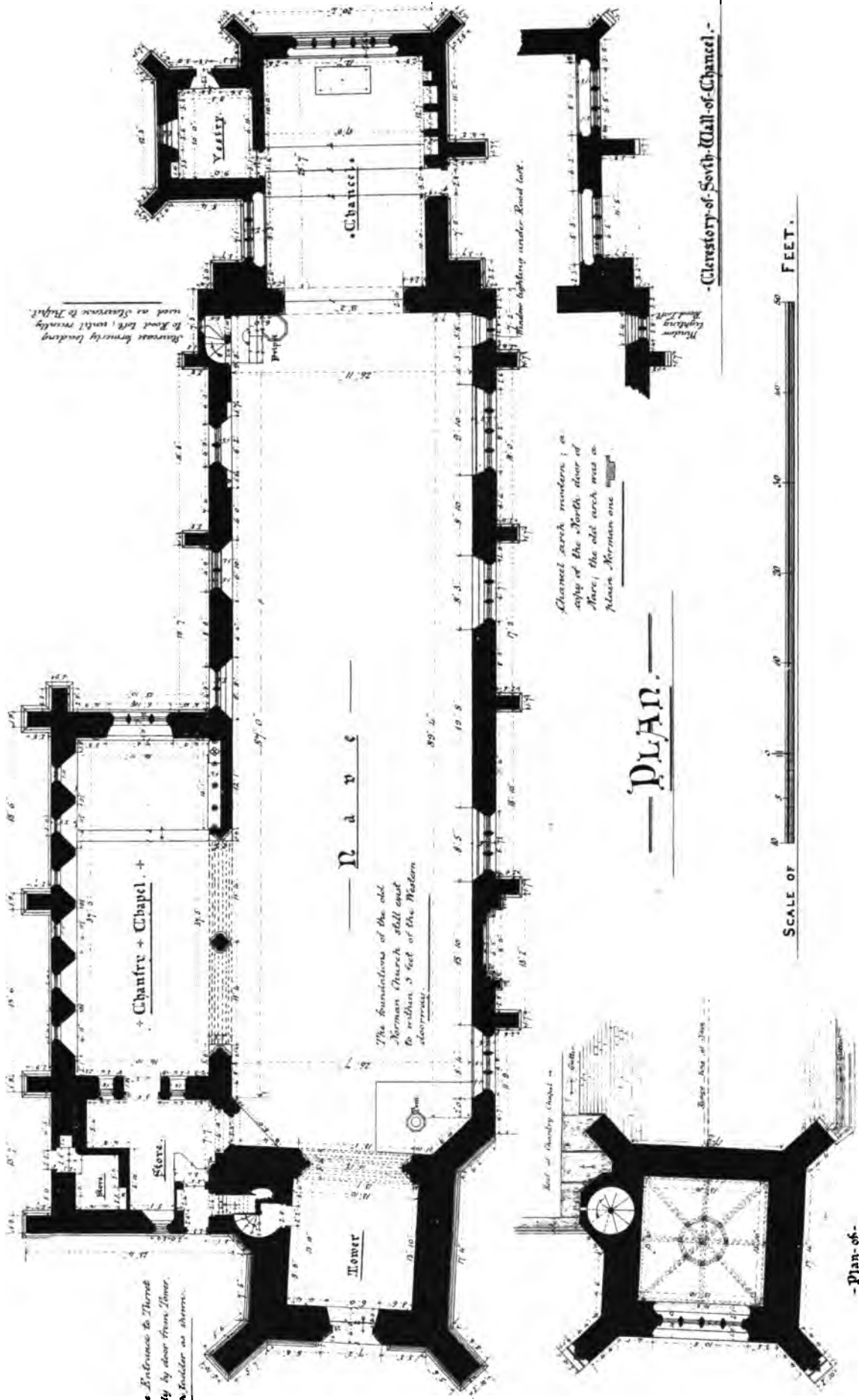
"	78,	l. 6, for theis read these.
"	78,	l. 11, for veris read viis.
"	78,	l. 17, for issius read ipsius.
"	78,	l. 19, for supradictus read supradictas.
"	86,	l. 4, for ddi read did.
"	89,	l. 11 from bottom, for <i>born</i> read <i>buried</i> , born at London, 1679.
"	90,	l. 19, for bounaryd read boundaries.
"	92,	l. 7 up, for John read Thomas.
"	92,	l. 4 up, for art read are.
"	99,	l. 4 down, insert <i>the</i> before <i>see</i> ; delete <i>who</i> ; for whose, read and his.
"	102,	In the coat of Newton insert 7, Harnynge erm. on a chief gu., three bucks' heads caboshed; for 7 read 8, for 8 read 9, for 9 read 10, for 10 read 11, for 11 read 12; delete Harptre line 9 up.
"	107,	l. 8, for nostri read nostro.
"	112,	l. 3, after Company insert—Mr. Warren of Midhurst became the possessor, who sold to the Kennett and Avon Canal Co., who sold to the Great Western Railway Co.; it was then sold to Joseph Whittuck, Esq., who sold to the present proprietor, Mr. E. Groves.
"	113,	l. 10 up, for rescuing read rescued.
"	114,	l. 12 up, for Breche read Beeche.
"	116,	l. 12 up, insert <i>was</i> before <i>one</i> .
"	117,	l. 16, after daughter insert heiress.
"	118,	l. 19, for Werg read Worge.
"	121,	last line, et nos read nos et.

## CHAPTER IV.

"	129,	l. 3, insert a comma (,) after dissolution.
"	164,	l. 6, for Charrwood read Charnwood.
"	166,	l. 2 up, sovereign read sovereign.
"	169,	l. 21, delete <i>forest of the</i> .
"	177,	l. 9, for 1506 read 1523?
"	189,	l. 14, for of read it.
"	210,	l. 4 up, for arive read arrive.
"	212,	in the cut of a net, delete the reference letters.
"	216,	l. 20, delete " and put them on p. 216 after <i>erected</i> ."

# Church of S. Mary - Bitton - Gloucestershire.

Plate 1.



*NOTE. The Entrance to Thurst was formerly by door from Lower, now by step leading as shown.*

*The foundations of the old Norman Church still exist to within 3 feet of the Western doorway.*

*Chancel arch modern; as copy of the North door of Here; the old arch was a plain Norman one.*

## PLAN.

- Plan of -

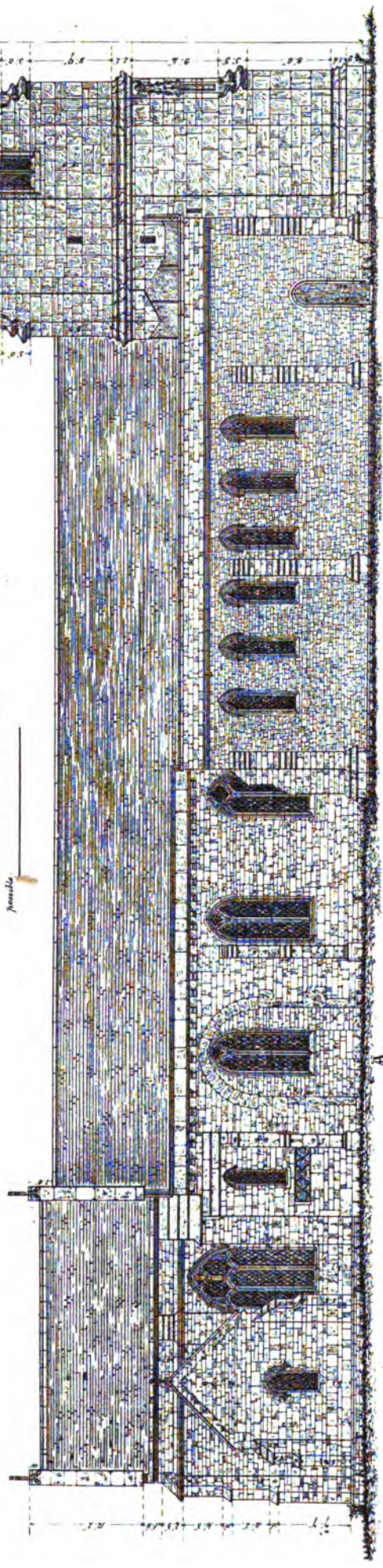
- Upper Part of Lower -



— Church-of-S Mary-Biton - Gloucestershire. —

Arch at A on elevation below is supposed to be the transept arch of the old Minster Church. In excavating at this point, at about 5 feet below ground, several traces of an early doorway were discovered, and an ashlar wall running at right angles to the nave.

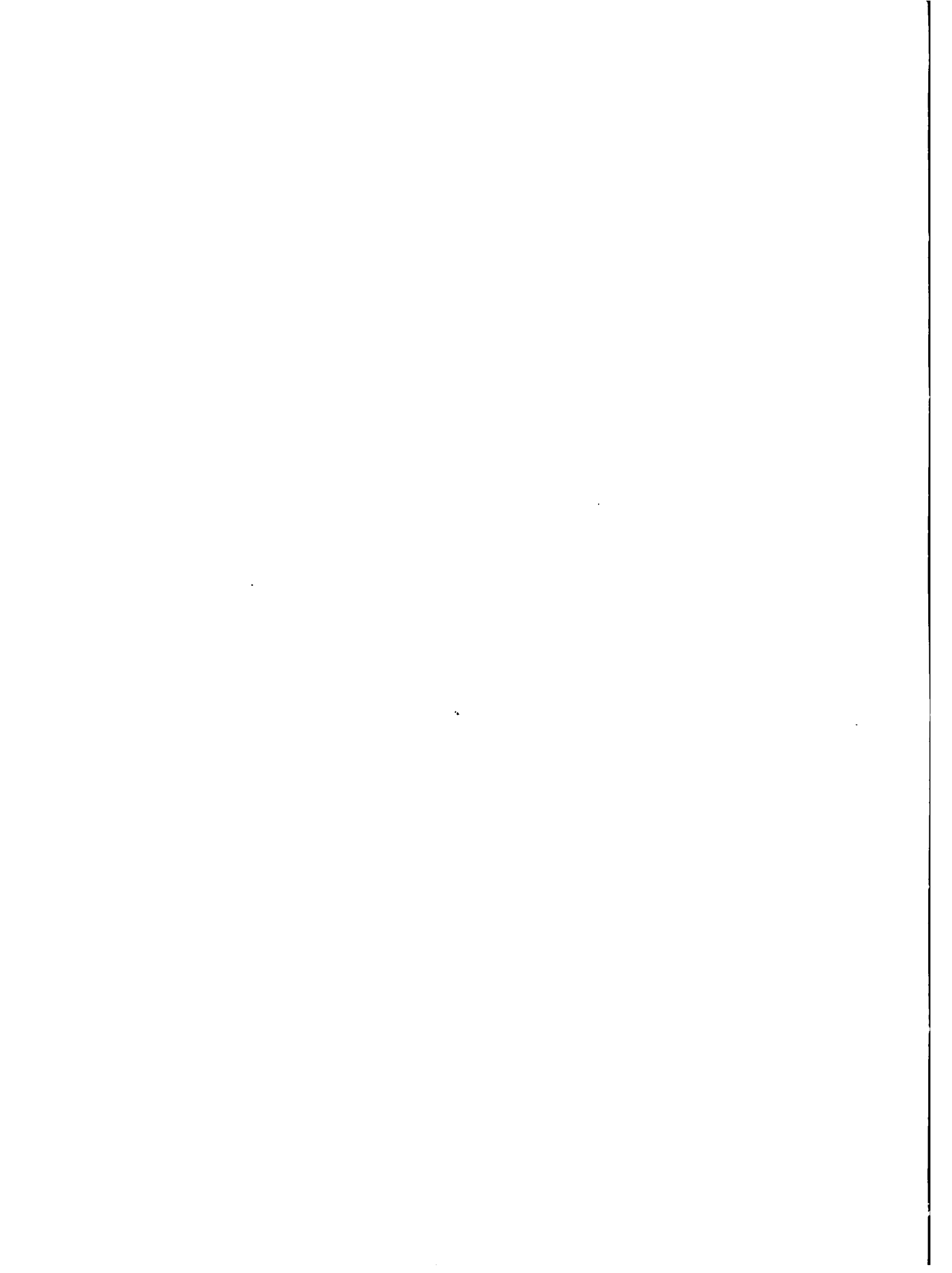
*N.B.* All above joints, except where specially mentioned, taken from actual measurements, where not measured sketched as nearly as possible.



These lines as high as arches shown and measured, heights and window panels sketched. Measurements on detail drawing N.S.

— North - Elevation. —

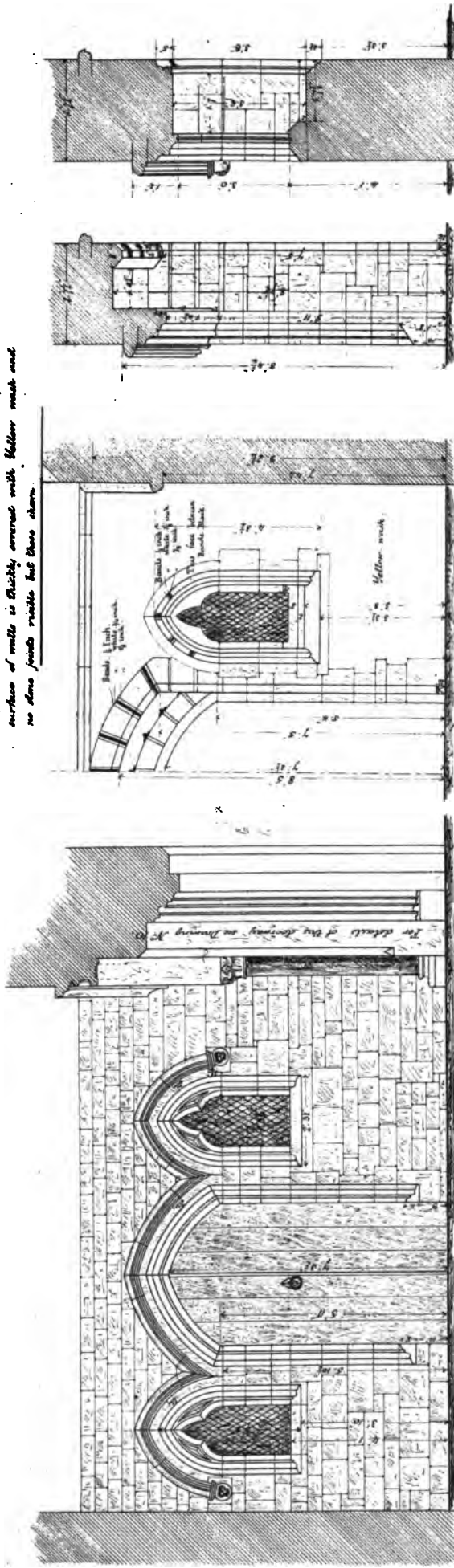
SCALE OF FEET.



— Church — of — S. — Mary — Bitton —

— Details — of — Chantry — Chapel —

*Note.* The Interior of the Chapel is supposed to have had the walls originally decorated with line and bands of colour, the only visible traces of which are some small fragments about the West door and windows adjoining, as shown on the half internal elevation below. The present surface of walls is thickly covered with yellow wash and no dove joints visible but these shown.

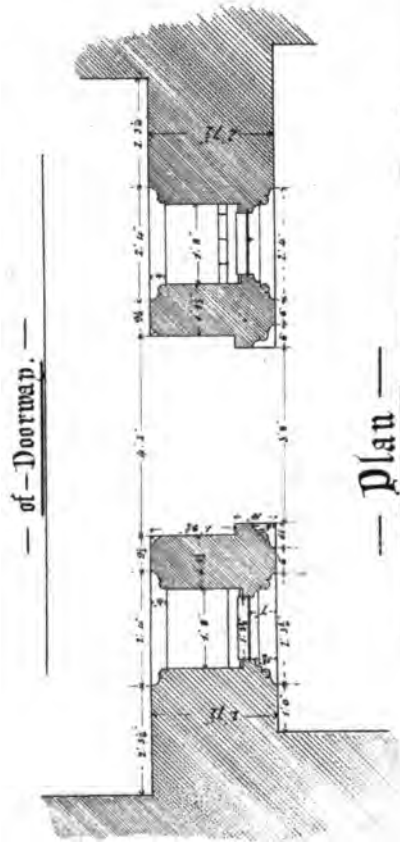


— External Elevation —

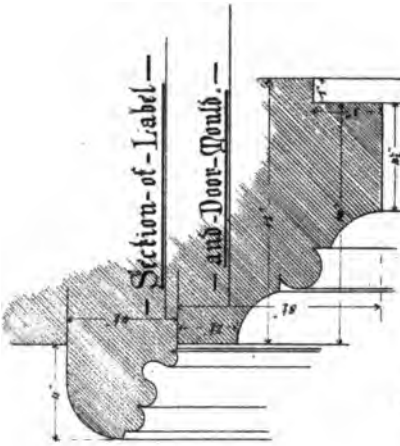
— Half-Internal Elevation —

— Section three —  
— Doorway —

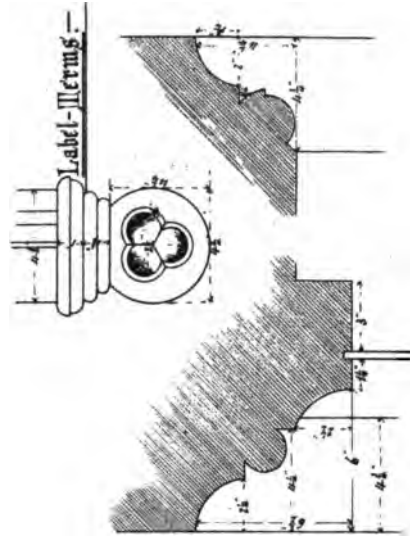
— Section four —  
— Window —



— Plan —



— Section of Label —  
— and Door Mouldings —

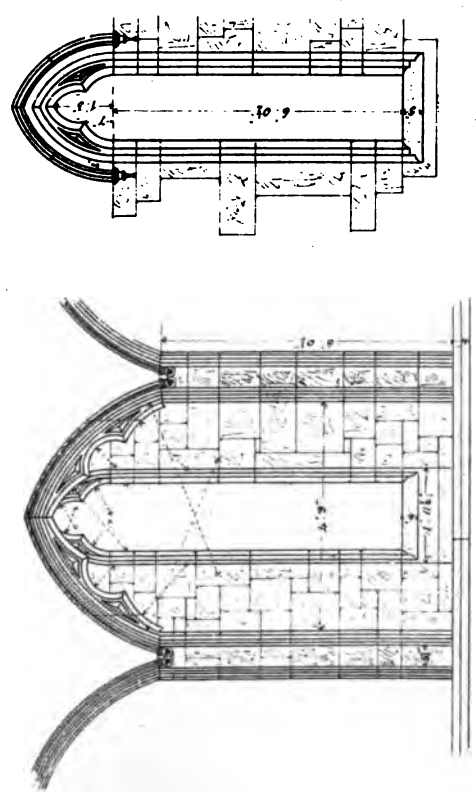


— Sections of Window Jambs —





— Details of Chantry Chapel —



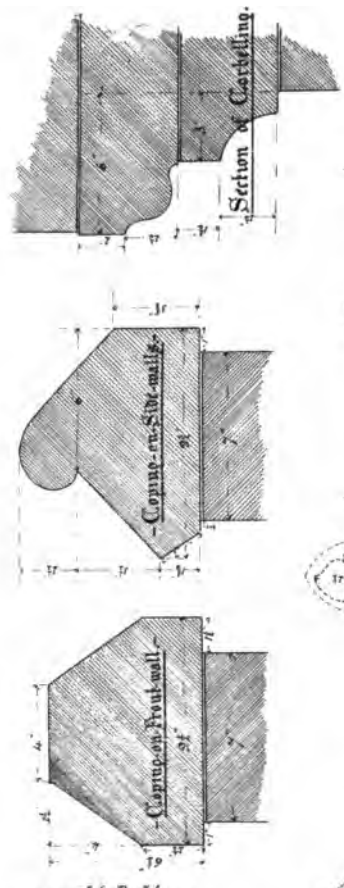
— Interior Elevation of Window —

— Exterior Elevation —



— Plan —

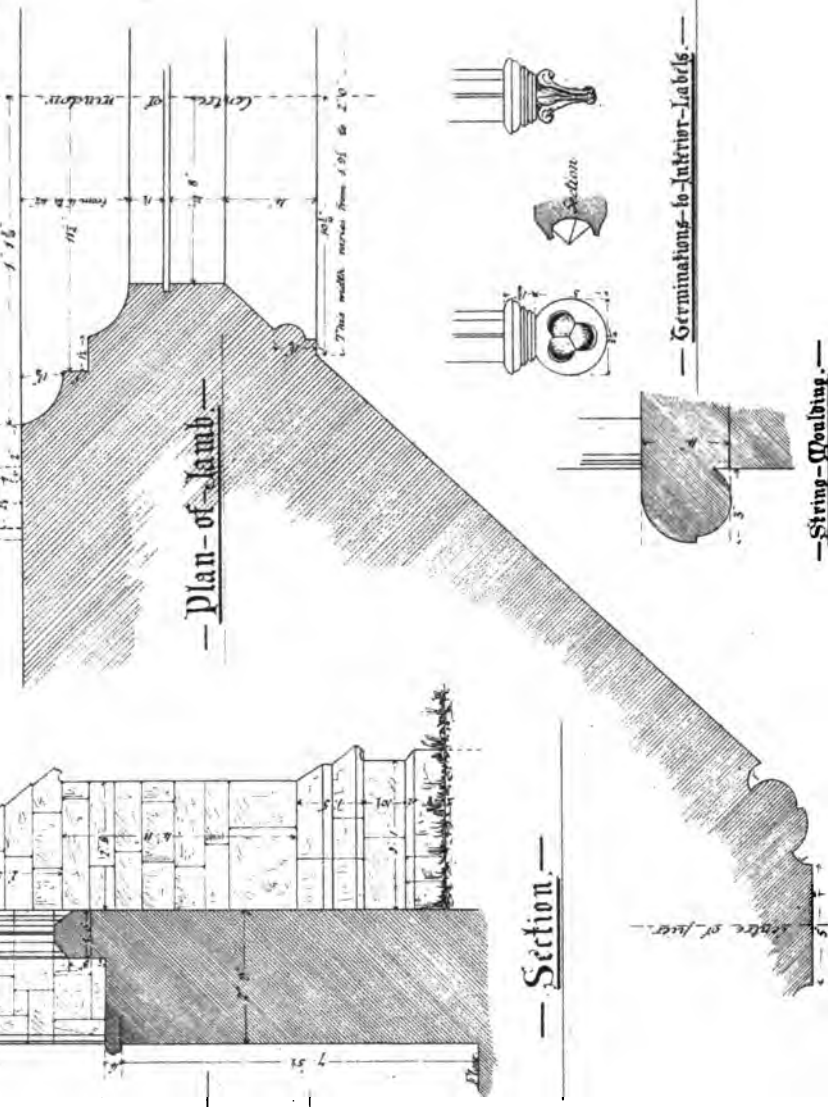
— Section —



— Coping on Front wall —

— Coping on Side walls —

— Section of Corbelling —



— Plan of Lamb —

— Germination to Exterior Labels —

— String Moulding —

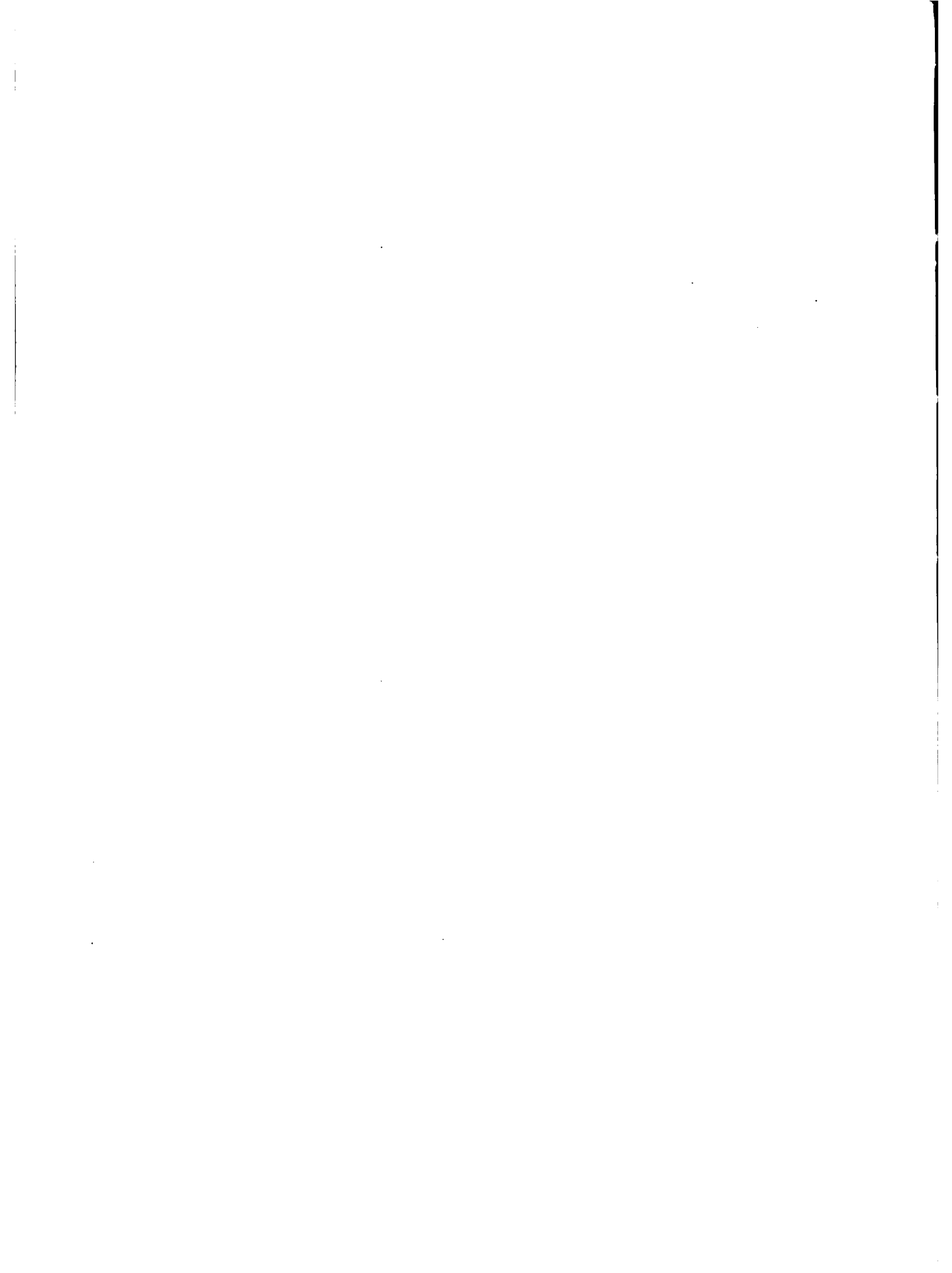
— Arch Moulding —

— Germination to Exterior Labels —

Line of String mould.

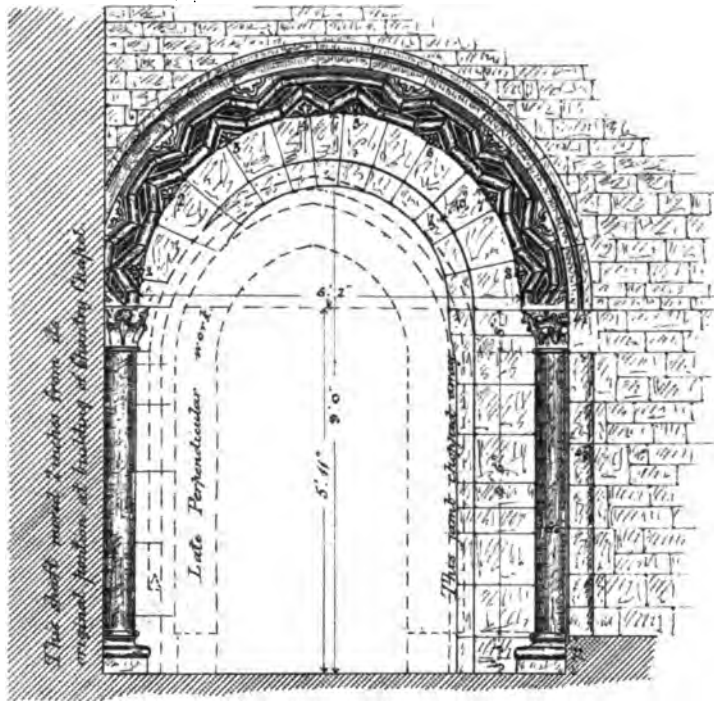
SCALE FOR DETAILS.



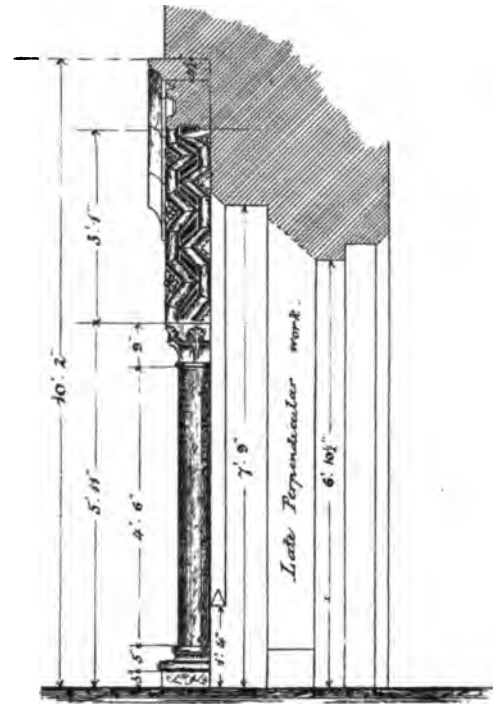


— Church — of — S. — Mary. — Bitton. —

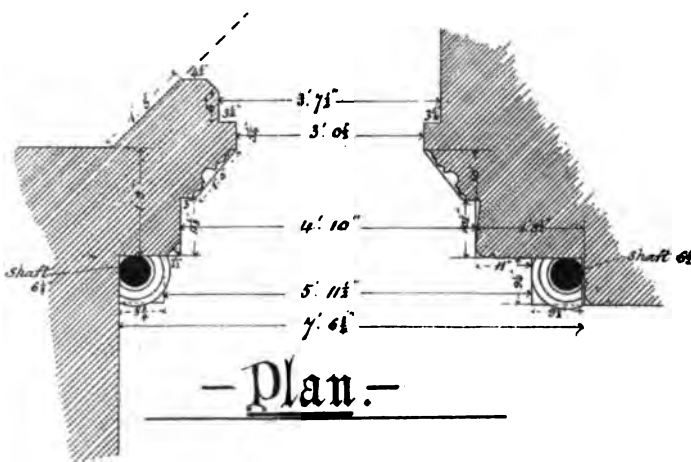
— Details — of — North — Door — of — Nave. —



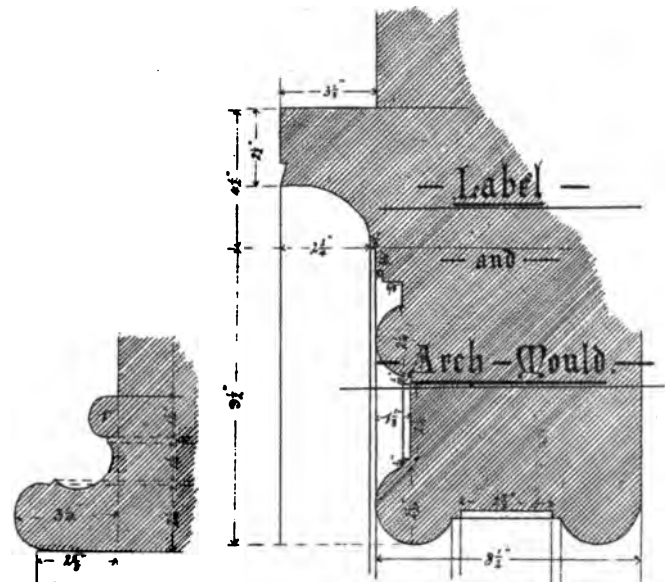
— Elevation. —



— Section. —



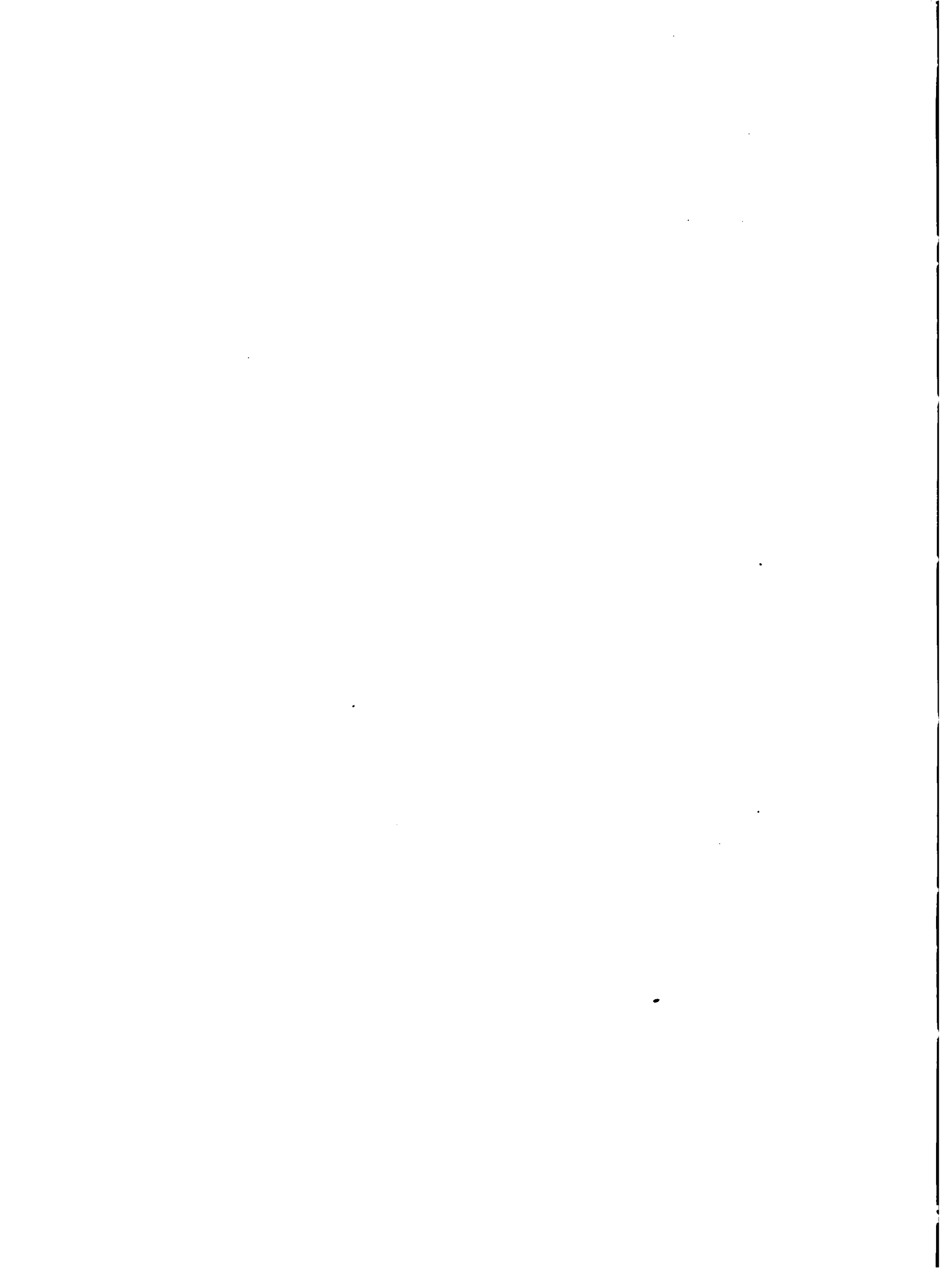
— Plan. —



— Section-of-Base. —

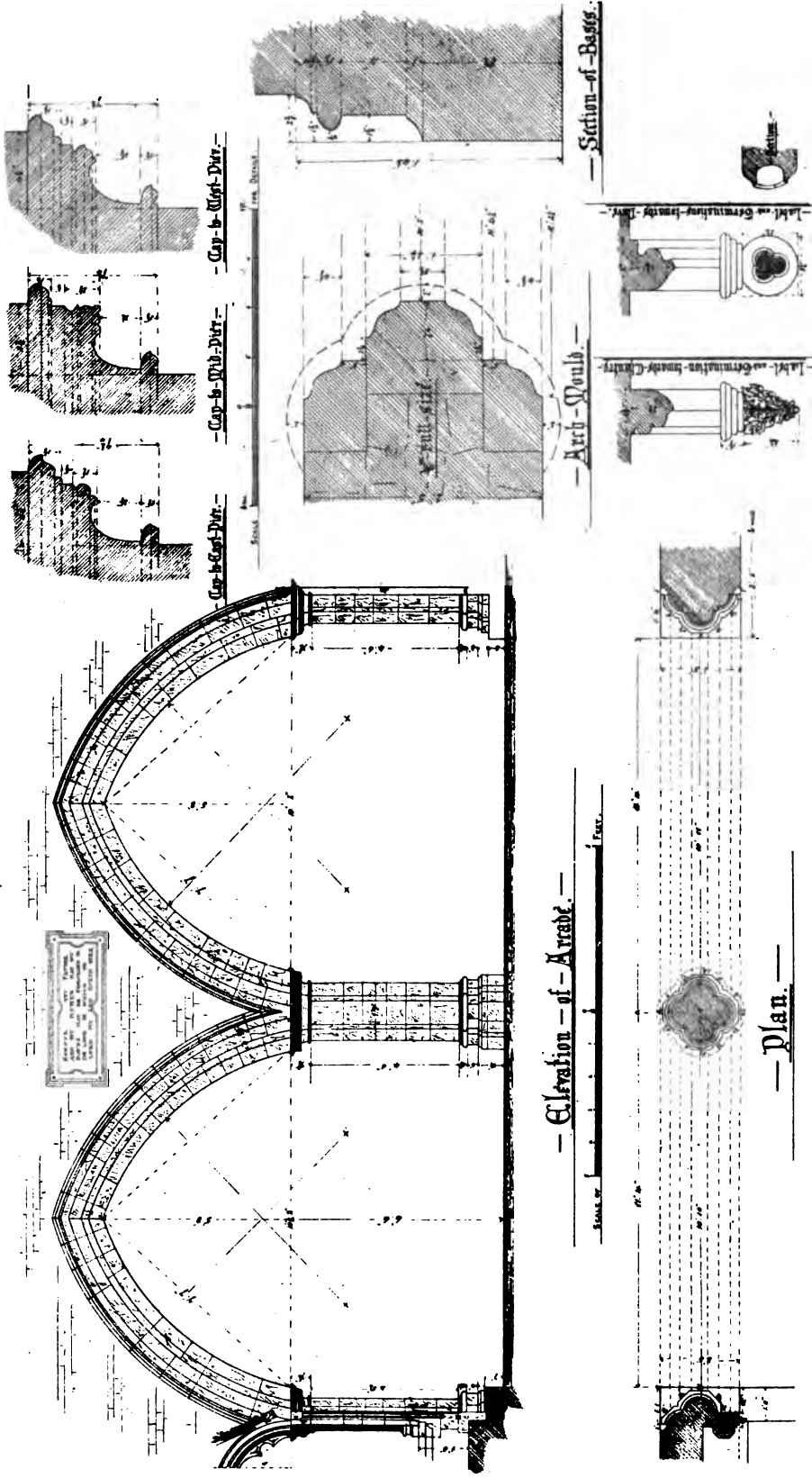
Scale of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch = 1 foot

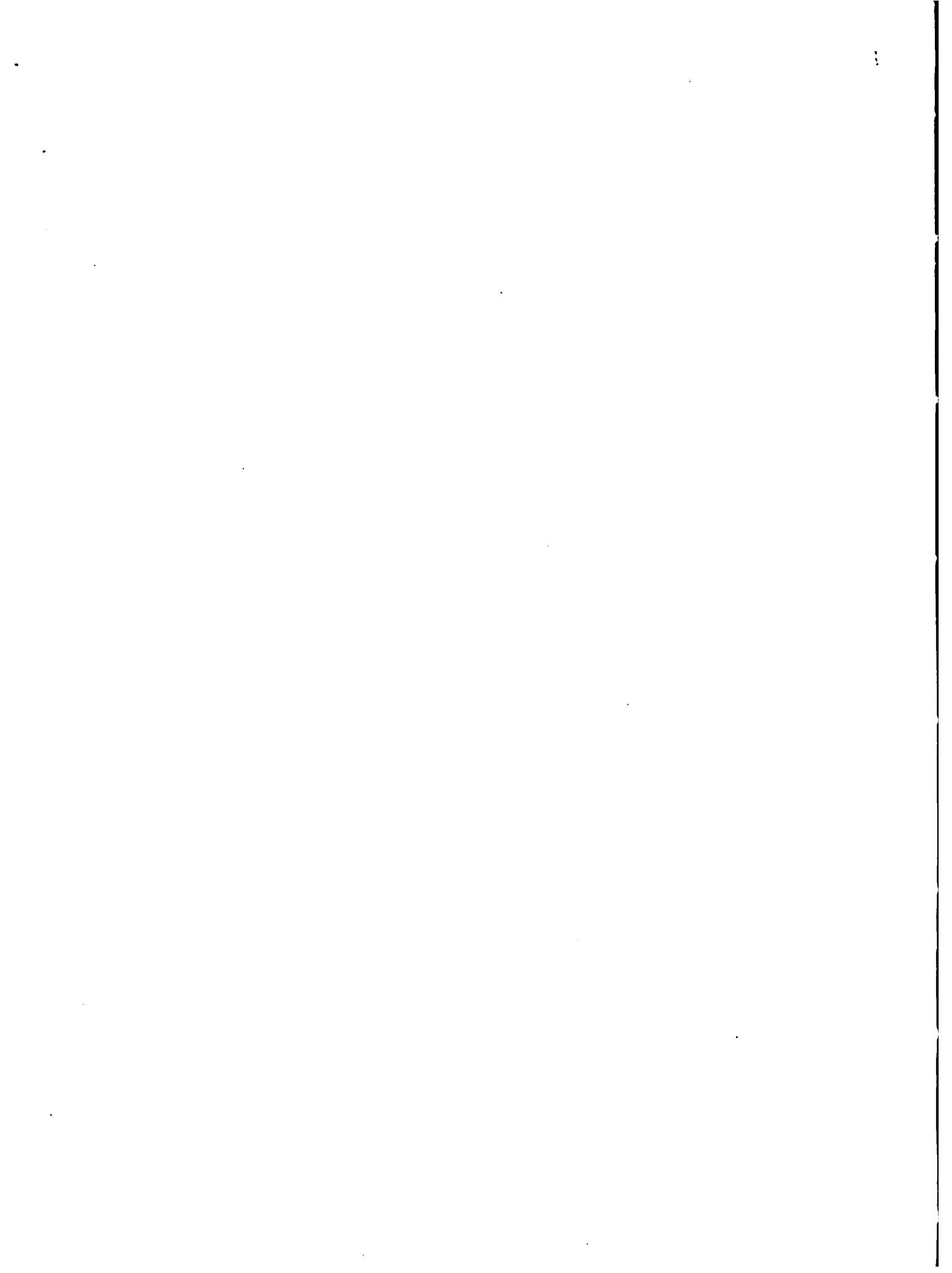
Scale  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch = 1 foot for Details.

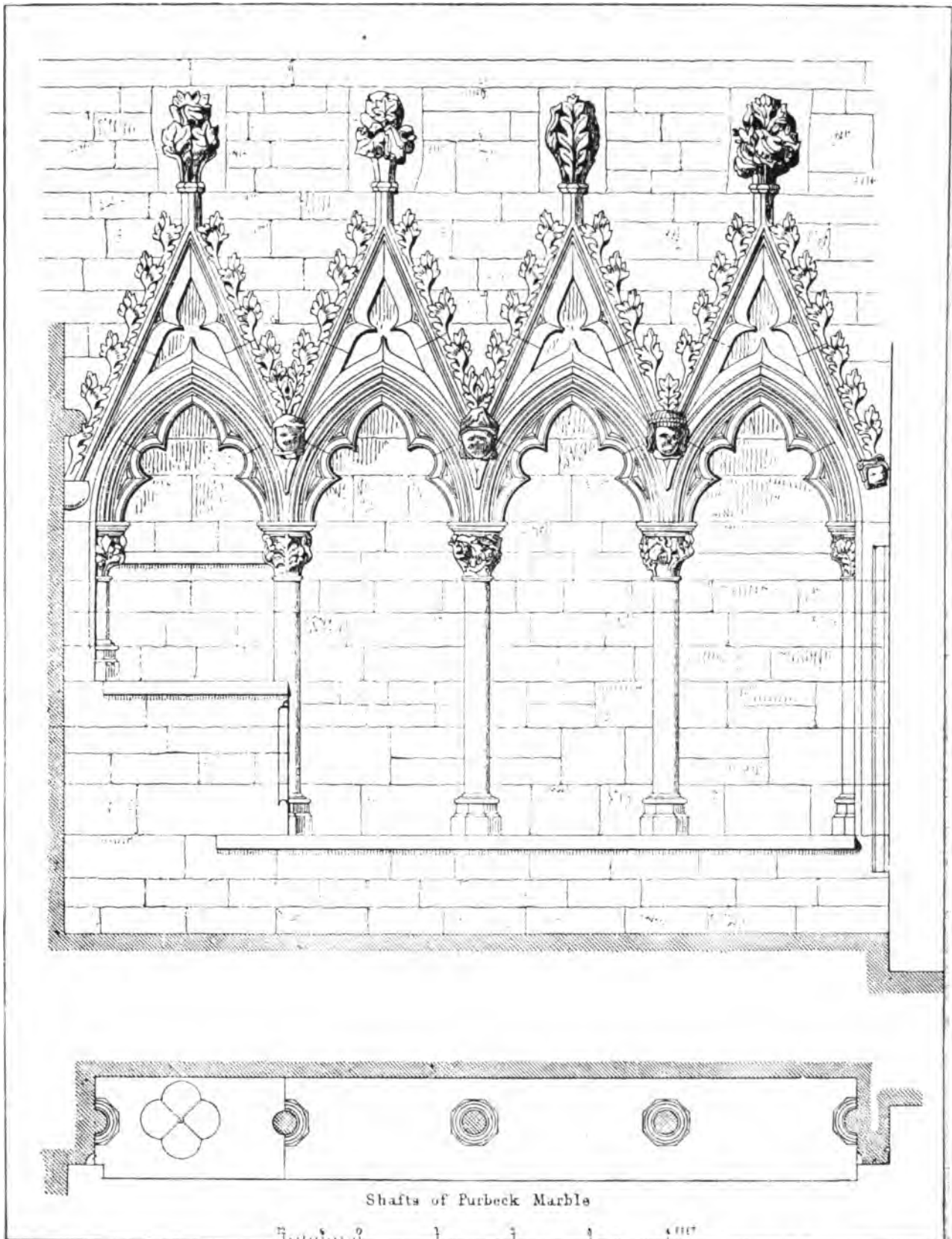


- Church of - S. Mary - Bilton -

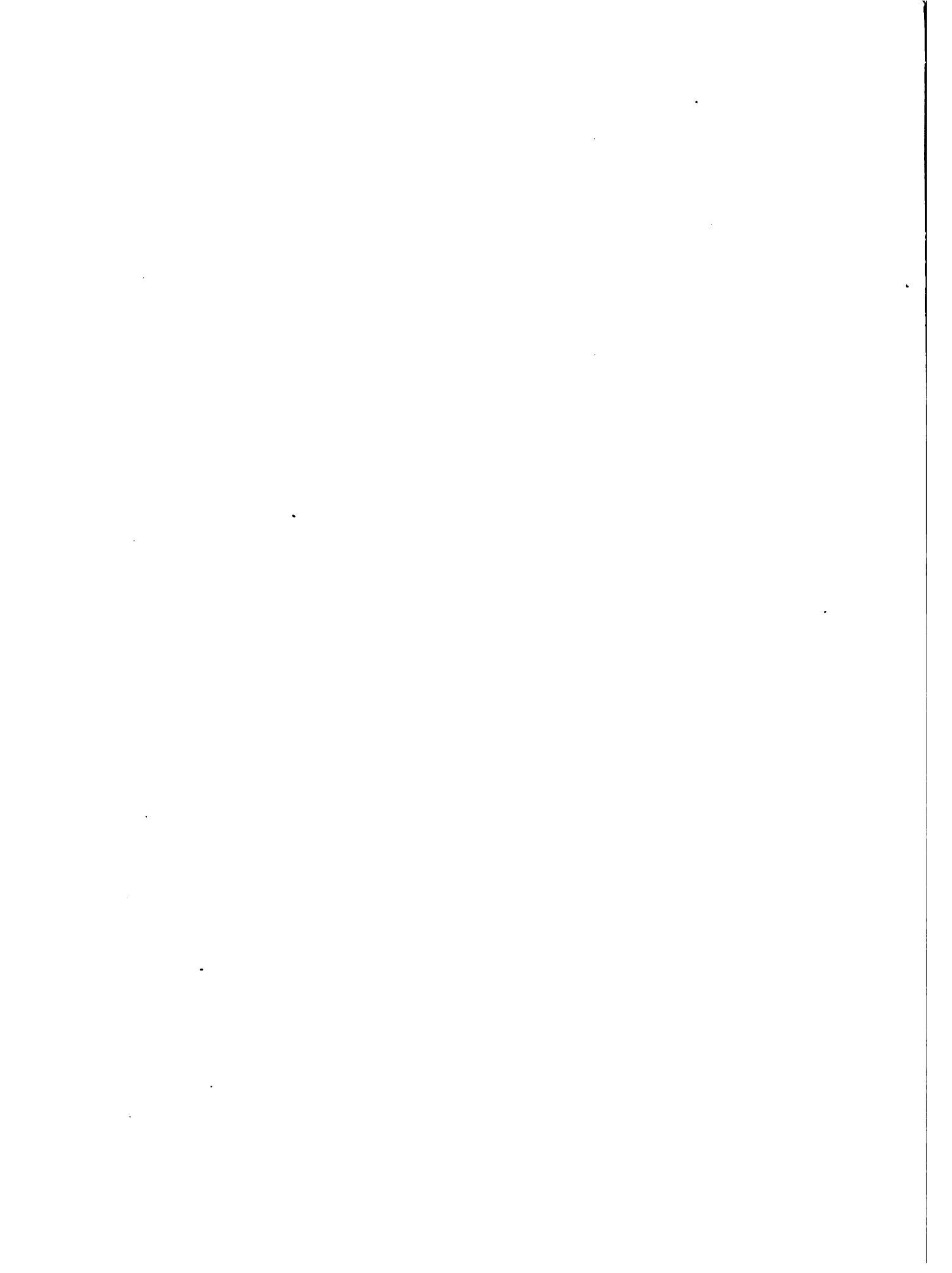
- Details - of - Chantry - Chapel -

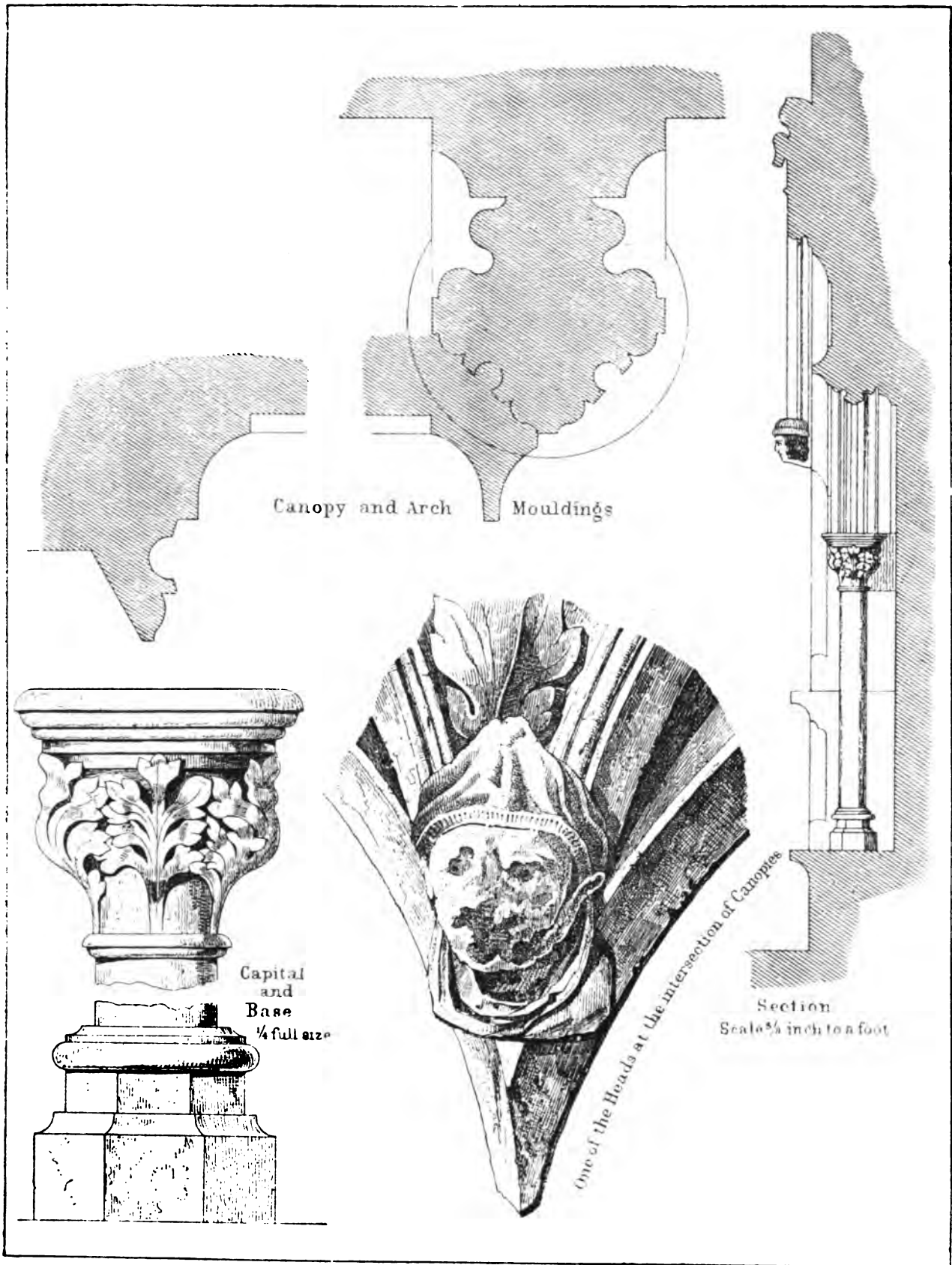






SEDILIA IN THE CHANTRY CHAPEL.

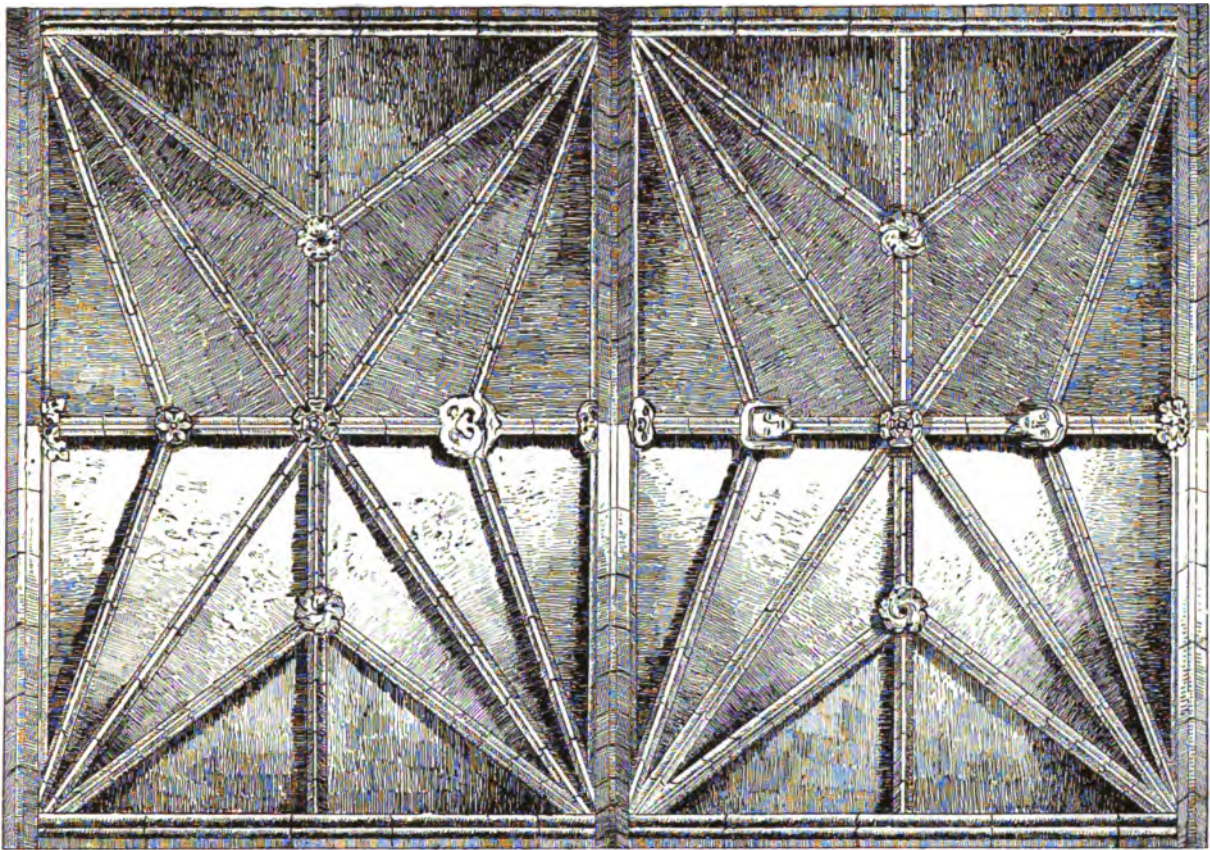




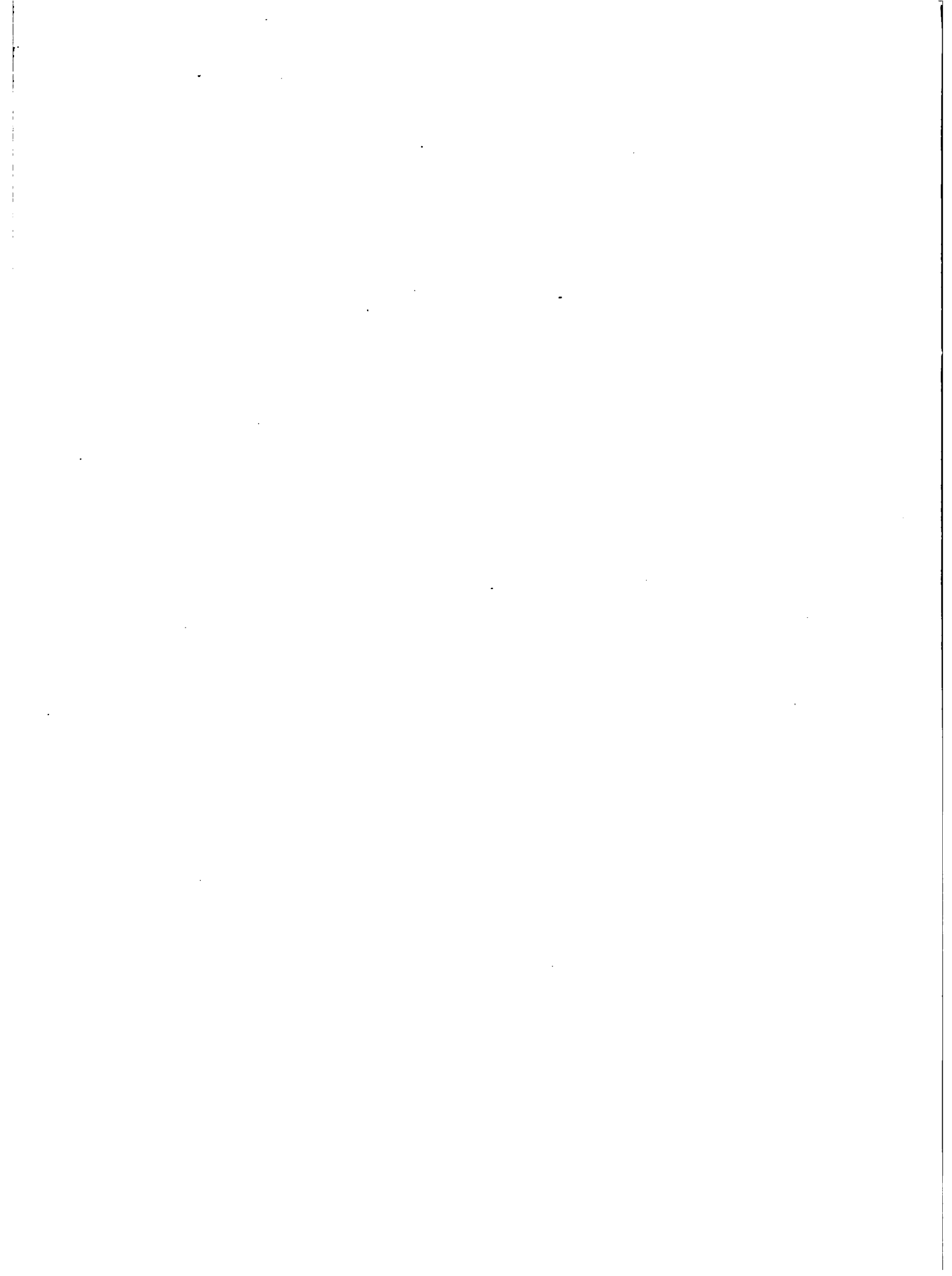
DETAILS OF SEDILIA.

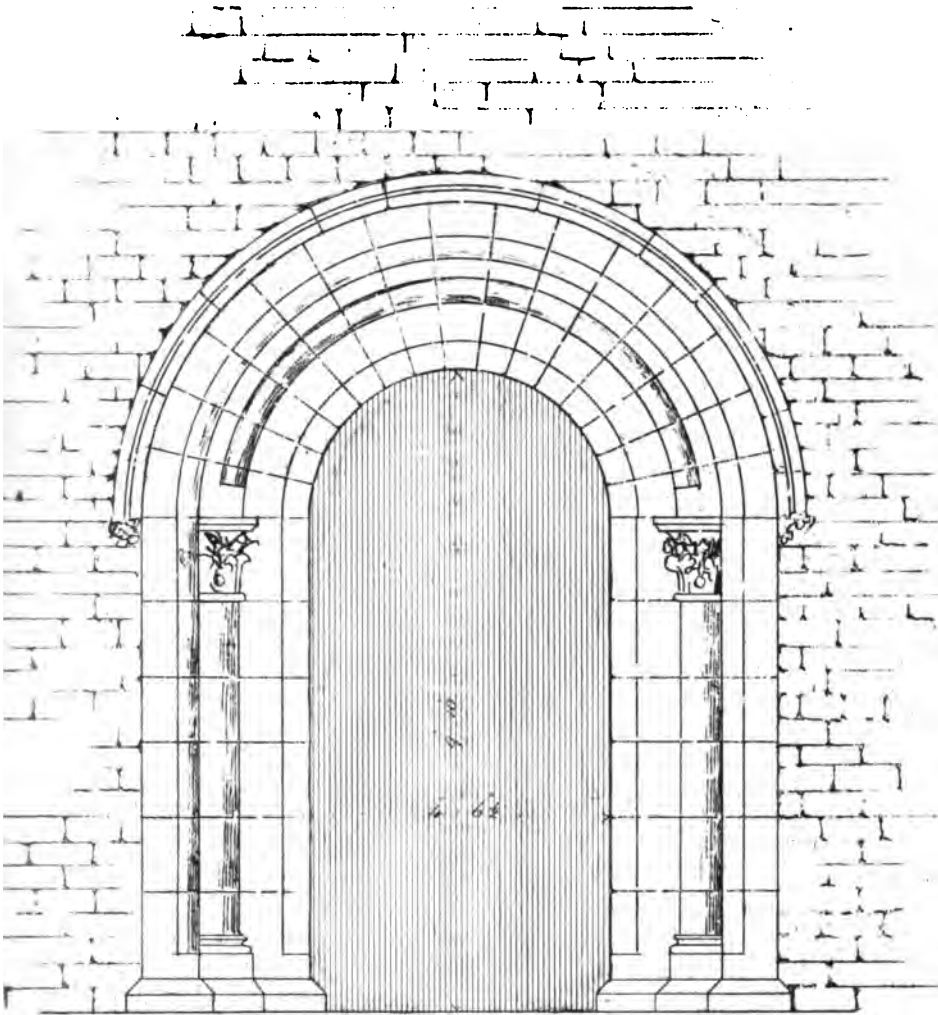




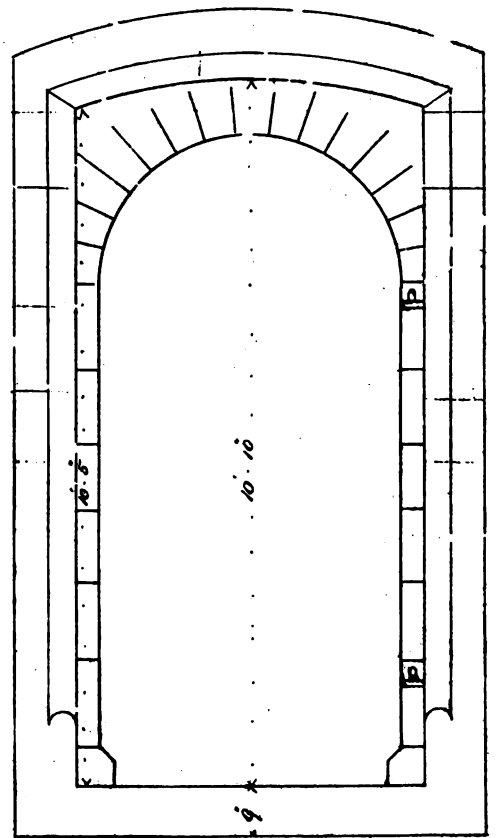


ROOF OF THE CHANCEL.



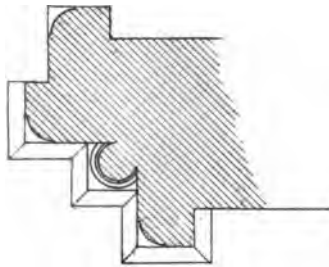
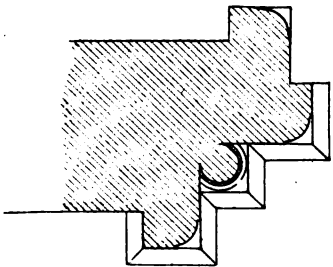


*South Doorway of Nave  
Exterior*

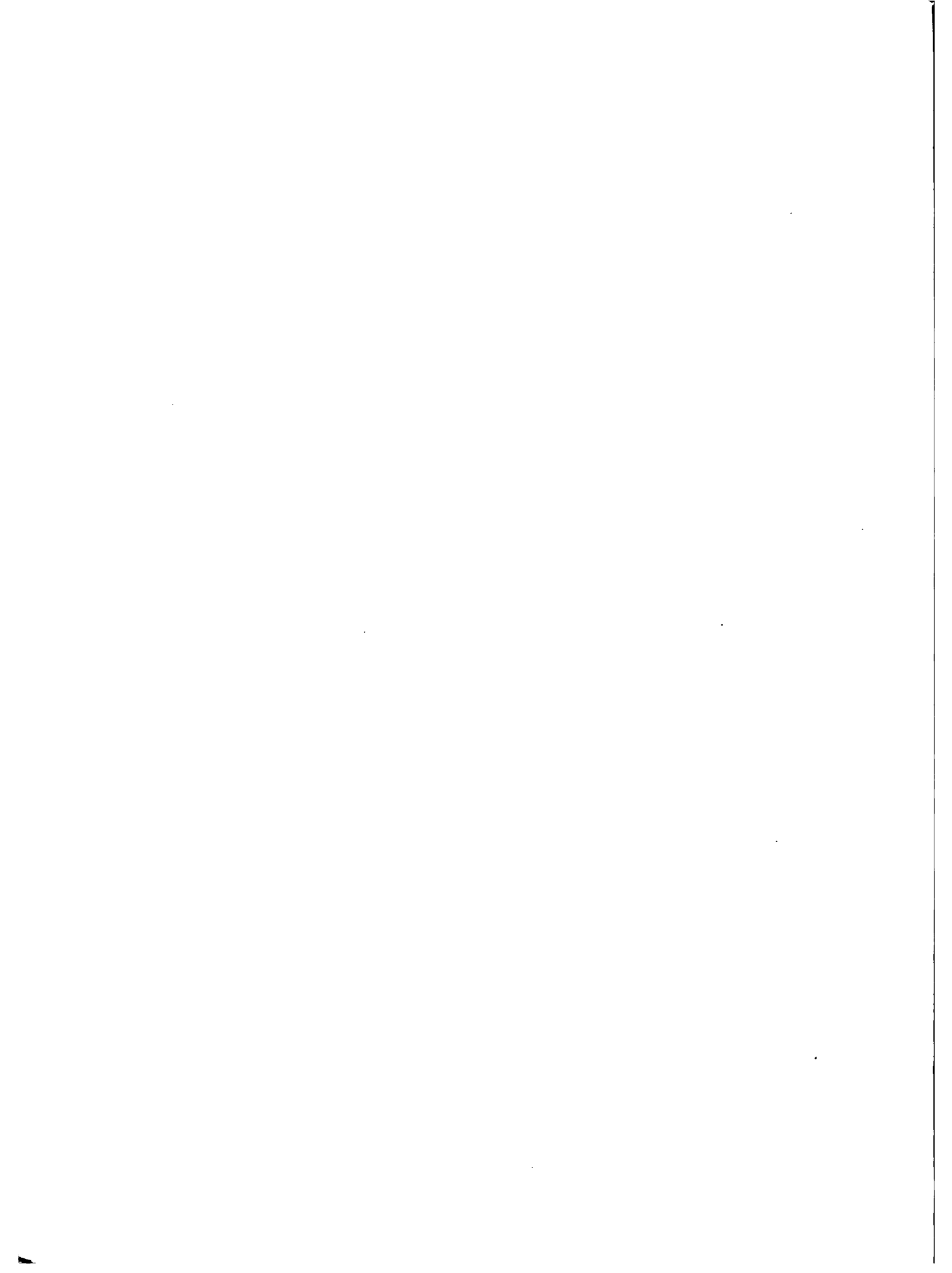


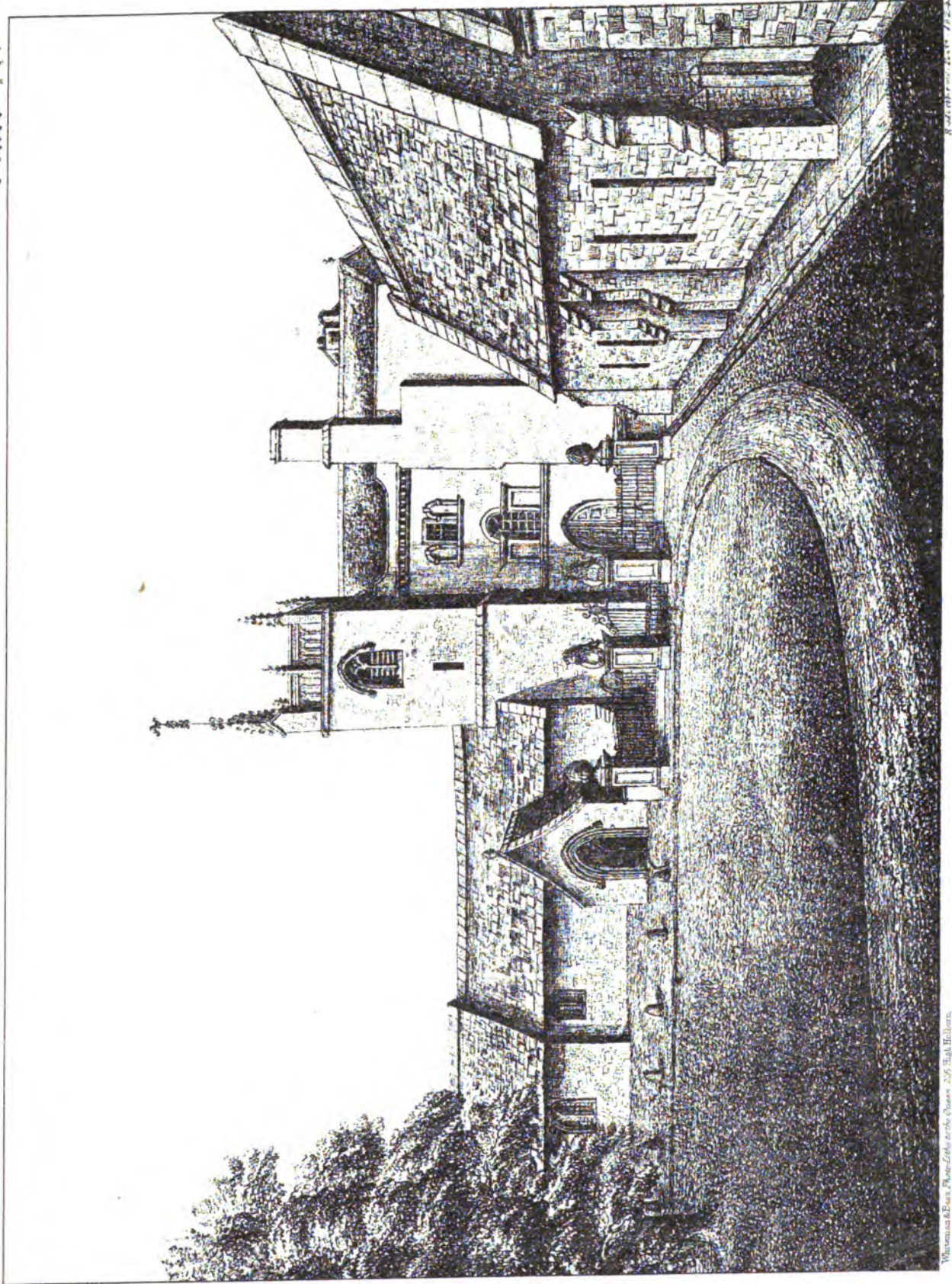
*Interior.*

*Destroyed & walled up  
1822.*



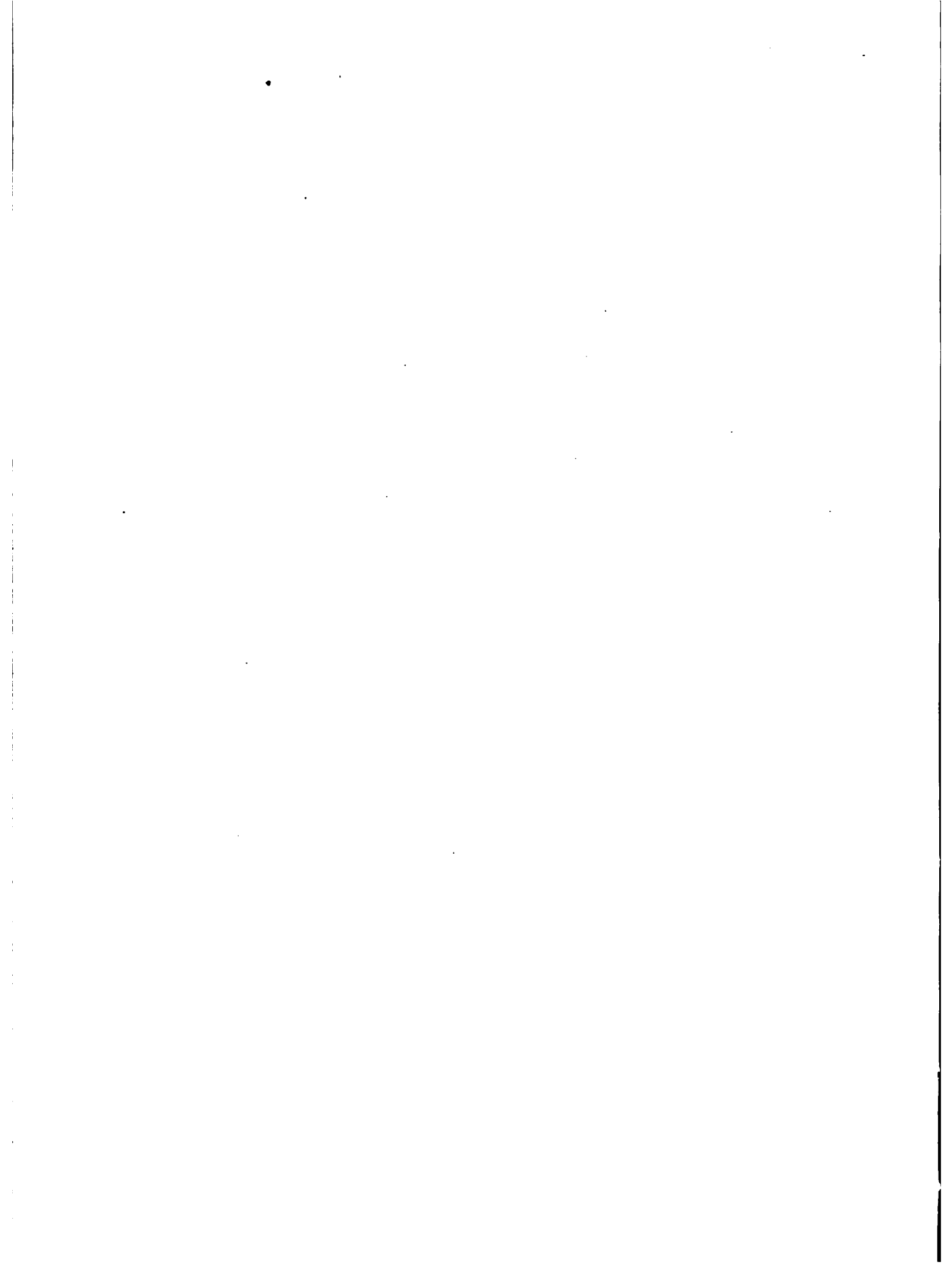
*Plan.*

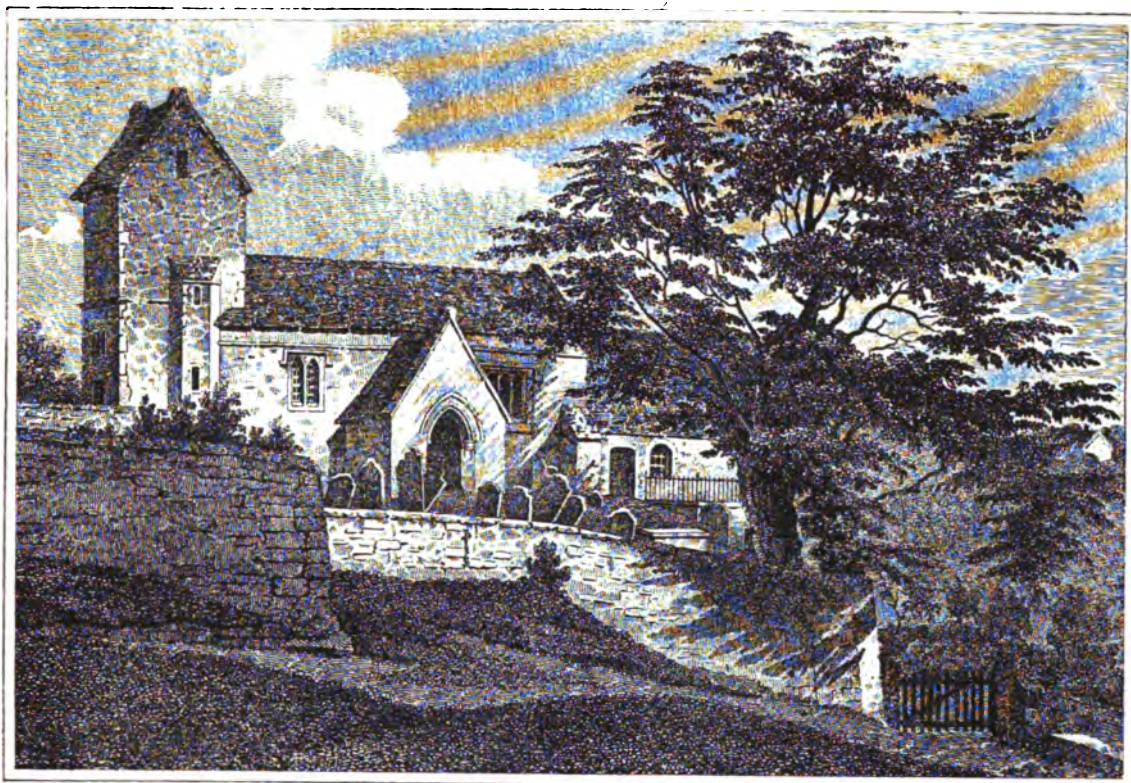




Whitman & Burt, Photo-Litho in the Queen's 256 High, Hammers.

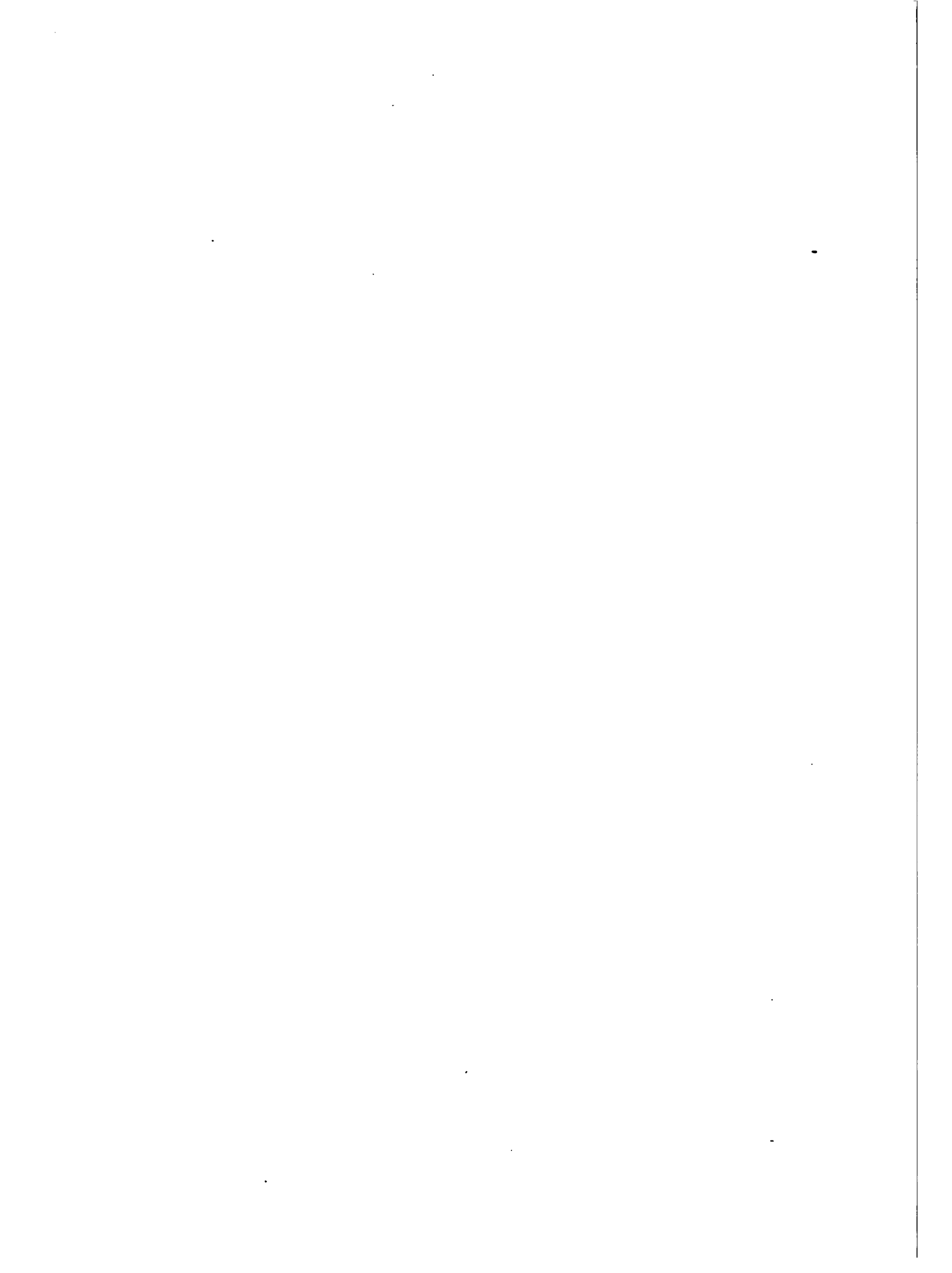
*Hanham Abbots' Chapel and Court House*



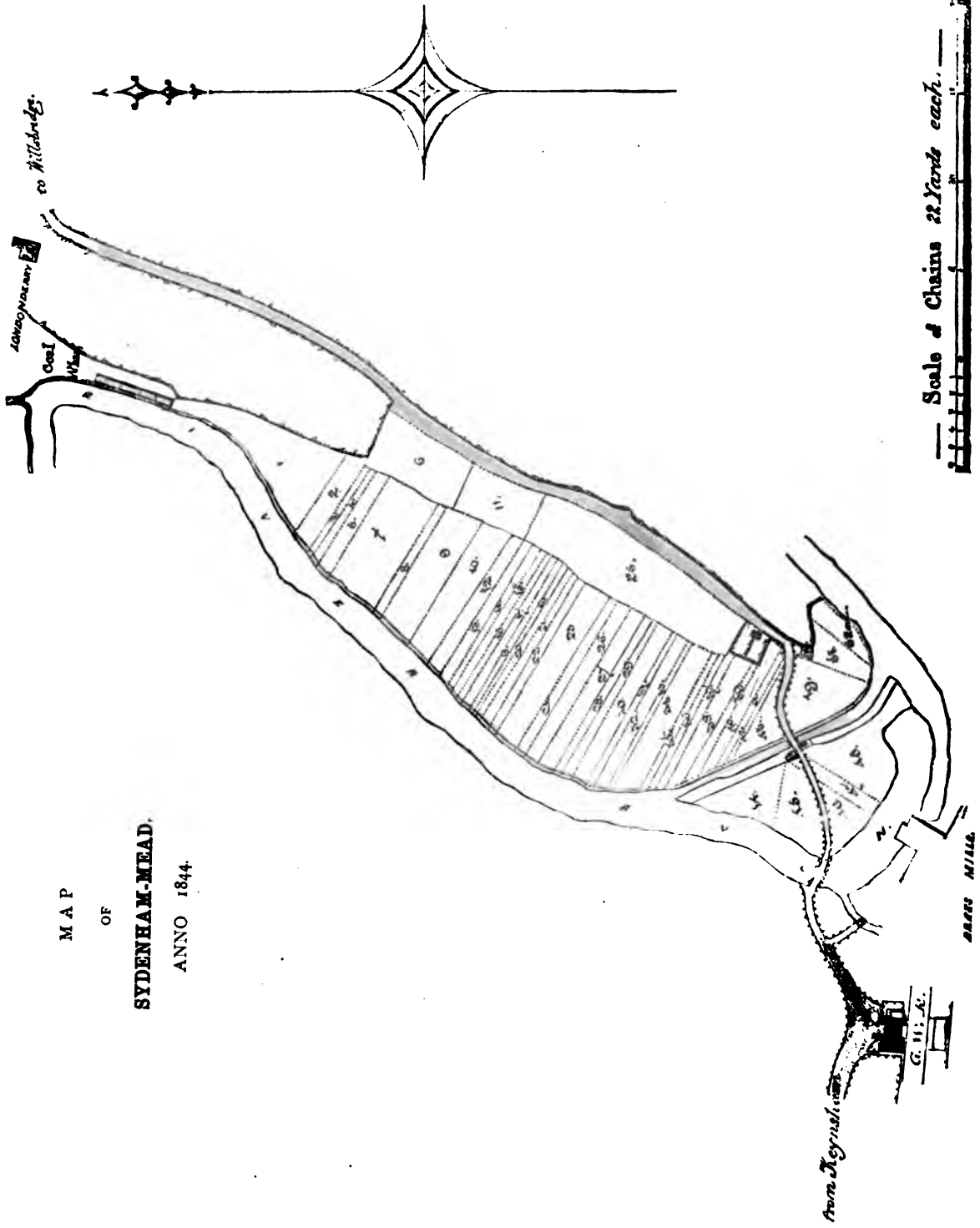


S. ANNE'S, OLDLAND, BITTON.



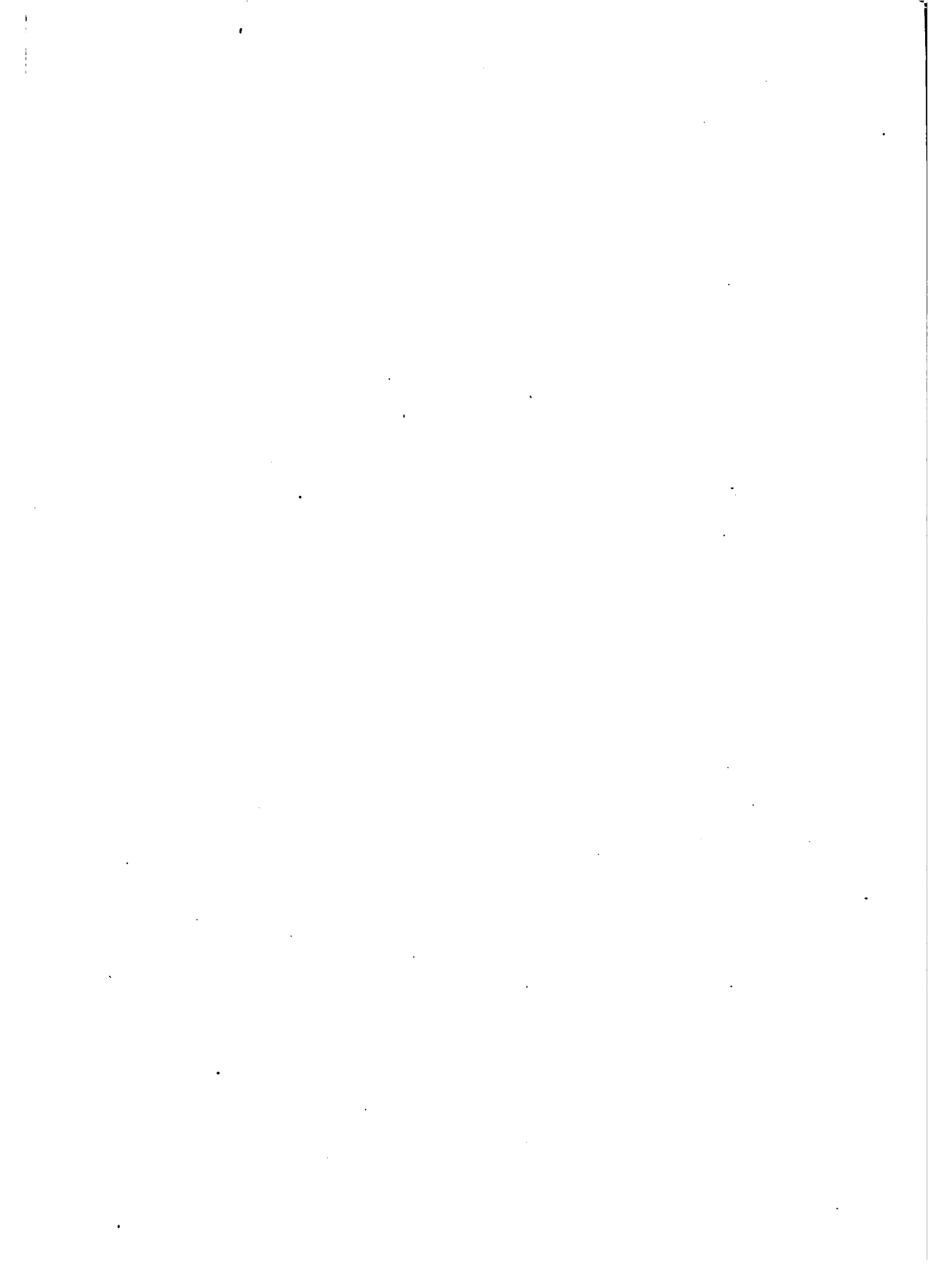


M A P  
OF  
**SYDENHAM-MEAD.**  
ANNO 1844.



Scale of Chains 22 Yards each.

G. H. A.



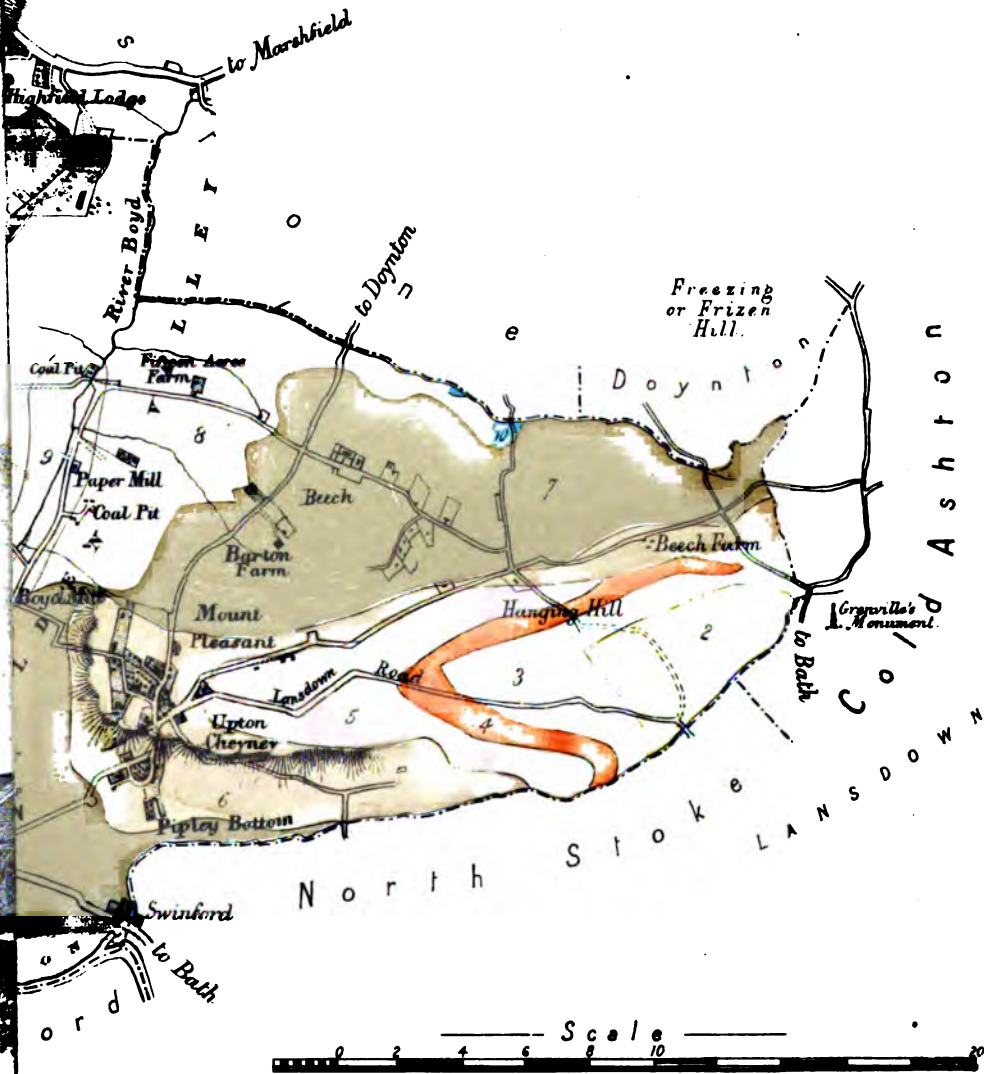
APP

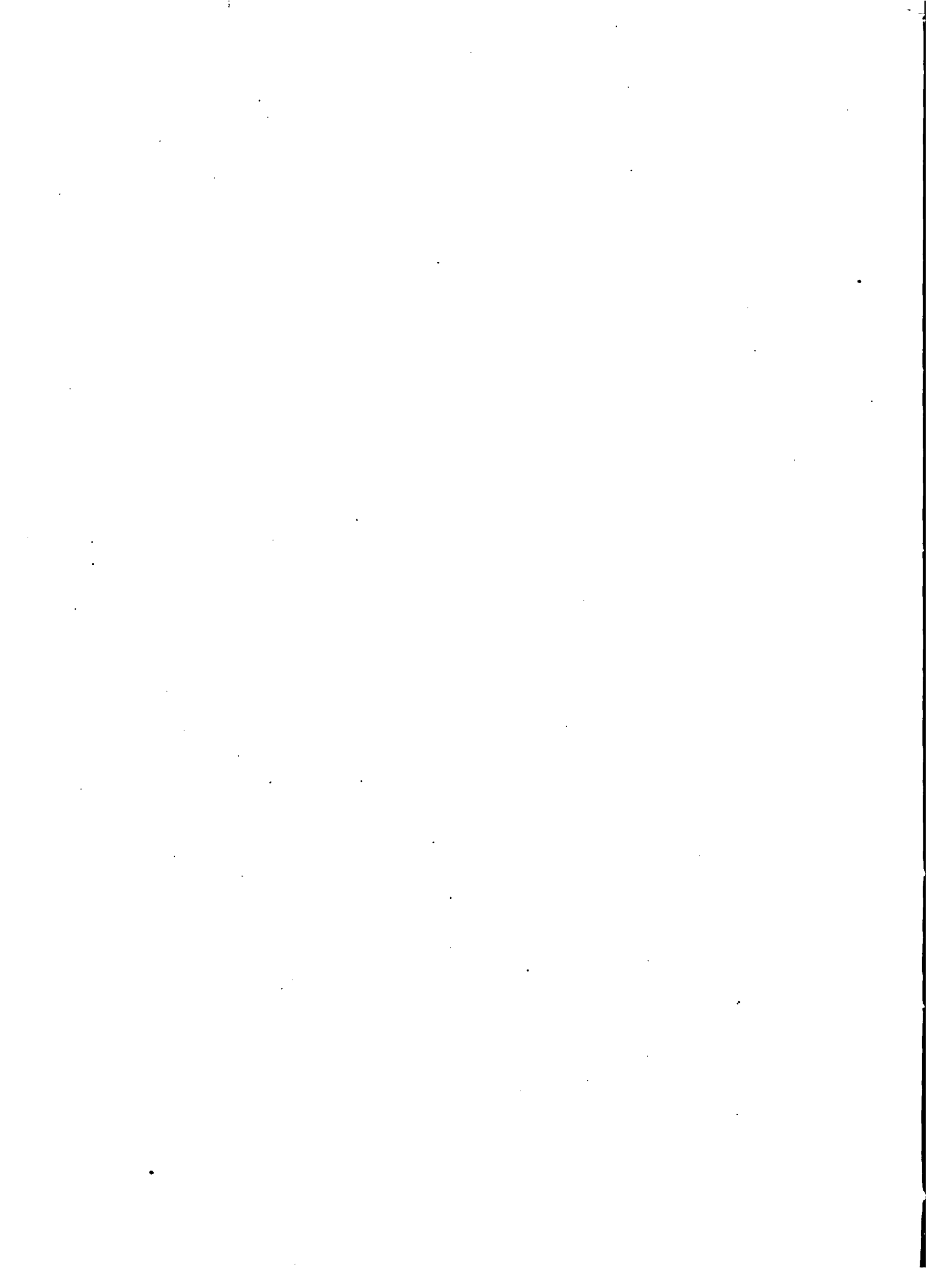
Map of  
THE  
**PARISH of BITTON,**  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

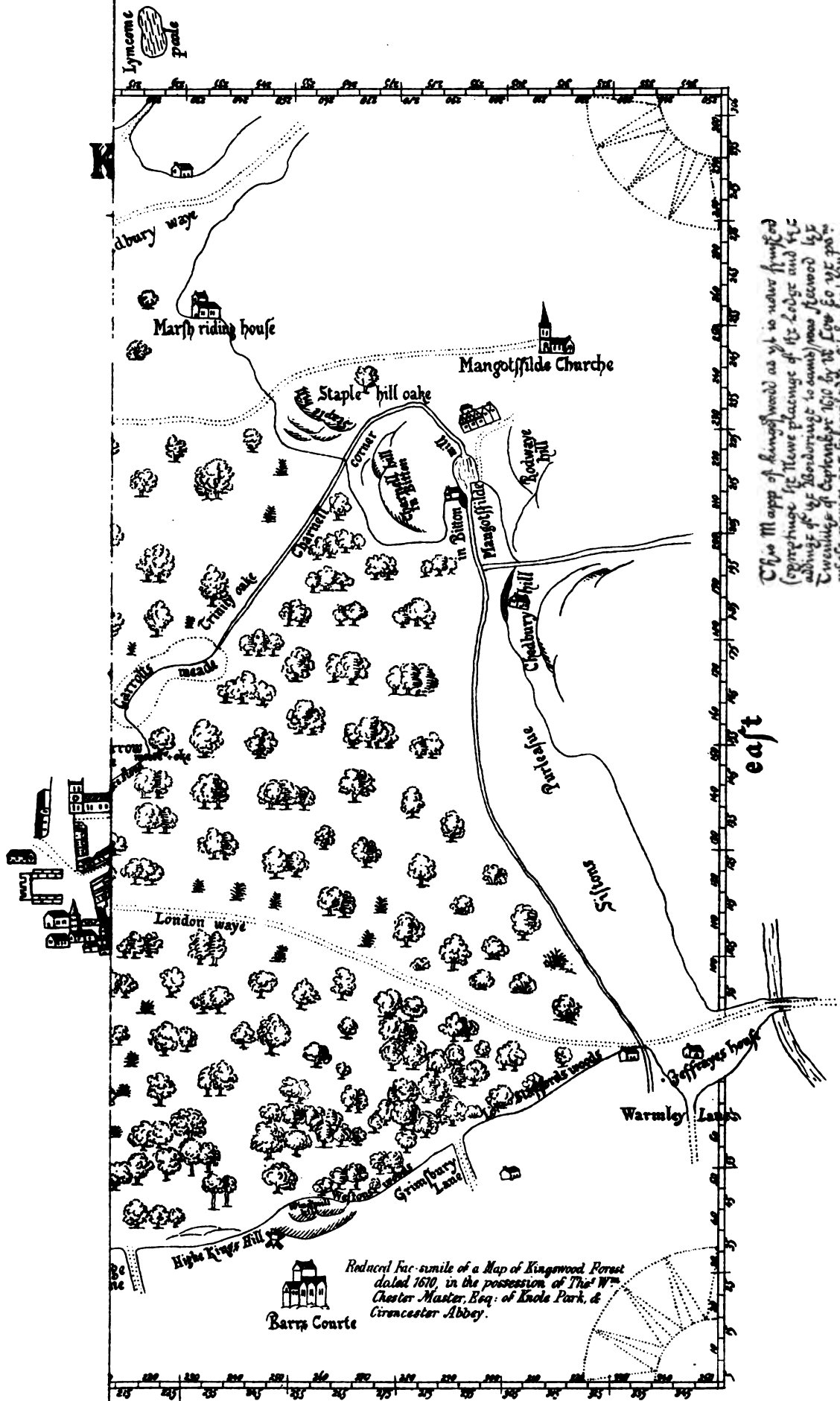
Shewing the  
**GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS.**

LAVARD, LIM, BRISTOL.

- Refer
- 1 Alluv
  - 2 Bath
  - 3 Fuller
  - 4 Infer
  - 5 Midd
  - 6 Mar
  - 7 Lowe
  - 8 New
  - 9 Coal
  - 10 Carb

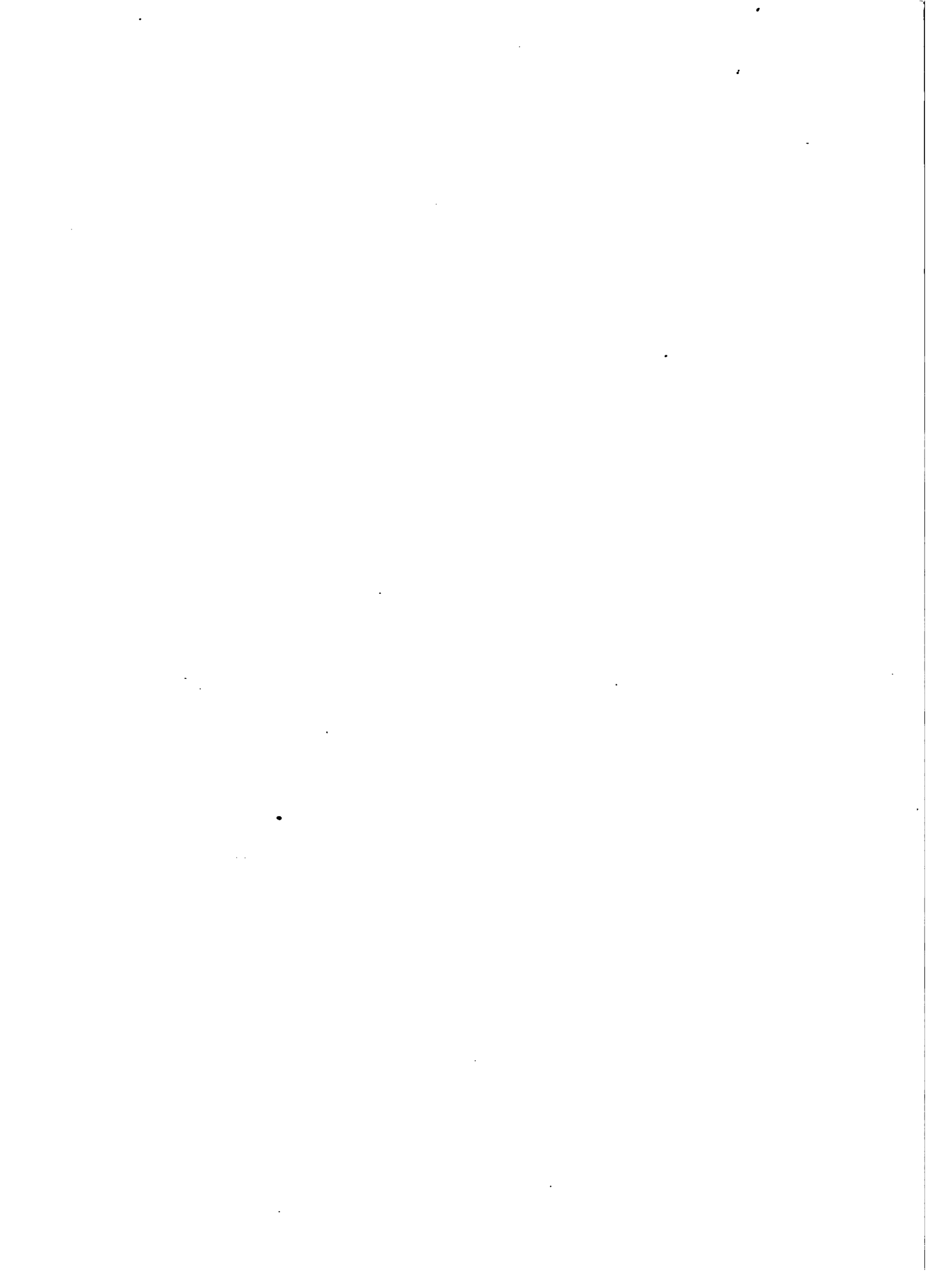




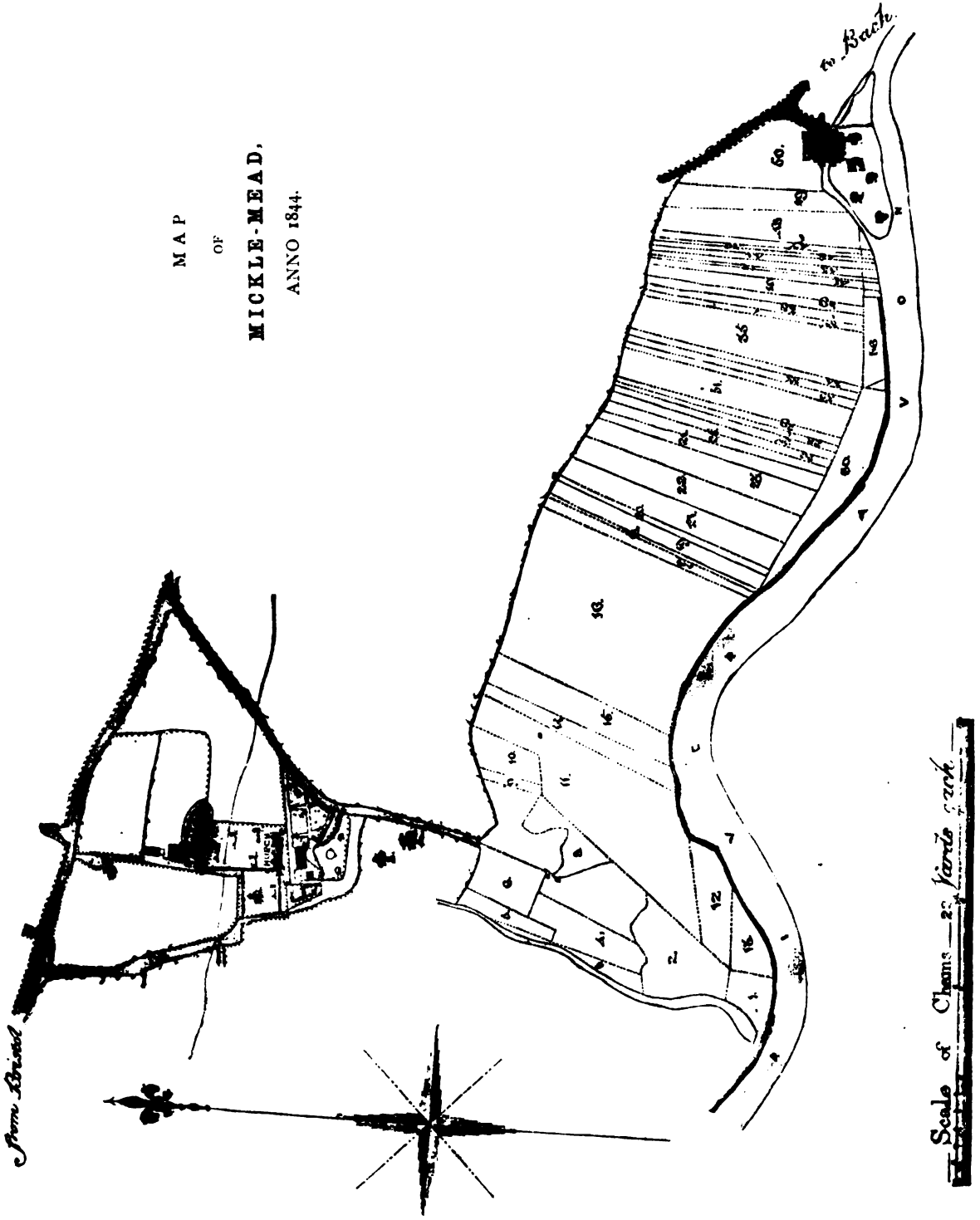


This Map of Kingswood as yt is now surveyed  
 (correcting the Newe place of the Lodge and the  
 addition of the Wooding to some) was Surveyed by  
 Twissinge of September 1610 by the Low for the year  
 whose names are subscribed to followingest Warrre  
 Upon and examined *Walter Dorn* 1610.

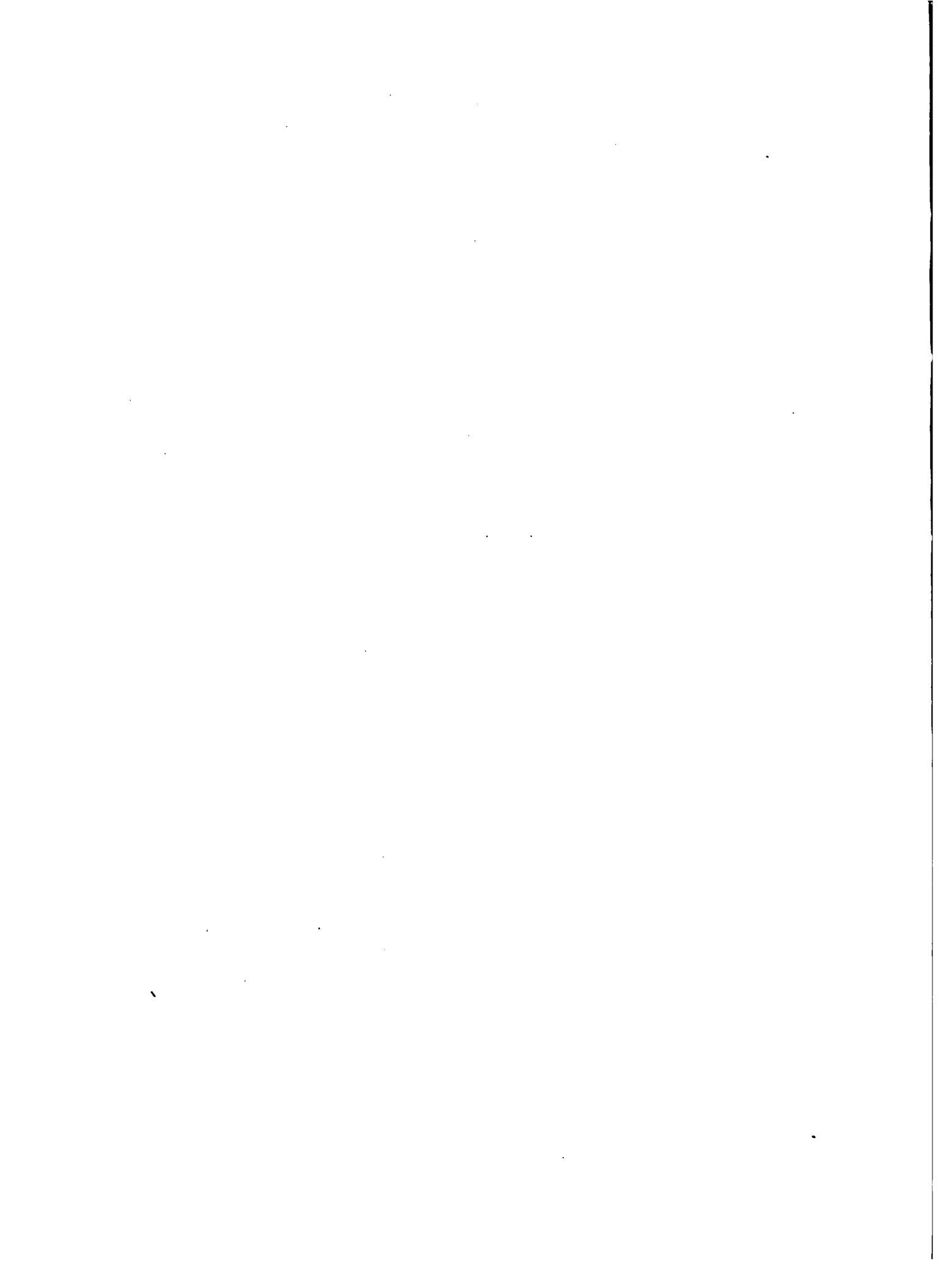
Reduced Fac-simile of a Map of Kingswood Forest  
 dated 1610, in the possession of The W<sup>m</sup>  
 Chester Master, Esq. of Knole Park, &  
 Cirencester Abbey.



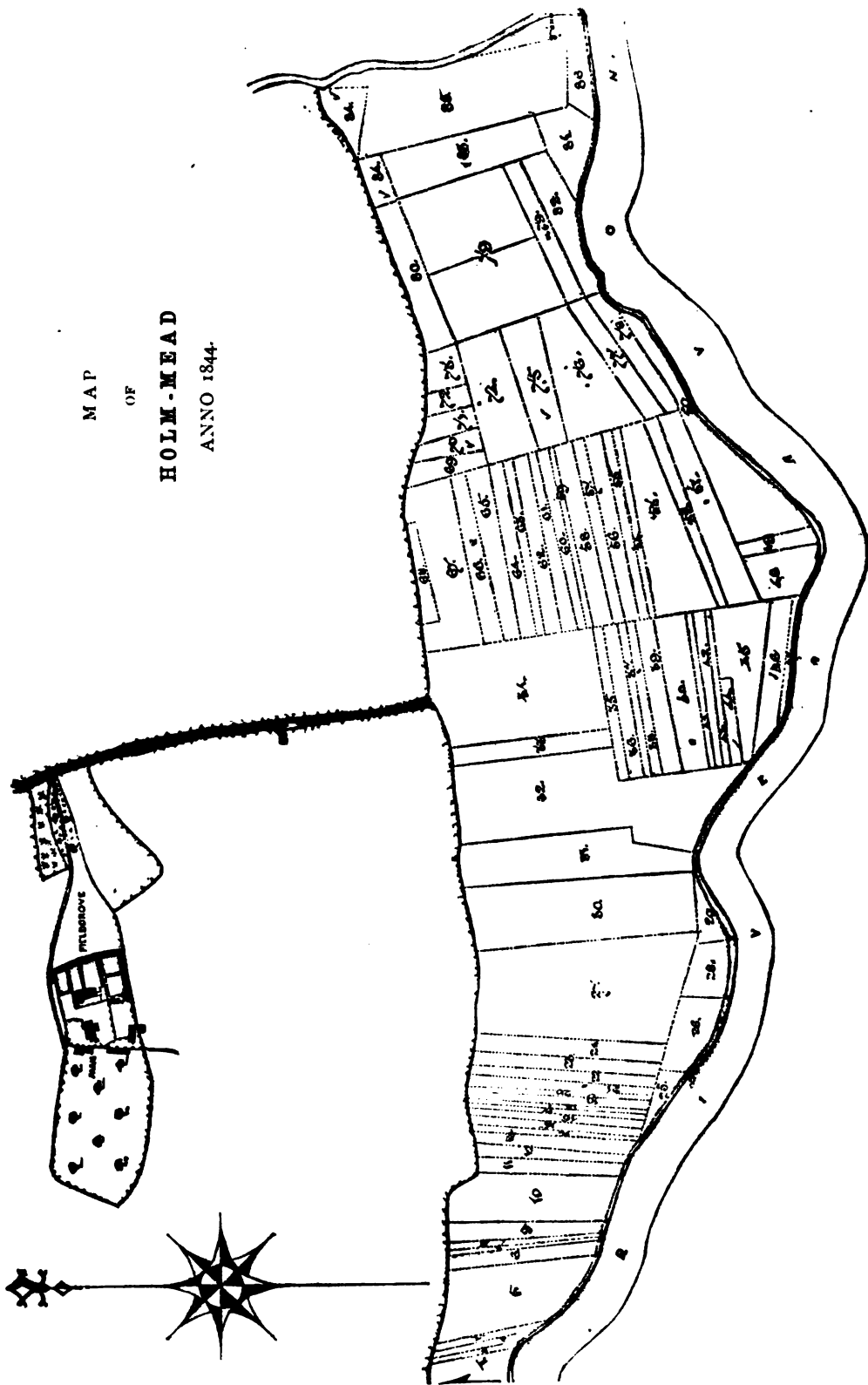
M A P  
OF  
**MICKLE-MEAD,**  
ANNO 1844.



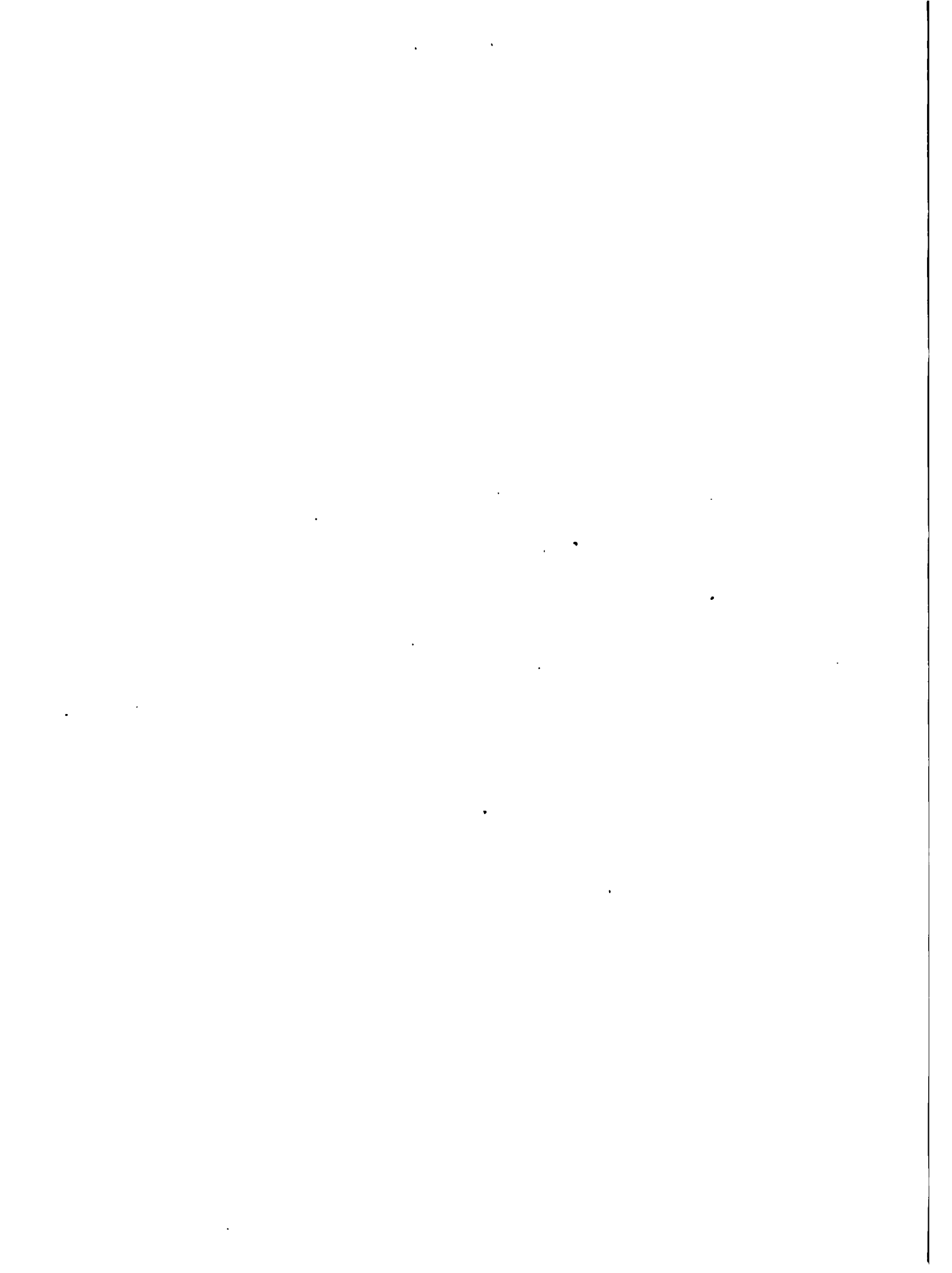




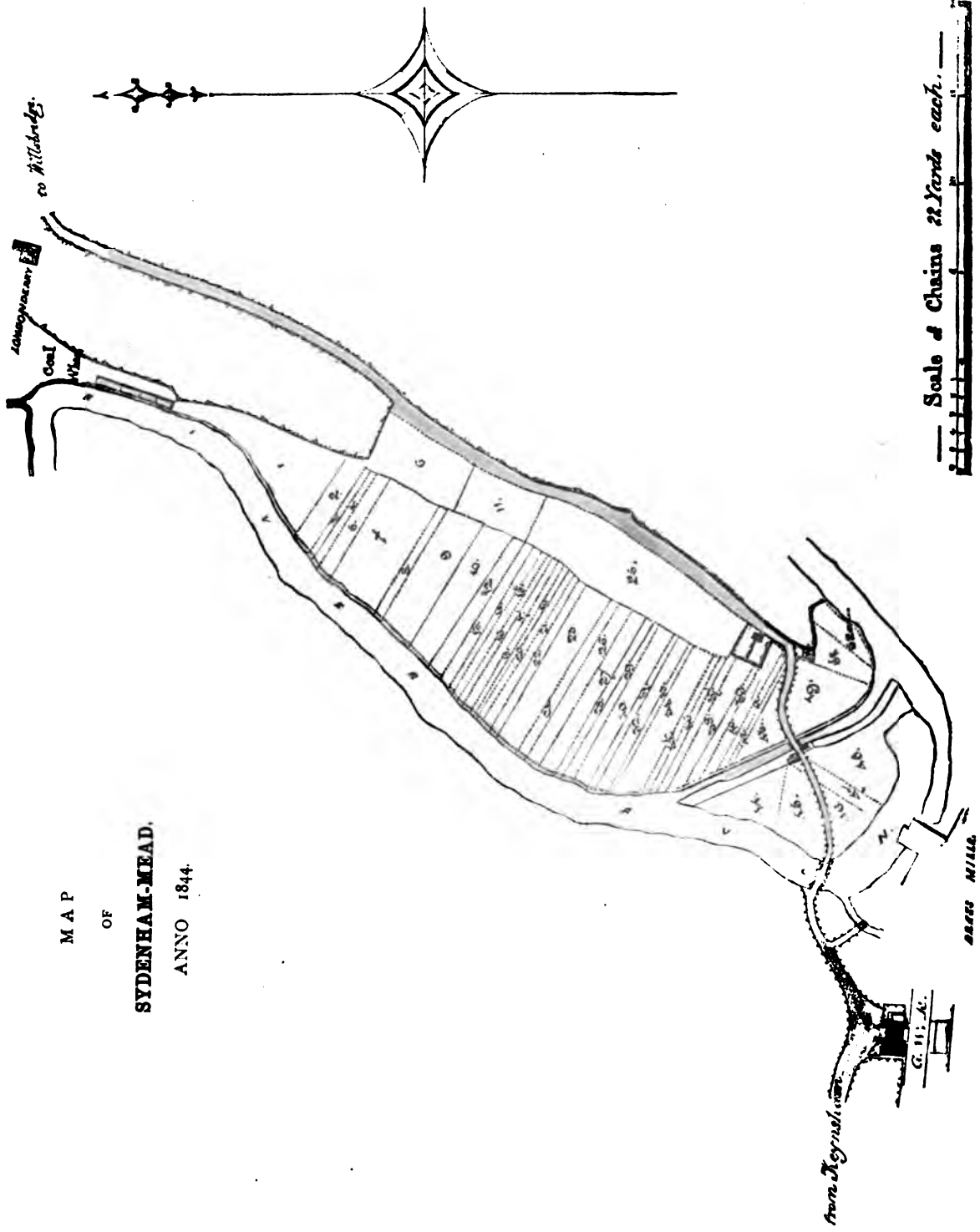
MAP  
OF  
**HOLM-MEAD**  
ANNO 1844.

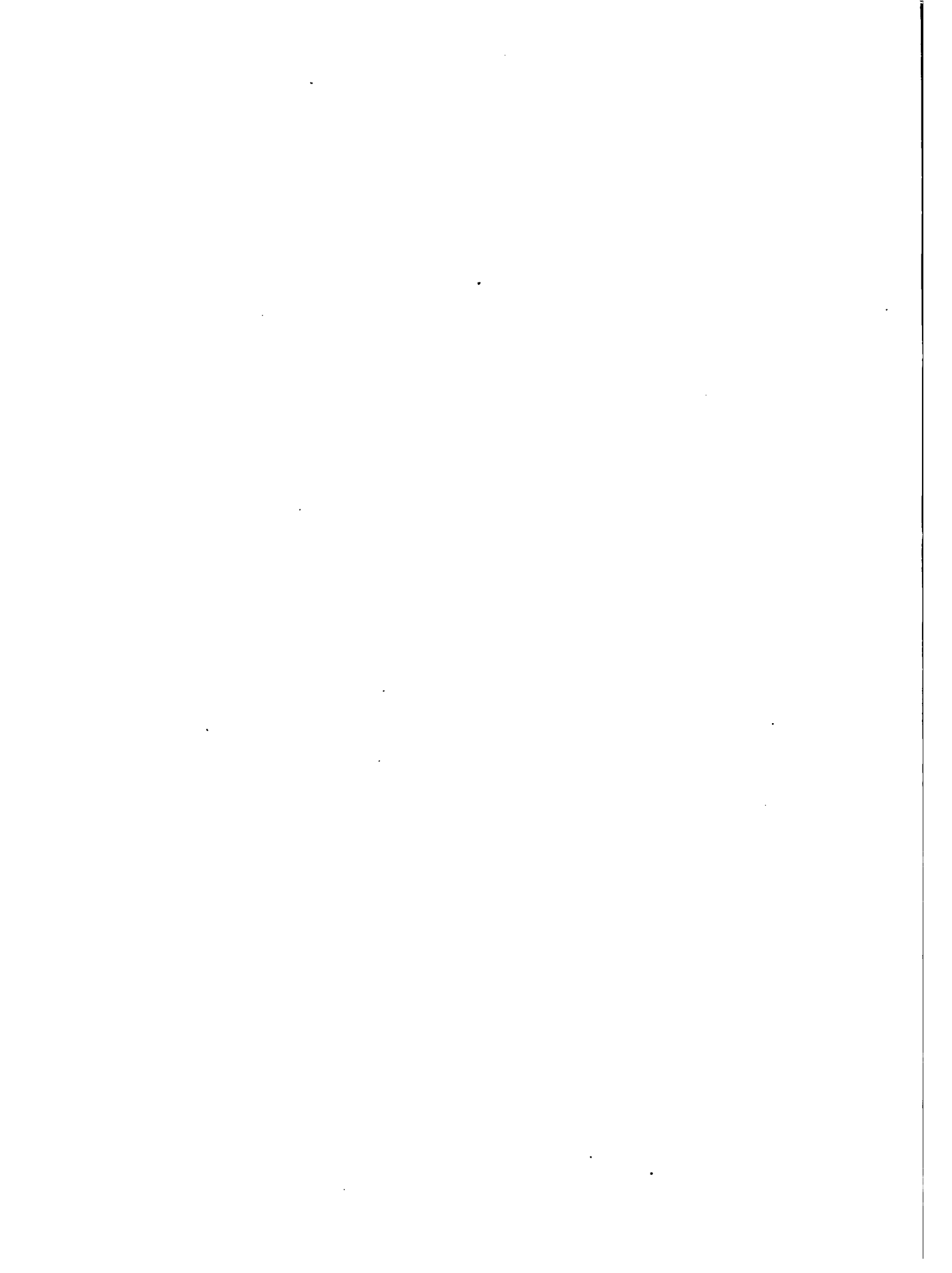


Scale of Chains 22 Yards each



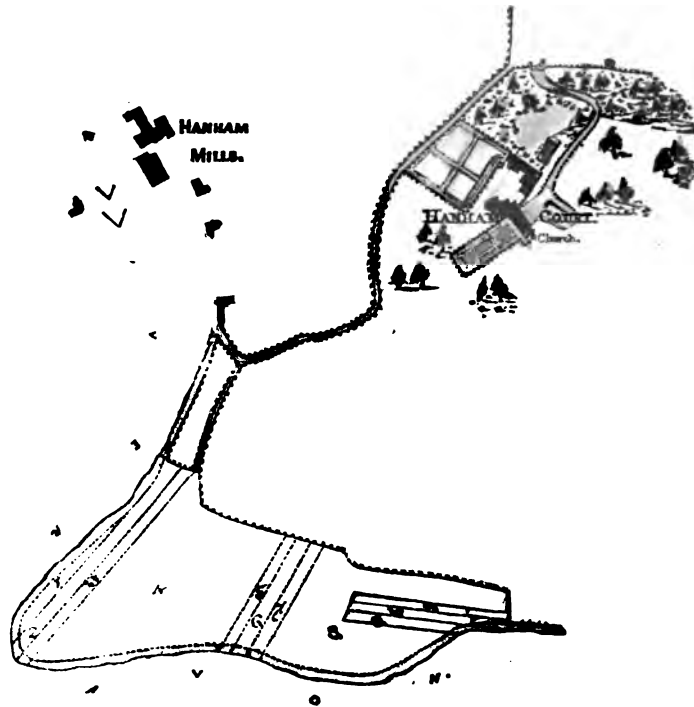
M A P  
OF  
**SYDENHAM-MEAD.**  
ANNO 1844.



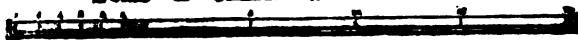


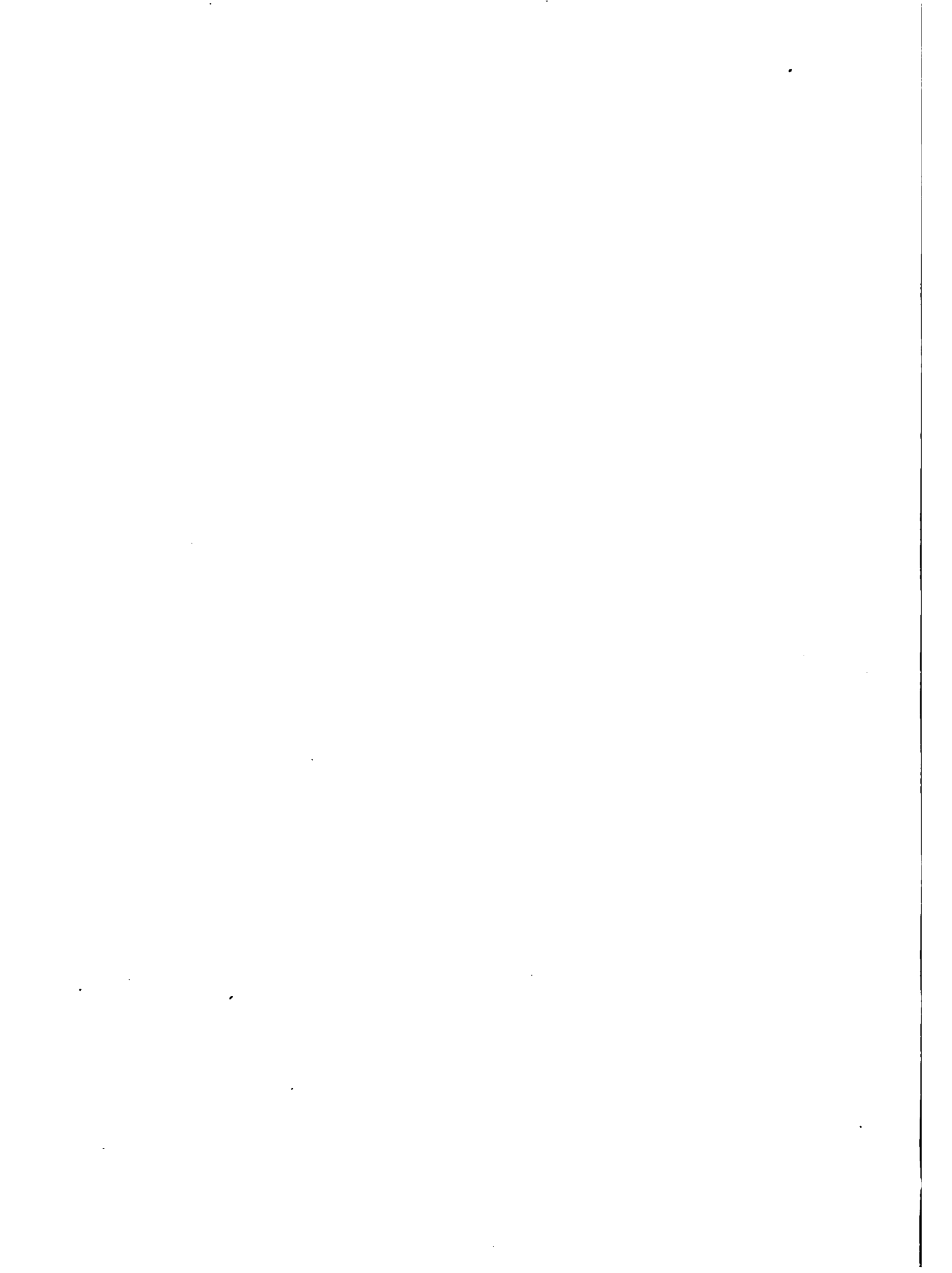
M A P  
O F  
E D E N S F I E L D .

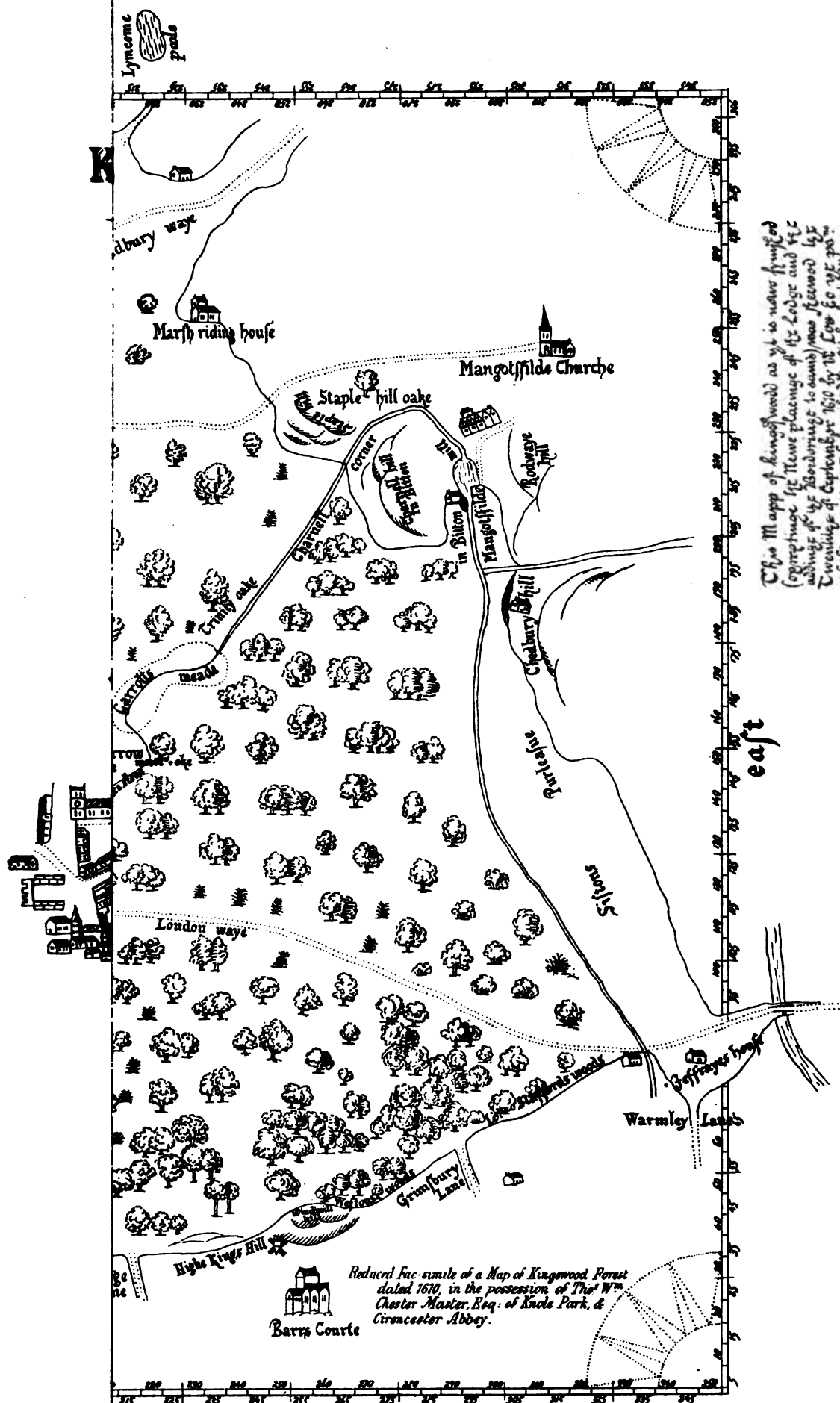
ANNO 1844.



Scale of Chains 22 Yards each.



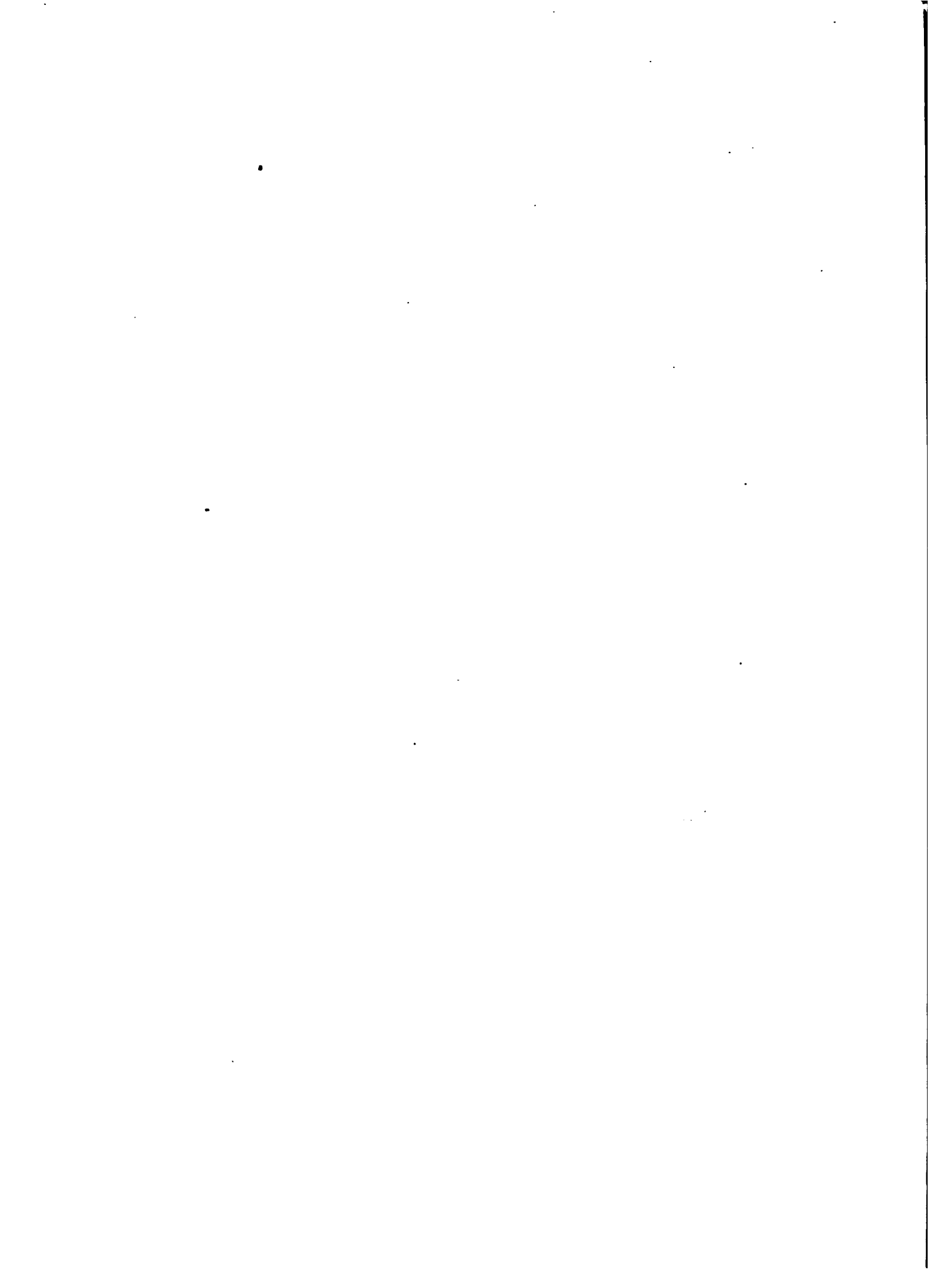


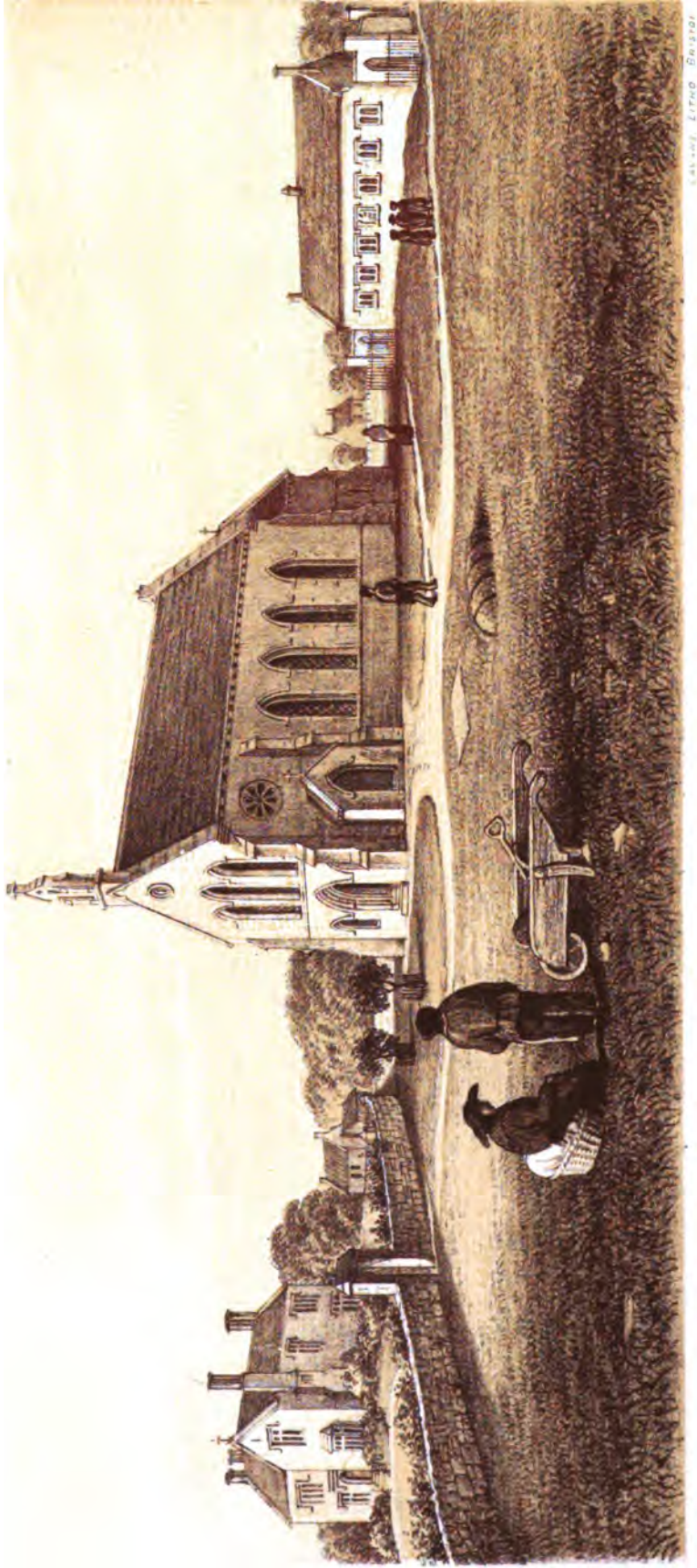


This Map of Kingwood as yet is never printed  
 (excepting the Newe place of the Lodge and the  
 aduantage of the Woodhouse to some) was firste  
 drawne by the Surveyor in the Year 1610 by the  
 Twentieth of September 1610 by the Low to the  
 whose names are subscribed to the first part  
 upon and examined by James Perri 1610.

Reduced Fac-simile of a Map of Kingwood Forest  
 dated 1610, in the possession of Tho<sup>o</sup> W<sup>m</sup>  
 Chester Master, Esq: of Knole Park, &  
 Cirencester Abbey.





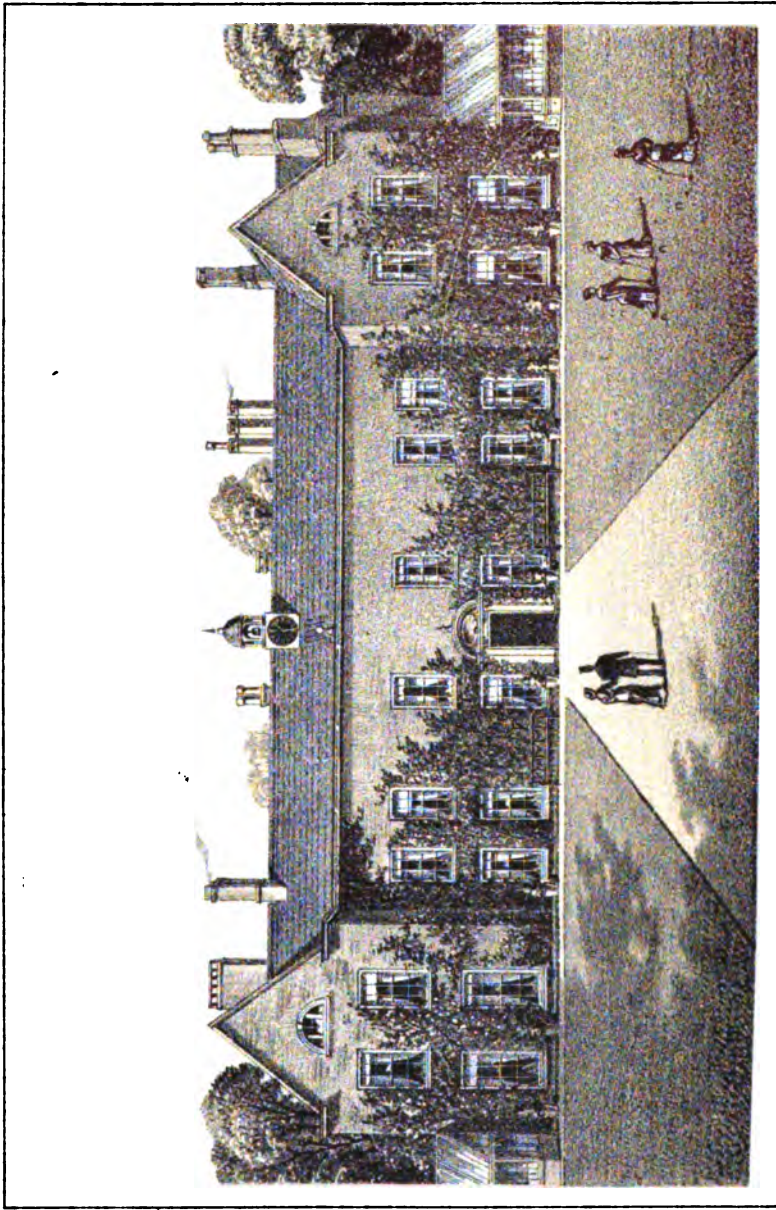


CHRIST CHURCH, JEFFERIES HILL.

W. L. BRISTOL

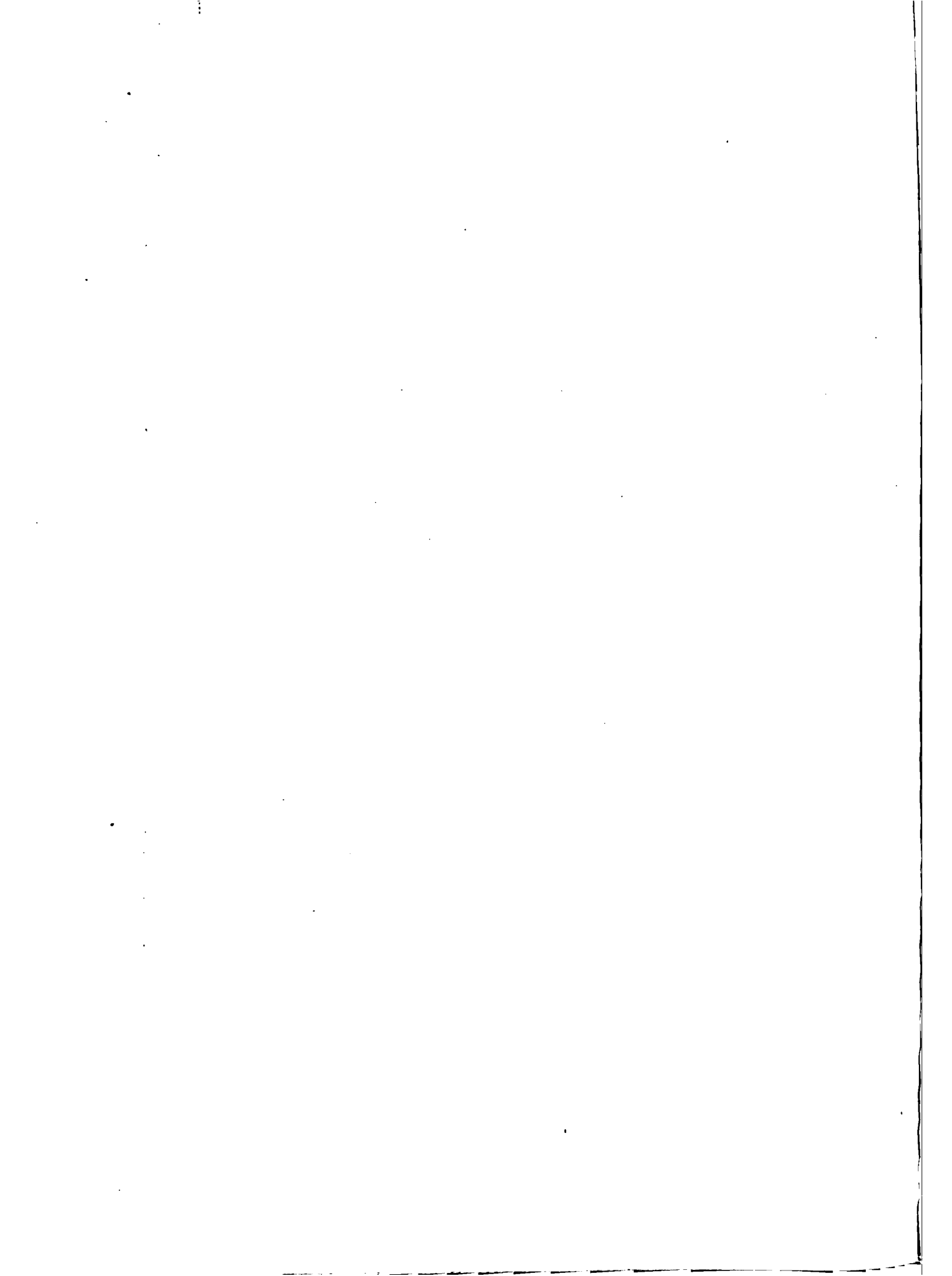


Plate XV



LAVARE, LITHO BRISTOL.

**HANNAH HALL.**





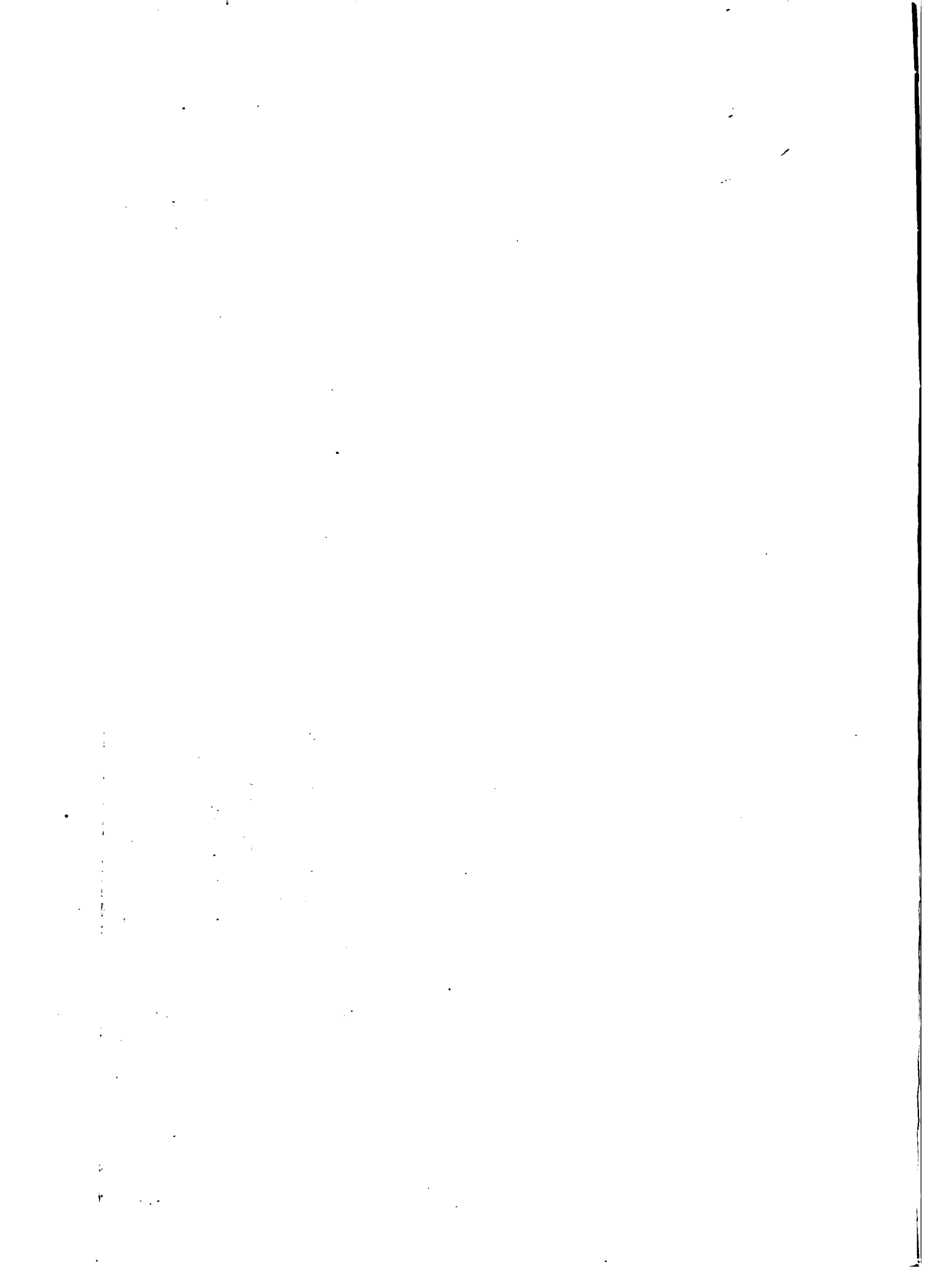


Plate XII



LAWAR, LITHO BRISTOL.

**WESLEY'S SCHOOL,**  
KINGSWOOD, 1741.

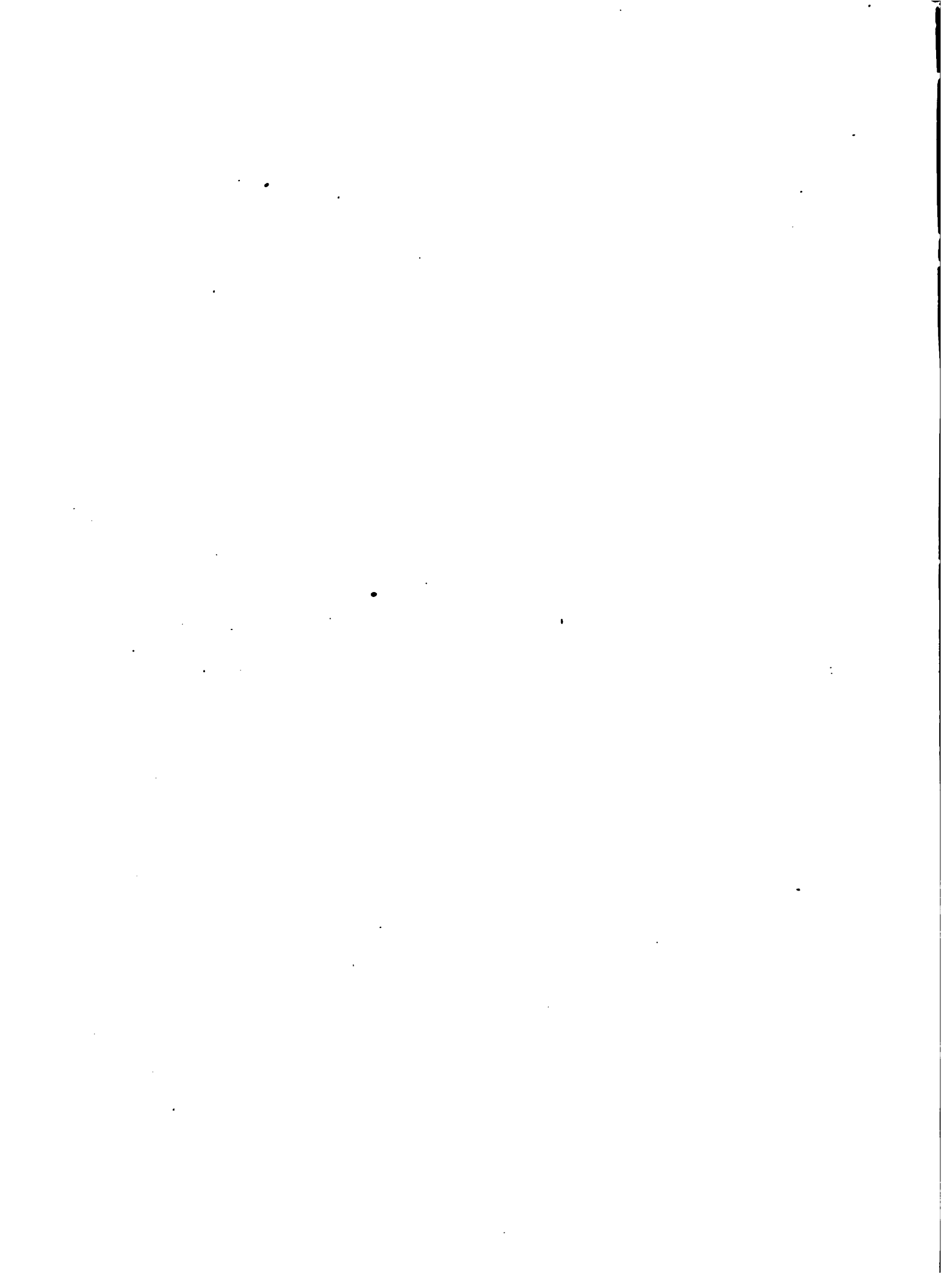


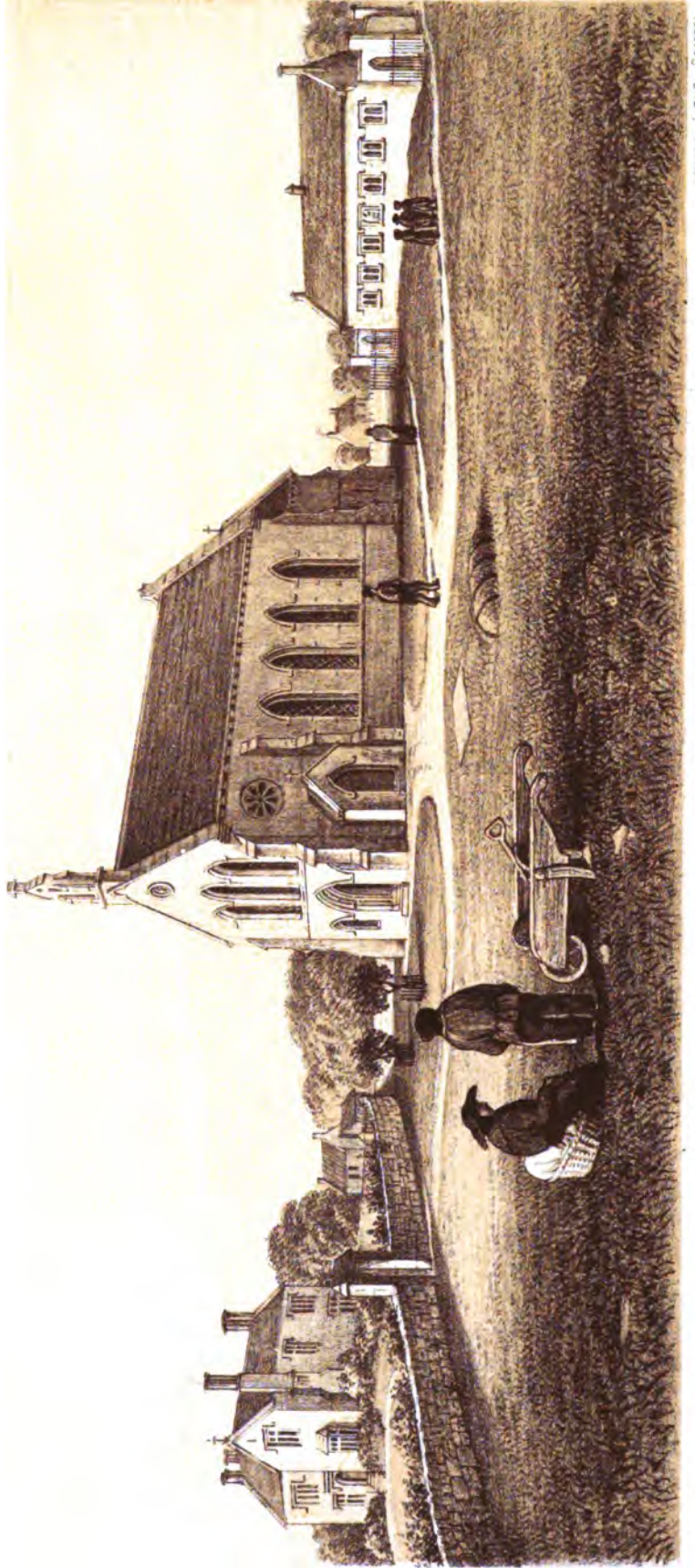




LAYARS, LITH.; BRISTOL.

**HOLY + TRINITY + CHURCH.**





CHRIST CHURCH, JEFFERIES HILL.

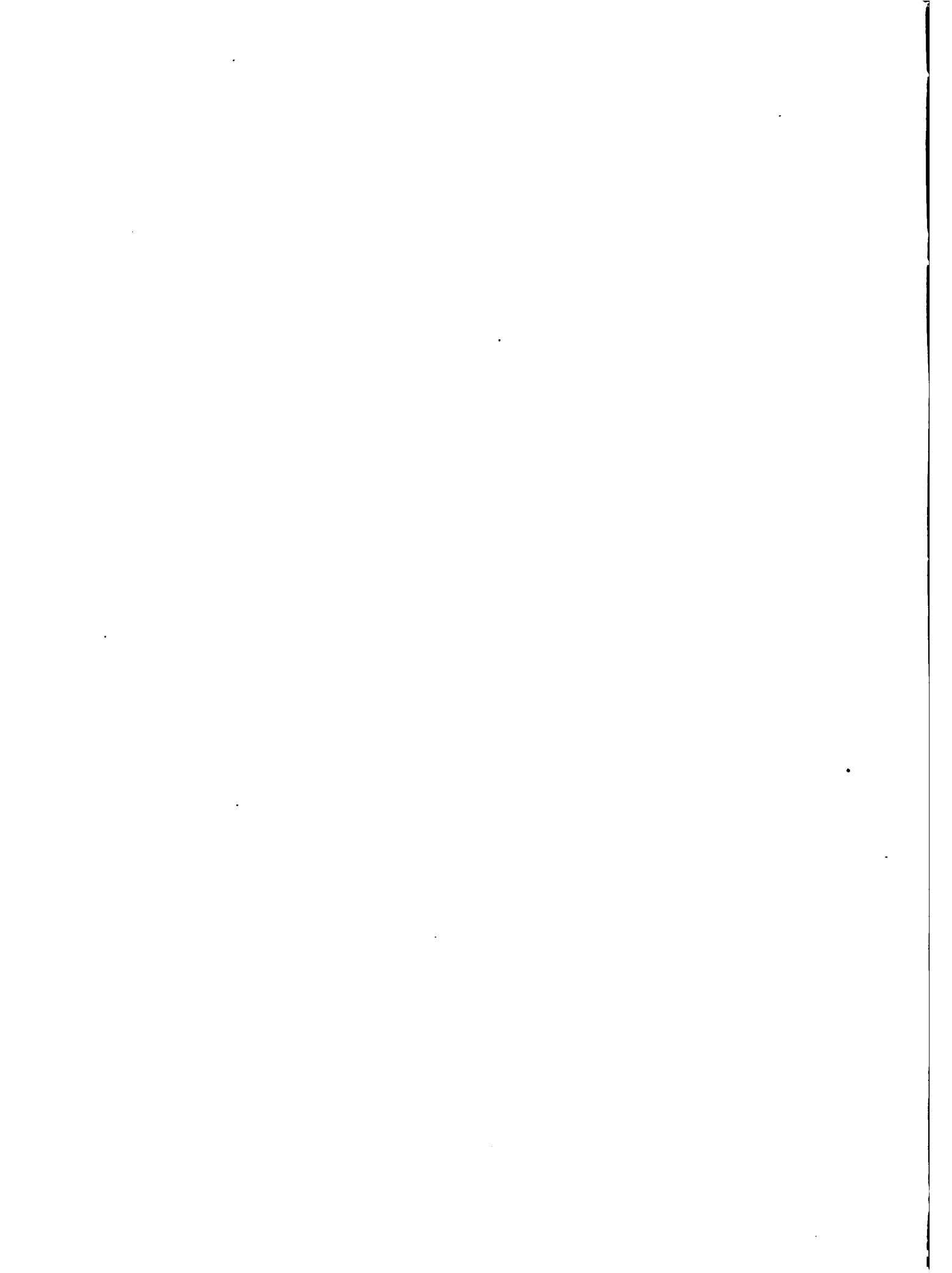
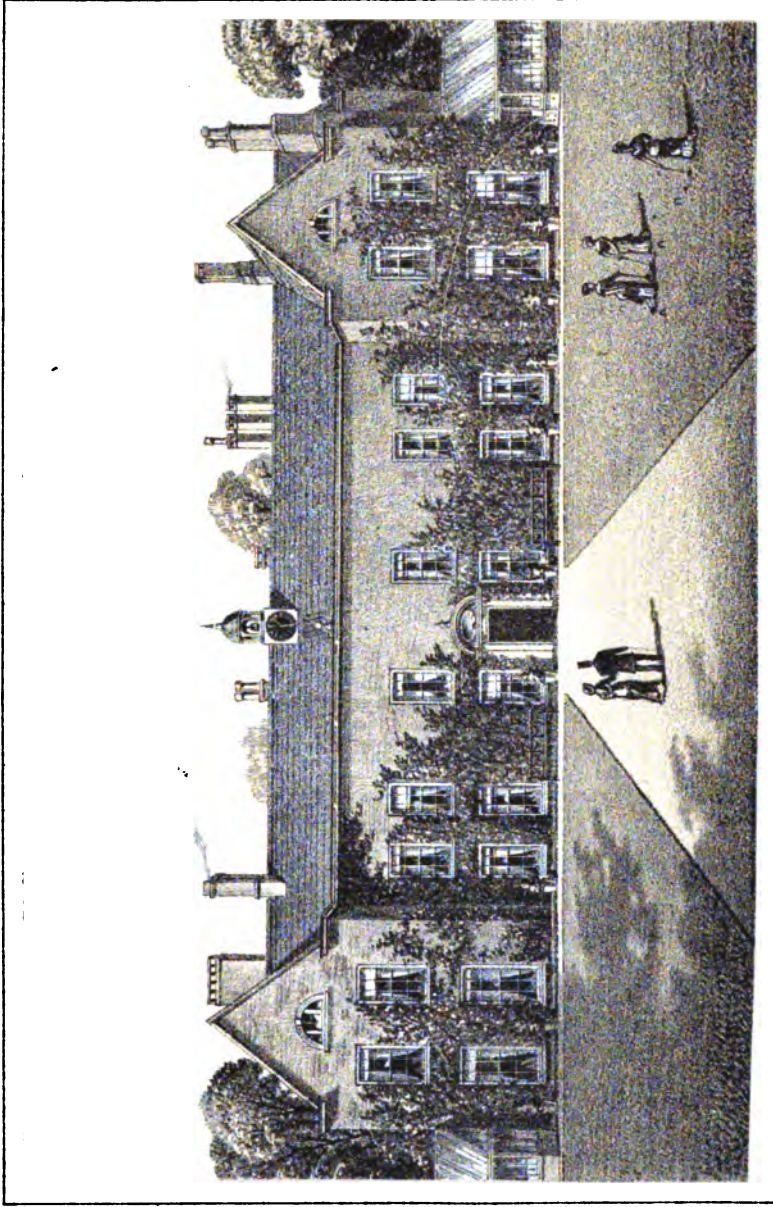
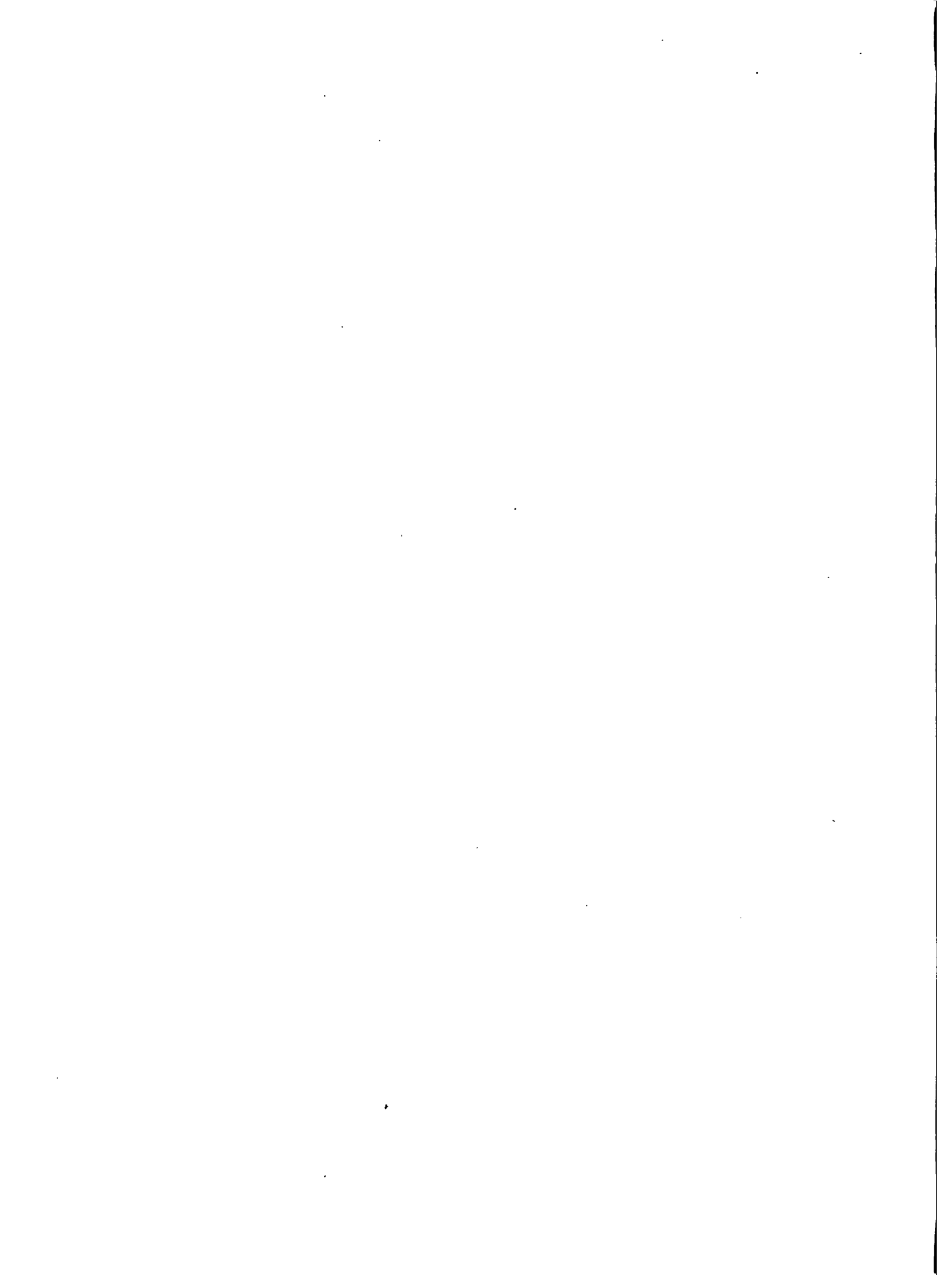


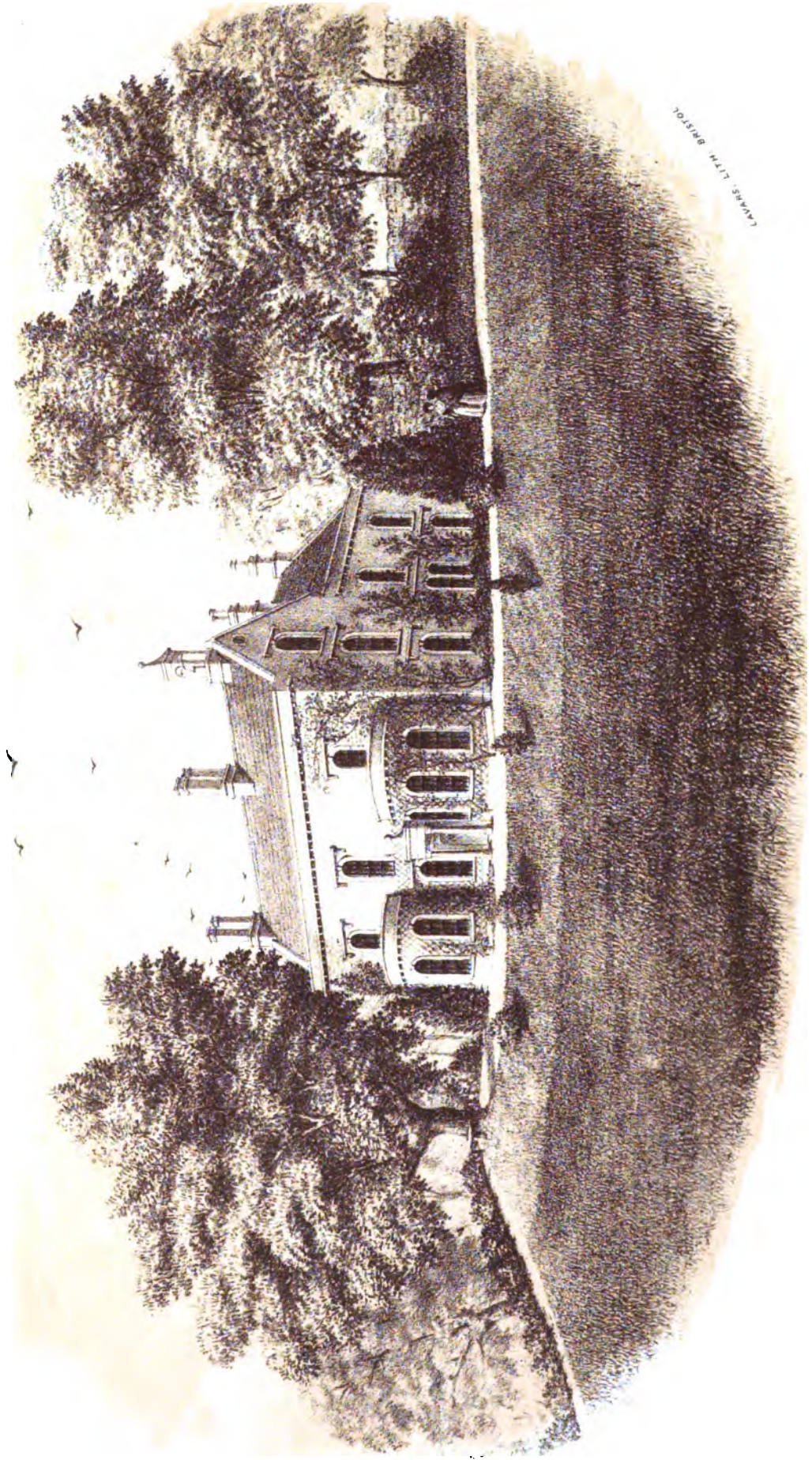
Plate XV.



LAVARE, LITHO. BRISTOL.

HANNAH HALL.





St. Paul's Church, New York.



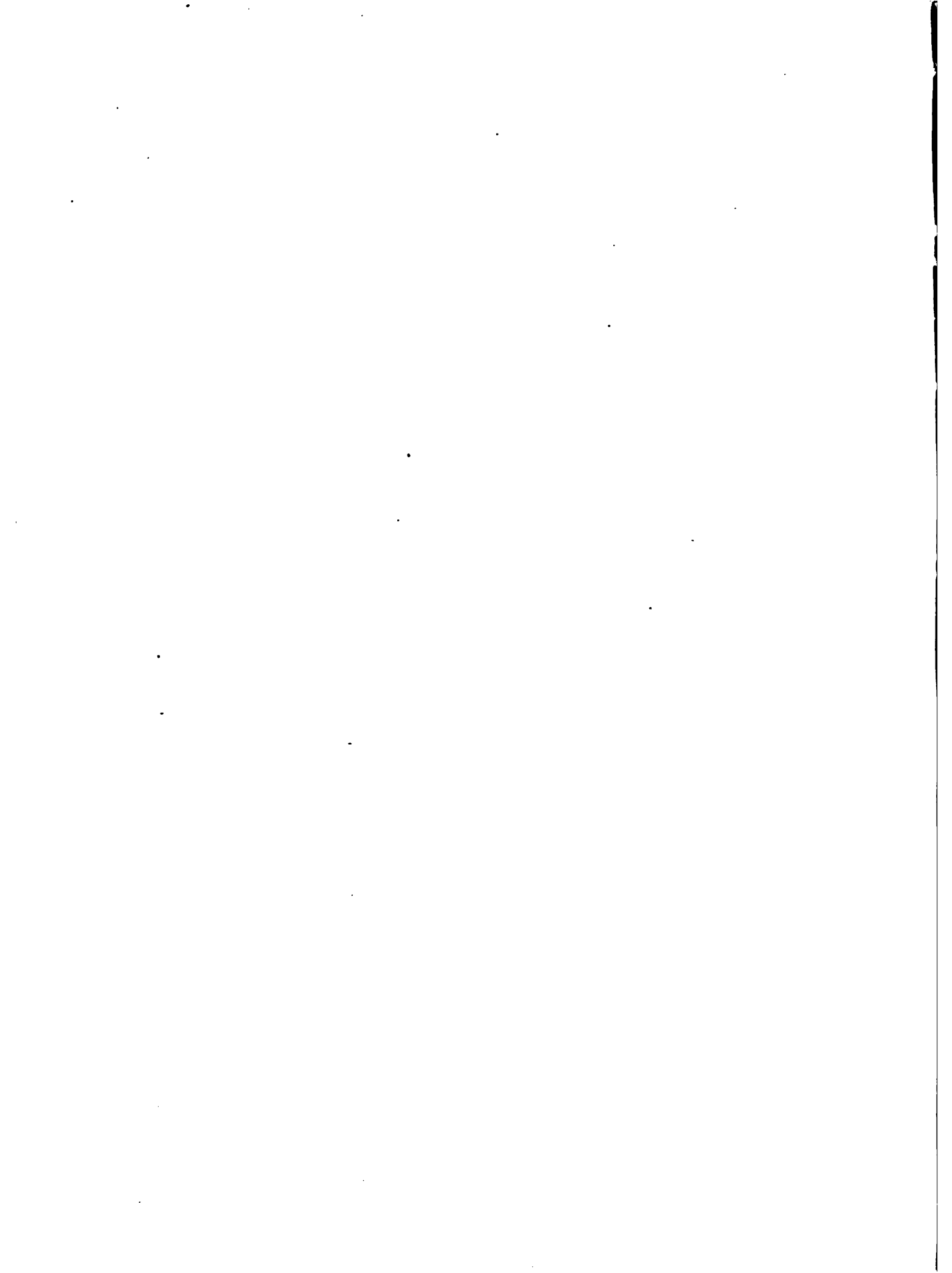


Plate XVII.



Furlongs 0 2 4 6

Enlarged by Stephen Matthews  
from Coxe's *Monmouthshire*, Vol. I, p. XII.

1

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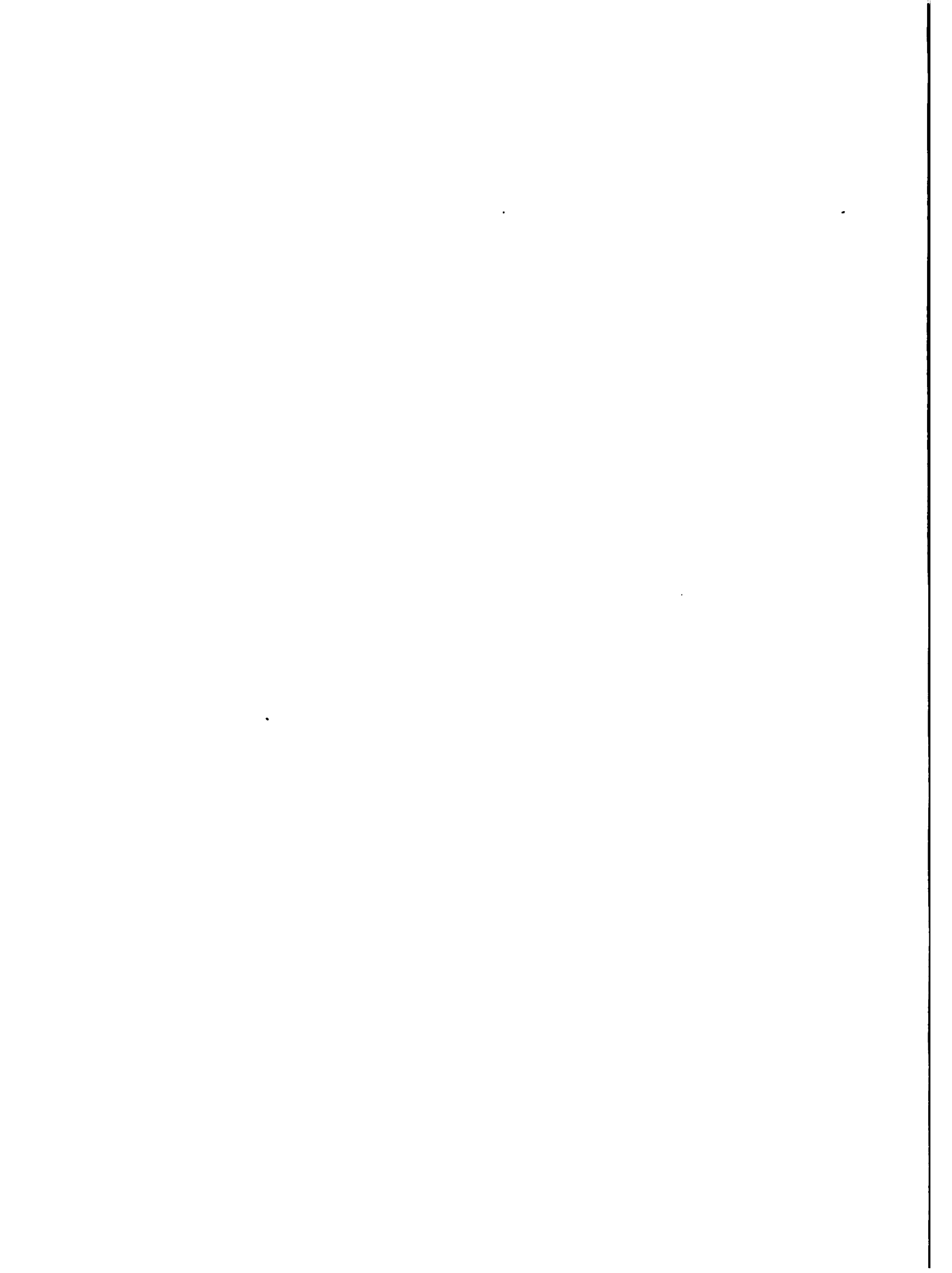
~

4

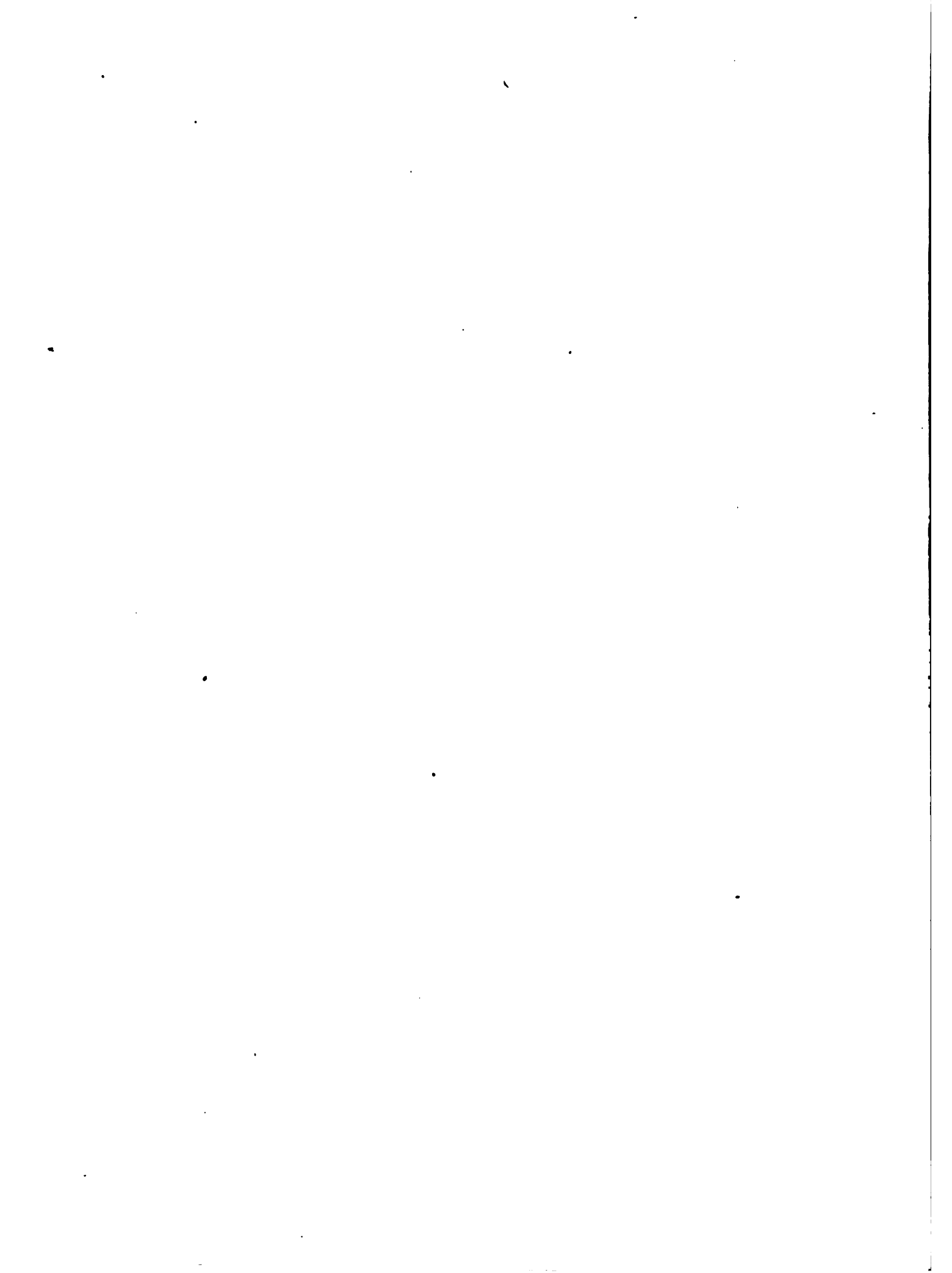
212

21





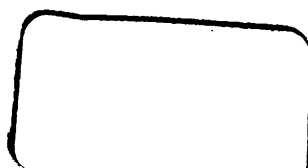




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